



HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC CHURCH

Washington, DC

January 23, 2022



Raft

By *Jeanne Rossomme*

One of my New Year resolutions has been to create a more regular prayer practice. My hope is to drown out the noise of daily life and to create space for God's peace and guidance.

My husband and I are spending this January in an Air B&B in Key Biscayne near Miami where we raised our children almost 20 years ago. On Tuesday morning, I plugged in the "Pray as You Go" Walking Retreat and set off for a sunrise walk down the beach. The narrator gently prompted me to be in the moment with all my senses: to smell the ocean breeze, to feel the sand between my toes, to taste the salt in the air, to really see the beauty of the sky and the sea.

I was about 20 minutes into my walk when I noticed the sun glinting on something jaggedly out of place: rusted barrels welded together. What was this washed-up debris marring the clean beauty of the beach at dawn?

A man, another early morning walker, stopped just as the realization hit me: this was a raft, and it had carried people to this beach sometime during the night.

"Cuba or Haiti?" the man asked.

We looked at the barrels more closely: they were drums that once contained oil and honey from Cuba. The man was an engineer, and as he examined our find, he noted the care and skill in the welding. He picked up a propellor still inside the boat. It was handmade, a spare, obviously carried as a precaution in the event the engine powering the raft failed. The improvised vessel had a 6-cylinder, 250-cubic-inch engine, salvaged from a 1950-era Chevy.

"Risky decision — crossing 90 miles of ocean in the middle of the night," the man said, "but good choice of engine — that engine was a commercial workhorse." That day, news reports confirmed that a Cuban raft had been found, and noted "the significant uptick in maritime migration from Cuba to South Florida over the past year due to deteriorating political and economic conditions within the island nation."

When Holy Trinity parishioners visit the desert during our Kino Border Project trips, we look at relics: the possessions that migrants leave behind on their perilous journey to the United States — a child's teddy bear, family photos, empty water bottles.

Now this well-constructed vessel joins my mental inventory of relics — a hard visual testament to opposing conditions — hope and desperation — that provoke the heartbreaking question: Did this family arrive safely? Or were they lost to the sea — or to the indignities and new perils of detention?

I cannot get this raft, and the passengers it carried, out of my mind. They join the men and women and children whose journeys we've been blessed to accompany as part our Migrant Team familia:

- Hadia, fleeing stalkers after two colleagues were murdered by the Taliban for speaking out on social media.

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MAIN CHURCH

36th Street, NW
between N & O Streets
Washington, DC 20007

PARISH CENTER

3513 N Street, NW
Washington, DC 20007
(202) 337-2840



trinity.org



/HolyTrinity.DC



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Synod Listening Session III

Today, 2pm, Zoom

Learn more about at:

trinity.org/2022/01/participate-in-the-synod/

MISSION STATEMENT

We are a Jesuit Catholic parish that welcomes all to accompany one another in Christ, celebrate God's love and transform lives.

PARISH CENTER

Phone: (202) 337-2840 **Fax:** (202) 337-9048

Emergencies Only: (202) 903-2817

Hours: Mon-Thurs: 8:30am - 4:30pm; Fri 8:30am - 12:30pm; Sat & Sun: Closed

JESUIT STAFF

| | | |
|------------------|--|------------------------|
| Pastor | Kevin Gillespie, S.J. (202) 903-2800 | kgillespie@trinity.org |
| Associate Pastor | Pat Earl, S.J. (202) 337-2840 x130 | pearl@trinity.org |
| Associate Pastor | Ben Hawley, S.J. (202) 903-2814 | bhawley@trinity.org |
| Associate Pastor | William Kelley, S.J. (202) 903-2833 | wkelley@trinity.org |
| Associate Pastor | William Woody, S.J. (202) 337-2840 x112 | wwwoody@trinity.org |

