SIXTEENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

PSALM RESPONSE:
O Lord, you are good and forgiving.

THIS WEEK’S MASSES & FEASTS

<table>
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<th>SUNDAY</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>07h30 Tilly Michaels</td>
<td>Wis 12:13,16-19 / Ps 86</td>
<td>18h00 Pro Populo</td>
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<td>09h30 Germaine Seglolo RIP</td>
<td>Rom 8:26-27 / Mt 13:24-43</td>
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<td>MONDAY</td>
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<td>Edward Blonski RIP</td>
<td>Ex 14:5-18 / Ex 15</td>
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<td>Mt 12:38-42</td>
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<td>TUESDAY</td>
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<td>ST JAMES</td>
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<td>Joseph Gadjaibou RIP</td>
<td>2 Cor 4:7-15 / Ps 126</td>
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<td>Mt 20:20-28</td>
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<td>WEDNESDAY</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pro Populo</td>
<td>Ex 16:1-5, 9-15 / Ps 78</td>
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<td>Mt 13:1-9</td>
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<td>THURSDAY</td>
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<td>Pro Populo</td>
<td>Ex 19:1-2, 9-11, 16-20 / Dan 3</td>
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<td>Mt 13:10-17</td>
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<td>FRIDAY</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pro Populo</td>
<td>Ex 20:1-17 / Ps 19</td>
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<td>Mt 1318-23</td>
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Proclaimers
07h30
Mark Morgan
Susan Morgan

09h30
Lorraine Zvigo
Oswald Mokoena

* Italics indicate Mass intention

Ministers of the Eucharist

07h30
Kryisia Lesar
Jenny Howard
Cyril Kobus
Roly Adams
Mark Morgan

09h30
Caroline Modibane
Jean-Paul Deltour
Marcie Bello
Sheilagh Andoh

Hospitals
Mary Salmon
Laura Geretto

Flowers
Holy Trinity Church

ST VINCENT DE PAUL ACCOUNT
Bank: Standard Bank
Acc No: 02648532

PARISH BANKING DETAILS
Bank: Standard Bank
Branch: Braamfontein (004805)
Acc: Holy Trinity Catholic Church
Acc No: 002294192

PARISH STAFF
Pastor: Fr Graham Pugin SJ
frgraham@trinityjhb.co.za
083 587 7322

Assistant Pastor:
Fr Matthew Charlesworth SJ
frmatthew@trinityjhb.co.za

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

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

Parish Administrator: Ms Kelsey Hauptfleisch
parish@trinityjhb.co.za

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

MISSA
MONDAY - FRIDAY: 13h15
SUNDAY: 07h30 | 09h30 (Sung) | 18h00

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
**PARISH NOTICES**

**Baptism**

The next Baptism class will be on Saturday, 19 July at 10 o’clock. Please collect a form from Kelsey in the Parish office. Thank you.

**Second Collection**

There will be an Archdiocesan second collection today towards the Mini World Youth Day being held in Durban the first week of December 2017.

**Pauline’s**

The Pauline Sisters from the Catholic Bookshop will be setting up tables after all Masses on Sunday, 06 August 2017. Please support them.

**Holy Trinity Dance Crew**

Dance your sweat out. A dancing initiative for our fellow Catholics to keep our minds and bodies healthy. Come join, text Tsholo on 0769763858 or Siyo on 0733190744.

**Women’s Day**

Women’s Day Brunch Celebration at Trinity. This is our day! Come and be inspired by stories of women from our parish and also our fore-mothers from the Bible and history of the Church. Date: 9 August. Time: after the 09h00 mass. Venue: Trinity hall. Cost R100. Dress code: any outfit that tells your story. Let’s make the day truly about us!

**SVP Blanket Drive**

SVP is seeking support from parishioners for us to be able to do a blanket distribution for winter as soon as possible. We need to raise approximately R18 000 so if you can spare R75 for a blanket we would be very grateful for every contribution. We are also seeking new volunteers. As the nights get colder we have up to 300 people coming for soup each Monday night and our volunteer numbers are down especially during the varsity holidays.

**RCIA**

RCIA classes will begin again on Sunday, 6 August 2017.

**The Young Adult Family**

We are running a ‘Life in the Spirit Formation Course’ from 2 July 2017 to 30 July 2017. All parishioners who are interested in understanding and encountering the Holy Spirit should join us downstairs from 11h00-12h00 on Sundays for the formation course. For details contact Valentine on 0833729163 or email youngadultfamily@trinityjhb.co.za.

**Sick List**

Please remember in your prayers the sick of the parish, especially Fr Michael Austin, Meagan Petersen, Seignon Zinsou and Daniël Enslin. Please pray for all those who have died, especially Maria da Matta and Edward Blonski. May they rest in peace.
A Parish Mission has been in the pipeline for a while as a way to celebrate our life as a community together, to inspire, invigorate and encourage us. I have been speaking to Fr Russell Pollitt whom many will remember from his time at the parish, and who is now the Director of the Jesuit Institute of South Africa. Russell will lead a Mission Service each evening from Saturday, 2 September, to Saturday, 9 September; these services will include a Penance Service, a Healing Service, a Commitment Service and an opportunity for Renewal of Vows; in addition to these there will be extra Masses at 06h00 Monday to Friday for that week, as well as the usual Masses at 13h15. The usual Sunday Masses on 3 September and 10 September will all be part of our Mission.

