

MASS INTENTIONS JAN 17 - JAN 25

Jan 17	5:00	Greg Sarrell
	7:00	Calvo Family
Jan 18	9:30	Romeo Thibault †
	12:00	For All Parishioners
Jan 19	9:00	Stephen †, Anne †
Jan 20-23		NO DAILY MASS
Jan 22	11:30-7:00 pm	ADORATION
Jan 24	5:00	Family/Friends† Paniaqua-Alejo
	7:00	Peter Rohan†
Jan 25	9:30	For All Parishioners
	12:00	C. Dubrouillet

Parish Offertory January 10-11

5:00	7:00	9:30	12:00	Total
576	308	1,400	771	3,055

Spaghetti Dinner – Jan 23, 5:00

Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus.

Pot Luck for All – Feb 15, 4:30

Sponsored by the Ladies' Auxiliary of KoC.

Gestures During the Mass

Last week I mentioned gestures during Mass which are common to everyone. One found a miss! We all bow the head at 1) the name of Jesus, 2) the name of God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, 3) the name of Mary, 4) the name of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, and 5) the name of the saint of the day.

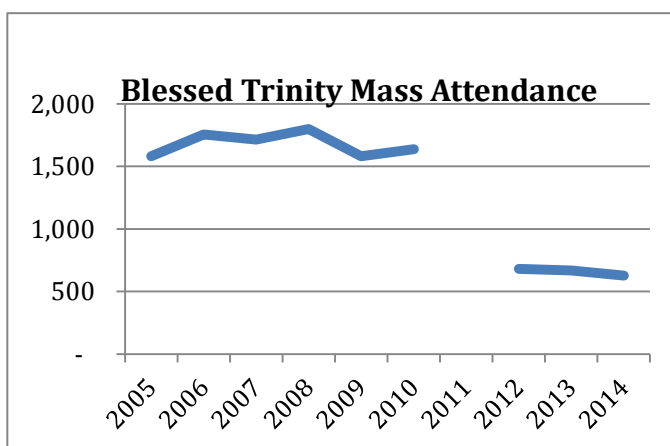
This week, consider which gestures during Mass are common to the priest and others who are serving: Lectors, Altar Servers, Extraordinary Ministers of Communion.

1) Bowing to the Altar. Outside of Mass, the Eucharist in the Tabernacle is most important – and that is why we all genuflect before, after, and outside of Mass. DURING Mass, however, we bow to the altar in reverence. The Altar is the source of the Eucharist reserved in the Tabernacle.

During Mass, we reverence the altar with a deep bow at the waist whenever passing in front of it. During this bow, the priest also kisses the altar before and at the end of Mass.

2) Purification of fingers. Whenever we touch the Eucharist, we purify our fingers with holy water, and then touch a towel to dry them.

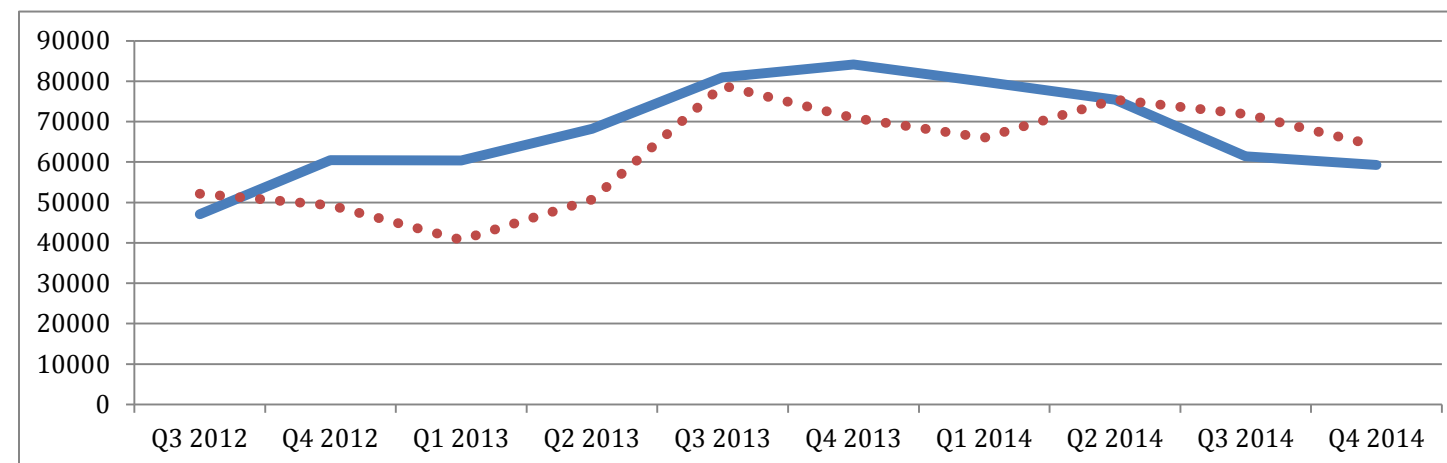
3) Genuflection. The priest and Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist (and sometimes other servers), genuflect when the Eucharist is returned to the Tabernacle.



