



Blessed Trinity

Weekend Magazine

Over 60 YEARS COURAGEOUSLY *Living the Gospel*

March 27, 2022 ▪ The Fourth Sunday of Lent

New research reveals another reason to go to Mass on Sunday

By Theresa Civantos Barber



*Why should a Catholic go to Sunday Mass?
Here's yet another reason to get ourselves
to church.*

Why should a Catholic go to Mass on Sunday? Let me count the ways.

We know it's part of our duty as Catholics to "Keep the Lord's Day holy," but our Sunday obligation is only the least of the reasons to get ourselves to church.

The Holy Mass is not just a religious service or Scripture class: It's a sacred mystery. It's a lifting of the veil between us and the Divine.

The liturgy is the time and place when God comes to us. **It's the sublime, solemn moment when Heaven touches**

Earth.

The Sacrifice of the Mass is also a beautiful act of communion between our brothers and sisters in

Christ, not only those in the pews beside us, but also all the saints and angels who are gathered around the altar. **They are no less present because we cannot see them.**

Going to Mass is a privilege, one for which countless Christians throughout the centuries have given their very lives. **We are so lucky that Mass is so easy for us to access!** The martyrs could only hope for this gift we often take for granted.

As though all that were not enough of a reason, however, it turns out that going to Mass on Sundays actually makes us happier and more satisfied with our lives.

New polling has found that weekly attendance at religious services leads to high levels of life satisfaction:

Life satisfaction levels vary the most by three demographic attributes — education level, annual household income and religious service attendance. Majorities of Americans who attend religious services weekly (67%) ... are very satisfied with their own lives. Meanwhile, less than half of their counterparts express the highest level of satisfaction, though majorities still say they are very or somewhat satisfied.

Of course, this comes as no surprise, since we know that God gave us the rules of His Church to bring us joy in this life and the next. So it makes all the sense in the world that going to Mass each week would bring fulfillment and happiness. (We wonder if going to Mass more often, perhaps even daily, brings nearly palpable peace!)

Still, it's nice to see it affirmed from other sources. **So let's get ourselves to Mass this week with joy in our hearts, giving thanks to God for this sacred gift.** See you there in the Eucharist!

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March 27, 2022

Fourth Sunday of Lent

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

Jos 5:9a, 10-12 | 2 Cor 5:17-21 | Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

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

Today we celebrate Laetare (which means “rejoice”) Sunday. As we mark the midpoint of Lent, we allow ourselves to look ahead with joyful anticipation of Jesus’ resurrection, even as we continue our practices of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. Amidst these penitential practices of Lent, this day offers a reminder that we have reason for hope. The parable of the prodigal son shows us what hope looks like. When the father caught sight of his wayward son, he did not see the young man who made bad choices, wasted his inheritance, and disobeyed him. He looked at him with eyes of unconditional love, rejoicing that “he was lost and has been found.” That’s how Jesus viewed the sinners and tax collectors, and how the Father views us, his wayward sons and daughters, when we return to him in contrition and love. So as we continue our Lenten practices, let’s take time to give thanks for the goodness and mercy of God today, knowing that the Lord awaits us with open arms when we acknowledge our sinfulness and rely upon him for all that is good.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Is it me, or are some of the parables hard to figure out? The parable of the prodigal son is one we’ve heard over and over again, and resonates across ages and generations. Some of us may relate to the prodigal son and others to the dutiful brother. The parents and grandparents among us may have been in the father’s shoes at some point. What better time than Lent to reflect on what the story means to us at this point in our lives: Are we awaiting the return of a disaffected loved one? Are we in need of repenting for our own actions? The answer will be different for each of us, but we can rejoice in the fact that we are loved unconditionally by God wherever we are on our Lenten and life journeys. Our challenge is to open our hearts to that love; as we do so, we can’t help but be transformed and in turn share that love with others through friendship, service, and generosity. As St. Paul writes, “Whoever is in Christ is a new creation: The old things have passed away.”

ACT On Laetare Sunday, priests may wear rose-colored vestments as a symbol of joy. Carry this sense of joy into your day by placing roses at the table, bringing flowers to a friend, or calling someone with whom you’ve fallen out of touch.



