



Blessed Trinity

60 YEARS COURAGEOUSLY *Living the Gospel*

February 28, 2021

WEEKEND MAGAZINE

The Second Sunday of Lent

Blessed Trinity Catholic Church

Lenten Reflections

Presented by:

Most Reverend Robert N. Lynch

Bishop Emeritus of the Diocese of St. Petersburg

Bishop Lynch will preach at all the Weekend Masses:

Saturday, March 6

4:00 p.m.

The Mass will also be on the Parish Website

Sunday, March 7

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

Monday, March 8

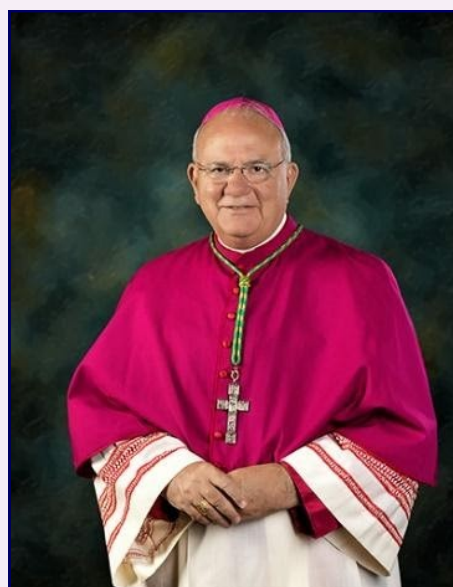
7:00 p.m. Mass and Reflection

Tuesday, March 9

7:00 p.m. Mass and Reflection

Wednesday, March 10,

7:00 p.m. Mass and Reflection





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

PHONE

(727) 867-3663

FAX

(727) 864-2679

WEB SITE

<http://btsp.org>

Like us on FaceBook

Why does Lent last 40 days?

The number 40 has deep biblical roots.



Each year the Roman Rite of the Catholic Church celebrates Lent with 40 days of prayer and fasting before the great celebration of Easter. This number is very symbolic and has deep ties to multiple biblical events.

Number 40 in the Bible

The first mention of 40 occurs in the book of Genesis. God proclaims to Noah, “For in seven days I will send rain upon the earth forty days and forty nights; and every living thing that I have made I will blot out from the face of the ground” (Genesis 7:4). This event connects the number 40 to purification and renewal, a time **when the earth was washed clean and made anew.**

Recognizing our sinfulness

In Numbers we see the number 40 again, this time as a type of **penance and punishment imposed on the people of Israel for disobeying God.** They had to wander in the desert for 40 years so that a new generation could inherit the Promised Land, instead of the people who did not trust in God’s plan for them.

Repentance and conversion of heart

In the book of Jonah, the prophet proclaims to Nineveh, “Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown! And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and put on sackcloth, from the greatest of them to the least of them” (Jonah 3:4). This again ties the number to **spiritual renewal and conversion of heart.**

A time of prayer and preparation

The prophet Elijah, before he encountered God on Mount Horeb, traveled for forty days, “And he arose, and ate and drank, and went in the strength of that food forty days and forty nights to Horeb the mount of God (1 Kings 19:8). **This connects 40 to a time of spiritual preparation,** a time when the soul is led to a place where it can hear the voice of God.

Engaging in a spiritual battle

Before embarking on his own public ministry, Jesus “was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. And he fasted forty days and forty nights” (Matthew 4:1-2). In continuity with the past, Jesus sets out to pray and fast for 40 days, **combating temptation and preparing himself for proclaiming the Gospel to others.**

In the end, all of these episodes in the Gospel reveal different reasons why the number 40 was selected for the season of Lent. Together they provide for us a spiritual guide for Lent, inviting us to open our hearts to God.

Reprinted with permission

“Best Lent Ever 2021”

The Lenten “Journals” for 2021 are here! This year’s journey will be guided by Matthew Kelly’s book: I Heard God Laugh which was given out to parishioners at Christmas. To fully participate in this Lenten program, you are also invited to sign up for daily emails and a short video message at: **BestLentEver.com/2021**

With the help of I Heard God Laugh and the video selections, it is our hope that the daily readings will help you reflect on your life, discover what your soul truly hungers for and live this Lenten season as **your “Best Lent Ever”!**

A limited number of Journals are available at the Parish Office.

