



Blessed Trinity

Weekend Magazine

Over 60 YEARS COURAGEOUSLY *Living the Gospel*

March 6, 2022 ▪ The First Sunday of Lent

Lent is the perfect time to fast from sin

By Phillip Kosloski



Fasting from food during Lent should also include fasting from sinful behaviors.

Lent is a beautiful season in the Church to recommit our lives to God. While the Church has certain days dedicated to fasting and abstinence from food during Lent, this discipline should not neglect the spiritual aspect of our lives.

Fasting in a bodily way is supposed to remind and strengthen us to “fast” from our own sinful behaviors.

The author of the 19th-century book *The Lenten Manual and Companion for Holy Week* explains how fasting is a means to an end, and that end is the elimination of sin in our lives.

*Fasting, however, is but a means to an end; and that great end is the **destruction of sin**. We should fast as an atonement for sin, and we should fast to prevent the danger of falling into sin, **For unless we fast from sin, all our fasting will be in vain**. Do not, therefore, dearly beloved brethren, fast like hypocrites, with the body only, but **preserve your souls from the contamination of sin**. Otherwise you may be forced to say to the Lord, with the Prophet, “Why have we fasted, and you have not regarded; have we humbled our souls and you have not taken notice?” And he will answer, “Behold, in the day of your fast your own will is found.” (Isai. lviii. 3.)*

One practical way to focus our attention on the sins in our lives that need to be eliminated is to **chose one stubborn sin we want to work on**. It could be a sin that has become a habit in your life and that you want to stop.

Don't try eliminate all sin from your life, as that will set you up for failure. However, focusing on one particular sin is most beneficial and can lead to a very fruitful Lent.



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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WEB SITE

<http://btsp.org>
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The Apostles' Creed

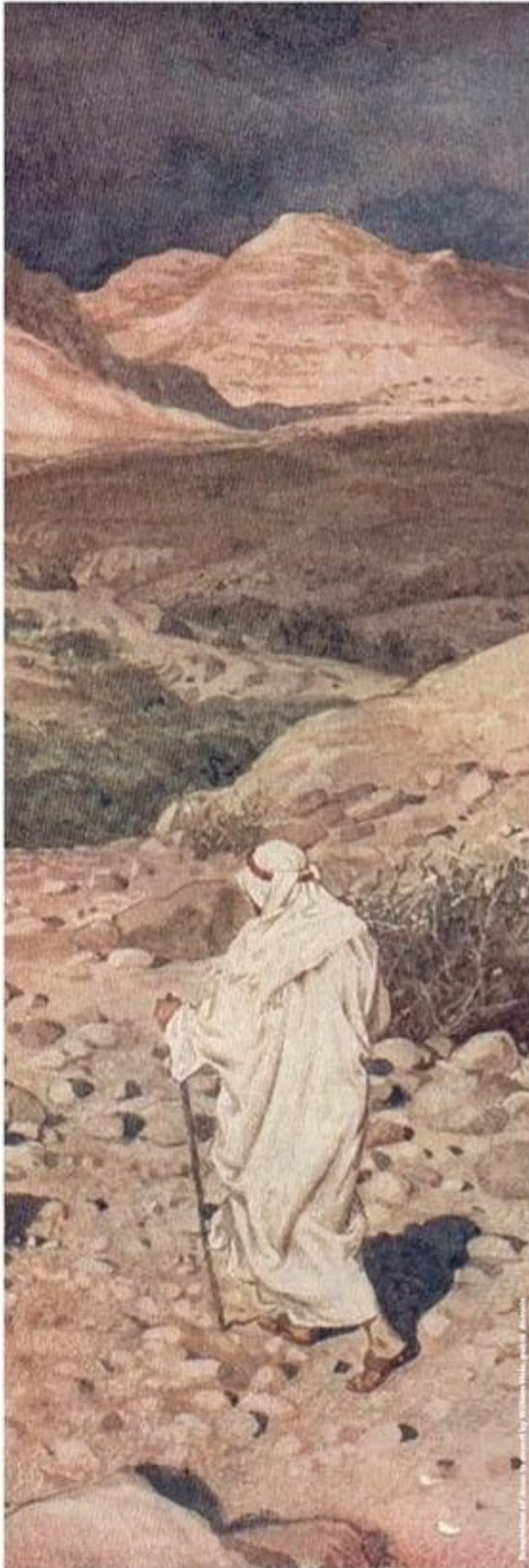
At Mass today we are using the Apostles' Creed instead of the Nicene Creed. The origins of the Apostles' Creed are believed to predate the Nicene Creed. It is universally recognized by many Christians as a shared statement of our faith in God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

The Apostles' Creed may be used at any Sunday Mass, but the church particularly recommends its use during Lent and Easter Time. Why? Because the words of this ancient Creed have been used for centuries as the basis of our baptismal promises, and the seasons of Lent and Easter put a strong focus on baptism. During Lent we prepare those who will be baptized at Easter while readying ourselves to renew our own baptismal promises. As we recite the Apostles' Creed, it will stir up in our hearts our commitment to Christ, which was first made at our own baptism and prepare us to renew our promises this Easter.

