



Blessed Trinity

Weekend Magazine

Over 60 YEARS COURAGEOUSLY *Living the Gospel*

December 26, 2021 ▪ Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph



Let the star of Bethlehem shine forth
for all humanity as a sign of God's
love for the people of 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

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WEB SITE

<http://btsp.org>

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3 Lessons from the Holy Family to help our own families thrive in the coming year



No matter how big a mess surrounds us, a strong family will always overcome.

As I type this, my six children are in the midst of a post-Christmas frenzy. The toddler is jumping on a mini-trampoline while rocking a unicorn-themed

dress. The baby has had it with various family gatherings and is vocally making her position known. The boys are using a remote-controlled tyrannosaurus rex to attack an unsuspecting Lego beach village. Packages of batteries are everywhere. Shrieks of delight and holiday songs are intermingling with jealous fights over new treasures. I'm tuning it out and getting to work at my laptop. I have an ability to ignore the children that I consider a virtue, but I wouldn't blame my wife if she considered it a vice, because I often miss very obvious moments when parental intervention would be inordinately helpful.

This is all to say that being a member of a family is a true blessing, but also has its challenges. Siblings fall into disagreements, spouses have rough patches, people don't feel heard so they yell, kids test their limits and think their parents treat them unfairly. As we grow and mature together, we (hopefully) don't fight over toys as much, but life still finds a way to test the familial bond. We love each other, but that doesn't mean we don't push every last button and get on every last nerve.

All families face difficulties. How do we stay together? Even more importantly, how do we not only stay together but thrive and enjoy each other? How can we grow together and make each other better?

Today is the celebration of the Holy Family, which is a helpful reminder that the family Christ was born into on Christmas morning had its own, intense set of challenges. Not only did they end up with the craziest home-birth story of all time, but they quickly ended up fleeing to Egypt as refugees. Anyone who has traveled with a small child knows it isn't easy. Imagine the stress and danger of traveling by donkey with a screaming baby. Remember, too, that because of the way the pregnancy came about, Joseph and Mary had a misunderstanding that almost led to their engagement being called off. And Joseph learned soon enough that his future was going to be unique.

The Holy Family not only survived, however — they thrived. Here are some examples from their experience that will help us do the same ...

Give and deserve trust

The fact that we know our family better than anyone actually makes it hard to trust them sometimes because we tend to show the worst side of our personality to those closest to us. It's akin to the phenomena where your child stays at a friend's house and then helps wash dishes after dinner, when you know for a fact that *they have never ever dreamed of*

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December 26, 2021

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

Feast of the Holy Family

Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 | Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17 | Lk 2:41-52

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

Some of my fondest childhood memories are of my dad leading my three sisters and me in song as we made the hour-long drive to visit my grandparents every other weekend. Granted, our silly car songs don't qualify as "singing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs," as Paul advised the Colossians, but I do think they reveal that my dad took to heart Paul's advice about family and faith. Paul writes that in putting on holiness, kindness, gentleness, and forgiving one another, we "put on love, that is, the bond of perfection." Whatever we do, in word or deed, we ought to do in the name of the Lord Jesus. Fathers, mothers, and children are to love one another, seeking and choosing the good for one another, and helping each other along life's journey – on long car trips as well as in a lifetime of situations. On this feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, we honor their perfect holiness and love, and pray that God may continue to perfect us in holiness and love within our own families, that we may bear good fruit for the Kingdom.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Three Days? Mary and Joseph couldn't find Jesus for three days! Any parent who has had a child missing for a few seconds understands the anxiety Mary and Joseph experienced in three long days of searching for Jesus. In the end, though, all is well – they find him, and the peace of Christ casts out their fears. It is a remarkable scene: Jesus' parents are *astonished* to see him teaching in the temple, and Jesus is curious as to why they were looking for him – did they not know where he would be? This event marks a sort of milestone in their lives together, as Jesus has hinted at his future public ministry, and his parents have experienced that first bit of soul-piercing that Mary will later fully undergo. For each of them, love is what directed their actions. Joseph and Mary put aside everything to search for their son; Jesus put aside everything to serve his Father; and they joined together in humble obedience to God's will for them. The Holy Family models a way of living for us to imitate, and to witness to others in that imitation.