PARISH DEPARTMENTS

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Parish Operations | Tom Favret (202) 903-2847 | tfavret@trinity.org |
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| Ignatian Retreats & Training | Martina O'Shea (202) 903-2810 | moshea@trinity.org |
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| Music Ministry | Kathleen DeJardin (202) 903- 2805 | kdejardin@trinity.org |
| Pastor's Office/ Parish Life | Lisa Dittmeier (202) 903-2801 | parishlife@trinity.org |
| Social Justice | Ashley Klick (202) 903-2836 | aklick@trinity.org |
| Stewardship | Rock Schuler (202) 903-2843 | rschuler@trinity.org |

LIVING OUR MISSION:

A Future Full of Hope

by Rev. William C. Woody, S.J.

We seem to have hit the winter doldrums. Our Christmas season has ended and the decorations are packed away. Days remain short and dark, with bitter cold and a fair bit of snow. And three weeks into 2022, it's around this time that our New Year's resolutions begin to fade, if not falter entirely.

But perhaps that's a good thing, after all! I'm struck by how often my own resolutions can be so self-centered: maybe to kick a habit that holds me back or to adopt healthier routines – the usual things we hear at the beginning of the year. But as some of these more self-absorbed resolutions begin to fade, I don't see it as a sign of failure but rather as a graced opportunity. We have the chance to open our eyes and consider where God is inviting us, no longer consumed by our own designs for self-improvement.

God is constantly inviting us to a newness of life. Even in the midst of darkness and bleak situations, God calls us forward into a future full of hope. "See I am doing something new! Now it springs up, do you not perceive it?" (Isaiah 43:19). Let's pray to open our eyes to perceive where God may be inviting us, where this newness of life is springing forth – and where God is calling us to cooperate in that divine dream.

Even in the midst of the January doldrums, we have two great events in the life of our nation and the life of the Church to celebrate – events which beckon us forward from our self-absorbed concerns and invite us to strive for the good of all. Just last week we commemorated the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. in his tireless advocacy for civil rights and his prophetic witness to Gospel values. Immediately afterwards, we began the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, an annual ecumenical effort to overcome divisions and to respect the common dignity we share as the children of God.

Yes, each of these events celebrates the great progress and the holy work of many: those who fought against injustice, those who set aside divisions and sought harmony, those who boldly proclaimed a dream that looked toward the dawning of God's Reign. But they also call us to account, inviting us to collaborate in God's work for further liberation. Pervasive racism still exists, and injustice has yet to be rooted out of our hearts and minds. For all the progress in ecumenical unity, very real divisions persist and religious prejudice endures.

When we step out from our self-concern, are we able to see God's invitation to newness of life – to take up the call to realize God's Reign in our midst? Now there's an invitation and a challenge that should top any New Year's resolution!

There is indeed hope, and God encourages us as He invites us forward: "For surely I know the plans I have for you...plans for your welfare and not for your harm, to give you a future full of hope!" (Jeremiah 29:11). So let's take God up on that invitation. Open our eyes and "see all things new in Christ," to cooperate and collaborate in the realization of God's Reign, of God's dream for us.

DAILY MASS INTENTIONS

The parish community prays for all of the dead every day at Mass. However, we encourage parishioners to mention specific persons by name during the General Intercessions when invited to do so by the presider.

Parishioners may also request that a specific person be remembered by name at a particular weekday Mass by calling or visiting the receptionist's desk in the Parish Center during normal office hours.

Names must be submitted one week in advance. Persons to be so remembered at weekday Masses this week are:

Week of January 24, 2022

| | | |
|-----------|--------|------------------------|
| Monday | 8:15am | |
| | 5:30pm | |
| Tuesday | 8:15am | |
| | 5:30pm | |
| Wednesday | 8:15am | |
| | 5:30pm | Josefa Asperilla+ |
| Thursday | 8:15am | |
| | 5:30pm | Hadia's Asylum Hearing |
| Friday | 8:15am | |
| | 5:30pm | |
| Saturday | 8:15am | Kristen Biondi+ |

Pray for those who are sick: *For those we hold in our hearts*

Pray for those who are dead: *Margaret Curtin Hutchinson; Sheila Matheus*

PRAYER REQUESTS

To add a name to these prayer lists, please email parishlife@trinity.org or call (202) 903-2801. You must be an immediate relative of the one to be remembered, or have express permission in order to add a name to these lists. The names on this prayer list will be mentioned aloud at Sunday Mass during the General Intercessions and will be published in the parish eLetter and bulletin.

