

# BLESSED TRINITY CATHOLIC CHURCH

WEEKEND MAGAZINE

September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2018

24<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time

## The billboard in Florida that's helping save lives

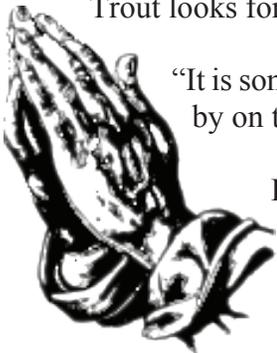


*This man could be advertising his own business; instead he uplifts and inspires people.*

In the past 30 years, Tom Trout has brought Jacksonville, Florida, 32,000 messages of hope and positivity. Instead of pushing his own business, Tom Trout, Inc., Trout chooses to use his own advertising space to send messages that, in some cases, have saved lives.

Every week Trout changes the sign, which overlooks the I-95. "I've gotten letters from people saying it saved their lives when they were in a dark place, and it inspired them to rethink what they were doing," he says.

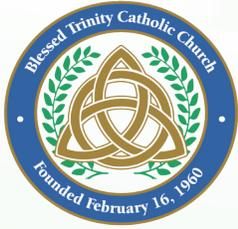
Many in the community now look forward to seeing the new billboard on their commute each week, and Trout looks forward to how his small messages of hope can uplift someone.



"It is something to look forward to," Trout said. "I know the messages have touched people driving by on the highway, and it has made a difference in people's lives."

But Trout doesn't come up with the messages all on his own. He takes suggestions, too. If you're a Floridian and want to make a suggestion, you can do so at <https://www.tomtroutinc.com/our-sign/sign-request>

*By Sophia Swinford, reprinted with permission from Aleteia*

**PASTOR**

Rev. Wayne C. Genereux

DEACON Bill Lovelace

DEACON John Schaefer

**PASTOR EMERITUS**  
(RET.) Msgr. Anton  
Dechering

DEACON Lionel Roberts

**CLERGY ASSISTANCE**

Fr. Jack McDowell, OFM  
Fr. Tom Kirchhoefer, VA  
Chaplain

**MASS SCHEDULE**

Saturday: 4:00 PM Vigil  
Sunday: 8:00, 9:30, 11:30 am

**HOLY DAYS**

7:30, 9 am & 7 pm  
Weekdays: 7:30 am  
Saturday: 8:00 am

**RECONCILIATION**

Saturdays  
3:00 -3:45 pm  
or by Appointment

1600 54TH AVE S.  
ST. PETERSBURG, FL  
33712

**PHONE**

(727) 867-3663

**FAX**

(727) 864-2679

**WEB SITE**<http://btsp.org>

# THOUGHTS WORTH SHARING

By Rev. Wayne Genereux, Pastor

This week I am inserting in the Bulletin my Pastoral Letter on Sexual Abuse and what we will be doing here at Blessed Trinity.

I am sharing with you this weekend an article on the topic of Priestly Celibacy. Many of you have asked me about. I hope you will gain a new perspective on this topic. We really do not discuss this in the Church and this article will be a beginning of the discussion.



## When did priestly celibacy begin anyway?

*We know some of the Apostles were married, so when did Catholic priests stop having wives?*

In recent days, phone calls have come from certain quarters for the relaxation of clerical celibacy in the Latin Catholic Church. Many point out that the practice of celibacy for the clergy is a discipline that could change, as opposed to a dogma that cannot. While this is true, one should have a firm understanding of the origins, purposes, and benefits of this venerable tradition, in order to understand why clerical celibacy has become a cornerstone of our Catholic life.

All Christian doctrine and practice flows from the life and teaching of Jesus Christ. We know that Christ was unmarried; consequently, he exercised a single-minded devotion to the mission that His Father had sent Him to accomplish. While many of the Apostles had wives, it was St. Paul who solidified the Christian appreciation for lifelong virginity and celibacy as a way of imitating Jesus. While Paul valued monogamous marriage highly, he also clearly expressed the preference that one might have for the celibate state. He wished all could remain unmarried as he was (1 Cor 7:7). Paul argued his case by developing the doctrine of the "undivided heart" (see verses 32-34). The unmarried person can focus on Christ exclusively, Paul explained, whereas the concerns of the married are multiplied and complex. In the New Testament, therefore, virginity and celibacy are presented as higher callings and gifts of God to be embraced by those who receive them.

