



Blessed Trinity

Weekend Magazine

Over 60 YEARS COURAGEOUSLY *Living the Gospel*

August 22, 2021 • The Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Meet the inspiring new pro-life Mrs. Universe who grew up in foster care

By Cerith Gardiner



Victoria Petersen is using her title to champion foster care and the pro-life movement.

This year's Mrs. Universe is a young woman who declared, "Glory be to God forever and ever. Amen," when she won the coveted title. While it was wonderful to see Victoria Petersen giving praise to God, her pro-life stance and personal experience in the foster care system will no doubt also inspire her fans.

At 15 years of age, Petersen had to make a choice that would shape her life forever. She'd been in foster care since the age of 12, and many people in her situation had become pregnant or gone down the road of substance abuse.

Petersen, however, decided to put her energies into her school work and impressive performances on the track. "I got really good grades, and I was dedicated to academics and athletics. I wanted to learn more, and knew if I was athletic I couldn't get involved in substances. I had seen how drugs and alcohol negatively affected families. The use of drugs and alcohol became adverse when I thought about having my own family," she explained in an interview reported in *Live Action*.

It was through her faith and help from her coach, Scott Wichman, that Petersen was kept, quite

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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 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
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literally, on the right track. She won medals at the Ohio state track championship four times and when she finally aged out of the foster care system, Wichman welcomed her into his own family and gave her his last name.

Thanks to this incredible support and love, Petersen went on to form her own family. She married her husband Scott and became a mom and a foster mom.

Thanks to her own experiences, Petersen, as the new Mrs. Universe, has spoken openly about her life in the foster care system, and how abortion should not be the solution for pregnant moms whose children risk entering the foster care system. In fact, she asks pro-lifers to lend much-needed support to the foster care system, as their desire to help the unborn should manifest in offering love and guidance to vulnerable children in need.

“If we genuinely love we must undoubtedly choose life, not just in our marches and at pregnancy centers but in our backyards, in our homes, and in our foster care system,” she pointed out.

Now in her role as Mrs. Universe, the pro-lifer wants to show the importance of choosing life with the backing of her sponsor, America’s Kids Belong, an organization that helps kids find families before they age out of the system.

“She shares openly about her traumatic journey through foster care into adulthood. We are thrilled she is using her strength and conviction to fulfill her platform and strong voice in the Foster Care world. Children in foster care have an ally in her and we celebrate her beauty, soul, kindness and drive to make our world a better place for children in foster care!” shared the group on their Facebook page.

The crowning of Petersen is just another positive step for the mom. She’s already been speaking out in support of the foster care system and the pro-life cause, sharing her own moving experiences with a video for Students for Life:

My mom always said when she saw me with my hands resting beneath my head as a baby on the ultrasound, she knew she loved me and would give birth to me. To say that growing up in the foster care system was adverse seems like an understatement. But my mom heroically and bravely chose not to eliminate the potential sufferer — me — and because of her choices, I am now a woman who spends her time passionately advocating to eliminate the suffering of those in the womb and in foster care.

Along with her role of Mrs. Universe and mom, Petersen has also founded **Bring Beloved**, whose “mission is to proclaim and affirm each foster youth’s identity as a beloved child of God” and offers practical support to foster kids and their community.

~Reprinted with permission



August 22, 2021

Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jos 24:1-2a, 15-17, 18b | Eph 5:21-32 or 5:2a, 25-32 | Jn 6:60-69

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

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

Have you ever felt nervous in standing up for something, or in taking a position on an issue? Even when the stakes are not particularly high, like a classroom debate over an author's meaning in her text or requesting that customer service fix a take-out order gone awry, it can be nerve-racking for many of us to have this kind of engagement. It is especially difficult when we sense conflict. Why is that? Why do we care so much what others think of us? What about when the stakes are literally life or death? In today's first reading, Joshua is imploring the people to decide which god they will serve, and he boldly proclaims: "As for me and my household, we will serve the Lord." In the Gospel, some of Jesus' disciples reject his teachings and drift back to "their former way of life." Jesus asks the Twelve whether they, too, "want to leave." Simon Peter responds with the rhetorical question, "Master, to whom [else] shall we go?" Like Joshua, he is bold in his own pronouncement: "You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and are convinced that you are the Holy One of God." Today's readings encourage and exhort us to go "all in" when it comes to discipleship. The implication is clear: it matters not what others think of us, or what attraction they might hold for us to acquiesce to them. God alone is the source of life, and the truth. He offers us a way – it's that simple. We simply must decide to serve him.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