I am also hoping that we will be able to involve as many as possible of the parish groups, ministries, and sodalities, and look forward to discussing with you ways to do this as we meet over the coming weeks.

If that is not enough, I am hoping that we will be able to visit as many parishioners as possible in the weeks before and after the Mission. If you would like to help us in this visitation, please contact Kelsey in the Parish Office (contact details below). I hope that these visits will be a pleasant opportunity for me and those who work with me to meet with many parishioners to strengthen relationships and build bonds of friendship, so that as a Parish we may continue to build the City of God here in Johannesburg as we have done now for the past 120 years.

Graham Pugin SJ

PS: Is the Parish Mission in my diary for 2-10 September?

**Parish Groups**

**ALPHA**
  Hilary Masenda alpha@trinityjhb.co.za

**ANNIVERSARY**
  Gopolang Modise anniversary@trinityjhb.co.za

**CATECHISTS**
  Noleen Isaacs catechism@trinityjhb.co.za

**CHILDREN’S LITURGY**
  Matthew childrens.liturgy@trinityjhb.co.za

**CHRISTIAN LIFE COMMUNITY**
  Anne Dormehl 082 312 8728
clc@trinityjhb.co.za

**COME HOME BIBLE STUDY**
  Ike Obidike comehomebiblestudy@trinityjhb.co.za

**LGBTI MINISTRY**
  Dumisani Dube lgbti@trinityjhb.co.za

**JUSTICE & PEACE**
  Dawn Linder 082 403 4154
  justpeace@trinityjhb.co.za

**RCIA**
  Victor Houliston rcia@trinityjhb.co.za

**SACRED HEART SODALITY**
  Sheilagh Andoh sacredheart@trinityjhb.co.za

**SUNDAY MEDITATION**
  Maeve Jacobs 011 646 5959

**ST VINCENT DE PAUL**
  Prince Collins svp@trinityjhb.co.za

**SANT’ EGIDIO**
  Harold Dinis stegidio@trinityjhb.co.za

**TRINITY HEALTH SERVICES**
  Claire Collins health.services@trinityjhb.co.za

**TRINITY PHARMACY**
  Deanne Johnston pharmacy@trinityjhb.co.za

**YOUNG ADULTS**
  Pedro Amos Augustine youngadultfamily@trinityjhb.co.za

**YOUTH**
  Lisa Ncube youth@trinityjhb.co.za
God, where are you in our suffering?
By Russell Pollitt SJ

How can we believe in an all-loving and all-powerful God when there is so much suffering around us?

This is the most difficult religious question of all time. Why does God not just wipe out all suffering? Why does God seem so silent in the midst of so much pain?

There have been many attempts to answer this question, by some of the best theological minds in history. Those who have suffered deeply too, have also tried articulating an answer to this question. It’s impossible to say much about this in 500 words, but here goes…

First, we need to confront the notion that believing in God or having faith makes us immune to tragedy, suffering, illness and pain. We often want an ‘aspirin’ God and believe that somehow our faith should be rewarded with lives that are easy and suffering-free. God never promised us pain-free lives. God deals with suffering differently to our ‘by-pass pain at all cost’ approach.

Jesus reveals a God who is not a rescuer but a redeemer. God does not protect us from pain, but enters into our pain and ultimately redeems it. This sounds pithy but it is not. What is ultimately at stake is human freedom and God’s respect for our freedom. God gives us freedom and, unlike most people, refuses to violate that freedom even when it might seem best to do so. It’s the price of the gift to the giver. This leaves us in a lot of pain sometimes, because of our own poor judgement or that of others. Respect demands that God does not rescue us in these cases but, rather, God redeems.

Fr. Ronald Rolheiser OMI says that a reading of the story of Lazarus offers some insight. Lazarus dies, Jesus is told but he does not rush to the dead man’s family right away. When he arrives at the house, two days later, he is met by the statement from Lazarus’s sister Martha “If you had been here my brother would not have died”. The statement really is the timeless one everyone wrestles with: “Where were you when tragedy struck?” In other words: Where is God when there is suffering? Mary, the other sister, asks the identical question.

Jesus does not answer. He becomes, we are told “distressed” and asks where Lazarus has been put. We are then told Jesus weeps. That’s God’s answer: he enters into suffering, helplessness and pain. He then raises Jesus from the dead.

The same happens to Jesus. He is not rescued from the cross by the Father. He dies on the cross then the Father raises him to life.

God is not indifferent to suffering. When we are hurt badly, unfairly, painfully, it is difficult to believe in an all-powerful God. Sometimes, however, the only answer to suffering is the one Jesus offers to the Lazarus sisters – shared pain, distress, tears, helplessness. There is no attempt to explain his seeming absence. The challenge is, rather, to be in that very painful space trusting that God is present and, in the end, rest assured that we will be redeemed by God’s embrace.

Follow Russell Pollitt SJ on twitter @rpollittsj