

BLESSED TRINITY CATHOLIC CHURCH

WEEKEND MAGAZINE

December 30th, 2018

Feast of the Holy Family



Why this Catholic never makes New Year's resolutions

Don't do it! Here's a Catholic alternative to New Year's resolutions.



My in-box always seems to fill with the same questions this time of year, all concerning New Year's resolutions — the promise of a new year, fresh starts, and personal betterment. Do I have advice on sticking to resolutions, what resolutions do I recommend, how many are too many resolutions?

Aleteia's staff writers have a lot of wonderful advice on this very topic, but I am going to suggest something completely contrary to the idea of annual resolutions: Don't make any. If you don't want to fail at your resolutions, start by not creating them.

Now I am not saying you can't fail if you never try, I am alluding more to making more meaningful and lasting change. The kind of change that is deeper than "being more active" or "quitting smoking." Even deeper than taking on a plethora of spiritual challenges.

I proposed it last year and my opinion on the matter remains the same. The best resolution you can ever make is the one of a daily examen. What is a resolution, after all but a recollection of the year past with the promise to do better in the new year to come?



As Catholics we have the opportunity to start anew every time we receive the sacrament of Penance ... New Year's resolutions are just promises we make to ourselves to modify certain undesirable behaviors. The same could be said of confession; where we examine our sins, seek forgiveness, and promise to try to sin no more.

I firmly resolve, with the help of Thy grace, to sin no more and to avoid the near occasions of sin.
– Act of Contrition

But resolutions aren't the same as sins, you may say. Resolving to get more organized or lose weight isn't a sin to confess. Yes, but sloth and gluttony

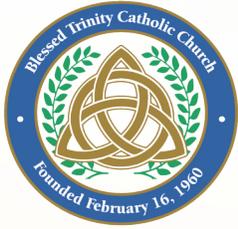
are. There is sin rooted at all our vices ... Catholics were resolving to do better before it was cool.

If you want to do anything new or different this year, I propose regular confession, at least once a month, and making daily examinations of conscious in the evening. In this way you'll make daily and monthly resolutions throughout the entire year and that regularity will help it be a little easier to start over if you mess up or fall off track. Just run to confession and start all over again; no need to wait for any balls to drop.

But even if you can't get to confession that regularly, the daily or nightly examen is a must, and it's not hard. It's not even time-consuming. If you commute, you can do it as you ride. Here is an excellent 5 step guide to making an examen. And here are some thoughts on being mindful of what you know you need.

Happy New Year. Merry Christmas, too, for another few days. Don't be too hard or too easy on yourself. That's a pretty good resolution, right there.

By Katrina Fernandez, reprinted with permission from Aleteia

**PASTOR**

Rev. Wayne C. Genereux

DEACON Bill Lovelace

DEACON John Schaefer

PASTOR EMERITUSMsgr. Anton Dechering
RetiredDEACON Lionel Roberts
Retired**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: 8:00 am
Saturday: 8:00 am**RECONCILIATION**Saturdays
3:00 -3:45 pm
or by Appointment1600 54TH AVE S.
ST. PETERSBURG, FL
33712**PHONE**

(727) 867-3663

FAX

(727) 864-2679

WEB SITE<http://btsp.org>

Upcoming Special Masses

Tuesday, January 1

Feast of the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

Holy Day of Obligation

There will only be one Mass at 10:00 a.m.

Sunday, January 6

Feast of the Epiphany - Masses at 8:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m., and 11:30 a.m.

Saturday vigil of the Epiphany at 4:00

Sunday, January 13

The Baptism of the Lord

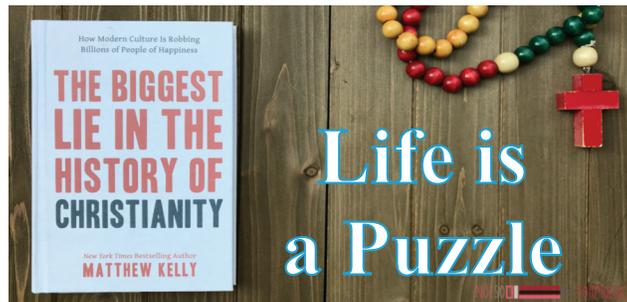
Regular Sunday Mass times - 8:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m.

Saturday vigil of the Baptism of the Lord at 4:00

Monday, January 14

Healing Mass with Fr. Richard McAlear - Mass at 7:00 p.m.

Priests will be available for confession



Life is a Puzzle

Once upon a time there was a very successful business owner. His company had faithfully served millions of customers for many years. But lately business had not been so good, and his competitors were just waiting for him to fail. For months the man pondered the crisis, but the

problems were so complex, and solutions seemed nowhere to be found.

