



Blessed Trinity

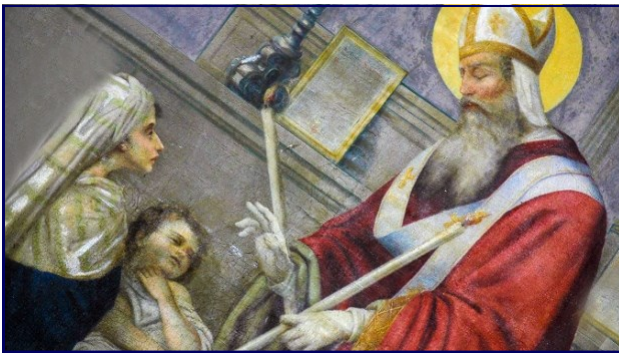
Weekend Magazine

Over 60 YEARS COURAGEOUSLY *Living the Gospel*

January 30, 2022 ▪ The Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

The Real Story Behind the Church's Tradition of Blessing Throats

By Zoe Romanowsky



Calling on St. Blaise for throat ailments, among other things, goes way back

Through the intercession of St. Blaise, bishop and martyr, may God deliver you from every disease of the throat and from every other illness, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. ~Prayer from the Blessing of the Throats

Years ago a priest told me that when he was a young boy, his brother began choking on a bone. Panicked, his mother called aloud for the help of St. Blaise, and immediately the bone cleared and everything was fine. Whether the boy was truly in grave danger or not, I don't know, but the story is similar to one of the most famous legends about St. Blaise: supposedly, while he was in prison for refusing to renounce his faith, he miraculously cured a little boy who was choking to death on a fish bone.

Very little is actually known about this early Christian martyr, however. The first reference we have of him is in the medical journals of a court physician named Aëtius Amidenus, from the end of the fifth or beginning of the sixth century, where St. Blaise is mentioned as being called upon for treating objects stuck in the throat.

We also know that Blaise was the bishop of Sebaste in Armenia and suffered martyrdom under Licinius

about AD 316. But as far as details about his life, we must rely on various traditions. Supposedly, this early Christian martyr was born to noble and wealthy parents who provided him with a Christian education. He became a physician and was elected and consecrated a bishop at a young age. During the persecution of Licinius, a former ally of Constantine who began persecuting the Church, Blaise experienced a call to live as a hermit in a cave outside of town, where he was known to heal sick and wounded wild animals. Eventually he was discovered by hunters who were roaming the countryside capturing creatures to use in the amphitheater games. Blaise was taken to Agricolaus, the governor of Cappadocia and Lesser Armenia, and thrown into jail.

One legend has it that on his way to prison, Blaise commanded a wolf to release a pig belonging to a woman who begged for the holy bishop's help. She later brought candles to his cell so he would have light to read the Scriptures. While Agricolaus was reportedly impressed with Blaise's miracles, it didn't stop him from insisting that the bishop renounce his faith and when he wouldn't, the governor had him beaten, tortured with an iron comb, and beheaded.

As the manuscripts from Aëtius Amidenus show, by the sixth century St. Blaise's intercession was being invoked in the east for illnesses related to the throat. By the ninth century, the saint was also revered in Europe and went on to become one of the most popular saints in the Middle Ages, venerated as one of the "Fourteen Holy Helpers."

Churches were named for St. Blaise and altars were dedicated to him. Pope Leo IV is said to have presented relics of St. Blaise to Duke Wolfenus of Rheinau, Germany in 855, who brought them home from Rome with him. Other relics of St. Blaise are reported to be

Continued on page 2



PASTOR

Rev. Wayne C. Genereux

DEACONS

Deacon Bill Lovelace
Deacon Lionel Roberts,
Deacon Emeritus

CLERGY ASSISTANCE

Fr. Jack McDowell, OFM
Fr. Anthony Fortunato, OdeM
Fr. Victor Bartolotta

MASS SCHEDULE

Weekday Masses

Monday - Saturday 8:00 AM

Weekend Masses

Saturday Vigil at 4:00 PM
Sunday

8:00 AM, 9:30 AM & 11:30 AM

Follow the Sunday Mass on our
website, btsp.org.

