



Blessed Trinity

Weekend Magazine

Over 60 YEARS COURAGEOUSLY *Living the Gospel*

February 27, 2022 ▪ The Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Did the Apostles establish Lent?

By Philip Kosloski



Historians disagree about the claim that the Apostles' established Lent, pointing to a variety of observances in early Christianity.

While it may seem as though Lent has been around since the earliest days of Christianity, historians continue to debate whether the Apostles themselves established the season of Lent.

For example, an early 20th-century book, *A Pulpit Commentary on Catholic Teaching*, argues that the Apostles established Lent.

Many of the great Fathers and Doctors of the Church say that the **Apostles decreed that the great solemnity of Easter should be preceded by a universal fast** and that in remembrance of Christ's forty days fast in the desert, **they instituted Lent**.

However, at the same time, the authors of the book grant that there was **no uniform way of observing Lent in the early Church**.

To begin with there was no uniform way of observing it. But the faithful for forty days gave themselves to fasting and prayer in imitation of their Master. In the beginning the Christians adopted the same customs of fasting as were prescribed in the Old Law by which **one meal only was allowed on fasting days** and that after sunset.

This observation is further confirmed by Nicholas V. Russo in an article written for Baylor University.

Closer examination of the ancient sources, however, reveals a more gradual historical development. While fasting before Easter seems to have been ancient and widespread, the length of that fast varied significantly from place to place and across generations. In the latter half of the second century, for instance, Irenaeus of Lyons (in Gaul) and Tertullian (in North Africa) tell us that **the preparatory fast lasted one or two days, or forty hours**—commemorating what was believed to be the exact duration of Christ's time in the tomb.

It wasn't until the "**Council of Nicea in 325 did the length of Lent become fixed at forty days.**"

Part of the reason behind a varied observance of Lent in the first three centuries of the Church is that Chris-

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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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Did the Apostles establish Lent?: continued from front cover...

tians were often simply trying to survive and not get killed. Widespread persecution in the Roman Empire did not allow for universal liturgical seasons.

While the Apostles may not have established Lent as we know it, they likely did observe a period of intense preparation before Easter, following Jesus' example of fasting and prayer.

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Regulations on Fasting and Abstinence

Fasting and abstinence have a long history in the Church. The custom of self-denial is meant to simplify one's lifestyle so that freed from all distractions, we may hear and respond to God's continued call to conversion and holiness.

- ♦ Fasting is to be observed on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday by all Catholics between the ages of 18 to 59 years (inclusive). On days of fasting, one full meal is allowed. Two smaller meals, sufficient to maintain strength, may be taken according to one's needs, but together should not equal another full meal. Liquids are allowed.
- ♦ Abstinence from meat is to be observed by all Catholics who are 14 years of age or older. Ash Wednesday, all the Fridays of Lent, and Good Friday are days of abstinence.
- ♦ Pastoral Note: Persons unable to observe the above regulations due to ill health or other serious reasons, may practice other forms of self-denial that are suitable to their condition.





February 27, 2022

Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sir 27:4-7 | 1 Cor 15:54-58 | Lk 6:39-45

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

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

Parenthood can be humbling. When our children are young, we celebrate even the tiniest accomplishments: “You put on your socks!” or “Wow, good job putting your dish in the dishwasher!” And rightly so. Then come the teen years, and some of us can err on the side of criticism. “Why did you put off that project until the last minute?” “Turn off the electronics by 10 p.m. or else ...” “What, another energy drink?” (We say, looking up from our own phone with a cup of tea in hand ...) The same can be said of our spiritual lives. We want our children to pray and participate in the sacraments, but we may rush through Grace before meals, skip opportunities for confession, or treat holy Mass as an afterthought. Today’s Gospel reminds us why our admonitions won’t work if we don’t walk our talk: The blind can’t lead the blind. None of us is perfect, and neither are our children or the other people in our lives. But as our second reading reminds us, Jesus has won for us victory over sin. When we ask Jesus to help us remove the “wooden beam” from our own eyes, we can see his will for us more clearly and lift up those around us.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

We don’t have to be perfect to encourage one another in our faith. Like the “good tree” Jesus describes in the parable and the tree that bears “good fruit” in Sirach, however, we need to nourish our faith before we can share it with others. It can start with something as simple as adding prayer to our morning routine. We can bring our flaws, our doubts, our bad habits to Jesus and ask him to free us from whatever might be holding us back. As we accompany others, whether it is those with whom we live, work, or worship, we can turn to Jesus to help us be a force for good. We will stumble. But as St. Paul reminds us, “Be firm, steadfast, always fully devoted to the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.”