NEW PARISHIONER REGISTRATION

Welcome to Holy Trinity! We invite you to join our parish. You may register at www.trinity.org/register. Questions about registering can be directed to registration@trinity.org. New parishioner orientations are held several times throughout the year. See the bulletin, eLetter (sign up at www.trinity.org/eLetter) and website for announcement of dates and times.

SACRAMENTS

Mass Schedule (Check bulletin or website for Holy Days)

Weekdays: 8:15am & 5:30pm (in the Chapel on N St.)

Note: Please see schedule for daily Mass times.

Chapel is open on weekdays between Masses.

Saturday: 8:15am — Chapel; 5:30pm Vigil — Church

Sunday: 7:30am, 9:00am, 11:30am, 5:30pm — Church;

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Every Saturday from 4:30pm–5:15pm or by appointment

Sacramental Preparation:

Persons desiring to receive certain sacraments at Holy Trinity need to be registered parishioners and are expected to participate in a preparation program. For more information or to register, contact the appropriate staff person:

- Infant Baptism: readmin@trinity.org, (202) 903-2808
- First Reconciliation/Eucharist: Anne Marie Kaufmann, (202) 903-2846
- Youth Confirmation: Anne Marie Kaufmann, (202) 903-2846
- Adult Confirmation: Anne Marie Kaufmann, (202) 903-2846
- Marriage Preparation: readmin@trinity.org, (202) 903-2808

Baptisms and Weddings:

- To schedule a Baptism or Wedding, contact Kathleen Haley at baptisms@trinity.org or weddings@trinity.org, respectively.

Sacrament of the Sick

Communal anointing is celebrated seasonally in the Chapel of St. Ignatius. Call the parish to request the sacrament at home or in the hospital.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is a process of conversion and faith formation for individuals who are interested in living the Christian life in the Catholic tradition. Those who want to learn more about the possibility of becoming Catholic are welcome to come to the Inquiry meetings held every Tuesday evening at 7pm in the Faber Room, Holy Trinity Parish Center. Please contact Anne Koester at akoester@trinity.org or (202) 903-2825. Holy Trinity also offers RCIA adapted for children and youth who are not Baptized (ages 7 through high school). Please contact Anne Marie Kaufmann at akaufmann@trinity.org (202) 903-2846 for more information.

LGBTQIA+ MINISTRY

Holy Trinity's commitment to accompany one another in Christ invites us to be more deeply aware of the diversity of our community and more welcoming to those who are marginalized by society or the Church. Our lay-led ministry embraces individuals who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, questioning/queer, intersex, asexual and their families and friends. More information and upcoming meetings can be found at www.trinity.org/lgbtqia or by emailing LGBTQIA@trinity.org.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL (PPC)

PPC members share leadership responsibility with our pastor. As advisors to the pastor, PPC members assist the pastor in discerning, articulating and communicating to other parishioners the identity and mission of the parish, and they assist the pastor in assuring fidelity to that identity and mission. Contact President Tania Chomiak-Salvi at ppcpresident@trinity.org and Vice President Jennifer Dorsey at parishcouncil@trinity.org.

PRAY



Setting Captives Free: Racism, I and You and God's Liberating Grace

AN IGNATIAN RETREAT

during the weeks of **February 27 - April 3, 2022**

Registration deadline is **February 17**

Retreatants are offered the explicit gifts of revelation, repentance, lament and contrition and implicit gifts of transformation, reconciliation, and reparation, which may be given by God and received by the retreatant in God's time.