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

PHONE

(727) 867-3663

FAX

(727) 864-2679

WEB SITE

<http://btsp.org>

Like us on FaceBook

Twenty-Fifth Jubilee Anniversary of Ordination



Reverend Wayne Charles Genereux, Pastor



In Thanksgiving to Almighty God
The Reverend Wayne Charles Genereux
Requests the Honor of your Presence

For the Solemn Mass of Thanksgiving,
in Celebration of his
Twenty-Fifth Jubilee Anniversary of Ordination
to the Priesthood of Jesus Christ
Vigil Mass of the Second Sunday of Easter

Saturday, April Twenty-third,
Two thousand and Twenty Two
at Four o'clock in the Afternoon
Blessed Trinity Catholic Church
1600 54th Avenue South
St. Petersburg, Florida 33712

Please RSVP by Phone: (727) 867-3663

Because of Covid-19 uncertainty there will be no dinner after the Mass.
A dinner will be held at a later date.



Fr. Wayne in St. Peter's Basilica during the Chrism Mass.
Pope Saint John Paul II, Celebrant | Rome, Italy | March 27, 1997



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 26, Lenten Weekday
4:00 p.m. Jennifer Andrews (Dec)

Sunday, March 27, Fourth Sunday of Lent
8:00 a.m. Ron Bento (Dec)
9:30 a.m. For Our Parishioners
11:30 a.m. Pauline Rynolos (Dec)

Monday, March 28, Lenten Weekday
8:00 a.m. Ron Bento (Dec)

Tuesday, March 29, Lenten Weekday
8:00 a.m. Kenneth Lipton (Dec)

Wednesday, March 30,
8:00 a.m. For Vocations and

Thursday, March 31, Lenten Weekday
8:00 a.m. Mary Jo Schneider (Dec)

Friday, April 1, Lenten Weekday
8:00 a.m. Rae Covey (Dec)

Saturday, April 2, Memorial Saint Francis of Paola, Hermit
8:00 a.m. Andrew & Marie Gumieny (Dec)
4:00 p.m. James Holser (Dec)

Sunday, April 3, Fifth Sunday of Lent
8:00 a.m. Lorraine Arie (Dec)
9:30 a.m. For Our Parishioners
11:30 a.m. Ron Bento (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: \$ _____

Ushers – Help Urgently Needed



Ushers

Since the beginning of the pandemic two years ago, our Knights of Columbus have served to usher all Masses. Many of them also serve in ministry as Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers and Altar Servers. For several of these men, this has meant serving as many as three to four Masses per weekend for the last two years. We can't thank them enough for their dedicated service.

Particularly now, as we begin ramping up events and our Knights are hosting weekly Lenten fish fries, and coffee and donuts, monthly pancake breakfasts and other special events like last week's wonderful St. Patrick's/St. Joseph's Dinner, our small but mighty crew of Knights needs some relief.

We are in need of several ushers for all Masses. No experience necessary. Please leave your name and phone number with the sacristan at Mass, or call the office to volunteer.

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

The Face on God's Brochure

When a church is raising funds for a new building or a diocese is launching a stewardship appeal, there is usually someone — or several someone's — who serves as the face of the campaign. Maybe it's a married couple, or a family, or a group of folks who have been particularly active in the community and can speak to the worthiness of whatever endeavor is being undertaken.

Oftentimes, for better or worse, we fill that role for God. We are the face on the front of His promotional brochure. If we call ourselves Christians, that means that people will meet Christ through us. That's what being an Everyday Steward is — a steward, everyday; someone who conducts his Master's business when the Master is not seen.

It can be intimidating because we have so much baggage and no capabilities of our own. But then we remember that we are offered reconciliation through Christ — that “the old things have passed away, (and) new things have come” (2 Corinthians 5:17). We remember that we are the prodigal sons, and the fattened calf has been slaughtered on our behalf.