Everyone was wondering what would happen to this great company, so finally the businessman announced that he was hosting a dinner for all of his employees; he would unveil a plan that would save the company and return it to its former glory. He wanted to convey to them how important each person was to the future success of the organization.

The morning of the dinner, he was sitting in his study at home working on his speech, when his wife came in and asked if he would mind watching their son for a few hours while she ran some errands. He was about to say, "I really need to focus on finishing my speech," but something caught his tongue and he found himself agreeing, if reluctantly.

His wife had only been gone about ten minutes when there was a knock on the study door, and there appeared his seven-year-old son. "Dad, I'm bored!" he exclaimed. The father spent the next couple of hours trying to amuse his son while also trying to finish his speech. Finally, he realized that if he could not find some way to entertain his child, he was never going to get his speech finished in time.

Picking up a magazine, he thumbed through the pages until he came to a large, brightly colored map of the world. He ripped the picture into dozens of pieces and led his son into the living room. Then, tossing the pieces all over the floor, he announced, "Son, if you can put the map of the world back together, I will give you twenty dollars."

Article cont'd on page 4

Thoughts Worth Sharing

By Father Wayne C. Genereux,
Pastor

Welcome the New Year - That We Might Have Hope

At this time of year, we pause to reflect on the year that is drawing toward its close. And what do we find? We find a restless humanity searching and groaning in the hope of redemption. Pope Emeritus Benedict tells us, “without God we remain without hope. Man needs God, otherwise he remains without hope.” Saint Paul summarizes the state of the human condition when he reminds the Ephesians that before they encountered Christ they were “without hope and without God in the world.” (Ephs 2:12.) Put simply, a world without God is a world without hope.

As followers of Christ we not only know about hope, We have been given hope. We are baptized into eternal life with the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

The present crisis we face in the world is rooted in the conviction, according to Benedict, that the present crisis of faith is essentially a crises of Christian hope.

The human condition is marked by so much hopelessness and despair in the face of the fragility, suffering, and inhumanity of our world.

My prayer for the New Year is That We Might Have Hope. “Hope is the indispensable virtue in the state of being alive. If life is to be sustained, hope must remain even when confidence is wounded, and trust is impaired.” Our Lenten Mission in March will help us. You don’t want to miss it!

Bishop Parkes Reschedules Pastoral Visit to Blessed Trinity

Bishop Parkes **has rescheduled** his planned Pastoral Visit to Blessed Trinity originally schedule for January 6, the Feast of the Epiphany. The Bishop will be in Chicago in the suburb of Mundelein, Illinois for a gathering of all Bishops throughout the United States to attend a retreat. Pope Francis suggested a week long retreat for meditation and reflection regarding the clergy sexual abuse crisis. The Holy Father is making the Papal Preacher from the Vatican available to lead the retreat.

Bishop Parkes Pastoral Visit is rescheduled for Saturday, March 2, 2019 at the 4:00 p.m. Vigil Mass. He will be available after Mass to greet our parishioners, but there will be no dinner or reception.

Save the Date for our Annual Italian Dinner Dance

The Annual Italian Dinner is Scheduled for Saturday, February 16, 2019 immediately after the 4:00 Mass. I am happy to announce that Portofino’s Italian Ristorante will cater the event. This year there will be several Italian dishes to choose from, as well as entertainment. This is a fund raiser to help pay our expenses for building projects. We still have to address many infrastructure problems in the near future.

More details about the dinner, and tickets will be available after Christmas.

Article continued from cover

The boy immediately began gathering the pieces. He was keen to earn the extra money, as he needed just twenty more dollars to buy a toy he had been saving for since his last birthday. The father returned to his study, thinking he had just bought himself a couple of hours to finish working on his speech, because he knew his seven-year-old son had no idea what a map of the world looked like.

But five minutes later, just as he was settling into his speech, there was another knock on the study door. There stood the young boy holding the completed map of the world. The father said in amazement, “How did you finish it so quickly?”

The boy smiled and said, “You know, Dad, I had no idea what the map of the world looked like, but as I was picking up the pieces, I noticed that on the back there was a picture of a man.” The father smiled, and the boy continued. “So, I put a sheet of paper down, and I put the picture of the man together, because I knew what the man looked like. I placed another sheet of paper on top, then holding them tightly I turned them both over.” He smiled again and exclaimed, “I figured, if I got the man right, the world would be right.”

The man handed his son twenty dollars. “And you’ve given me my speech for tonight. If you get the man right, you get the world right.”