Retreatants are asked to commit to 30 minutes of prayer each day for the six weeks of the retreat. Small groups (6-8 individuals) will meet on zoom for 90 minutes during the weeks of February 27, March 6, 13, 20, 27, April 3 to share the fruits of their prayer. Read a full description of the retreat and how to register here trinity.org/ignatian-spirituality/setting-captives-free/.

LEARN

General Meeting

January 23 at 1pm, Zoom

We will host a guest speaker, JR Zerkowski, the Executive Director of Fortunate Families, a nationwide ministry for parents, family members, and friends of LGBTQ Catholics. JR will speak on how we as Catholics can support each other in our church and in our families. All are welcome, and parents and family members from the parish and school are especially invited to join us. Register at trinity.org/lgbtqia-ministry to attend.



Men's Discussion Group

January 31 at 7pm, Zoom

Join a small group discussion centered around our lives as LGBTQIA+ Catholics. Contact Bill Corcoran at LGBTQIA@trinity.org with questions. Register at trinity.org/lgbtqia-ministry/ for the Zoom link.

Sacramental Preparation for First Reconciliation/ First Eucharist or Confirmation

Preparation for the sacraments of First Reconciliation/ First Eucharist and Confirmation is a two year process. If your child is currently in 1st grade or 7th grade and is planning to prepare for sacraments next year (2022-2023), please make sure s/he is enrolled in faith formation this year. If your child is not enrolled, and you would like more information, please contact Anne Marie Kaufmann, akaufmann@trinity.org or (202) 903-2807.



Participate in the Synod

January 23 or 27

As part of our participation in the wider Church's Synod, "For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation, and Mission," Holy Trinity Church will host four meetings to consider these questions:

- How are you invited to be engaged and are there things that hinder you from being active in this parish?
- What space is there for the Church to listen to the voices on the peripheries, especially cultural groups, women, people with disabilities, those who experience poverty, marginalization, or social exclusion?
- How does your prayer life and celebration of the Mass inspire and inform your personal decisions and decisions in the parish community?

All meetings will be on Zoom and two in person. You need only to join one meeting. Each meeting will consider all three questions. Join us:

- Sunday, January 23, 2pm, Zoom
- Thursday January 27, 7pm, Zoom

If you are unable to attend on zoom visit the website to complete the online survey at trinity.org/2022/01/participate-in-the-synod/

Raft *continued from page 1*

- Asila, crossing the Pakistani/Afghan border with nothing but a backpack because she could not reach the Kabul airport during the official evacuation.
- The Sevilla family, escaping drug lords, walking to the United States from Honduras with 4 little boys.
- Julien Patrick, passing through the hellish Darien gap, burying the body of a baby en route.
- Blondy, fleeing torture in the Congo, smuggling himself in the bowels of a cargo ship for the two-month journey to Ecuador, then walking overland through South and Central America.
- The Mbala family, also escaping Congo — with 3 small children.
- Mugahid, fleeing violence in Sudan, first to Egypt, and then Ecuador, walking overland, then locked in detention, where he contracted COVID, pre-vaccine.
- Yanilson leaving Honduras after his house was burned down due to his transgender identity, and then sex-trafficked en route as a minor.
- Bernadette, jailed for her human rights advocacy, fleeing Gabon with her then 3-year old daughter.

How many others will cross the 90 miles from Cuba to Key Biscayne during the month I am here? How many will walk across continents to find safety? Immigration policy is complex, but at its heart are the real lives of men, women and children like the passengers on this skillfully constructed metal raft — whose story broke into my “Pray As You Go” Walking Retreat — and whom I pray God is now guiding to refuge and new life. ✝

**SERVE****Welcoming Afghan Allies**

Holy Trinity will be answering the growing need for housing support for Afghan Allies by partnering with LIRS to collect furnishings and household goods and set up housing for families. Our Community wish list on Amazon has been updated with these needs, and once we receive our assignments from LIRS, additional needs will be shared. To join the volunteer list, please email aklick@trinity.org

CONNECT**University of San Francisco Alumni & Friends Mass
February 6, 11:00 am, Chapel**

University of San Francisco President Paul J. Fitzgerald, S.J. will preside. A coffee reception hosted will immediately follow mass. Please register by January 27. If you have any questions, contact the Office of Alumni Engagement at alumni@usfca.edu or (800) 449-4873.

