



"For God so loved the world that he gave us his only-begotten Son that whoever believes in him might not perish but have eternal life." (John 3:16)

To know and accept just how truly loved we are is the one gift God most wants to give us this Christmas. Jesus stands at the door of our hearts and knocks.

We, the seminarians, faculty and staff of Holy Trinity Seminary promise you our prayers that you may open that door and receive him more deeply in your heart in peace, joy and confidence.

May the blessings of Christmas be yours in abundance.

Fr. Swift, Rector

CHRISTMAS AT THE SEMINARY



The seminarians gathered in fellowship on the evening of December 1st for a **Christmas Banquet**. In addition to enjoying a holiday meal together, they received visits from Santa Claus (Fr. Kevin Wilwert) and the Grinch (Steven Chabarría, senior, Diocese of Tyler).

The **Trinitarian Auxiliary** members joined the seminarians for their annual **Mass and Brunch** on the first Sunday of Advent. Thanks to the generosity of everyone who supported the Auxiliary's Welcome Basket Project, each seminarian received a gift of cash, a gift card and a bag full of Christmas goodies, including a copy of Dr. Marcellino D'Ambrosio's book *When the Church Was Young: Voices of the Early Fathers*. The Auxiliary also presented the seminary with a \$10,000 check. For more information on joining the Auxiliary, go to [Trinitarian Auxiliary](#).

An **Advent Festival of Lessons and Carols**, featuring the Schola Cantorum and guest organist Valerie Stagaman and guest percussionist J.P. Evans, was presented on the evening of the first Sunday of Advent. In addition to singing beautiful chants and traditional Christmas carols, the seminarians read from Holy Scripture, providing our guests with an opportunity to prepare spiritually for the celebration of Christmas. Following the service, the seminarians and our guests were treated to a reception hosted by the Trinitarian Auxiliary.



We hope you will make plans to join us for our first open Mass of the new year to be held on Sunday, January 27th. A reception with the seminarians will follow the Mass. A full Mass schedule for the spring semester can be found on our [website](#).



Year-end Giving Reminder

Thank you for considering a year-end gift to Holy Trinity Seminary. We cannot do the important work we do without your support.

Please note the following IRS guidelines to ensure that your gift qualifies as a charitable deduction for 2018:

Checks must be dated on or before December 31, 2018 *and* received or postmarked on or before December 31, 2018. Checks may be mailed to: Holy Trinity Seminary, 3131 Vince Hagan Dr, Irving, TX 75062.

Credit Card gifts made online at <https://www.holytrinityseminary.org/Donate/> must be received by 11:59 PM on December 31, 2018.

Stock gifts should be initiated by Friday, December 21, 2018 in order to allow enough time for processing prior to year-end. Contact Sylvia Najera at snajera@holytrinityseminary.org for stock transfer instructions.



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