*Article cont'd on page 3*

As time went on the Church was forced to defend itself against Dualist heretics, who claimed the body was evil, and condemned marriage. Yet at the same time the Church promoted asceticism, fasting, abstinence, and sexual restraint among the faithful, not because the material world was corrupted but to set the pursuit of earthly goods in right order, directing it to the pursuit of eternal goods.

By the 300s, monasticism had become the preferred method of those who pursued Christian perfection. When Christians asked themselves, “How do I become perfect as Christ called us to be?” (Mt 5:48), they found in Him the exemplar of that perfection. Christ was totally obedient to the will of the Father, he was poor in worldly possessions, and he was unmarried. These three qualities together became known as the evangelical counsels of poverty, chastity, and obedience. They are not commandments, for marriage, material wealth, and free choice are themselves good things, and gifts of God. Rather the monk or nun chose to forego these goods in favor of a pursuit of holiness.

For 1,000 years the monks and nuns provided the reforming evangelical energy of the Church. It did not take long for Christians to view them as paragons of holiness and to pattern wider Christian practices after theirs. As early as the first decade of the 300s, bishops of the Western Latin Church began to codify the practice already well established in many areas and prescribed celibacy for their non-monastic priests. It must be emphasized that all vows in Christianity, whether those of marriage or the religious life, are voluntary. No one is to be forced into a vow, therefore every vow of celibacy is — of its very nature — free.

It took many centuries for the practice of clerical celibacy to prevail in some corners of the Western Church. In the 11th century, there was a serious crisis that mirrors our present one. Rampant corruption manifested itself in widespread clerical immorality and homosexual practices. Pope Gregory VII and his collaborators, coming from a monastic tradition, purified the Church thoroughly, stringently enforcing the apostolic practice of clerical celibacy and creating the morally purified Church of the high medieval period.

By the 16th century, immorality had crept back into the ranks of the clergy, as members of the hierarchy, including a few popes, engaged regularly in activities that contravened their vows. Luther and the reformers rightly took issue with this corruption, but made the mistake of refusing to recognize the noble calling of virginity and celibacy. They abolished such vows, closed monasteries, and essentially forced pastors to become married. But Luther had thrown the baby out with the bathwater. Celibacy was not the problem he confronted; human sin was. A lack of formation and supervision of the clergy was rectified by the reforming Council of Trent, which reinforced clerical celibacy, created seminaries, refined spiritual direction, and purified the hierarchy so thoroughly that there was not to be any need for further reform for nearly 400 years.

Now we are confronted with a new crisis of corruption. The Church must indeed find reformation and purification, not by discarding its venerable practices, but by returning to the imitation of Christ. Celibacy is a treasured inheritance of our Western Catholic Church. The celibate priest is the spiritual father of his community, unhindered in his preaching, governing, and sanctifying by familial considerations. He has no pressure to support a family, or to give excessive deference based on such connections. He is the very image of the chaste Christ in our parishes. His sacrifice of the earthly good of marriage is an enduring symbol of renunciation in our very midst, and beckons young men and women to a life of heroism. His celibacy points us to the life of the heavenly kingdom (Mt 22:30). Moreover, the priest’s sacrifice is not “unnatural,” for indeed the chastity that informs his celibacy is the call of every single person, whether married or unmarried. The priest’s burden is also shared with the confraternity of fellow priests, which ought to create a deep esprit-de-corps of solidarity and mutual support.

We must be wary of discarding truth when confronted with hypocrisy. The fault of the current crisis lies with those who have failed to teach and reinforce Christian morality and sacrifice, and who have shamelessly and evilly covered up the abuses of others. The fault lies too with those who have turned from so grievously from the life of grace. The fault is not in the imitation of Christ; it is in those who have failed to imitate Him, and who will be judged accordingly, in this life and in the next.

