



Holy Trinity Catholic Church

Served by the Jesuits in Southern Africa

16 Stiemens Street, Braamfontein, 2001, Johannesburg, South Africa

P.O. Box 31087, Braamfontein 2017, Johannesburg, South Africa

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22 SEPTEMBER 2024

Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

Psalm Response:

Behold, the Lord is the upholder of my life

This week's liturgies

Sunday <i>07h30 Pro Populo</i> <i>09h30 Pro Populo</i> <i>16h00 Pro Populo</i>	Wis 2, 12.17—20 Ps 54 Jas 3, 16—4, 3 Mk 9, 30—37
Monday <i>13h15 Pro Populo</i>	(ST. PIUS OF PIETRELCINA) Prov 3, 27—34 Ps 15 Lk 8, 16—18
Tuesday <i>09h00 Pro Populo</i>	Prov 21, 1-6.10—13 Ps 119 Lk 8, 19—21
Wednesday <i>13h15 Pro Populo</i>	Prov 30, 5—9 Ps 119 Lk 9, 1—6
Thursday <i>13h15 Pro Populo</i>	(Ss COSMAS & DAMIAN Ms) Eccles 1, 2—11 Ps 90 Lk 9, 7—9
Friday <i>13h15 Pro Populo</i>	(ST. VINCENT DE PAUL PR) Eccles 3, 1—11 Ps 144 Lk 9, 18—22

** Italics indicate Mass intention*

PROCLAIMERS

07h30

Roly Adams
Anne Baker

09h30

Julius Ajayi
Lorraine Zvigo

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

07h30

Colin Lesar
Kryisia Lesar
Thelma Melk
Ronald Thompson

09h30

Sthandiwe Msomi
Bertin Zinsou
Sabie Makgothi
Oswald Mokoena

Office Hours

Monday – Friday: 09h00—13h00

Mass Times

Monday - Friday: 13h15

Sunday: 07h30 | 09h30 (*Sung*)
16h00

Morning Prayer

Sunday: 09h00 (*before 09h30 Mass*)

Join in the prayer of the Church
led by our *Schola Cantorum*

Confessions

Monday – Friday: after 13h15 Mass

Exposition

Monday – Friday: 12h00-13h00

Benediction

Friday: 13h00

Weddings and Baptisms

by appointment, contact parish office

Parish Staff

Pastor: Fr. Russell Pollitt SJ
frrussell@trinityjhb.co.za

University Chaplain: Fr. Matsepene Morare SJ
frmatsepene@trinityjhb.co.za

Deacon: Rev. William Davies
revbilly@trinityjhb.co.za

Director of Music: Mr. Cameron Upchurch
music@trinityjhb.co.za

Administrator: Mr. Tebogo Petja
parish@trinityjhb.co.za

Residence Manager: Mrs. Cathy Setlogelo
resmanager@trinityjhb.co.za

Banking Details

Holy Trinity Catholic Church

Standard Bank, Braamfontein (004805)

Account: **002 294 192**

St. Vincent de Paul, Braamfontein Standard
Bank, Braamfontein (1842)

Account: **22 090 752 8**



Snap here to pay

PARISH NOTICES ~ 22ND SEPTEMBER 2024

SCHOLA CANTORUM

On Sunday **22nd September**, at **09h00**, the Schola Cantorum will sing the Office of Lauds (*Morning Prayer*) in Latin. This will be in accordance with the current Antiphonale Romanum, which contains all the official sung texts of the Liturgy of the Hours. Please join us.

HERITAGE DAY BRAAI

The Parish Fundraising Committee will host the annual heritage day braai on the **28th of September** from **11h00**, ticket prices are **R150** for an adult plate, **R50** kids & student group discount of **R50 off** every group of 5 students. Proceeds from this event will go towards the Christmas lunch for the homeless. Your support will be much appreciated!

HERITAGE DAY

On Tuesday, **24 September** is a public holiday, mass will be at **09h00** and not at 13h00

THE SOUTHERN CROSS

The Parish has been requested to resell the Monthly Catholic Magazine, we have 10 copies of the September edition at the moment—each costs **R40.00**, if you would like to place an order for a monthly subscription, please email or call the parish and we will add you on the list.

SR. MURA PROJECT

Next weekend, **29 September**, ladies from the Sr Mura Foundation will be here after all Masses selling some of their creations to raise funds for the project. The Sr Mura Foundation looks after HIV+ migrants in Yeoville

THE POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR SEPTEMBER:

We pray with Pope Francis that each of us listen with our hearts to the cry of the Earth and of the victims of environmental disasters and the climate crises; making a personal commitment to care for the world we inhabit

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

The SVP of Holy Trinity will renew their dedication at the 09h30 Mass this Sunday. The second collection will be for their work with the poor. Please support them! If you are interested in joining this ministry please see one of the members after Mass.

CONFIRMATION 2024

Archbishop Buti Tlhagale OMI will preside at the annual Parish Confirmations on Saturday, **5 October**, at **16h00**. The retreat and practice for the confirmation will take place on **Saturday 21 September**. All candidates are expected to attend.

SUPPORT THE PARISH

A reminder that you can make a contribution to the ministry and maintenance of the parish by scanning the SnapScan QR code on the benches or in the bulletin. During the collection time, instead of cash, scan the code and make your contribution. We appreciate your support, thank you!

MASS INTENTIONS

You can contact the office for Mass intentions. A suggested donation is **R50** per Mass. The Mass intentions will be published so that people know which intention or who the Mass is being celebrated for.

PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO NGOME

The Parish annual Pilgrimage to Ngome Marian shrine will be on **13 to 15 December 2024**, for further details please contact the organisers; Prudence Xaba 0824486067 or Oswald Mokoena 0820861334.

PASTOR'S CORNER

When we choose to be inclusive, we choose to be a beacon of hope

The Catholic Church has a rich history and diverse following - this has always been the case. There are increasing calls for the Church to address the inclusivity and welcome of marginalised people, including those who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and intersex (LGBTI).

Historically, the Church's stance on issues related to sexuality and gender does not take diversity into account. The Church has emphasised a "traditional family" in a heteronormative paradigm. There has been a notable shift in recent decades, prompted by the lived experience of many people who are not living in "traditional family" families. There is a call from many – as we saw in the synod process leading up to the *Synod on Synodality* – urging the Church to dialogue with science and rethink its approach.

Since the beginning of his papacy, Pope Francis has been influential in sparking conversations about openness and the inclusivity of LGBTI individuals within the Church. His famous remark, "Who am I to judge?" when asked about gay priests in 2013, marked a significant moment of pastoral outreach, signalling a more inclusive Church.

Inclusivity within the Church involves theological discussions *and* tangible actions that make LGBTI individuals feel welcomed and valued as part of the faith community. This could include affirming their dignity in homilies, engaging in open dialogues, and creating parish environments that are welcoming and understanding.

Some parishes, like Trinity, have initiated ministries welcoming LGBTI Catholics and their families by creating a safe space for sharing experiences and supporting one another in faith.

Theological exploration is another avenue through which the Church is navigating inclusivity. While Catholic doctrine holds specific teachings on sexuality, some theologians and scholars advocate for a development that honours the lived experiences of LGBTI people. They argue for a theology that integrates an understanding of sexual and gender diversity with Catholic teachings based on the foundational principles of all people created in the image of God, human dignity and love.

The "synodal path" that the Church embarked on in the first session of the *Synod on Synodality* in 2023 – and, of course, the preparation leading to it – emphasises listening and dialogue, allowing diverse voices to be heard—including those of marginalised communities. Through this process, the Church seeks to create a more engaging and participatory environment, recognising that the journey toward inclusivity requires ongoing effort and openness to change. This dialogue is essential for building a community that mirrors the teaching of love, above all else, as taught by Jesus.

Moreover, Catholic social teaching, with its foundation in respect for all human beings and a commitment to social justice, supports the call for inclusivity. By aligning actions with the principles of the dignity of the person and solidarity, the Church can also play a pivotal role in advocating for the rights and recognition of LGBTI people, both within its own structures and in broader society.

However, the path to a fully inclusive Church is not without its challenges. The journey requires patience, dialogue, and a willingness to embrace the complexity of human life.

Ultimately, the call for inclusivity and welcome of all people within the Church reflects its mission to embody Christ's message of love. The Church is the one place that can create a community where every individual feels respected and embraced in their uniqueness. We are invited to live out the Gospel's call to love one's neighbour. Dialogue enriches the Church's spiritual life and reinforces its role as a beacon of hope and healing in a diverse and ever-changing world. What other marginalised people should we be dialoguing with?

Fr. Russell Pollitt SJ



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AFRICA

“Everybody wants to rule the world”

by Cherie-Lynn van der Merwe

I can't stand this indecision

Married with a lack of vision

Everybody wants to rule the world. (Lyrics from a song by Tears for Fears)

Every group of people needs leadership. Good leadership brings unity of vision and encourages growth for all. Without good leadership, the group may dissolve into countless individuals following their own pathway or, even worse, spiral out of control into a situation of mass devastation.

The question is, “Who within the group needs to fulfil the role of leader?” Does it always have to rest on the president, CEO, priest, or committee chairperson?

I want to suggest that the person who occupies the so-called “head” role in the group ought to have leadership qualities but not necessarily take up the role of sole leader. I would further suggest that a person in such a leading role would do well to recognise the need for leadership to be a shared responsibility.

Sadly, some occupy top positions in countries, companies, and even churches that fall into the trap of confusing leadership with authoritarian rule, as they hold tightly to all decision-making. Likewise, some want to place all leadership responsibility on the person at the top and refuse to consider that they, too, have gifts and talents to offer towards the group's growth.

Leadership is not about title and position. It is about accepting the invitation to use God-given abilities and strengths to empower the group to fulfil their obligation. As St. Paul succinctly expresses it, “Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. Each of you should look not only to your own interests but also to the interests of others.” (Phil 2:3-4)

A healthy group that experiences diverse but unified leadership can adapt and be flexible. They are able to invite change and welcome opportunities to stretch and grow. They are resilient both individually and collectively.

There is a recognition that things do not always go according to plan and that mistakes will be made, but there is always an opportunity to bounce back wiser and stronger. Such groups value each member, applauding their successes and supporting one another when a broken heart or dream needs time to mend.

The greatest challenge is occasionally recognising that the group's work can wait as they pause to listen to one another with openness and generosity. This is the power of shared leadership, where each member's unique strengths and talents contribute to the group's success.

Such a group does not simply evolve. It takes courage, introspection and sacrifice. There is no room for manipulative behaviour or power play. Each member must guard their heart against subtle jealous thoughts or the pull of power. I would suggest such a group would be hard-pressed to even attempt this without seeking the grace of God.

Servant leadership is a gift that keeps on giving. It has the potential to powerfully change the course of communities in which the groups serve, from uncontrollably running off a cliff in the fogginess of life to taking a helpful turn onto a green pasture where all may find enough of what they need.

It is, after all, what Jesus would do. He would lead not by ruling but by sharing the responsibility with his disciples. This is the essence of shared leadership - a model we should strive to emulate.