SERVE/STUDY Perhaps you have some down time in this coming week between Christmas and New Year's. As a family, choose an activity that allows you to think outside yourselves and serve others. Or make a plan to read the Scripture for each day of the upcoming week; everyone can choose a favorite verse to memorize each day. You may be surprised how often these verses enter your mind throughout the week.





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 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

Sunday, December 26, Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and

Joseph

8:00 a.m.

Margaret Taylor (Dec)

9:30 a.m.

For Our Parishioners

11:30 a.m.

Bill Maslar (Dec)

Monday, December 27, Feast of Saint John, Apostle and Evangelist

8:00 a.m.

June Coston (Dec)

Tuesday, December 28, Feast of Holy Innocents, Martyrs

8:00 a.m.

Helen Fegley Murray (Dec)

Wednesday, December 29, The Fifth Day in the Octave of Christmas

8:00 a.m.

For Vocations

Thursday, December 30, The Sixth Day in the Octave of Christmas

8:00 a.m.

Owen Muir (Dec)

Friday, December 31, The Seventh Day of the Octave of Christmas

8:00 a.m.

Rosemary Smith (Dec)

Saturday, January 1, Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary,

The Mother of God

8:00 a.m.

Dale and Rose Andrews (Liv)

4:00 p.m.

Jim Lawler and Pat Sullivan (Dec)

Sunday, January 2, The Epiphany of the Lord

8:00 a.m.

Oscar Jose Klein (Dec)

9:30 a.m.

For Our Parishioners

11:30 a.m.

Gerald Hayman (Dec)

Scripture Class

Blessed Trinity Scripture Classes will resume January 11, 2022 with a new series "Our Catholic Life", Tuesday mornings 9:30am to 11:00am in the Faith Formation Room.

If you are interested in joining, please contact Barbara Townsend at 727-867-3605.

Messa in Italiano at the Cathedral of St. Jude

Sunday, December 26, 3:00pm

Please come to pray in
ITALIANO

Celebrant:

Fr. Anthony M. Fortunato, OdeM



Matching Gifts for new online giving!

Online giving has provided a great service to our church and our parishioners, especially during the pandemic. **Now ParishSoft, our online giving platform, is offering matching gifts!** For every new recurring gift that is added between November 1 and December 31, 2021, ParishSoft will match the gift, up to \$50, with a maximum match of \$1,000 per organization. To be eligible for the matching gift, more than one installment must be set-up and the first recurring gift must be transacted by December 31, 2021. To make a recurring gift, go to btsp.org and click on the green "DONATE" button.



EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

All in the Family

At first glance, we can often find the image of the Blessed Mother, St. Joseph and the Christ Child intimidating — who are we to aspire to that level of discipleship? How could we ever hope to conform ourselves to that mold? Sometimes, it can even be painful — perhaps we hail from a broken family or struggle with a broken relationship within our family, or perhaps we long to be a mother or a father ourselves and that state in life has eluded us.

But the image of the Holy Family is, in reality, a beautiful invitation to us all, no matter our vocation or our state in life, and the example of Mary, Joseph and Jesus is rich with the symbolism of stewardship.

You need not be a biological mother who has carried a child in her womb to be a mother in spirit. Who in your world needs you to love them with the heart of a mother?

The same goes for fatherhood. The Church and the world are crying out for the courageous witness of Christian men like St. Joseph. Who can you love with the steadfast, selfless protection of a father?

Who in your life needs you to love them with the faithful, unconditional love of a son? Who needs your gentle and constant love as a daughter?

We are the Body of Christ, friends. Those of us rejoicing in heaven, those of us suffering in purgatory, and those of us struggling here on earth. We are the great family. Let us love each other well.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPi



Weekly Giving

Online Giving December 11-12

Offertory	\$ 1,855
Building Fund	\$ 30
Retirement for Religious	\$ 50
APA	\$ 255
St. Vincent de Paul	\$ 100

December 12, 2021

Offertory	\$ 6,692
Special Donations	\$18,500
Building Fund	\$ 50
Employee Appreciation	\$ 120
Immaculate Conception	\$ 1,299
Christmas Flowers	\$ 117
Gift Shop	\$ 203
Retirement for Religious	\$ 1,311
Christmas	\$ 135
Funeral	\$ 365
St. Vincent de Paul	\$ 2,046
Other	\$ 5

**Thank you for
your generosity!**



**Dear Blessed Trinity
parishioners, winter
residents and visitors,**

**Your very generous support
for our Blessed Trinity St
Vincent de Paul "Angel Giv-
ing Tree" was a wonderful
success.**

**Thank you and God bless
you.**

Calling All Musicians and Singers

Adult Choir ▪ Wed. 6:30pm ▪ Bell
Choir ▪ Thurs 5:30pm

Contemporary Choir ▪ Fri. 3:00pm
There is still time to join! See Vin-
cent at the organ after Mass, or
simply show up to the ensemble of
your choice.