*By Donald S. Prudlo, reprinted with permission from Aletheia*



**Faith & Action for  
Strength Together**



It's the beginning of the FAST year. Each year we begin with house meetings where parishioners are able to talk about what we think should be done to promote Justice in our Community. In Sacred Scripture, the Book of Micah 6:8, we read "You have been told, O Man, what is good, and what the Lord requires of you; Only to do right (Justice), and to love goodness and to walk humbly with your God." And in Matthew 23:23. "Woe to you scribes and Pharisees, you frauds! You pay tithes on mint and herbs and seeds while neglecting the weightier matters of the law, justice and mercy and good faith. It is these you should have practiced, without neglecting the others."

This September, our team members will conduct house meetings. They will explain what FAST is, what are our concerns, and invite you to explain your concerns. And invite you to become FAST network members. There will be sign-up sheets in the Diaconia Office in the rear of the Church. If you want to become more involved in this Ministry of the Parish, please sign up. All meetings start at 7:00 P.M. The dates for the house meetings and the leaders are:

Sept 14 – John Lashley in the Faith Formation Room

Sept 18 – Beth Dianic in the Faith Formation Room

Sept 20 – Msgr Dechering in the Faith Formation Room

Sept 25 – Kevin Riskowitz in the Faith Formation Room

Sept 27 – Ron Shelby in the Faith Formation Room

Oct 1 – Tony Brunello in the Courtyard Hall

Is God calling you to participate more fully in the Eucharistic Sacrifice? Are you ready to be a part of the daily readings, distributing communion, and serving Mass each and every week?

Eucharistic Ministers, lectors, servers and ushers are needed for EVERY Weekend Mass! Eucharistic Ministers to the sick and homebound are also needed to bring communion to our infirm and shut-ins on Sundays. If you would like to get more involved, please call Aimée Holley at: 727-687-2829.

## MASS INTENTIONS

### Sat., September 15

8:00 a.m. Marty Padula (liv)

4:00 p.m. Judy & Bob Hettinger (liv)

### Sun., September 16

8:00 a.m. Michael Comeau (dec)

9:30 a.m. Blessed Trinity Parishioners

11:30 a.m. Pasquale Ianniello (dec)

### Mon., September 17

7:30 a.m. Raymond J. Albert (dec)

### Tues., September 18

7:30 a.m. George Bald (liv)

### Wed., September 19

7:30 a.m. Jean & Ted Doroski (dec) & Vocations

### Thurs., September 20

7:30 a.m. Ginger Shipley & Family (liv)

### Fri., September 21

7:30 a.m. Norman & Stiena Genereux (dec)

### Sat., September 22

8:00 a.m. Don & Joanne Murphy (liv)

4:00 p.m. Bill Maslar (dec)

### Sun., September 23

8:00 a.m. Earl W. Murray Sr. (dec)

9:30 a.m. Blessed Trinity Parishioners

11:30 a.m. Madeline Jane Holt (dec)

**Sacred Vessels for communion are donated  
in memory of John (Jack) R. Aselage**

## SACRAMENTS

### Matrimony

Congratulations on your engagement! Every Diocese in Florida requires at least six months preparation before marriage. Please call the Parish Office for an appointment with a parish priest 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 the Parish Office for information regarding the Pre-Baptism Class before scheduling a Baptism.



### OFFICE HOURS

M-F 9 AM - 4 PM

CLOSED FOR LUNCH

NOON TO 1 PM

by Eileen Plasse  
Parish Manager

## Donations 09/09/18

Offertory Collection	\$5334
Building Fund	\$116
Gift shop	<u>\$123</u>
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$5573</b>



On September 6<sup>th</sup> Fr. Wayne convened with the parish finance council. At this meeting three new members were introduced. These members are Robert Babb, Cory Gaffney, and Matthew Williams. Each of them is involved in professions that will help guide us in making wise decisions for the parish. We are also blessed to have two senior members remain on the council. Larry Williams and Lou Curcio have been on the council for many years and their input and history is very valuable. The council meets four times a year unless an emergency meeting is required.

