



Blessed Trinity

Weekend Magazine

Over 60 YEARS COURAGEOUSLY *Living the Gospel*

July 4, 2021 • The Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Celebrating our Religious Liberty



This weekend we celebrate the 4th of July. It is on this day over 245 years ago when the American Republic was finally free and independent.

Our founding documents are important to people of faith, and especially Catholics as we celebrate our religious freedom. It was a hard and bitter fight. Many of our forefathers pledged their lives, their fortunes and their sacred honor to bring to this nation, founded under God, a new birth of freedom, made up of many people of diverse cultures and backgrounds to forge a nation that would be the envy of the world. Many came for different reasons, a new opportunity, and above all our religious freedom and to begin a new life. And so, they did. In 245 years we are nation more prosperous, and technologically advanced than any other country in the world.



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 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



CHURCH COOKOUT



Summer Drive-Thru Cook-out

The Knights of Columbus welcome all
to a "Drive-Thru Cook-Out"

When: Sunday July 11th at 12:00pm

Where: The Church Parking Lot

What: Great Food at great prices
Vienna All Beef Hot Dogs
Da Best Hot Dog, direct from Chitown \$3
1/4 lb. Beef Burgers charbroiled right
before your eyes. - \$4

Packaged condiments to dress up your food choice, Onions,
Relish, Mustard and Ketchup.

Also available: Chips - \$1,
Soft Drinks \$1 and Water - \$1
(on ice to cool you off).

You deserve a break today, so get up and get away for lunch at the
parish with your Knights of Columbus.

St. Vincent de Paul



We sincerely appreciate the donations and support
our parishioners are providing to our Blessed Trinity
Saint Vincent de Paul Conference.

Our Parish Conference members continue to help
those in need in South St. Petersburg neighborhoods.

We are not making home visits at this time, but are
still helping with utility payments, food drop-off at homes, and furniture
and clothing vouchers as requested. The number of callers desiring food
has dropped off significantly.

Since we currently have adequate food quantities to meet our needs, we
will be temporarily **stopping our Food Collection basket** in the back of
the Church.

**Thank you for your understanding, prayers and continued financial
support.**

Continued from cover

To protect this vast undertaking, each generation of Americans have answered their country's call to service when the American way of life was threatened. I often think of their sacrifice, Americans too often have taken this sacrifice for granted. The graves of Americans here on our own soil and around the world is testimony to their sacrifice, and their devotion to duty, honor, and country. It is very humbling. Let us never forget what they did for us. We give thanks to God today, for the privilege that we have been given to live the life we have from our creator.

Like our forefathers we must continue their legacy. Each day we are charged with the responsibility to pledge our lives, our fortunes, and sacred honor to uphold the founding documents that have shaped our nation from its infancy.

As we look at our Republic today, we have to honestly say we are in trouble. We must all come together as a nation to ensure that our founding documents that have guided us thus far, will be preserved not just as pieces of paper forged years ago, but will continue to light our way in the 21st Century.

Many people want to take God out of American society. Let us never waiver, in relying on God's providence to be our hope and our salvation. May our religious liberty continue to be the beacon of hope that brought so many people to our shores who were suffering religious persecution. Members of the Roman Catholic Church in colonial America were outlawed. English penal laws restricted the freedom of Catholics: the denial of the right to vote or to hold public office, the prohibition of public worship, and even the imprisonment of priests. The penal laws against Catholics were in force with different levels of severity in the colonies for over a century. The small body of Catholics in the thirteen colonies had clung to their religious faith despite active persecution and denial of our civil rights. In 1787 the Constitution and the Bill of Rights a couple years later, especially the First Amendment, and its definition of our first freedom. While the First Amendment allowed Catholics to practice their faith, yet it did not eradicate the cultural anti-Catholicism that still exists today.

Pope Francis reminds us, "When in the name of an ideology, there is an attempt to remove God from society it ends up adoring idols, and very soon men and women lose their way, their dignity is trampled, and their rights violated. President Washington said as much in his farewell address to all Americans when he retired to Mt Vernon.