From: The Biggest Lie in the History of Christianity by Matthew Kelly (Dynamic Catholic.com)

Such a simple message! It all starts with me, with you, with us; with our own thoughts, words, and actions!
Transforming people one at a time is at the heart of God’s plan for the world.

compassion



Blessed Trinity Scripture Classes will resume on January 8th, Tuesday mornings from 9:30-11:00 a.m. In the Faith Formation Room. Our study will be “Jesus the Compassionate Savior” Part 1 - Luke [1-11]. We will start with the introduction followed by 5 weeks of lessons. For further information, call Barbara Townsend at (727) 867-3605.

MASS INTENTIONS

Feast of the Holy Family

Sat., December 29

8:00 a.m. Fred McNamee (dec)
 4:00 p.m. Lashley Family (liv & dec)

Sun., December 30 - 4th Sunday of Advent

8:00 a.m. Nance Young (dec)
 9:30 a.m. Blessed Trinity Parishioners
 11:30 a.m. Paul Jastrem (dec)

Mon., December 31

8:00 a.m. Mary Daunais (dec)

Tues., January 1 - Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

10:00 a.m. Blessed Trinity Parishioners

Wed., January 2 - Mem. Of St. Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen

8:00 a.m. John Carr (dec)

Thurs., January 3

8:00 a.m. Valerie Mitchell (dec)

Fri., January 4 - Mem. Of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

8:00 a.m. Amelia Kumick (dec)

Sat., January 5 - Mem. of St. John Neumann

8:00 a.m. The Disalvo & Ducato Families (liv & dec)
 4:00 p.m. Flo Crigler (liv)

Sun., January 6 - The Epiphany of the Lord

8:00 a.m. Barbara Abstetar (dec)
 9:30 a.m. Blessed Trinity Parishioners
 11:30 a.m. Frances Zilko (dec)

SACRAMENTS

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

THOUGHTS OF A NEOPHYTE

by Kelly Gallagher
Admin. Assistant

As 2018 draws to a close and we approach a fresh new year, there are so many things to reflect on! Were we model Catholics this year? If not, why not? What small changes can I start implementing to become a better disciple of Christ?

I've shared with all of you previously that my talents lie in visual and performance arts, not written arts! In order to help myself (and possibly you!) I've decided to pose a couple of questions to all of you. Take a few minutes before or after Mass today or sometime this week and try reflecting on the following questions.

- What is the best way to ring in a new year?

- If you could celebrate the new year from anywhere in the world, where would you go?

- 2018 was a year of...

- 2019 will be a year of...

- Are you sad to see the old year pass?

- When you were younger, how did you celebrate New Year's?

- Do you need a new year to make a change?

- How has God blessed you in 2018? How can you thank him in 2019?

If you would like to share your answers with me, I would love to hear them! Feel free to email me at BTKGallagher@gmail.com or post to our Blessed Trinity Facebook page.

Donations 12/17/18

Offertory Collection	\$6,362
Christmas Flowers	\$195
APA 2018	\$353
Gift shop	\$250
Religious Retirement	\$130
TOTAL:	\$7,290

Want to try Online Giving?
Go to our website at btsp.org and click the online giving button.



HEALING MASS

Fr. Richard McAlear, O.M.I.

“COME ALL WHO ARE BURDENED AND I WILL GIVE YOU REST” SAYS THE LORD JESUS CHRIST”

Monday, January 14th 7:00 p.m.

Priests will be available for confession



Questions? Contact:
Deacon John Schaefer
(727) 439-0674
Joyce Schaefer
(727) 439-6423



This Week at Blessed Trinity

Sun.	12/30	9:30 a.m. - K of C Meeting - FFR 7:00 p.m. - Men's AA - Rm 4
Mon.	12/31	Office closed for New Year's Eve
Tues.	1/1	Office closed for New Year's Day
Wed.	1/2	6:30 p.m. - Choir - Music Room
Thurs.	1/3	5:00 p.m. - SVDP - Rm 5
Sat.	1/5	7:00 p.m. - Women's AA - Rm 4

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



Please join us for Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. Every first Friday of the month for the near future, after the 8:00 a.m. Mass we will have Eucharistic exposition, homily, meditation, and benediction at 10:30 a.m.

You might want to pray for healing and for the victims of the scandal. Invest one hour with God, one on one.

Our next Adoration will be on Friday, January 4th.

Messa in Italiano in Mary's Chapel

Cathedral of St. Jude | 5815 5th Avenue N., St. Petersburg

Fr. Arthur Proulx, Rector | Phone: 727 - 347 - 9702

Mass in Italiano

Sunday, December 30th 2018 at 4:00 PM.

Please come to pray and sing in ITALIANO (Italian)

Celebrant: Fr. Anthony M. Fortunato, O. de M. (Mercedarian Friar)



Mission Co-Op Appeal January 26-27

The "Servants of Jesus, the High Priest" is the Vietnamese Catholic Religious Women Congregation. It was founded by Father Joseph Maria Pham in 1966 and canonically approved by Bishop Dominic Lang Nguyen in the Diocese of Xuan Loc, the South of Vietnam in 1984. Since then, the Congregation has been grown tremendously. Currently, there are 250 sisters, 25 novices and 60 postulants.