**Want to try Online Giving?**  
Go to our website at [btsp.org](http://btsp.org) and click the online giving button.

Negotiations for two new sources of income are near completion. We will soon be able to report to you the new sources. They will help, but they won't get us out of the slump we are currently in. Your donations and offertory support are, and will continue to be, the parish's number one source of income. We get calls from companies quite often suggesting they do a letter writing campaign to increase our offertory. They make it seem so promising, but the staff advised Fr. Wayne that he had great communication skills and we didn't need to spend thousands of dollars to have a company mail out letters to you the parishioners asking for an increase in your giving. Fr. Wayne listened to us and didn't hire the outside company. Fr. Wayne certainly doesn't want his parishioners to think he is always asking for money, though. We decided to implement this 'Money Matters' article in the Weekend Magazine to simply keep you informed of what our financial position is. For instance, this past week I paid \$5,377.89 to Duke Energy. That is for one month. This week the offertory was \$5,334. Given that we get the offertory four times a month, sometimes five, it doesn't take skilled math to see that if electric cost one fourth of our income, how can we possibly keep up and meet all the other expenses the church has to cover? That is my letter campaign – FACTS. Cold, hard facts. Please ask God what you should be doing to support the church.

## Blessed Trinity 2018 APA



**Goal:**  
**\$101,181**

**Paid:**  
**\$52,367**

**Balance Due:**  
**\$48,814**

**% to Goal:**  
**49.23%**

*Thank You for Your  
Continued Generosity!*

### This year's accomplishments:

1. Continued to collect personal hygiene items for the homeless
2. Sent a full truck of items to Bay Pines for our veterans
3. Collected two boxes of items for Native Americans
4. Gathered baby items for mothers who chose to not abort their babies
5. Sent \$100 to Cross Catholic Charities to help feed starving children
6. Sold roses for Mother's Day with no profit
7. The Maximo Elementary ice cream socials were unable to be scheduled
8. Sent cards of encouragement for sick and others
9. Sponsored a Morning Glory retreat



**Ladies of Mercy**  
**Help make life more abundant for all!**

It is very important that we remember those less fortunate, for they are the little ones that Jesus holds in his hands. Our confirmation calls us to continue our growth in faith by attending and being active in religious classes.



## This Week at Blessed Trinity

Sun.	9/16	7:00 p.m.	- Men's AA - Rm 4
Mon.	9/17	7:00 p.m.	- Prayer Meeting - FFR
Tues.	9/18	9:30 a.m.	- Scripture Meeting - FFR
		7:00 p.m.	- FAST Meeting - FFR
Wed.	9/12	6:30 p.m.	- Choir - Music Room
Thurs.	9/20	10:30 a.m.	- Consoling the Heart of Jesus Retreat - FFR
		5:00 p.m.	- SVDP - Rm 4
Sat.	9/22	7:00 p.m.	- Women's AA

Please call the Parish Office, (727) 867-3663, for information regarding ministries & organizations



### Faith & Action for Strength Together

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**M**artha Monagan-Hart Ph.D., LCSW, Volunteer, will facilitate the Sister Jean Barrett Bereavement Support Group. The group offers a caring presence in a safe, comfortable environment to share stories and listen to each other with compassion offering support in our normal grief reactions. Adults of all faiths are welcome and there is no fee to attend.

Please feel free to stop by with any questions or concerns you might have about the group. You can also E-mail Martha at [Dr.Monaganhart@gmail.com](mailto:Dr.Monaganhart@gmail.com). You may also leave your phone number if you would like to talk. You can also call the parish office at **727-867-3663** and leave a message for Martha.



### MEDICARE 2019 CLASSES

Tuesday, Oct. 2nd

9:00 AM or 2:00 PM Courtyard Hall

We will cover the six Parts of Medicare Healthcare and explain the changes implemented by CMS for 2019.

#### Who should attend?

- Anyone age 64 or older
- Anyone with VA benefits but not on Tricare
- Anyone who has Medicaid and Medicare
- Anyone confused by all the TV-Ads, mail advertising, etc.



