



Blessed Trinity

60 YEARS COURAGEOUSLY *Living the Gospel*

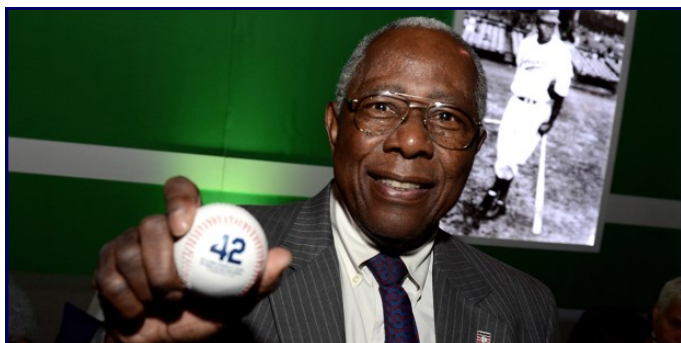
February 7, 2021

WEEKEND MAGAZINE

The Fifth Sunday OT

Six Spiritual lessons from baseball legend Hank Aaron

By Theresa Civantos Barber



The great ball player's Christian faith sustained him through trials.

Henry “Hammerin’ Hank” Aaron was one of the all-time greats, a Hall-of-Famer who surpassed Babe Ruth’s lifetime home-run record and held that title for 33 years. **Lesser known is his lifetime of faith in Christ, a faith that sustained him during trials.**

Aaron grew up Baptist in a religious household. As an adult, he became friends with

Catholic priest Fr. Mike Sablica and was received into the Catholic Church in 1959.

One of the first Black players in the major leagues, Aaron faced considerable opposition, especially as he came near to breaking Babe Ruth’s record. He dealt with “hate mail, death threats, taunts and jeers.” **He credited his faith with helping him persevere and play well through it all.**

These 6 spiritual lessons from Aaron’s life reveal the ways his deep and abiding faith strengthened him.

1 TRUST IN GOD

In good times and bad, Aaron relied on God. He once said, “I need to depend on Someone who is bigger, stronger and wiser than I am. **I don’t do it on my own. God is my strength.** He gave me a good body and some talent and the freedom to develop it. He helps me when things go wrong. He forgives me when I fall on my face. He lights the way.”

2 ACCEPTANCE AND SELF-CONTROL

Aaron spoke of his “real hero-worship” for Jackie Robinson, the first Black player in the major leagues. **“What fascinated me so much was that Jackie was an emotional, explosive kind of ballplayer.** Yet during that crucial first year in the big leagues, he didn’t lose his temper in spite of a steady barrage of insults from fans and other players,” Aaron said. “How did he keep control? **I learned later that he prayed a lot for help.** And he also had a sense of destiny about what he was doing, so much so that he felt God’s presence with him. He learned to put aside his pride and quick temper for the bigger thing he was doing.”

Jackie’s example helped Aaron when he faced similar situations as a player. **“I’m not the crusader-type, and there were times, frankly, when I wanted out,”** Aaron said. But Robinson became Aaron’s example. “I lost my temper a couple of times last spring when some fans heckled me from

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PASTOR

Rev. Wayne C. Genereux

DEACONS

Deacon Bill Lovelace
Deacon Lionel Roberts,
Deacon Emeritus

PASTOR EMERITUS

Msgr. Anton Dechering
Retired

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 can be arranged with
Fr. Wayne. Call his private
number to make your
appointment, 727-401-0487.

PARISH OFFICE

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

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(727) 867-3663

FAX

(727) 864-2679

WEB SITE

<http://btsp.org>

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the stands,” he said at the time. **“Then I’d remember Jackie and what he accomplished with his self-control ... I’m learning to do without something I want at the moment ... to achieve the bigger thing ahead that is really right for me to want.”**

3 SPIRITUAL READING

St. Josemaria Escriva was known to encourage spiritual reading, saying, “Reading has made many saints.” Aaron probably would have agreed with him, as he was known for his regular reading of spiritual books:

A Catholic booklet, Venerable Fulton Sheen’s *The Life of Christ*, became a staple of his glove compartment. Another book, Thomas a Kempis’ *The Imitation of Christ*, became a staple of his game locker.

4 SELF-SACRIFICE

When Aaron skipped school one day as a teenager, his father made clear to him how much value he placed on his son getting an education. Aaron recalled his father saying,

I put fifty cents on that dresser each morning for you to take to school to buy your lunch and whatever else you need. I only take twenty-five cents to work with me. **It’s worth more to me that you get an education than it is for me to eat.** So let’s hear no more about dropping out of school.

