



## 2021 Ministry Report of Trinity House Community



# TRINITY HOUSE COMMUNITY

## 2021 Ministry Report



### ENGAGE THE PUBLIC

with the award-winning Trinity House Café + Market

On Oct. 1 of 2021, we celebrated Trinity House Café + Market's 7th anniversary. Our faith-filled staff continue to do more than meet the daily challenges of this pandemic—they are going the extra mile to make Trinity House even more of a cornerstone for our community. Foot traffic to the café has reached pre-pandemic levels, thanks in part to our beautiful outdoor patio. To-date in 2021, we have welcomed over **25,000 guests**, including small groups, young adult groups, homeschooling events, art exhibits, a book bazaar, and more.

Also in October, we welcomed Scott Livingston as Manager of the café and Missionary Program Director. Scott has over 30 years of leadership and management experience in a variety of settings, including the military, higher education, federal service, and philanthropy. In 2022, Scott will lead our efforts to make a year-long missionary experience available to form the next generation of Christian leaders and their future families. Missionaries will serve at Trinity House Café + Market while receiving formation and serving the community in other ways.

Alongside our growing gift shop, the café's "apostolate of books"—entirely donated, with titles ranging from Aquinas to C.S. Lewis and J.R.R. Tolkien—continued to bless many guests. In 2021, guests to Trinity House purchased **580 donated paperbacks**, **290 hardback books**, and helped themselves to over **500 free books** on prayer, marriage and family life, the lives of the saints, theology, and more.

#### Also in 2021:

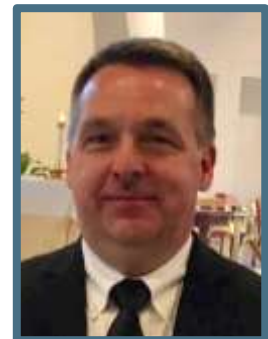
- Sales are **30% higher** than in 2020, and are already **3% higher** than in 2019.
- Committed volunteers donated over **300 hours** to improve the café grounds and interior.
- The Café hosted **4 art exhibits**.
- The Café's weekly e-letter audience **increased to 1,048**.
- Faith-based gifts accounted for **12% of sales**, a **3% increase** from 2020, and an **11% increase** from 2019.
- The Café reached **2,242** Instagram followers, **2,900** Facebook likes, and **432** Twitter followers.
- We shared the vision of Trinity House Café + Market with **5 groups** that visited the café with a goal of discerning their own next steps in launching a café ministry.

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*"Just about everything about the café makes you want to enjoy your time there, every single minute of it...the charm and peaceful surroundings, the friendliness of the staff. The entire vibe of the place is one of comfort and peace."*

*– Bobbie P., Elite Yelp Reviewer, in his 5-star review*

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Scott Livingston





## EQUIP PARENTS with Heaven in Your Home Workshops, Letters & other tools

### *Heaven in Your Home Workshop (Online & In-Person)*

After receiving so many requests to make the *Heaven in Your Home Workshop* available online, we recorded the four 15-minute talks of the workshop in the spring of 2021 with an award-winning production company in the café's beautiful main dining room. Since the workshop went live online in July, **over 250 families** have accessed this transformative workshop.

In 2021, though the pandemic hampered in-person opportunities, we gave presentations on the Trinity House vision at Queen of Apostles (Alexandria), St. John the Apostle (Leesburg), and Blessed Sacrament (Alexandria), and have scheduled workshops, talks, or retreats for late 2021 and early 2022 at All Saints (Manassas), St. Philip (Falls Church), St. Theresa (Ashburn), Holy Trinity (Gainesville), St. Bernadette (Springfield), and St. Catherine of Siena (Great Falls).

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*“Soren and Ever Johnson’s workshop is a much-needed blueprint for all Christian families seeking to do God’s will and bring a taste of His grace and mercy into their own homes.”*  
- Theresa Civantos Barber,  
*Aleteia*

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### *Heaven in Your Home Letters*

In November 2019, we began sending out a weekly e-letter—the *Heaven in Your Home Letter*—with a goal to inspire, equip, and encourage parents. At the start of 2021, **550 subscribers** enjoyed our weekly *Letters*. As of today, we’ve seen a **51 percent jump to 830**. With a high open rate, our readers share that they look forward to receiving the newest edition of the *Letters* every Tuesday. This year, we also added an audio feature, allowing our subscribers to listen to each week’s reflection while on the go. The **46 issues** of the *Letters* published so far this year contribute to a growing online resource center for parents.

### *Media, Interviews & Outreach*

This year, the ministry of Trinity House Community has been featured or cited in *Our Sunday Visitor News*, *Aleteia*, *The Arlington Catholic Herald*, *Theology of Home*, the newsletter of the National Association of Family Life Ministers, and the *Searching for More* podcast of the Diocese of Arlington. Soren’s monthly columns in the *Arlington Catholic Herald* resulted in additional exposure for the ministry. Ever will be featured in a forthcoming chapter of a book on Catholics in hospitality.

We also recorded an inspirational 2-minute promo video that makes the case for finding heaven in your home. Alongside this new resource, we sat down with Dr. Dominic Lombardi, Executive Director of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops’ Secretariat for Laity, Marriage, Family, and Youth for a 9-minute interview to help introduce the ministry to a wider audience. Additionally, with this digital engagement and marketing, Trinity House Community’s Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter followers all increased.

From Sept. 22-24, we participated in “The Dramatic Beauty of the Family,” the 2021 conference of the National Association of Family Life Ministers (NACFLM) at The St. John Paul II Shrine in Washington, D.C. As an organizational member of NACFLM, we shared the Trinity House Community resources with these national leaders and followed up with a mailing introducing the ministry to every diocesan Family Life Director in the country.



## ENCOURAGE FAMILIES with Heaven in Your Home Gatherings

While workshops and online tools are critical, families also need recurring in-person opportunities to deepen friendships, engage in peer-to-peer discipleship, and be encouraged. To that end, following a 3-month period of preparation with a core team of 6 couples committed to addressing these needs, we launched our *Heaven in Your Home Gatherings* on Sept. 18, 2021. These events—on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month—will provide a template for family ministry at other parishes. To date, we have hosted **3 Gatherings** for an estimated total of **150 adults and 80 children**.



*Prof. John Cuddeback at the Nov. 20 Gathering*

### *Heaven in Your Home Gatherings*

- Sept. 18: “How to Turn Family Life into a Taste of Heaven” with Fr. Thomas Cavanaugh, Parochial Vicar, St. John the Apostle, Leesburg. This *Gathering* focused on Level 1 of the Trinity House, or Faith Life.
- Oct. 16: “How to Have the Joy of the Trinity at the Heart of Your Marriage” with Ian Masson, IPS Center Director, Divine Mercy University. This *Gathering* focused on Level 2 of the Trinity House, or Person & Relationships.
- Nov. 20: “Revitalizing Home Life by a Household Economy” with Dr. John Cuddeback, Professor of Philosophy, Christendom College. This *Gathering* focused on Level 3 of the Trinity House, or Household Economy.

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*“My husband and I are grateful for the Heaven in Your Home Gatherings at St. John’s. Not only do we get some inspiring ideas to help our family grow in our faith, but we also get to know our parish family better. Strengthening both—family and parish community—are critical for a flourishing family culture.”*

*– Ann Waterman, Leesburg*

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