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.



March 6, 2022

First Sunday of Lent

Dt 26:4-10 | Rom 10:8-13 | Lk 4:1-13

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

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

If you are anything like me, you may still be deciding what to give up or do for Lent even though we're already five days in. I know ... "Stop procrastinating!" Today's readings can help us enter more deeply into this season of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. They are a reminder that Lent isn't primarily about us, as if it were a self-improvement project, but about taking the opportunity to go deeper into our relationship with God. Prayer, fasting, and almsgiving are ways of reducing distractions in our life and focusing on God's mercy, his sacrifice for us, and his generosity and love. I am one who likes to control things and make plans, so the readings challenge me to look beyond myself, beginning with prayer, and ask the Lord to help me grow in faith. Paul writes, "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." Jesus exemplifies this dependence on God, allowing himself to be led to the desert by the Spirit. Each time the devil tempts him, he responds and in turn shows us how to respond: by turning to God and God's words, the source of our strength. As we choose how to observe the next 35 days, we are reminded to ask God to help us find those things that help draw us closer to him.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

What comes to mind when you picture a desert? I imagine sand, heat, thirst. It's more challenging to examine the landscape of my personal desert - barren places of prayer or too much focus on the details of everyday life. Lent, however, presents a rich opportunity to pause and reprioritize our lives based on Jesus' words in today's Gospel: "You shall worship the Lord, your God, and him alone shall you serve." Prayer, fasting, and almsgiving can help us do that, reminding us of our dependence on God and helping us shift our focus from ourselves to God and others. How we observe and experience Lent will differ for each of us. Whatever our personal desert looks like, we can rest assured that God will help us find our way back to him.

ACCOMPANIMENT Find an accountability partner for Lent who can help you stay the course these next 40 days. Perhaps you can pray together each day, or simply send a text sharing how God is working in and through you in this penitential season.



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 Genereux, 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

Mass Intentions

Saturday, March 5, Saturday after Ash Wednesday
4:00 p.m. Jim Lawler, Pat Sullivan &
Catherine L. Morin(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)

Monday, March 7, Memorial of Saints Perpetua and Felicity, Martyrs
8:00 a.m. Mary Aubuchon (Dec)

Tuesday, March 8, Memorial of Saint John of God, Religious
8:00 a.m. Kayla & Nathan Roberts (Liv)

Wednesday, March 9, Memorial of Saint Frances of Rome, Religious
8:00 a.m. For Vocations

Thursday, March 10, Thursday of the First Week of Lent
8:00 a.m. Josephine & Harry Marshall (Dec)
Hank Mays (Liv)

Friday, March 11, Friday of the First Week of Lent
8:00 a.m. Louis & Steve Forteau (Dec)

Saturday, March 12, Saturday of the First Week of Lent
8:00 a.m. Elly McManus (Dec)
4:00 p.m. Micheline Kirshner (Dec)

Sunday, March 13, Second Sunday of Lent
8:00 a.m. Lucia Daniele (Dec)
9:30 a.m. For Our Parishioners
11:30 a.m. Marilyn Greene (Dec)

EASTER ALTAR FLOWERS

For those wishing to contribute towards the Altar flowers, you may do so in two ways:

1. Use the Easter Flowers Envelope included in your envelope packet.
2. Complete this form and return it to the office with your donation.

The names of the donors will be listed in the bulletin. **Deadline for inclusion of your name in the Easter bulletin is Monday, April 4.** The names listed for remembrance and honor will be placed on the altar.

Please Check One:

☐ In Honor of

☐ In Memory of

Donor's Name: _____

Donation Amount: \$ _____

Parish Finances

After discussions with our pastor, Father Wayne, and the Parish Finance Council, we have decided that the weekly offering information in the Weekend Magazine doesn't give the complete financial picture to parishioners. So, starting this week, we have discontinued the "Weekly Giving" section of the magazine. Instead, we will publish a quarterly summary of income and expenses, in addition to the Annual Financial Report.

Included here is the cash basis summary for the second quarter of fiscal 2022, the six months ended 12/31/2021. Please note that the amount for Bequests, since it is not a predictable or regular source of income, has been taken out of Operating Revenue and is added at the bottom with other supplemental income such as Gift Shop Revenue and Rental Income.

