



Blessed Trinity

Weekend Magazine

Over 60 YEARS COURAGEOUSLY *Living the Gospel*

February 13, 2022 ▪ The Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Hiking through the Bible: meet the Jordan Trail *By Jordan Tourism Board*



Divided into eight regions, the Jordan Trail goes all the way from Umm Qais, by the ruins of Gadara (where Jesus cast the demons into the herd of swine), through Petra, to the Red Sea.

The Jordan Trail is an almost **700-kilometer-long hiking trail that connects Jordan, from north to south —the Holy Land-based equivalent of, let's say, a Camino de Santiago.** It begins in Umm Qais, by the ruins of Gadara, the ancient Roman and Greek town overseeing Lake Tiberias. Ac-

cording to the Synoptic Gospels, **this is where Jesus exorcised the Gadarene demoniac —a passage popularly known as “the miracle of the Gadarene swine,” or “the exorcism of Legion.”**

Founded as a military colony by Alexander's Macedonian Greeks on the remains of a pre-existing military colony, Gadara preserves its original Roman streets and amphitheater, and the remains of an ancient Byzantine church. The local museum of Beit Rousan houses an impressive collection of Hellenistic (including Christian) and Islamic art.

This exceptional meeting of pre-Christian, Macedonian, Greek, Roman, and Islamic cultures, traditions, and treasures, repeats itself over and over through the Trail. Pilgrims can choose whether to cover the eight different regions (a trip that would last at least 40 days, in a typically biblical way), or the region (or regions) of their preference: from Umm Qais to Ajloun, from Ajloun to Salt, from Salt to Wadi Zarqa Ma'in (including the Roman Road and the canyons of the Dead Sea), from Wadi Zarqa Ma'in to Karak (the Crusaders' Castle), from Karak to Dana (an exceptionally green biosphere reserve), from Dana to the legendary Petra, from Petra to the impressive sands of the Wadi Rum desert, and from the desert, finally, to the Red Sea.

Pilgrims can also join an already existing group of pilgrims or not, and get their *JTPass*: an official trail passport, hiking log, and achievement recorder that can also be presented when needed to authorities —not to mention a unique keepsake too. Of course, **there's a six-day route anyone can walk (in fact, this is the most popular one), which covers the ancient Nabatean city of Petra, through some of the Jordanian sandstone ridges.** As one walks it, Roman, Nabatean, Byzantine and Ummayyad buildings, traditions and stories are found living alongside each other, **in a journey uniting the Old and the New Testament in a single route.**

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

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(727) 867-3663

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WEB SITE

<http://btsp.org>
Like us on FaceBook

Hiking through the Bible: continued from front cover...

Covering around 75 villages and towns on its way (not to mention **all sorts of archaeological treasures, holy places, byzantine remains, pilgrim houses, ancient eremitic caves, basilicas, and Nabatean cities**) the Trail also offers the visitor the opportunity to appreciate the **diverse landscape of the country**, from the green hills of the north, through the wadis and cliffs around the Jordan Rift Valley (and its famous thermal waters), through the impressive sandy rosy rocks of Petra and the breathtaking sands and starry skies of the Wadi Rum, all the way to the transparent waters of the Red Sea and its rich coral reefs — one of the main reasons why tourists go in flocks to stay in the numerous beach resorts in Aqaba.

Clearly, **walking the Trail means discovering the history of Jordan, enjoying its diverse culture, its legendary biblical hospitality, and tasting its cuisine. But it is also a spiritual journey.** Biblical tradition maintains that Moses walked across Jordan, from the Red Sea in the south all the way to the north, to Mount Nebo. In fact, the closest city to the ancient Nabatean city of Petra is called “Wadi Mousa,” “the Valley of Moses,” very close to what tradition has also identified as Moses’ well —where Moses struck water from the rock. This ancient path also goes by the birthplace of Prophet Elijah, where pilgrims from all Abrahamic religions pay homage to the prophet who also walked this very same road, all the way to Mount Carmel. **Following the steps of Moses and Elijah eventually takes the pilgrim to the way to the river Jordan, and the baptismal site of Jesus Christ.**

The Jordan Trail is far from being new. It has been there for far more than 20 centuries, surrounded by tall cliffs where one can still see the caves hermits used to live in, olive trees, creeks, and Nabatean, Moabite, Edomite, Roman, Greek, and Neolithic ruins alike. **Officially relaunched in April 2017 by the Jordan Tourism Board, the trail follows both ancient biblical routes and the paths Roman conquerors would use to go all the way from the fertile north of Jordan (Amman was then called “Philadelphia,” and was one of the ten cities of Hadrian’s Decapolis) to the south**, through the impressive Roman city of Jerash, to the rich harbors of the Red Sea.