Questions? Contact Vincent, (727)
867-3663, ext. 309, or by email,
vjs@btsp.org. We look forward to
seeing you!

Listening is Essential



The Catholic Church is journeying together to grow in communion, participation and mission as we look towards the future. This process, called for by Pope Francis, is known as the Synod on Synodality. An important aspect of the Synod is to encounter our brothers and sisters in Christ and to learn about their experiences of faith because true encounter arises only from listening. To learn more visit

www.JourneyingTogether.org.

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washing a dish at home. It's a strange fact of life that we are more likely to behave negatively with those we should love the most.

However, the Holy Family shows that it doesn't have to be that way. They always gave each other the benefit of the doubt. Take, for instance, Joseph trusting Mary's explanation for her pregnancy, or their calm reaction after finding Jesus lost in the Temple. In our families, extending a little trust goes a long way. On the other side, behaving towards our families in such a way to deserve that trust is a sign of respect that they deserve.

Encourage

I grew up with three brothers. Our life was a constant athletic competition, and I don't remember us encouraging each other so much as trying to achieve a dominating victory. Luckily, our parents helped us mature as we grew up. Our family board games still get feisty, but it isn't all-out warfare anymore, and when it comes to really important matters it's clear we want the best for each other.

In Mary, we find the perfect example of a mother who encourages her son. For instance, at the Wedding of Cana, she places her full confidence in him and even convinces the servants at the party to listen to him. In all the stories about the Holy Family, they're never jealous of each other or fighting for attention.

Always stay

In a family, the heroes are the ones who stay. No matter the argument, the frustration, the disappointment. A strong family never gives up on each other. We see this in how Mary is present at every moment in her son's life. She's there for the triumphs but also the tragedies. Family never abandons each other no matter how far one of the members falls. From this safe home environment, each of us is given the courage to go out into the world with confidence.

In the end, we stay together because we belong to each other, and no matter how big a mess surrounds us, a strong family will always overcome.

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Prayer for the Synod

We stand before You, Holy Spirit, as we gather together in Your name.

With You alone to guide us,
make Yourself at home in our hearts;
Teach us the way we must go
and how we are to pursue it.
We are weak and sinful; do not
let us promote disorder.
Do not let ignorance lead us
down the wrong path nor
partiality influence our actions.
Let us find in You our unity so
that we may journey together to
eternal life and not stray from
the way of truth and what is
right..

All this we ask of You, who are
at work in every place and time,
in the communion of the Father
and the Son, forever and ever.

Amen.

Catholic Days at the Capitol, Feb. 1-2, 2022

Make the trip. Make a difference.

Join Catholics from around Florida as they gather in Tallahassee for Catholic Days at the Capitol. This annual advocacy event will be held on February 1-2, 2022. The event includes a briefing on key legislative proposals, a breakfast with the Bishops of Florida, legislative visits with the offices of state Senators and Representatives and the Red Mass of the Holy Spirit.

This is a great way to bring your voice and your values to the political process.

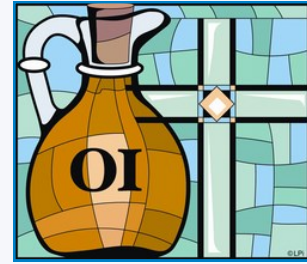
Learn more and
register at
[dosp.org/life/
catholic-days-at-
the-capitol/](http://dosp.org/life/catholic-days-at-the-capitol/)



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
Comeau, Teresa
Dalence, Rene
Deacon Lionel Roberts
Detore, Alice
Deuel, Fred
Devyn & Donna
DeZarn, Vickie
Doiron, Gary
Feldes, 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
Lynd, John
Lyons, Laura
Maharne, Cecile
Maitland, Steve
Manley, Jan
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
Romani, Angelo & Marlene
Schaefer, Jake
Schneider, Mary Jo
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.