ANNOUNCEMENTS**Stewardship Update:**

Thank You to everyone who offered a 2022 pledge! Pledges represent an intention to give that can be changed at any time as your financial circumstances may change. At the same time, pragmatically they help greatly with our budgeting process, while spiritually they demonstrate faith in God and a commitment to the mission of Jesus as lived out through our common life. Pledges are acts of stewardship over the resources and blessings God has entrusted to us.

On a related note, we have noticed that a number of people who switched to electronic payments during the pandemic shutdown are switching back to paper checks. We strongly request folks to maintain their electronic giving and set up recurring electronic payments (through their own institutions or via our system). We discourage checks because many donors have reported to us that paper checks they mailed are not showing up on their statements – they apparently never were delivered in the mail. Also, it costs us more in staff time to process a paper check than the fees we pay for electronic transactions (especially if donors use ACH as opposed to credit cards and set a frequency for once a month or less, so there are less per transaction fees). Questions? Email Rock Schuler, Director of Stewardship, at RSchuler@trinity.org or call him at 301-455-5437.

If you have not yet had a chance to pledge for 2022, join the hundreds who have made this intention to support Jesus' work among and through us by offering your 2022 pledge now! you can do so here trinity.org (top orange banner) Thank you!

Holy Trinity is Hiring!

- 4th Grade Assistant Teacher
- Substitutes Teachers

For more information, visit htsdc.org/careers

- Director of Liturgy
- Coordinator of Youth Ministry
- Director of Communications

For more information, visit trinity.org/jobs



Sunday, January 23

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Nehemiah 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10 | 1 Corinthians 12:12-30 |
Luke 1:1-4; 4:14-21

2:00pm

Synod Listening Session III
Zoom

Monday, January 24

MEMORIAL OF SAINT FRANCIS DE SALES

2 Samuel 5:1-7, 10 | Mark 3:22-30

9:00am

Morning Prayer
Zoom

9:30am

Trinity Faith Sharing Group
Zoom

7:00pm

HT Green Team
Zoom

8:00pm

Separated/Divorced/Widowed Support Group
Zoom

Tuesday, January 25

FEAST OF THE CONVERSION OF SAINT PAUL

Acts 22:3-16 | Mark 16:15-18

7:00pm

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA)
McKenna Hall

7:00pm

Trinity Faith Sharing Group
Zoom

7:30pm

Pray the Rosary with Fr. Gillespie
Zoom

Wednesday, January 26

MEMORIAL OF SAINTS TIMOTHY AND TITUS

2 Timothy 1:1-8 | Mark 4:1-20

Thursday, January 27

THURSDAY OF THE THIRD WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

2 Samuel 7:18-19, 24-29 | Mark 4:21-25

6:00pm

Christian Meditation
Church

7:00pm

Iconographers Guild
Parish Center Library

7:00pm

Synod Listening Session IV
Zoom

7:00pm

Young Adult Faith Sharing
Zoom

7:15pm

Book Discussion Group
Zoom

Friday, January 28

MEMORIAL OF SAINT THOMAS AQUINAS

2 Samuel 11:1-4a, 5-10a, 13-17 | Mark 4:26-34

9:00am

Morning Prayer
Zoom

Saturday, January 29

SATURDAY OF THE THIRD WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

2 Samuel 12:1-7a, 10-17 | Mark 4:35-41

7:30am

Zen Meditation
Church

Sunday, January 30

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Jeremiah 1:4-5, 17-19 | 1 Corinthians 12:31—13:13 |
Luke 4:21-30

10:15am

High School Youth Meeting
Neale Room