At times this commitment, this life of discipleship, is more difficult than other times. Faith is a personal and communal relationship with our Triune God, and just like our human relationships it requires attentiveness, and "[living] in love as Christ loved us." Just as a spouse or roommate can annoy us – being messy, hearing the same joke over and over, and don't get me started on who gets to control the remote! – we may get upset with God because our expectations are not met. But God is God, not "who we think God ought to be." Therefore, today's readings are an encouragement to remain steadfast when things are difficult, with St. Paul comparing the love of Jesus for the Church (all of us!) with the mutual love between a husband and wife. No one said it would be easy. Just as a good marriage requires communication, give-and-take, and large doses of forgiveness, so does our relationship with the Lord require prayer, confession, repentance, and thanksgiving.

ACTION Place Joshua's words on your refrigerator this week: "Decide today whom you will serve ... As for me and my household, we will serve the Lord." Brainstorm about how each member of your household can do that.



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 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, August 21

4:00 p.m. Douglas Torres (Dec)

Sunday, August 22, Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 a.m. Mary Rohan (Dec)

9:30 a.m. For Parishioners

11:30 a.m. Bill Isaac (Dec)

Monday, August 23, Saint Rose of Lima, Virgin

8:00 a.m. Ann Deakins and Family (Dec)

Tuesday, August 24, Feast of Saint Bartholomew, Apostle

9:00 a.m. Margaret Taylor (Dec)

Wednesday, August 25, Saint Louis; Saint Joseph Calasanz, Priest

8:00 a.m. For Vocations

Thursday, August 26, Weekday in Ordinary Time

8:00 a.m. Nance Young (Dec)

Friday, August 27, Memorial of Saint Monica

8:00 a.m.

Saturday, August 28, Memorial of Saint Augustine, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

8:00 a.m. Fr. Leon Bonakowski (Dec)

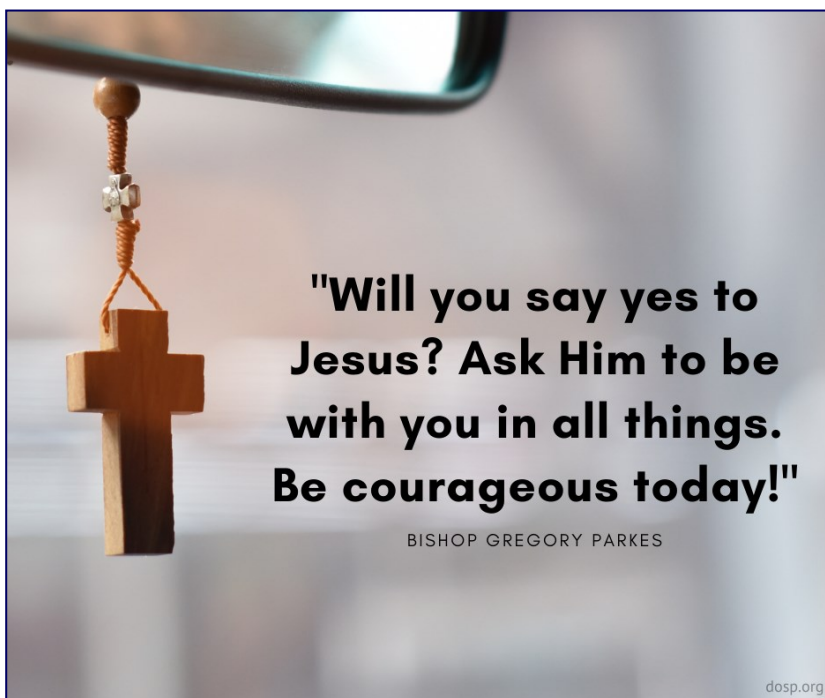
4:00 p.m. Carol Blankle (Dec)

Sunday, August 29, Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 a.m. Amanda Watson (Dec)

9:30 a.m. For Parishioners

11:30 a.m. Jordan Carruth (Dec)



EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

Submission as Stewardship.