### 40 Days for Life

40 Days for Life, a national campaign of prayer and fasting for an end to abortion, will kick off on September 26<sup>th</sup>. Join area clergy for a Kickoff Vigil to start the St. Petersburg 40 Days for Life Campaign, Tuesday, September 25<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM. Vigil will take place in front of All Women's Health Center in St. Petersburg (4131 Central Ave.)

Please use street parking.

To learn more please contact Rich & Lynn Maloney at 727-258-7406 Or email [rmaloney67@gmail.com](mailto:rmaloney67@gmail.com) Signup sheets for the vigil will be located in the back of the church.

Adkins, Chantale  
Albertson, Michelle  
Anonymous  
Antczak, Harriet  
Aselage, Karl  
Attard, Stephanie  
Banks, Cathy  
Beekman, Connie  
Bennett, Elizabeth  
Blondheim, Carmen  
Bogensberger,  
Rosemary  
Brown, Bob & Beverly  
Brown, Dorothy  
Brown, Buck  
Brown, Shaquita  
Browning, Rea  
Buckwald, Diane  
Ceci, Shirley  
Chris, David  
Christ, Kathryn  
Cline, Wayne  
Cramer, David  
D'Agostino, Frances  
Dawson, Anthony Peter  
Deacon Lionel Roberts

DeCaires, Brian  
DeLuca, Rosemary  
Detore, Alice  
Favero, Beverly  
Fazio, Mary & Frank  
Feehan, Joe  
Feldes, Chuck &  
Lauren  
Fiedler, Meghan  
Forbes, Monica & Tom  
Forbes, Rahim  
Forbes, Tina May  
Fraser, Sue Chapman  
Freda, Eileen  
Gilberto, Josie  
Graeme, Mary  
Grimberg, Carol  
Hamilton, Tom  
Harris, Melonie  
Hawkins, Ashlyn  
Hawkins, Barbara  
Hepp, Loren  
Heylan, Edward H.  
Hildebrand, Bud  
Horne, Francesca  
Huff, Walt & Carole

Iglesias, Olivia  
Irvin, Victoria  
Kantowicz, Jan  
Keithly, Claire  
Kincaid, Kevin &  
Tammie  
King, Ada  
Kleinberger, Donovan  
Kline, Irene  
Kwesell, Eugene  
Leath, Bill  
Lee, Donald  
Leininger, Carol  
LeVan, George  
Lindsay, Jane  
Lucas, Laura  
Lyons, Laura  
Mack, Jackson  
Maharne, Cecile  
Mahoney, Colleen  
Maitland, Steve  
Mark, Jacqueline  
Marois, Mary  
McGarry, Jean  
McManus, Elly

Membreno, Mary & Gus  
Merchant, Geraldine  
Merchant, Rhoda  
Mesick, Phil & Nancy  
Mitchell, Stella  
Monahan, Sheila  
Morton, Donna Abby  
Murdock, Cheryl & Evan  
Neumann, Janet  
Nichols, Robert  
Nuñez, Marleny  
O'hara, Debbie  
Pezzulo, Irene  
Pope, Stoney  
Post, Shelley  
Privitera, Sandy  
Ramsey, Gerald  
Ray, Terry  
Reardon, Kevin  
Reardon, Kara  
Reed, Edward, Jr.  
Remp, Al  
Rivera, Joel  
Reyes, Nila  
Robinson, Agnes

Romani, Angelo &  
Marlene  
Rosa, Joe & Nina  
Sanders, Kimberly  
Sanders, Marilyn  
Sharp, Jennett  
Shelby, Ron & Montez  
Sheridan, Samantha  
Silveira, Alberta  
Simpson, Rose  
Smith, Anita  
St. Pierre, Rick  
Stankiewicz, Cy  
Thompson, Sue  
Thore, Isabelle  
Timm, Carol & Linda  
Van Dusen, Caroline  
Watson, Doug &  
Claire  
Whalen, Dorothy  
Wilson, Dolores  
Wood, Jena