Confessions will be held
Saturdays 2:45-3:45

PARISH OFFICE

Monday—Friday 9-12 and 1-4
Closed for Lunch Noon to 1 pm
1600 54TH AVE S.
ST. PETERSBURG, FL 33712

PHONE

(727) 867-3663

FAX

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WEB SITE

<http://btsp.org>
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The Real Story Behind the Church's Tradition of Blessing Throats continued from front cover

in Braunschweig, Germany, as well as in Paris.

In 971, in present day Dubrovnik, St. Blaise reportedly appeared to the city's inhabitants to warn them of an impending attack by the Venetians. Ever since, Dubrovnik has honored him as its patron. A statue of the saint stands over the entrance gate to the city and the cathedral there has an array of Blaise's relics.

In time, the custom of blessing the throats of the faithful developed, with priests holding two tapered candles — blessed the day before on Candlemas, Feb 2 — over the head or the throat while invoking the intercession of St. Blaise against any ailment of the throat and body.

It's an ancient custom of the Church to bless the sick, rooted in the ministry of Christ and his apostles. According to the *Pastoral Care of the Sick: Rites of Anointing and Viaticum*, the annual blessing of throats is a traditional sign of the struggle against illness in the life of the Christian. The blessing is ordinarily given during Mass or a celebration of the Word of God on February 3, the memorial of St. Blaise, following Candlemas, the feast of the Presentation of the Lord.

While ailments of the throat are the main thing for which St. Blaise is invoked in the West, he is also considered a protector against wild animals, a protector of cities and a patron of veterinarians, wool-combers and the wool industry.

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Catholic Ministry Appeal



The Gospel is the Good News. It shows us the path to everlasting life. But sometimes it does this not just by showing us what to do, but also demonstrating what *not* to do. Today is a great example. Jesus preaches in Nazareth, where he grew up. The hometown crowd is expecting to hear some inspiring words, and maybe even see some miracles. But that's not what Jesus has in store for them. Instead, he challenges them, pointing to their self-centeredness and their unwillingness to open-up to God. Definitely not the easy message they wanted to hear!

This is a moment of decision for his audience. Do they allow Jesus's hard words to change them, leading to conversion and deeper relationship with God? Or do they put up walls, and respond with anger and stubbornness?

We know how they chose. The challenge for us is to choose differently when we're confronted by a challenging message from Christ and His Church. One of those challenging topics in our parish today is the need to support the *Catholic Ministry Appeal*. It can be easy to react to this conversation by putting up walls or tuning things out. But the parish's needs are real. What's more important than whether we give or not is whether we allow ourselves to be challenged by the invitation to contribute, allowing ourselves to lower our defenses and to prayerfully listen and discern. Try it out today, and see how the Lord prompts you.



January 30, 2022

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jer 1:4-5, 17-19 | 1 Cor 12:31-13:13 or 1 Cor 13:4-13 | Lk 4:21-30

GROW AS A DISCIPLE | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE

Wait, what? One moment the people of Nazareth embrace Jesus, but as soon as he challenges them the crowd turns on a dime, and moves toward throwing him off a cliff. The Son of God, also the son of a carpenter, goes from hometown hero to *persona non grata* just like that, prefiguring his death on the cross and giving credence to his admonition that “no prophet is accepted in his own native place.” From the earliest moments of his public ministry as recorded in Luke, Jesus’ love for us is prominent. He never faltered. He never wavered. He moved forward to continue his mission of fulfilling God’s will for him, and be a sacrifice once and for all for our sins. Perhaps we have had a similar experience of being the “hero” for someone, only to somehow end up the goat. It is not easy to remain steadfast in our daily mission to love as Jesus loved. Today’s readings assure us that God will give us the grace to do so.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