We aren't comfortable with the idea of submission. Our society champions equality, and rightly so — but it's a mistake to think that submission is at odds with equality. To submit ourselves fully, we must first be free. We must first be our own masters. God has granted us that freedom with the salvation He offers. We are no longer the slaves of sin. Now He asks us to be subordinate to one another, in the name of Christ.

What a completely uncomfortable task! What He's asking is for us to be subordinate to the person who irritates us the most. The person we really can't stand. The person who doesn't respect us or appreciate what we have to offer. The person we think we're smarter than, more talented than. The person we envy.

That's the real challenge of stewardship, isn't it? Subordination. Inconveniencing myself by giving of time, of money, of relationship. Putting the needs or wants of another above my own when they haven't done anything special to earn it.

I invite you to consider the cross — the most radical expression of submission, and of stewardship, that ever existed. If there was ever someone who deserved superiority, isn't it the God who let Himself be nailed to a tree, who gave so freely of His life, His body, His blood, His everything?

To look at him in his agony is to truly understand the beauty of submission — of laying down what you have for the good of the other.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPi

Electronic Giving Information

A lot of people have 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

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.

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



Weekly Giving

Online Giving August 9-15

Offertory	\$ 1,155
Building Fund	\$ 20
Assumption	\$ 25
APA	\$ 200

August 15, 2021

Offertory/Donation	\$ 4,810
Gift Shop	\$ 146
SVDP	\$ 169
Building Fund	\$ 28
Memorials	\$ 350
Feast of the Assumption	\$ 860

**Thank you for
your generosity!**



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Helping Kids in Need

Mitchell Wilson is requesting donations for his Eagle Scout Project. He is gathering and consolidating supplies into backpacks to give to children and teenagers who have been displaced from their homes. Items requested are:

- Hairbrushes/combs
- Rolled blanket/throw
- Boxes of colored pencils (10 or 12 count)
- Puzzle books for teens
- Coloring books
- Adult coloring books for teens
- Travel size lotion
- Pens
- Mechanical pencils
- Bath/bar soap
- Deodorant for teens
- Flashlight and batteries
- Shampoo and conditioner—travel size
- Tooth brush/travel size toothpaste



The supplies requested can be placed in the labeled cardboard box at the main entrance.

Thank you for your donations!

Prayer for Protection from Hurricanes

God, Our Father, Creator and Lord of the universe, you have set the earth on its foundation and all the elements of nature obey your command.

We humbly beseech you to keep us safe from all dangers and calm the storm that threatens us.

May we be secure in your loving protection and serve you always with grateful hearts.

We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, One God, forever and ever.

Amen.

Prayer for Priests & Future Priests

Eternal Father,
we lift up 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.

- 08/22 • Rev. George Gyasi
- 08/23 • Rev. Craig Morley
- 08/24 • Rev. Francisco R. Hernandez
- 08/25 • For Vocations to Priesthood & Religious Life
- 08/26 • Rev. Timothy Sherwood
- 08/27 • Rev. Kenneth Malley
- 08/28 • Austin Smith, Seminarian

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.



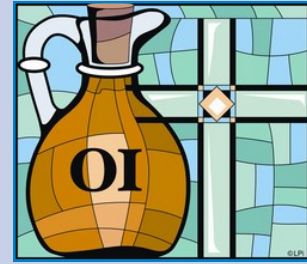
Please Pray for Our Sick and Homebound

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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
Dutilly, Dennis
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
Horan, Pauline
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
McGarry, Jean
Membreno, Mary & Gus
Mesick, Phil & Nancy
Meyer, Patricia
Moore, Richard A.
Nicholson, Maria
Noguez, Armida
Oliphant, Brian

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



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.