In the present epoch of history we are in a battle to save the soul of America. We are living in a time of evil and chaos that could radically change our founding documents that have guided us from our founding. We must be united in this difficult moment in our history and pray to almighty God that our Republic will endure despite the difficulties we are facing.

Let us celebrate with great fanfare our Independence Day as President John Adams envisioned years ago. Let us vow to one another in the words of President John F. Kennedy "Let us go forth in the land we love asking His blessing and knowing that here on earth God's work must truly be our own."

Several sources were consulted for this article



"Thoughts Worth Sharing" is written by:
Fr. Wayne C. Genereux, Pastor
727-867-3663
pastor@btsp.org

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, July 3, Feast of Saint Thomas, Apostle

8:00 a. m. Fred Bellina (Dec)
4:00 p.m. Ted Bilski (Dec)

Sunday, July 4, Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 a.m. Dolores Bolin (Dec)
9:30 a.m. For Parishioners
11:30 a.m. Gerald Hayman (Dec)

Monday, July 5, Saint Anthony Zaccaria, Priest; Saint Elizabeth of Portugal

8:00 a.m. Blanche Grimes (Liv)

Tuesday, July 6, Saint Maria Goretti, Virgin and Martyr

8:00 a.m. Bill Isaac (Dec)

Wednesday, July 7

8:00 a.m. For Vocations

Thursday, July 8

8:00 a.m. Gregory Hall (Dec)

Friday, July 9, Augustine Zhao Rong, Priest, and Companions, Martyrs

8:00 a.m. Marisa Lunghi (Dec)

Saturday, July 10

8:00 a. m. Fr. T.J. Palko (Dec)
4:00 p.m. Dolores Ciminera (Dec)

Sunday, July 11, Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 a.m. Lorenzo Vasquez (Dec)
9:30 a.m. For Parishioners
11:30 a.m. Margarite Israelson (Dec)

"Have the courage today not
to pass judgment on others
based on what we have seen
in the past, but what has
been revealed to us as truth."

BISHOP GREGORY PARKES

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

The Prophecy of You and Me

Prophet. There's a heaviness to this word. It's weighted down with meaning. We think of prophets and we think of Charlton Heston with wild hair and a booming voice, reaching out his hand to work wonders of nature by the grace of God. We think of prophets and we think of ancient Biblical history — someone far away, someone so removed from our everyday life. A prophet is someone who knows something we don't.

When I let you in on this secret, it might scare you at first: in a way, God is calling you to be a prophet. He is calling me. He is calling anyone who hears the truth of the Gospel. However, there is no need for the megaphone and the wild locusts. This prophet gig might not be what you're thinking.

What does a prophet do? He hears and testifies to the truth, even when it's uncomfortable, even when it's unpopular, even when it results in, as Paul says, "weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions and constraints." A prophet doesn't have to be smart or rich or ordained; heck, he doesn't even have to be particularly willing.

All a prophet has to do is listen to the truth. The truth we receive from Christ, through the Gospel and the sacraments, is a mighty gift. But it is a gift that we are not meant to simply keep for ourselves. In possessing it, we are compelled to also pass it on, to share it, to let the Spirit set us on our feet.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

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Weekly Giving

Online Giving June 21-27

Offertory	\$ 1,025
Building Fund	\$ 50
Peter's Pence	\$ 50
SVDP	\$ 140

June 27, 2021

Offertory	\$ 6,030
Peter's Pence	\$ 562
Building Fund	\$ 34
APA	\$ 40
Gift Shop	\$ 167
SVDP	\$ 443

**Thank you for
your generosity!**



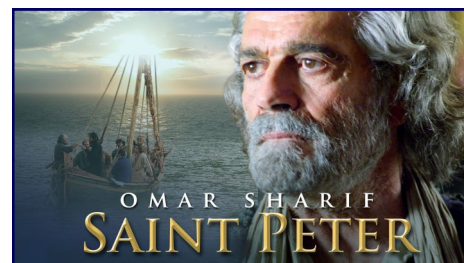
Electronic Giving Information

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.org and click on the big green box on the home page that says



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.