The idea of traveling through Jordan by foot is also as old as the trail itself: Jordan was once the center of the King’s Highway, a trade route stretching from Egypt to Aqaba, and then all the way to Damascus. It was the route was used by Moabites, Edomites, and Ammonites, and later by Nabatean merchants who extended even further, as Petra grew in importance as the center of the empire. **It is no wonder the Romans used these routes as the core of their Middle Eastern network of roads, and that the events and characters portrayed in the Gospels used them freely, and daily.**



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Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

February 13, 2022

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jer 17:5-8 | 1 Cor 15:12, 16-20 | Lk 6:17, 20-26

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

Luke's account of the Beatitudes pulls no punches. Blessed are you ... who are poor, hungry, weeping, when people hate you. These admonitions bear little resemblance to the pursuit of happiness as most of us know it: Striving for wealth (or at least stability), enjoying a good meal, sharing a laugh with friends, and being well-liked. These are things of this world, and Jesus tells us that pursuing them alone will not make us truly happy. I don't think that means we need to wear sackcloth and ashes, or refuse to enjoy the great gifts with which God has endowed his Creation. However, Jesus' words remind us that we won't find lasting happiness even in the finest meal or the most lavish vacation, but rather in placing our lives in God's hands. For the desire for happiness "is of divine origin: God has placed it in the human heart in order to draw us to the One who alone can fulfill it." (CCC 1718)

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

It's a little ironic that I am writing a reflection entitled "GROW and GO." Few plants have survived my black thumb. That's why I love the image of the tree in the reading from Jeremiah. One who trusts in the Lord "is like a tree planted beside the waters that stretches out its roots to the stream; it fears not the heat when it comes; its leaves stay green; in the year of drought it shows no distress, but still bears fruit." These words from Jeremiah are a prophecy of hope, and hope allows us to accompany one another through the hills and valleys (and occasional dead plants) of our lives. We can become a source of hope to others by praying for and with one another and encouraging them on their own journeys of faith. In doing so, we help one another tap into the ultimate source of hope - the God who loves us.

STUDY Read the Beatitudes and the Sermon on the Mount and reflect on how Jesus' teachings draw us ever more to himself and highlight our baptismal vocation: holiness. What one thing can you bring to prayer and the sacrament of reconciliation this week to purify your heart?





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 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 12, Weekday in Ordinary Time
4:00 p.m. Peter Congiu (Dec) and Paula Ulreich (Dec)

Sunday, February 13, Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
8:00 a.m. Hector Luis Beltran (Dec)
9:30 a.m. For Our Parishioners
11:30 a.m. Jim Holser (Dec)

Monday, February 14, Memorial of Saints Cyril, Monk and Methodius, Bishop
8:00 a.m. Stephanie and Ryan and Family (Liv)

Tuesday, February 15, Weekday in Ordinary Time
8:00 a.m. Jeanette Zahn (Dec)

Wednesday, February 16, Weekday in Ordinary Time
8:00 a.m. For Vocations

Thursday, February 17, Weekday in Ordinary Time
8:00 a.m. Roman Schuessler (Dec)

Friday, February 18, Weekday in Ordinary Time
8:00 a.m. Harriet Schuessler (Dec)

Saturday, February 19, Weekday in Ordinary Time
8:00 a.m. Edward Varville (Dec)
4:00 p.m. William Biggane (Dec)

Sunday, February 20, Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time
8:00 a.m. Donna Preli (Dec)
9:30 a.m. For Our Parishioners
11:30 a.m. Jennifer Gutske Andrews (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.

02/13 • Rev. Joseph A. Pellegrino
02/14 • Rev. Leonard Piotrowski
02/15 • Rev. Arthur J. Proulx
02/16 • For Vocations to Priesthood & Religious Life
02/17 • Rev. Timothy Sherwood
02/18 • Rev. Curtis V. Carro
02/19 • Deacon Donald Amodeo, 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

Planted Near Water

We all know that there are times when life can feel, as Jeremiah writes, empty and wasted. There are moments when we think we resemble a barren bush, thirsting in the desert sun.