In this report, Operating Revenue – Other, includes items such as Building Fund donations, donations for masses, interest income and donations for Restoring the Sacred. Pastoral Leadership expense includes all clergy wages, stipends and benefits as well as expenses of the rectory. Worship and Music expense includes wages and stipends for music and worship, as well as worship supplies and material, flowers and environment and music supplies and services, and income related to Worship and Music is primarily flower donations. Administration includes employee benefits, administration wages, office expense, professional services, dues and subscriptions, telephone and technology expense. Facilities Maintenance includes building and grounds repairs and maintenance, maintenance wages, utilities and property and liability insurance.

Financial Report for 6 months ended 12/31/2021

	Income	Expense
Operating Revenue - Offertory	\$ 221,797	
Operating Revenue - Other*	117,884	
Operating Expense:		
Pastoral Leadership		\$ 55,087
Worship and Music	2,087	40,520
Faith Formation		585
Charity and Outreach		468
School Support		6,167
Administration		110,083
Facilities Maintenance		154,088
Subtotal	\$ 341,768	\$ 366,998
Operating Income less Operating Expense		<u><u>\$ (25,230)</u></u>

	Income	Expense
Bequests*	\$ 105,000	
Gift Shop	4,197	2,952
Rental Income	650	
Subtotal Supplemental Income	\$ 109,847	\$ 2,952
Supplemental Income net of expense	\$ 106,895	
Total income less expense	<u><u>\$ 81,665</u></u>	

*(Bequests not included in Operating Revenue)

Catholic Ministry Appeal



It can be easy to read today's Gospel primarily as an account of Jesus saying "no." No to the devil's temptations of earthly comfort, no to idols of power and glory, and no to arrogantly manipulating God's will.

But this Gospel passage is as much about what Jesus is saying "yes" to as it is what he's saying "no" to. Each denial of the

devil is really a profound affirmation of Christ's identity as the Son of God. Jesus rejects these temptations, not because things like bread or even ruling are bad, but because they're being offered to him on the condition that He turns away from God the Father. In fact, Jesus's relationship with the Father is the source of his resistance to the devil's temptations. He isn't "going it alone." Instead, he's relying upon the strength of the Father to carry him through. It's relationship, not isolated "willpower," that is the source of His strength.

This is such an important lesson for us as we begin our Lenten season. Lenten disciplines are not about proving our "spiritual toughness." They're about abandoning ourselves more fully to the Father, so that we might not "live on bread alone." One way we do this during Lent is through the practice of *almsgiving*—giving to the poor or to some other worthy cause. One cause our parish is striving to support is the Catholic Ministry Appeal. At the beginning of this Lenten season, let's embrace almsgiving as an opportunity to say "yes" to the Father and our relationship with Him.

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.

- 03/06 • Rev. John B. Lipscomb
- 03/07 • Rev. Sojan Punakkattu, ALCP
- 03/08 • Rev. Gilberto Quintero
- 03/09 • For Vocations to Priesthood & Religious Life
- 03/10 • Taylor Gates, Seminarian
- 03/11 • Rev. Bradley Reed
- 03/12 • Rev. Robert J. Schneider

Everything you wanted to know about your faith

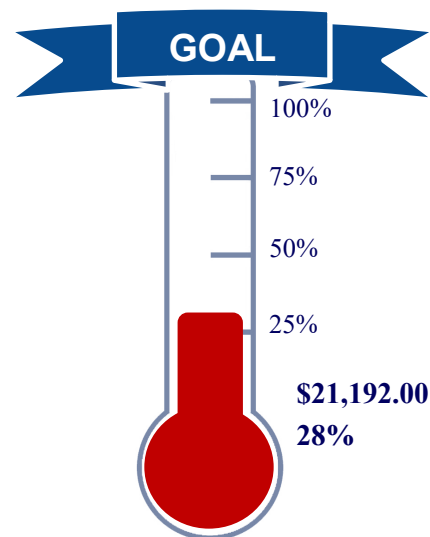
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DIOCESE OF ST. PETERSBURG
**CATHOLIC
MINISTRY**
Appeal

Our Goal \$74,741



**Thank you for your
prayerful giving!**

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

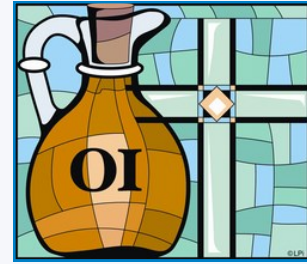
Please Pray for Our Sick and Homebound

PAGE 7

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.