May God Bless your Lenten Journey.



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.

Weekend Masses

Saturday Evening Vigil 4:00 p.m.

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?

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.

In celebration of
Deacon Lionel Roberts
95th birthday, flowers
have been offered to the
Blessed Mother in his
honor at the
Marian Shrine
Happy Birthday!
We are blessed to have
him at our parish.

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 27, Lenten Weekday
4:00 p.m. Deacon Lionel Roberts (Liv)

Sunday, February 28, Second Sunday of Lent
8:00 a.m. Harriet Schuessler (Dec)
9:30 a.m. For Parishioners
11:30 a.m. Malinda Yannock (Dec)

Monday, March 1, Lenten Weekday
8:00 a.m. Patrick McKenna (Dec)

Tuesday, March 2, Lenten Weekday
8:00 a.m. Dick McManus (Dec)

Wednesday, March 3, Saint Katharine Drexel, Virgin
8:00 a.m. For Vocations

Thursday, March 4, Saint Casimir
8:00 a.m. Candice Getgen (Liv)

Friday, March 5, Lenten Weekday
8:00 a.m. Ellen Nicholson (Dec)

Saturday, March 6, Lenten Weekday
8:00 a.m. Herb Stack (Dec)
4:00 p.m. Karen DeMilt (Dec)

Sunday, March 7, Third Sunday of Lent
8:00 a.m. Rosa Renzoni (Dec)
9:30 a.m. For Parishioners
11:30 a.m. Malinda Yannok (Dec)

CRS Rice Bowls



Blessed Trinity is making Rice Bowls with Lenten reflection calendars available for parishioners to participate. At the end of Lent, **please do not bring the Rice Bowls back to the church**, but rather, count the money you have collected and write a check payable to Catholic Relief Services and mail to:

Catholic Relief Services
Rice Bowl
P.O. Box 17090
Baltimore, Maryland 21297-0303

A postage-paid envelope will be included in the materials. You may also make your donation online at: www.crsricebowl.org

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.

When Sacrifice Becomes Mundane

It seems to happen every year, like clockwork: we drag a bit, as we enter into the second week of Lent. On Ash Wednesday, we feel a bit like soldiers banging our shields, rushing into battle. "We're ready, God!" our hearts cry out. "Transform us through sacrifice! Your will be done!"

But by now, these Lenten resolutions are no longer novelties — they've joined the ranks of everyday inconveniences, which somehow are the hardest to bear. Because transformation, in real life, happens in inches, just as a battle is won slowly in the crash of one sword against another. It's not always a dramatic thing, to the naked eye. It's the perseverance in prayer despite weariness, or the continual denial of some pleasure even though there's that nagging voice in our minds saying: *go ahead, God doesn't really mind*.

It's a week when we all need a shock to the system — and wouldn't you know it, this Sunday God gives us a double-whammy of dramatic sacrificial scenes. We picture Abraham, who also cried "Ready!" when God called, never imagining what He would ask: the surrender of his long-awaited son. We see Christ himself transfigured, as God shows us what He is ready to give up for love of us.

We must remain committed, persevering daily in acknowledging that everything belongs to God. What we sacrifice, we simply give back to Him.

If God is for us, who can be against us? Can we still reply, "Ready!" when we hear the call of God?

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

©LPi

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.



Weekly Giving

Online Giving February 15-21

Offertory	\$ 1,240
Building Fund	\$ 70

February 21, 2021

Offertory	\$ 7,491
Building Fund	\$ 10
Special Donations	\$ 5,500
Ash Wednesday	\$ 1,318
Gift Shop	\$ 132

Thank you for your generosity!



Magazine Articles

If you wish to put anything in the weekly parish magazine, please email any items to be published to Anne at: bulletinbt@gmail.com.