It can be challenging to square Paul’s eulogy of love with the reality of day-to-day living with a spouse, family members, and friends. Love is patient ... *except when I’m late getting out to the car for church again.* Love is kind ... *except between crabby siblings who want to watch different shows on Netflix.* It is not quick-tempered ... *unless you thoughtlessly back into my car in the driveway.* It occurs to me that perhaps Paul’s words aren’t entirely about us, but about the perfect love of God. It’s pretty amazing to think that God loves us in all the ways Paul describes. As we open our hearts to God’s love and deepen our relationship with Jesus through prayer, we may find that love spilling over into our daily interactions. For when we are kind, we love; when we are patient, we love; when we are not quick-tempered, we love.

PRAY Although our love for one another is imperfect, we must strive to love as Jesus loved each day, and there is no better place to start than prayer. Ask a friend or family member this week if they have any concerns you can include in your prayers. Or request a Mass for someone who is going through a tough time or who has recently died.



**Are You Hoping to
Receive One of the
Seven Sacraments With Us?**

Matrimony

Congratulations on your engagement! Every Diocese in Florida requires at least six months preparation before marriage. Please call our Pastor, Fr. Wayne Geneux, at the Parish Office for an appointment before setting a date.

Baptism

We are honored that you would like to choose Blessed Trinity Catholic Church for the baptism of your child! We ask that you please call our Pastor, Fr. Wayne Geneux, at the Parish Office for information regarding the pre-baptism class before scheduling a baptism.

Office Hours

Monday—Friday 9-12 and 1-4
Closed for Lunch Noon to 1 pm

Website Mass

The church is open for our regular schedule of Masses. Recognizing that many will still be unable to attend Mass we will continue to record the Mass and upload it to the website. To view the Mass go to our website: btsp.org and click on the red words to start the video. The recorded Mass is from the Saturday vigil.

We are very grateful to Brent Beauchamp who has been volunteering his services to record the Mass each week. Thank you Brent for your continued support!

Mass Intentions

Saturday, January 29, Weekday in Ordinary Time
4:00 p.m. Joe Feehan (Dec)

Sunday, January 30, Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time
8:00 a.m. John Lynd (Liv)
9:30 a.m. For Our Parishioners
11:30 a.m. Joseph Feehan (Dec)

Monday, January 31, Memorial of Saint John Bosco, Priest
8:00 a.m. Jennifer Manzella (Dec)

Tuesday, February 1, Weekday in Ordinary Time
8:00 a.m. Mort Mauer (Dec)

Wednesday, February 2, Feast of the Presentation of the Lord
8:00 a.m. For Vocations

Thursday, February 3, Feast Day of St. Blaise
8:00 a.m. Robert Roc Castro (Dec)

Friday, February 4, Weekday in Ordinary Time
8:00 a.m. Antoinette Rinaldi (Dec)

Saturday, February 5, Memorial of Saint Agatha
8:00 a.m. Micheline Kirshner (Dec)
4:00 p.m. Jim Lawler (Dec) and
Pat Sullivan (Dec)

Sunday, February 6, Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
8:00 a.m. Patricia Antonelli (Dec)
9:30 a.m. For Our Parishioners
11:30 a.m. Oscar Jose Klein (Dec)

Prayer for Priests & Future Priests

Eternal Father, We lift up to you these and all the priests of the world. Sanctify them, heal and guide them. Mold them into the likeness and holiness of your Son Jesus, the Eternal High Priest. May their lives be pleasing to you. In Jesus name, we pray. Amen.

01/30 • Rev. Joseph F. Hannon
01/31 • Rev. James P. Horan, SDB
02/01 • Rev. Joshua Bertrand
02/02 • For Vocations to Priesthood & Religious Life
02/03 • Rev. Theodore Costello
02/04 • Jorel De Guzman Seminarian
02/05 • Isaac Cruz, Seminarian

These are the names of the active priests and seminarians in our Diocese. Remember our Bishop has designated Wednesdays as Diocesan Day of Prayer for Vocations. Please continue to pray that more young people will hear and answer God's call to the Priesthood and Religious Life.