The lesson stayed with his son throughout his life. “You don’t forget this kind of sacrifice by your father,” Aaron said years later. “Herbert Aaron was always ready to deny himself something if it would help his family.” **That example of self-denial for a greater good shaped the man Aaron became.**

5 GUARDIAN ANGELS

Aaron felt the presence of God and His angels during tense moments in his life. He once said, “When I was in the ball park, I felt there was nothing that could bother me. I felt safe. **I felt like I was surrounded by angels and I had God’s hand on my shoulder.** I didn’t feel like anything could bother me.”

6 KEEPING THE SABBATH HOLY

Aaron’s parents taught him to keep the Sabbath, to treat the day as something holy and set apart. **“We all went to the Baptist church every Sunday,”** Aaron recalled of his childhood. “When I was 15 I was once offered two dollars to play baseball on Sunday afternoon. I turned it down. I knew Mama would never allow me to play ball on a Sunday.”

Aaron continued to honor the Sabbath as an adult, although at times, racism prevented him from attending Mass as he wanted to do.

Back in Milwaukee, Fr. Sablica would remind Aaron to “attend Mass every Sunday” when he left for spring training in Florida. But, according to the 1972 book *Bad Henry*, Aaron “looked his friend in the eye and answered softly, ‘Down there, they won’t let me go to Mass.’”

His parents’ examples of faith and sacrifice helped their son to live the same way. **In turn, he is an example to countless others, not only as a formidable ball player but as a follower of Christ.**

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“Beneath the Cross, One Learns to Love”

St. Padre Pio



Ash Wednesday

February 17 Masses 8:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 7:00 p.m.

Because of the COVID-19 Pandemic there will be no distribution of ashes this year.

The reception of ashes is not mandatory nor required. Beginning with Ash Wednesday we are on a journey of internal disposition and intention to repent and to start over, and this is the fruit of the season of Lent. The Ashes are an external sign of that internal reality. May we enter this Lenten Season with a repentant heart.

Daily Mass, and Stations of the Cross During Lent

Masses Monday- Saturday 8:00 a.m.

Rosary Monday-Thursday 8:30 a.m. Saturday 8:30 a.m.

Friday's Mass 8:00 a.m., Stations of the Cross immediately after Mass.

Sunday Masses

8:00 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 11:30 a.m.

Confessions

Confessions are available by appointment. Please call the office at 867-3663.

We make appointments to see our Doctors for Physical Healing. Why would we not make an appointment for Spiritual Healing?

Are You Looking 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 Gene-reux, 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 Genereux, 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, February 6

8:00 a.m. Jean Orr (Dec)
4:00 p.m. Paula Ulreich (Dec)

Sunday, February 7, Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 a.m. BoBo Kisielewski (Dec)
9:30 a.m. For Parishioners
11:30 a.m. William Kennedy (Dec)

Monday, February 8

8:00 a.m. Erwin Ciszek (Dec)

Tuesday, February 9

8:00 a.m. Nelson Darnell (Dec)

Wednesday, February 10

8:00 a.m. For Vocations

Thursday, February 11

8:00 a.m. Margarite Israelson (Dec)

Friday, February 12

8:00 a.m. Earl McKinney (Dec)

Saturday, February 13

8:00 a.m. Linda Lepley (Dec)
4:00 p.m. Jim Lawler and Patricia Sullivan (Dec)

Sunday, February 14, Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 a.m. Antonio Palmieri (Dec)
9:30 a.m. For Parishioners
11:30 a.m. Al Ruppert (Dec)



We pray for all married couples: that they may strive daily to faithfully and lovingly live out their marriage vows, bearing witness to the love God has for each of us.

Electronic Giving Information

During our recent Stewardship Campaign, a lot of people requested information on our Electronic Giving Program. Making contributions electronically is really easy, whether you would like to make a one-time gift or make it a recurring gift for a specific or indefinite period of time.

All you have to do is go to the parish website at www.btsp.or and click on the big green box on the home page that says

make a difference
DONATE

Then, click on "sign in" and then, if you're new to online giving, "register for an account". If you need help, our business manager, Alice Coston, will be happy to help in walking you through it. You can reach her at the parish office at 727-867-3663.

Diocesan 2020 Annual Report

Even through difficulties and challenges, the people of our diocese have generously supported larger ministry and outreach throughout Citrus, Hernando, Hillsborough, Pasco and Pinellas Counties. More than 24,000 generous donors provided more than \$10 million in support of more than 50 diocesan ministries and services through the 2020 Annual Pastoral Appeal and gifts were also made to support special projects through the Forward in Faith Campaign. In addition, Bishop Gregory Parkes launched the new diocesan Mater Dei Giving Society this year.