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July 4, 2021

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Ez 2:2-5 | 2 Cor 12:7-10 | Mk 6:1-6

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

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

I'm struck by phrases in today's first and second readings: The prophet Ezekiel is told that those to whom he will be sent are "hard of face and obstinate of heart"; and Saint Paul aptly describes a "thorn in the flesh" as having been given to him. He even refers to this thorn as "an angel of Satan." These are descriptive images! So, I wondered, What do these images look like in practice? The Gospel gives us a clear example: those who grew up with Jesus refuse to see him as a prophet. At one time in my life, I might have said to myself: "Wow, I can't believe people of his own time would reject Jesus!" However, as I grow older, I'm conscious not only of more physical aches and pains, but the "thorn in the flesh" of patterns I'm not particularly proud of – cynicism, pessimism, even hard-heartedness and a closed mind. The "they" in today's readings hits closer to home and strikes me more as "we" than it used to. And yet, as Saint Paul reminds us, we can bring our imperfections to God and pray for grace to give us strength in our weakness, hearts open to God's love, and ears ready to hear the Gospel and be transformed by Jesus.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

When Jesus returned to his hometown, he was not exactly greeted like a "hometown hero." His contemporaries could see him only as a carpenter, and not the Messiah: "So he was not able to perform any mighty deed there, apart from curing a few sick people by laying his hands on them. He was amazed at their lack of faith." We know that Jesus went on to perform the mightiest of deeds – dying and rising from the dead. And yet, even today, he would be "amazed at our lack of faith." Today's Gospel and the other readings encourage us to do a check-up of our spiritual health and pray for the grace to continue to grow in faith. We can also pray for others who may be questioning or have lost their faith, inviting them to consider coming to church with us or simply offering to pray with and for them.

REFLECT For a more intentional look at whatever thorns might be in your side, and what weaknesses those contribute to, consider doing a retreat. Attend an in-person retreat at a local retreat house, or look into online options for a guided retreat at home.



Please Pray for Our Sick and Homebound

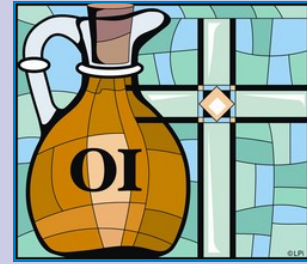
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Adkins, Chantale
Antczak, Harriet
Arnold, Barbara
Bento, Ron
Bestow, Shawn
Boss, Kristin
Brown, Bob & Beverly
Brown, Buck
Brown III, George
Brown, Shaquita
Carfora, Palma
Cary, Joan
Chavez, John
Christ, Kathryn
Cline, Wayne
Deacon Lionel Roberts
Detore, Alice
Deuel, Fred
Devyn & Donna
DeZarn, Vickie
Doiron, Gary
Dow, Bob
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
Hawkins, Ashlyn
Hawkins, Barbara
Holley, Gerry
Huff, Walt & Carole
Irvin, John and Marsha
Kirkpatrick, Donna
Kirkpatrick, Susan
Lanigan, John
Lashley, Diana
Lawler, Annette
LeVan, George
Lyons, Laura
Maharne, Cecile
Maitland, Steve
Maloney, Rich
McAfee, Riley
McCasland, MJ
McGarry, Jean
Membreno, Mary & Gus
Mesick, Phil & Nancy
Meyer, Patricia
Moore, Richard A.
Nicholson, Maria
Noguez, Armida
Oliphant, Brian
Phillips, James

Preeper, Helen
Privitera, Sandy
Privitera, Peter
Quinn, Timothy
Roberts, Amanda
Romani, Angelo & Marlene
Schaefer, Jake
Schneider, Mary Jo
Scotlight, Kristin
Sequist, Tim
Shelby, Ron & Montez
Smith, Anita
Stankiewicz, Cy
Storey, Barbara
Thuline, James
Velez, Carmelita
Vishnisky, Wayne
Walsh, Thomas
Watson, Amanda
Youngman, Ruth

If you or a close family member would like to be added or removed from this list, please contact the parish office at 727-867-3663.



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.

Magazine Articles

If you wish to put anything in the weekly parish magazine, please email any items to be published to parish office at amc@btsp.org