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

First Corinthians and the Stewardship of Social Media

"Love is patient, love is kind ..." As familiar as these words are, they never seem to stray into the territory of becoming trite or silly. At their core they communicate a truth about us and about our Creator that never fails to inspire.

But despite the fact that you've probably heard it at many weddings over time, First Corinthians isn't just for newlyweds. It wasn't written for married folks. It's for every single one of us, in every state of life and every social situation, in every country and culture and language across the globe.

Which means that First Corinthians is even for the online world. It's for Facebook and Twitter and Instagram and all the other platforms I'm forgetting (there seems to be a new one every day, doesn't there?).

A sense of division — whether rooted in politics, culture or anything else — is growing in our world, and it's never more obvious than when we observe interactions online. It is far easier, after all, to remember what love is when a human being of flesh and blood stands before us. When all we see is an avatar or a profile picture on a screen — especially accompanied by an opinion with which we vehemently disagree — even the most loving Christians can throw First Corinthians out the window.

As everyday stewards we know that we are charged to be not only gracious but grateful. We receive others but we also give thanks for what they bring to us — even if that's an opportunity to "strive eagerly for the greatest spiritual gifts."

So before the next time you post anything online, I suggest giving First Corinthians a read — and remember, love never fails.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPi

I would like a Tax Statement for 2021

_____ For my Church donations
_____ For donations to St. Vincent de Paul

My Name is : _____

Address and Zip Code: _____

Phone # _____

*Please fill out and return to the parish office
or drop in the offertory basket.*

Weekly Giving

Online Giving January 24-30

Offertory	\$ 1,445
Building Fund	\$ 20
APA	\$ 25
St. Vincent de Paul	\$ 50

January 22-23, 2022

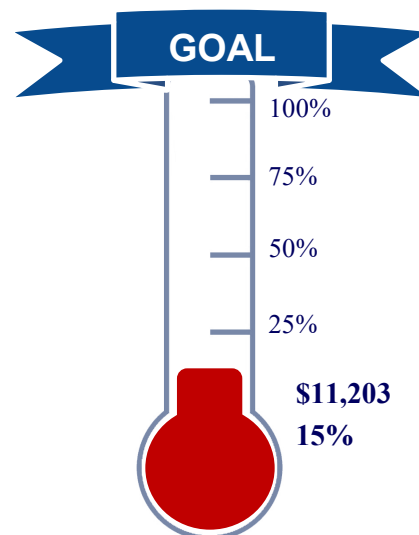
Offertory	\$ 7,854
Building Fund	\$ 15
Gift Shop	\$ 159
St. Vincent de Paul	\$ 1,106
Catholic Ministry	
Appeal	\$ 40
Altar Flowers	\$ 75

**Thank you for
your generosity!**



DIOCESE OF ST. PETERSBURG
**CATHOLIC
MINISTRY**
Appeal

Our Goal \$74,741



Blessed Trinity is off to a great start!

Please keep pledges coming in. Remember, 100% of your contributions go toward Catholic ministries and charities.

Thank you for your prayerful giving!



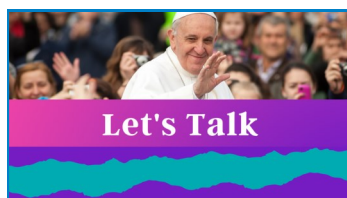
Scripture Class

Blessed Trinity Scripture Classes have been canceled until further notice. We are hoping to resume in early February with the new series "Our Catholic Life". More details to come.

Summer Camp

Summer adventure await at **Our Lady of Good Counsel Camp** in Floral City, FL. This is a co-ed overnight camp which is owned and operated by the Catholic Diocese of St. Petersburg. All Children 7 to 15 year of age are invited to attend the camp's 75th summer! One and two week sessions are currently offered at affordable Prices. All information is available on the camp website at www.goodcounselcamp.org or by emailing the camp director at info@goodcounselcamp.org

An Evening of Prayer and Discernment



Be a Part of History in the Making

At this time in our Church's history, our Holy Father, Pope Francis, is asking people to come together to dialogue and pray about our Church's future. **You are invited to participate with an Evening of Prayer and Discernment**

on Friday, February 4, 2022 at the Cathedral of St. Jude the Apostle at 7:00pm.