Just as each person must be accountable, the Church must also be accountable to its donors for the gifts provided and show how those gifts impact lives for Christ. Through the good works of our diocesan Church, we assist and serve 3 million people across our five-county diocese. As Bishop Parkes explains in his introductory note, "Here in the Diocese of St. Petersburg, we know each gift represents the good stewardship of our people. We owe it to every person who has offered direct support to utilize their gifts in good faith."

You are invited to visit www.dosp.org/stewardship/2020-annual-report/ to view the online version of the 2020 Annual Report, download a printable version, see impact numbers, see short ministry videos and learn more about how the Diocese of St. Petersburg is Courageously Living the Gospel thanks to our donors.

To request a print version of the report, please email your request to stewardship@dosp.org.

Online Viewing

We are happy to see that so many people are able to attend Mass with us virtually, via our mass online. We currently have 93 subscribers to our YouTube channel and many more viewers. Even as our Mass attendance in the church has been increasing, people are still participating with us online. The link can be found on our website at www.btsp.org. Here are the views on our most recent Masses.

December 13, 155 views

December 20, 140 views

December 25 - 179 views

December 27, 70 views, posted Sunday afternoon

January 3, 122 views

January 10, 103 views

January 17, 130 views

January 24, 91 views



Weekly Giving

Online Giving January 25-31

Offertory	\$ 1,665
Building Fund	\$ 60
St. Vincent de Paul	\$ 205

January 31, 2021

Offertory	\$ 7,937
St. Vincent de Paul	\$ 1,760
Building Fund	\$ 25
Gift Shop	\$ 107

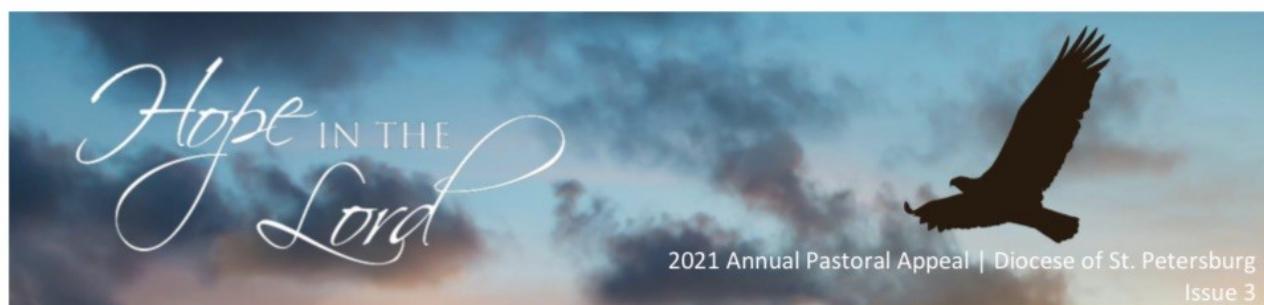
Thank you for your generosity!

Winter Residents

The boxed offertory envelopes for 2021 can be picked up in the parish office during regular office hours Monday-Friday or can be picked up after Mass in the church on the weekend.



Thank you for your kindness and generous donations for the Franciscan Helping Hands Fund.
~ Fr. Jack McDowell



Make Your Gift Today!

We have always been a community of steadfast servants of the Lord, coming together to grow in our faith, nurture our children with a love of God and progress toward the greater good. Today, we are asked to affirm our commitment to support diocesan ministries, programs and services that meet the physical, educational and spiritual needs of thousands both within and outside of parish boundaries.

How You Can Participate

Please consider a pledge or gift which can inspire hope for so many! All parishioners should keep in mind that giving to the Annual Pastoral Appeal (APA) is based on equal sacrifice, not equal giving. Remember, EVERY gift of EVERY size is needed, wanted, and appreciated!

Pledging - Donors who make a pledge will receive reminders according to the cycle they choose. Below are examples of pledges spread out over 10 months.

Can you sacrifice	Which equals 10 payments of	For a total pledge of
\$3.33/day	\$100/month	\$1,000
\$2.50/day	\$75/month	\$750
\$1.67/day	\$50/month	\$500
\$1.00/day	\$30/month	\$300
\$0.67/day	\$20/month	\$200

One-time Gift - One-time gifts can be paid upon commitment or scheduled for a later date.

Electronic Giving - We accept all major credit/debit cards as well as direct debit payments. Electronic giving can be completed two ways:

1. Donor-managed e-giving is available at: www.dosp.org/giveapa.
2. Authorization forms for e-giving are available on all pledge cards and in-pew envelopes.

Checks - Please make checks payable to the **Annual Pastoral Appeal**.

Appreciated Stocks, Securities or IRA Giving - For more information or assistance, please contact the Campaign Processing Office at 727-344-1611, ext. 5470.