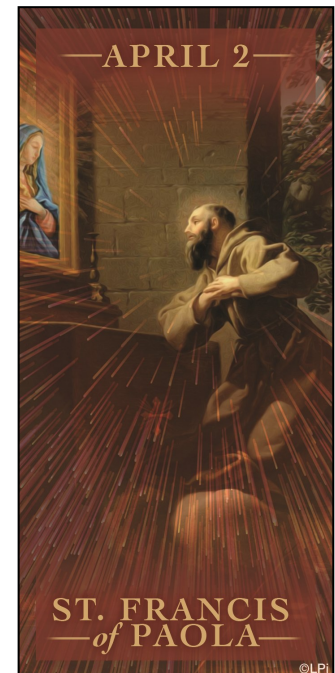
But it's a role that requires commitment. The story of the prodigal son is only compelling and only means something because the son, presumably, embraced his reconciliation to his father. He didn't go on to abandon him again.

So let us think to ourselves each day, “Whoever I encounter will meet Christ's ambassador. I was dead and have come to life again. How can I speak to the worthiness of that reconciliation? How can I make others desire it?”

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPi



The beautiful flowers this weekend have been donated in thanksgiving and in remembrance of the Holley & Azarewicz Families.



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.

03/27 • Rev. Msgr. Austin Mullen
03/28 • Rev. Henry Riffle
03/29 • Rev. Thomas Spillett
03/30 • For Vocations to Priesthood & Religious Life
03/31 • Rev. Ignatius Tuoc
04/01 • Rev. Anthony Coppola
04/02 • Bishop Gregory Parkes

Catholic Ministry Appeal

We've all heard the parable of the Prodigal Son, the focus of today's Gospel, several times before. We know how it begins—the younger son squandering his inheritance—and we know how it ends—the son being welcomed back into his father's house with open arms and a celebratory feast.

But do we know what happens next? Do we stop to consider how the Prodigal Son's life might have been transformed through that encounter with his father's love and mercy? It's likely that he experienced a sense of gratitude he never had before, when he had taken what his father had for granted. And it's likely that this experience of gratitude transformed the way he lived and served on his father's estate. Humbled by his great need and insufficiency, but also uplifted by his father's love and providence, it's easy to imagine that the once-Prodigal Son became a loyal and dependable partner in his father's work, eager to give of himself.

Like the Prodigal Son, we've all experienced profound mercy from God our Father. Despite our sinfulness, He has redeemed us through Jesus and invites us to eternal life with Him. How has this radical and undeserved gift of mercy transformed us? Has it made us more humble, more grateful, and more willing to generously give of ourselves? Because it should! If we don't feel or act upon this gratitude, now might be an appropriate time to reflect on why that is and how we can grow in this virtue.

And once we've rekindled this gratefulness for all that God has given us, it might be a good time to consider how we can give of ourselves in turn. Supporting our diocesan Annual Appeal—which contributes to our Father's work in our local Church—is one concrete way that we can respond in gratitude. Reflect upon your own experience of God's loving, unmerited mercy and see how it prompts you to give.

The Apostles' Creed



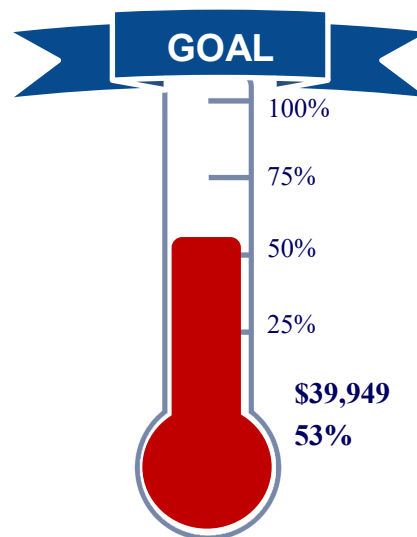
At Mass today we are using the Apostles' Creed instead of the Nicene Creed. The origins of the Apostles' Creed are believed to predate the Nicene Creed. It is universally recognized by many Christians as a shared statement of our faith in God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

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.



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.csricebowl.org

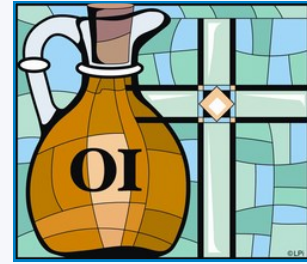
Please Pray for Our Sick and Homebound

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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
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
O'Farrell, Louise
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.