Mountaintop Experiences

“Then a cloud came, casting a shadow over them; from the cloud came a voice, ‘This is my beloved Son. Listen to him.’”- Mark 9:7

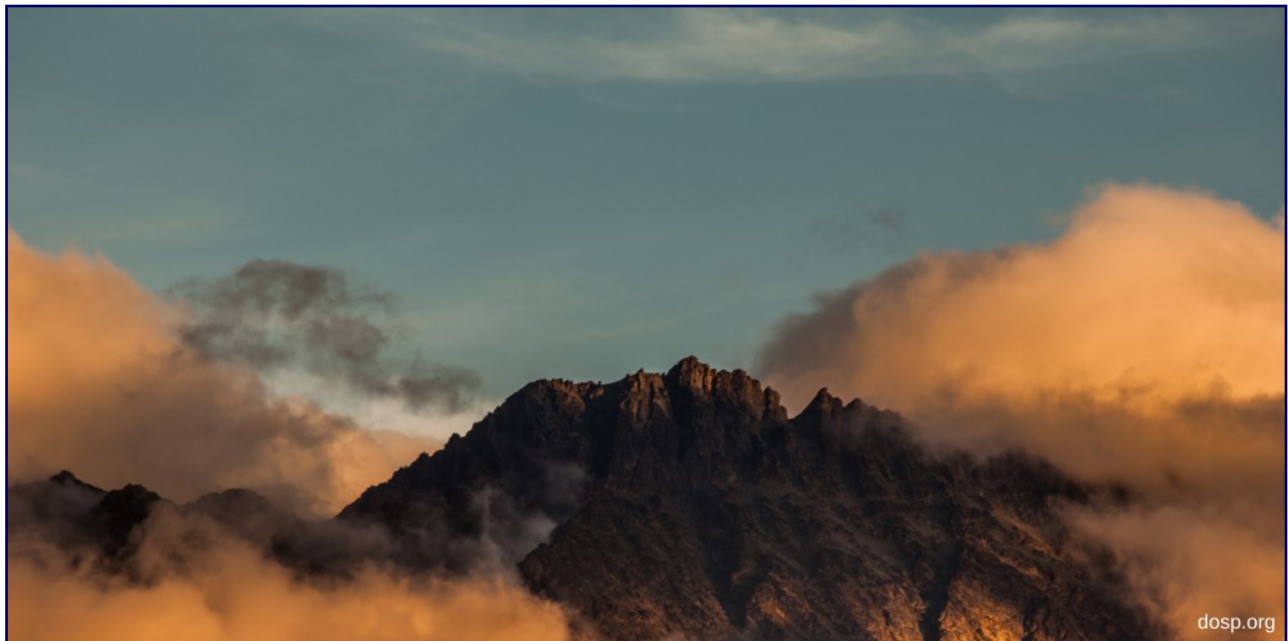
“It is good that we are here.” I’ve heard this said by those who go on a retreat and have even said this myself. Even Bishops get to go on retreat each year so that we can focus and grow in our relationship with our Lord. The experiences at retreats can be emotional and profound. We sometimes refer to these as “mountaintop experiences”. There are mountains where, on a clear day, you can see over a hundred miles away. You have a clear view of everything, and it can be a breathtaking experience, even transformative experience seeing the beauty of nature and God’s creation.

In this weekend’s Gospel from St Mark, we read that Jesus took Peter, James, and John up on a high mountain. It was just the four of them—a little retreat, or getaway, if you will. Then, after arriving at the top of the mountain, suddenly Jesus’ clothing becomes dazzling white. Elijah and Moses appear and a voice from the clouds proclaims “This is my beloved Son. Listen to him.” In an instant, all of that goes away and it’s once again just the four of them.

What does this mean for us? Climbing to the top of the mountain takes effort and sacrifice. It’s not easy, but once you’re there, it’s a great experience. You might discover more about yourself and the others on your journey up. On the mountain top we hear of in today’s Gospel, Peter, James, and John get a glimpse of Jesus’ glory. Through this experience they were also transformed, not in a physical sense like Jesus, but in a spiritual way. They would eventually come to know that after all the suffering and death that Jesus was to endure, and that they would witness, there is glory.

This reality is for us as well. As we journey through life, no doubt we’ll experience challenges, suffering, and one day, death. Yet beyond all of that, we are also called to glory – the glory of heaven. So, never lose hope in the midst of the trials of our life. Endure them with courage, and trust that one day we’ll be with Jesus for all eternity in glory.

Bishop Gregory Parkes



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
Lanigan, John
Lashley, Diana
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
Sequist, 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