Its charism is to pray and to support priests' ministries. Currently, eighteen communities are serving in parishes in ten dioceses in Vietnam and two in the U.S. The Community in Largo was established in 2012; currently, two sisters are going to school and to serve at Holy Martyrs of Vietnam Pastoral Mission in the Diocese of St. Petersburg.

On the weekend of January 26th and 27th, 2019, Father Viet Nguyen and sisters Mary Huong Nguyen and Maria Phuong Nguyen will be visiting Blessed Trinity to share with us their vocations, their ministries, and their plans for their congregation in our Diocese.



ATTENTION ALL PARISHIONERS:

The Parish directories have arrived! If you or your family was photographed, your directory is available for pickup in the Parish office.

Reminder: One directory per family
Office hours are Monday through Friday
9am - 12pm and 1pm - 4pm.

Ask for Kelly or Eileen



Thank You, Thank You for your generous response to the Blessed Trinity St. Vincent de Paul Giving Tree!

Because of you, many area children will receive gifts for Christmas .

We also appreciate the donations that you give to help us assist families with utility bills, and keep their service on.

The food you donate is taken on our home visits, and helps your SVDP Conference supplement the canned and dry goods that families need.

Please keep those we serve in your prayers. Thank you and God Bless you!

Adkins, Chantale	Deacon Lionel Roberts	Huff, Walt & Carole	Marois, Mar	Rivera, Joel
Albertson, Michelle	DeLucca, Rosemary	Iglesias, Olivia	Maurer, Thomas	Reyes, Nila
Antczak, Harriet	Detore, Alice	Irvin, Victoria	McGarry, Jean	Robinson, Agnes
Aselage, Karl	Devyn & Donna	Kantowicz, Jan	McManus, Elly	Romani, Angelo & Marlene
Attard, Stephanie	Favero, Beverly	Keithly, Claire	Membreno, Mary & Gus	Rosa, Joe & Nina
Banks, Cathy	Fazio, Mary	Kincaid, Kevin & Tammie	Merchant, Geraldine	Sanders, Kimberly
Beekman, Connie	Feehan, Joe	King, Ada	Merchant, Rhoda	Sanders, Marilyn
Bennett, Elizabeth	Feltes, Chuck & Lauren	Kleinberger, Donovan	Mesick, Phil & Nancy	Sharp, Jennett
Blondheim, Carmen	Fiedler, Meghan	Kline, Irene	Mitchell, Stella	Shelby, Ron & Montez
Bogensberger, Rosemary	Forbes, Monica & Tom	Kwesell, Eugene	Monahan, Sheila	Sheridan, Samantha
Brown, Bob & Beverly	Forbes, Rahim	Lanigan, John	Morton, Donna Abby	Simpson, Rose
Brown, Dorothy	Forbes, Tina May	Lashley, Diana	Murdock, Cheryl & Evan	Sister Elaine Taylor
Brown, Buck	Fraser, Sue Chapman	Lawrence, Sandy	Neumann, Janet	Smith, Anita
Brown, Shaquita	Freda, Eileen	Leath, Bill	Nichols, Robert	St. Pierre, Rick
Browning, Rea	Gilberto, Josie	Lee, Donald	Nuñez, Marleny	Stankiewicz, Cy
Buckwald, Diane	Graeme, Mary	Leininger, Carol	O'hara, Debbie	Thompson, Sue
Carfora, Palma	Grimberg, Carol	LeVan, George	Pezzulo, Irene	Thore, Isabelle
Ceci, Shirley	Hamilton, Tom	Lindsay, Jane	Pope, Stoney	Timm, Carol & Linda
Chris, David	Harris, Melonie	Lucas, Laura	Post, Michael	Van Dusen, Caroline
Christ, Jackie	Hawkins, Ashlyn	Lyons, Laura	Privitera, Sandy	Watson, Doug & Claire
Christ, Kathryn	Hawkins, Barbara	Mack, Jackson	Ramsey, Gerald	Whalen, Dorothy
Cline, Wayne	Hepp, Loren	Maharne, Cecile	Ray, Terry	Wilson, Dolores
Cramer, David	Herman, Mary	Mahoney, Colleen	Reardon, Kevin	Wohlman, Fred
D'Agostino, Frances	Heylan, Edward H.	Maitland, Steve	Reardon, Kara	Wood, Jena
Dawson, Anthony Peter	Hildebrand, Bud	Mark, Jacqueline	Reed, Edward, Jr.	
	Horne, Francesca		Remp, Al	