That's why it is imperative for us to know the location of our water source. I promise you, it's closer than you think. God never planted a seed in barren ground.

For me, it's the Mass. Going to Mass is where I find total peace and renewal. I don't have any great theological explanation for this — Mass is simply where I can truly rest in God for a time, where nothing and no one in the world can touch me. And wouldn't you know it, it's in the toughest times that I need Mass the most — that my roots stretch harder for that water.

Woe to the rich, says Jesus — woe to the popular, to the content, to the happy. It's not because He hates to see us smile. It's because He knows our humanity. He knows our limitations. He knows that when things are going really well, we often stop looking for God.

What replenishes you as a disciple, as a steward, as a Christian? If it feels far away or hard to reach, why is that? How can you bring it closer?

We are all trees planted near water, to yield our fruit in due season. Let's pray for the strength to know where our water source is, and to seek it both in good times and in bad.

— 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 Jan. 31-Feb. 6

Offertory	\$ 1,940
Building Fund	\$ 40

February 5-6, 2022

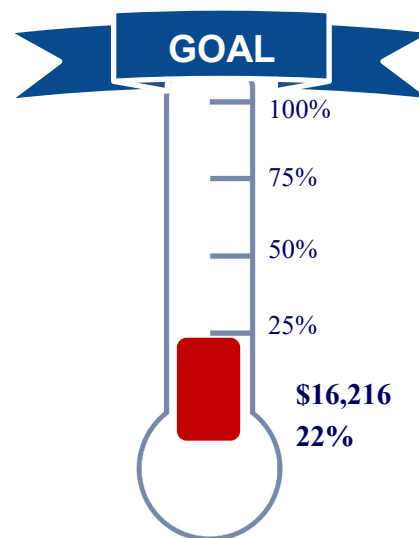
Offertory	\$ 8,239
Building Fund	\$ 721
Gift Shop	\$ 164
St. Vincent de Paul	\$ 202
Special Donations	\$ 2,100
Retirement for	
Religious	\$ 500
Other	\$ 20

**Thank you for
your generosity!**

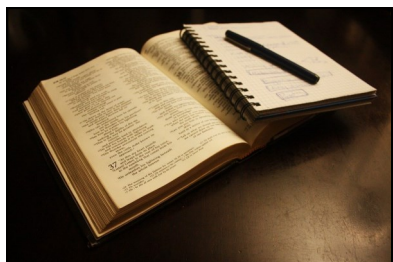


DIOCESE OF ST. PETERSBURG
**CATHOLIC
MINISTRY**
Appeal

Our Goal \$74,741



**Thank you for your
prayerful giving!**



Scripture Class

Barbara Townsend will be holding Scripture Classes starting February 22 from 9:30am - 11:00am. The Series is called "Our Catholic Life." It will be in the Faith Formation building

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Messa in Italiano at the Cathedral of St. Jude

Sunday, February 27, 3:00pm

Please come to pray in
ITALIANO

Celebrant:

Fr. Anthony M. Fortunato, OdeM

DIOCESAN OFFICES

Did You Know?

@TEOTD Are Your Kids AATK?

Do you understand the sentence above? Chances are your kids do. The Internet is a great resource for information and fun; but like nearly everything else these days, cyberspace brings with it its own set of challenges for parents. Parents should monitor their children's Internet use and become familiar with the multitude of abbreviations, acronyms, and other shorthand that their children may be receiving via Internet chat rooms, instant messaging systems, and text message devices. For a searchable database of this Internet lingo, please visit www.virtus.org/virtus.

For particular help you may call: **Michael Craig, Safe Environment Program Manager** at (727) 344-1611, ext. 5377.

Source: www.virtusonline.org/virtus.

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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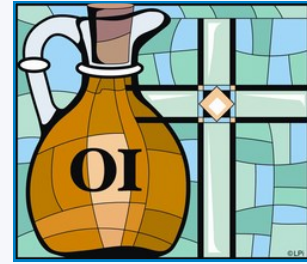
Please Pray for Our Sick and Homebound

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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
Schaefer, Jake
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.