PRAY Have you prayed The Examen? This Ignatian practice, often at the end of the day, encourages reflection – on God’s presence in our day and the areas where we may have fallen short. We can ask the Lord for forgiveness and the grace to do better tomorrow.



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, February 26, Weekday in Ordinary Time
4:00 p.m. Robert Carney (Dec)

Sunday, February 27, Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time
8:00 a.m. Lawrence and Edwards Family
9:30 a.m. For Our Parishioners
11:30 a.m. Ann Bernzott (Dec)

Monday, February 28, Weekday in Ordinary Time
8:00 a.m. Deacon Lionel Roberts (Liv)

Tuesday, March 1, Weekday in Ordinary Time
8:00 a.m. Beddoe Family (Dec)

Wednesday, March 2, Ash Wednesday
8:00 a.m. For Vocations
10:00 a.m. For Our Parishioners
7:00 p.m. Bob Bryan (Liv)

Thursday, March 3, Thursday after Ash Wednesday
8:00 a.m. Larry and Chris Roberts (Liv)

Friday, March 4, Friday after Ash Wednesday
8:00 a.m. Jaden Birchfield (Liv)
James Getgen (Liv)

Saturday, March 5, Saturday after Ash Wednesday
8:00 a.m. Dick McManus (Dec)
4:00 p.m. Jim Lawler and Pat Sullivan (Dec)

Sunday, March 6, First Sunday of Lent
8:00 a.m. Sandra Lawrence (Dec)
9:30 a.m. For Our Parishioners
11:30 a.m. Robert Daunais (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.

02/27 • Rev. Brian Fabiszewski
02/28 • Rev. Richard F. Rosin, SDB
03/01 • Roberto Cartaya, Seminarian
03/02 • For Vocations to Priesthood & Religious Life
03/03 • Rev. Michael Smith
03/04 • Rev. Ryan Boyle
03/05 • Rev. John S. Hays

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 in the House of the Lord

Grocery delivery apps are all the rage these days, and I can't deny the convenience of tapping your finger a few times and seeing your week's shopping dropped on the doorstep. But there is one aspect of this trend that seems to make a lot of shoppers nervous — fruits and vegetables.

A lot of us have strong opinions on our fresh produce and aren't ready to delegate this highly subjective selection process to a total stranger. My father was a produce manager and I remember as a child learning about the complexities of choosing correctly. Getting a bad bag of under ripe tomatoes after shopping on an app could easily sour one on the whole idea.

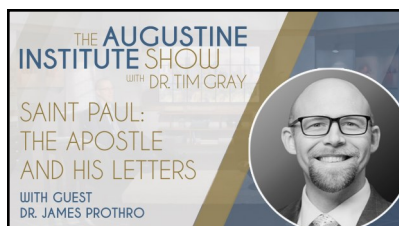
Forrest Gump said life is like a box of chocolates. I say, we're all like grab-bags of produce dumped on someone's doorstep — but if we're Christians who live our faith publicly, we're stamped with the name of God. If your thumb is green enough, you know that you can tell a lot about a gardener from the produce he grows. We who are planted in the house of the Lord — what do we reveal about our Gardener?

What do our actions show of His teachings? What do our words reflect of His voice? What does our strength reveal of the soil from which we sprang and the life-giving waters that nourished us?

When we open ourselves up to those we encounter, let's make a special effort to show the care we have had — lest our peers come away from the experience thinking God doesn't know how to garden, when in reality, it's us who don't always know how to grow.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPi

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Weekly Giving

Online Giving February 14-20

Offertory	\$ 1,460
Building Fund	\$ 20
Catholic Ministry	\$ 25
St. Vincent de Paul	\$ 25