All are invited to gather together for learning, praying, listening and sharing. We welcome each person as we join together to consider how the Holy Spirit is leading the Church in the third millennium. Your voice is needed! To learn more, visit JourneyingTogether.org

Pray for the Unborn

Virgin of Guadalupe,
Patroness of unborn children,
we implore your intercession for
every child at risk of abortion.
Help expectant parents to welcome
from God the priceless gift of their
child's life.

Console parents who have lost that
gift through abortion,
and lead them to forgiveness and
healing through the Divine Mercy
of your Son.

Teach us to cherish
and to care for family and friends
until God calls them home.
Help us to never see others as bur-
dens.

Guide our public officials
to defend each and every human
life through just laws.
Inspire us all to bring our faith into
public life,
to speak for those who have no
voice.

We ask this in the name of your
Son, Jesus Christ,
who is Love and Mercy itself.

Amen

Prayer to Our Lady of Guadalupe, © 2010, USCCB,
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The envelope boxes for seasonal residents have arrived! They will be available for pickup in the back of the church



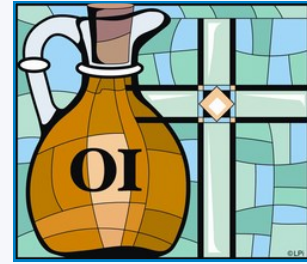
Please Pray for Our Sick and Homebound

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Arnold, Barbara
Bestow, Shawn
Boss, Kristin
Brown, Bob & Beverly
Brown, Buck
Brown III, George
Brown, Shaquita
Cary, Joan
Chavez, John
Christ, Kathryn
Cline, Wayne
Comeau, Teresa
Daniels, Joshua
Deacon Lionel Roberts
Detore, Alice
Deuel, Fred
Devyn & Donna
DeZarn, Vickie
Doiron, Gary
Feldes, Chuck & Lauren
Ferrara, Antoinette
Forbes, Monica & Tom
Fr. Jim Klima
Garcia, Jose M.
Gaskin, Douglas
Genereux, Carol
Gregg, Joan
Griffin, Lynda Butler
Grimberg, Carol

Grondin, Gaetane
Hawkins, Ashlyn
Hawkins, Barbara
Holley, Gerry
Huff, Walt & Carole
Irvin, John and Marsha
Kirkpatrick, Donna
Kirkpatrick, Susan
Lanigan, John
Lashley, Diana
Lawler, Matthew
LeVan, George
Lynd, John
Maharne, Cecile
Maitland, Steve
Manley, Jan
Manley, Paul
McAfee, Riley
McGarry, Jean
Membreno, Mary & Gus
Mesick, Phil & Nancy
Meyer, Patricia
Murdock, Cheryl
Murdock, Evan
Nicholson, Maria
Noguez, Armida
Oliphant, Brian
Parmigiani, Valerie
Phillips, James

Preeper, Helen
Privitera, Sandy
Privitera, Peter
Quinn, Timothy
Roberts, Amanda
Roberts, Deacon Lionel
Romani, Angelo & Marlene
Schaefer, Jake
Schneider, Mary Jo
Scotlight, Kristin
Shelby, Ron & Montez
Smith, Anita
Stankiewicz, Cy
Storey, Barbara
Thompson, Susan E.
Thuline, James
Velez, Carmelita
Vishnisky, Wayne
Walsh, Thomas
Youngman, Kyle
Youngman, Ruthe



Anointing of the Sick

To request the Anointing of the Sick for yourself or a loved one, please contact the parish office, 727-867-3663.

If you or a close family member would like to be added or removed from our prayer list, please contact the parish office at 727-867-3663.