Parishes in SC count how many people attend weekend Masses during October, and report the average to the diocese. At Blessed Trinity, Mass attendance dropped noticeable in 2011, and continued to decline. From 2005 to 2010, I am told that some of the Masses took place at Prince of Peace. The sharp drop also comes because two nearby parishes began having Mass in Spanish, and a third opened a separate mission church to care for people who speak Spanish.

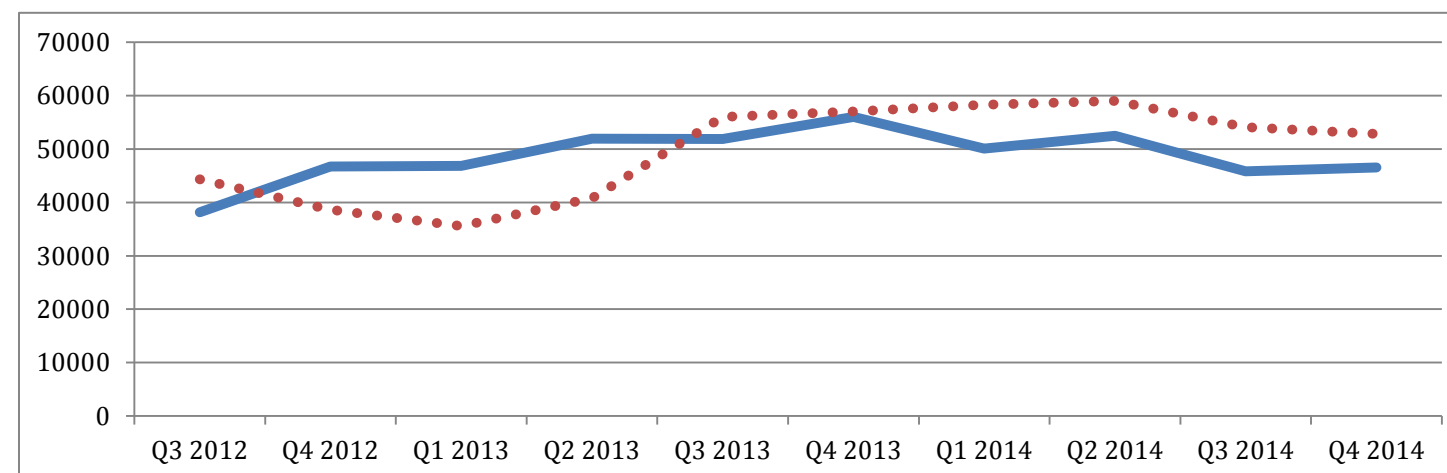
The financial report to the right begins with July 2012 and continues to December 2014. The numbers are income and spending 3 months at a time: July, August, September, then October, November, and December, and so on.

Parish Financial Report



Solid line is total parish income, dotted is total parish spending.

During the last six months, we spent just over \$9,800 on equipment and major building repairs. “Major” means more than \$500 for a single item. The above chart gives the best indication of how parish savings have been able to increase over the last 2 ½ years, and for this we are thankful. On the other hand, we can see that parish income has decreased significantly during the last 12 months – and this needs a closer look. Big parts of this income came from single donations for specific purchases.



Solid line is total parish offertory income (excludes 2nd collections and major gifts), dotted is spending for administration, church and rectory, and regular operations.

One of the best ways for a parish to understand it’s financial situation is to compare the weekly parish collections to the main parish expenses: administration, church and rectory, and regular operation expenses. All of the expenses that come year in and year out should be covered by income we receive year in and year out. It is good to receive extra money regularly, so that we have money to cover bigger repairs and improvements that come only every few years.

Our offertory income increased during the first 1 ½ years shown above, but has trended down for the last year. This “offertory income” is only for the parish’s use, and does not include 2nd collections which go to the diocese and other organizations thru the nation and world.

Our spending was very low during the first year shown. This is because the priest here did not need to accept a salary, and during part of the time the priests at Prince of Peace covered Masses here. Fr. Gillespie, myself, and most priests need a salary, and every parish should be able to support their priests, staff, operations, and basic needs by the parish offertory.