February 19-20, 2022

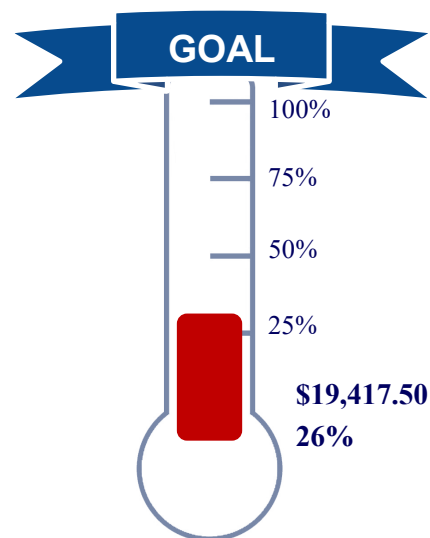
Offertory	\$10,569
Memorials	\$ 175
Gift Shop	\$ 220
St. Vincent de Paul	\$ 100
Funeral	\$ 365
Special Donations	\$ 3,000
Catholic Ministry	
Appeal	\$ 100

Thank you for your generosity!

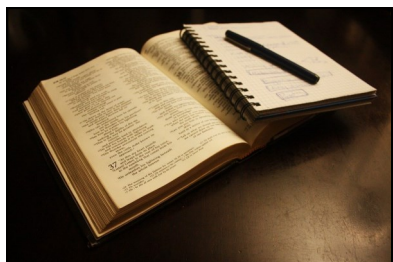


DIOCESE OF ST. PETERSBURG
CATHOLIC MINISTRY
Appeal

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

Catholic Ministry Appeal

How do we know someone loves us? Is it through the sweet words they say to us, the grand promises they make? While these things can be part of the equation, we come to learn that love can only prove itself through deeds. We know someone loves us not when they *say* they love us, but when they *show* they love us—by prioritizing us, caring for us, and seeking our good, even when it might mean making a sacrifice.



If this applies to us determining if someone loves us, it can also help us reflect on whether we truly love others. Do the things we say we believe about love, giving generously, and serving others lead to concrete deeds in our lives—the “good fruit” Christ talks about in today’s Gospel—or do they tend to not translate into action?

It can be difficult to tell! But the Lord gives us opportunities to put love into action each and every day—in our family, our workplace, and our wider community. As a parish, we actually have one of those opportunities before us today: the chance to contribute to our diocesan Catholic Ministry Appeal. This is a concrete opportunity to not only give generously, but also to contribute to the “good fruit” that our diocese is producing today, sharing the love of the Lord with so many who desire to receive it. Ask the Lord to ask how he’s inviting you to put your love into action today.



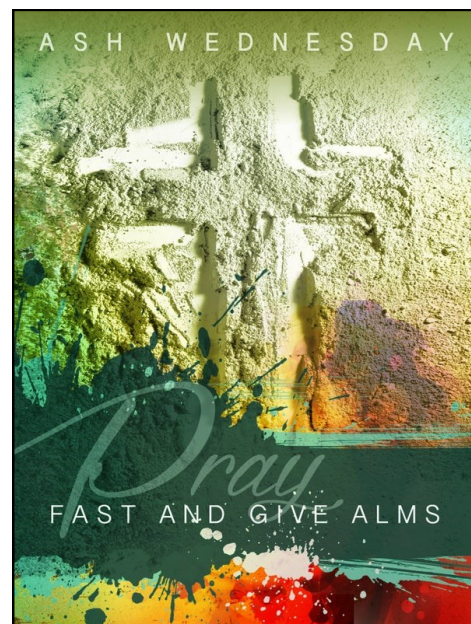
Messa in Italiano at the Cathedral of St. Jude

Sunday, February 27, 3:00pm

Please come to pray in
ITALIANO

Celebrant:

Fr. Anthony M. Fortunato, OdeM



Prayer for the Synod

We stand before You, Holy Spirit, as we gather together in Your name.

With You alone to guide us,
make Yourself at home in our hearts;

Teach us the way we must go
and how we are to pursue it.

We are weak and sinful; do not
let us promote disorder.

Do not let ignorance lead us
down the wrong path nor
partiality influence our actions.

Let us find in You our unity so
that we may journey together to
eternal life and not stray from
the way of truth and what is
right..

All this we ask of You, who are
at work in every place and time,
in the communion of the Father
and the Son, forever and ever.

Amen.

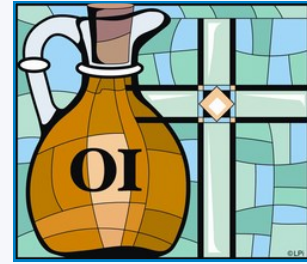
Please Pray for Our Sick and Homebound

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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
Feltes, 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
Lewis, Cynthia
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.