Your gift to the Annual Pastoral Appeal
helps us courageously live the Gospel.
Learn more at www.dosp.org.



The Power of Prayer

We are Catholic and believe in the power of prayer. This prayer takes a little time and every member of our parish can participate. All are invited to join us in praying the Courageously Living Our Gospel Prayer for all those working together to make our amazing Catholic family even stronger.

*Almighty, ever-living God,
by our baptism,
We have been called to live as
missionary disciples of your Son,
Jesus Christ.
Grant that we, your people of
the Diocese of St. Petersburg,
will fulfill our purpose by
proclaiming the Good News and
inviting all people to experience the
love and mercy of Jesus Christ.*

*Deepen our trust in you, O Lord,
and help us to remain steadfast
in our commitment
to Courageously Living the Gospel
in our homes, neighborhoods,
parish communities and
wherever you may lead us.*

*Together, with the intercession of
our Blessed Mother
and all the saints
who have gone before us,
we humbly ask for the courage to
live as your disciples
standing firm in our Catholic faith,
through your Son,
our Lord Jesus Christ.*

Amen.

Please Pray for Our Sick and Homebound

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Adkins, Chantale
Albertson, Michelle
Antczak, Harriet
Arnold, Barbara
Attard, Stephanie
Banks, Cathy
Barry, Marian
Bennett, Elizabeth
Bestow, Shawn
Blondheim, Carmen
Brown, Bob & Beverly
Brown, Buck
Brown III, George
Brown, Shaquita
Bruce, Phil
Buckwald, Diane
Carfora, Palma
Cary, Joan
Cavalieri, Lois
Ceci, Shirley
Chavez, John
Chris, David
Christ, Kathryn
Cline, Wayne
Congiu, Rita
Coston, Stephen
Dawson, Anthony Peter
Deacon Lionel Roberts
Dechering, Msgr. Anton

DeLucca, Rosemary
Detore, Alice
Deuel, Fred
Devyn & Donna
DeZarn, Vickie
Doiron, Gary
Ditzel, Julie, Mark and Luke
Feltes, Chuck & Lauren
Ferro, Antoinette
Fiedler, Meghan
Forbes, Monica & Tom
Forbes, Rahim
Forbes, Tina May
Fr. Jim Klima
Fraser, Sue Chapman
Garcia, Jose M.
Gaskin, Douglas
Genereux, Carol
Graeme, Mary
Gregg, Joan
Griffin, Lynda Butler
Grimberg, Carol
Hamilton, Tom
Hawkins, Ashlyn
Hawkins, Barbara
Heylan, Edward H.
Hepp, Loren
Huff, Walt & Carole
Iglesias, Olivia

Infant Ursa
Kantowicz, Jan
Keithly, Claire
Kincaid, Kevin & Tammie
King, Ada
Kleinberger, Donovan
Kline, Irene
Kline, Wayne and Judy
Krieger, Mary
Lanigan, John
Lashley, Diana
Lawler, Annette
Lawrence, Sandy
Leath, Bill
Lee, Donald
LeVan, George
Lindsay, Jane
Lovelace, Jill
Lovelace, Kim
Lowery, Judith
Lucas, Laura
Lyons, Laura
Mack, Jackson
Maharne, Cecile
Mahoney, Colleen
Maitland, Steve
Mark, Jacqueline
Marois, Mary
McGarry, Jean

Membreno, Mary & Gus
Merchant, Geraldine
Merchant, Rhoda
Mesick, Phil & Nancy
Meyer, Patricia
Monahan, Sheila
Moore, Richard A.
Murdock, Cheryl & Evan
Nicholson, Maria
Noguez, Armida
Nuñez, Marleny
Oliphant, Brian
Pezzulo, Irene
Phillips, James
Pope, Stoney
Preeper, Helen
Privitera, Sandy
Quinn, Timothy
Ray, Terry
Reardon, Kevin
Reardon, Kara
Reed, Edward, Jr.
Rivera, Joel
Reyes, Nila
Robinson, Agnes
Romani, Angelo &
Marlene
Rosa, Joe & Nina
Rudy, Fr. Richard

Sanders, Kimberly
Sanders, Marilyn
Schaefer, Jake
Schneider, Mary Jo
Seaquist, Tim
Sharp, Jennett
Shelby, Ron & Montez
Sheridan, Samantha
Simpson, Rose
Smith, Anita
St. Pierre, Rick
Stankiewicz, Cy
Storey, Barbara
Thompson, Bill
Thompson, Susan
Thore, Isabelle
Thuline, James
Vishnisky, Wayne
Walsh, Thomas
Watson, Amanda
Watson, Claire
Whalen, Dorothy
Wood, Jena
Youngman, Ruth

