



Blessed Trinity

Weekend Magazine

Over 60 YEARS COURAGEOUSLY *Living the Gospel*

November 20, 2022 ▪ The Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe



How Christ the King respects our freedom

Jesus' kingdom is not established by force, but through the free choices of every individual.

Often the word “king” stirs up images of an oppressive ruler, who sits on his throne and orders his subjects to obey him. Yet, Jesus Christ is called “king,” but his kingship is not of this world and does not operate in a forceful manner.

Pope Benedict XVI reflected on this reality in an Angelus message in 2009.

This Kingdom of Grace is never imposed and always respects our freedom. Christ came “to bear witness to the truth” (Jn 18: 37), as he declared to Pilate: whoever accepts his witness serves beneath his “banner,” according to the image dear to St Ignatius of Loyola. ***Every conscience, therefore, must make a choice.*** Who do I want to follow? God or the Evil One? The truth or falsehood? Choosing Christ does not guarantee success according to the world’s criteria but assures the peace and joy that he alone can give us. This is demonstrated, in every epoch, by the experience of numerous men and women who, in Christ’s name, in the name of truth and justice, were able to oppose the enticements of earthly powers with their different masks, to the point that they sealed their fidelity with martyrdom.

Continued on page 2



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 will be held
Saturdays 2:45-3:45

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Jesus did not force his apostles to follow him, nor does he force us today. He stretches his hands out to us, inviting us to become part of his kingdom.

It's entirely up to us to follow him. We can reject the offer, or fully accept it, finding peace in freely following the truth.

Whenever we celebrate the solemnity of Christ the King, we should ask ourselves the same question, **"Who do I want to follow? Who is my king?"**

Make your choice freely and with your whole heart.

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Saint Cecilia | November 22

Saint Cecilia's story, like many of the earliest saints', is largely apocryphal and legendary in nature. According to tradition, Cecilia was born to a wealthy and prominent Roman family. Though she had consecrated her virginity to the Lord, she was married to a man named Valerian. It is said that she was "singing in her heart to the Lord" at her wedding. She confessed her promise of virginity to her new husband revealing that an angel protected her. Valerian would honor her vow only if he too could see the angel. Cecilia told him he would see the angel if he was baptized, which he went to do immediately. When he returned to her, he saw the angel beside her. Cecilia also converted Valerian's brother, Tiburtius.

Unfortunately, it was a turbulent time in Rome for Christians. Valerian and Tiburtius were martyred for burying the bodies of Christians, which was illegal. Cecilia was also targeted for her faith. First authorities attempted to suffocate by locking her in the bath in her home and overheating the room. Some accounts say that she didn't break a sweat and even began to sing. They then sent in an executioner to behead her, but he faltered and was unable to complete his task, only succeeding in mortally wounding her. She remained alive for three days before she died.

The saint's body was exhumed twice, first by Pope Paschal I in 821, then by Cardinal Sfondrato in 1599. Both times her body was found incorrupt, the first saint to exhibit this extremity. St. Cecilia is the patron saint of music and musicians.





November 20, 2022

The Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

2 Sm 5:1-3 | Col 1:12-20 | Lk 23:35-43

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

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

Did you watch Queen Elizabeth's funeral procession? The Imperial State Crown that sat atop her coffin is "made of gold and set with 2,868 diamonds, 17 sapphires, 11 emeralds, 269 pearls, and 4 rubies," according to the Historic Royal Palaces website. It had been made for her father, King George VI, for his 1937 coronation. It is hard to reconcile this bejeweled crown with the crown of thorns worn by Jesus at his crucifixion. Yet we recognize the crucified Christ as the king of kings, the firstborn of creation, above "thrones or dominions or principalities or powers." As we conclude the liturgical year, we are reminded that the cross, not the crown, is the primary symbol of Christ's power. By embracing the cross – through service, sacrifice and recognizing Jesus as the king of our lives – we can help bring about his kingdom.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

It can be easy to distance ourselves from the two condemned criminals crucified alongside Jesus, much the way we might write off the prisoners in our midst today. Yet Luke's telling reveals their humanity and our shared human nature. One reacts as any of us might, telling Jesus to "save himself." The other speaks words of faith, recognizing Jesus as the Son of God, our true king of the universe. As we prepare to enter Advent, let us ask God for the grace to recognize Jesus as our king. Soon we will be swept up in the Christmas countdown. By placing Christ, the newborn king, at the center of our lives, we can in turn help ourselves and those close to us slow down and experience Advent in such a way so as to fully prepare for his coming.

PRAY This week, make the words of the second criminal your prayer: "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom."



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 Genereux, 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



Special Mass Time

**Thanksgiving, November 24,
Mass will be at 9:00am and there
will be no 8:00am Mass.**

Mass Intentions

Saturday, November 19, Weekday in Ordinary Time

4:00 p.m. William Isaac (Dec)

Sunday, November 20, The Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

8:00 a.m. Nicole Boss (Liv)

9:30 a.m. Mass for Parishioners

11:30 a.m. Marlene Romani (Dec)

Monday, November 21, Memorial of The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

8:00 a.m. Jordan Carruth (Dec)

Tuesday, November 22, Memorial of Saint Cecilia

8:00 a.m. Ron Bento (Dec)

Wednesday, November 23, Memorial of Saint Clement I, Pope and Martyr

8:00 a.m. Mass for Vocations

Thursday, November 24, Memorial of Saint Andrew Dung-Lac, Priest, and Companions, Martyrs

9:00 a.m. Mass for Parishioners

Friday, November 25, Memorial of Saint Catherine of Alexandria, Virgin and Martyr

8:00 a.m. Lyliane Corvington (Dec)

Saturday, November 26, Weekday in Ordinary Time

8:00 a.m. Mary Jo & Ankerberg Family (Dec)

4:00 p.m. Mary Ann Fessler (Dec)

Sunday, November 27, First Sunday of Advent

8:00 a.m. The deceased family of Robert Smith

9:30 a.m. Mass for Parishioners

11:30 a.m. Kristin Boss (Dec)

Prayer for Priests & Future Priests

Eternal Father, We lift up to you 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.

11/20 • Rev. Justin P. Paskert

11/21 • For All the Priests in the World

11/22 • Rev. Paul Pecchie

11/23 • For Vocations to Priesthood & Religious Life

11/24 • Rev. Vijaya Polamarasetty

11/25 • Rev. James Ruhlin

11/26 • Rev. Kyle Smith

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.

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

Is Christ King in Our Hearts?

When you think of a king, who is the first person to pops into your head? It may depend on how much history you know, or which historical period intrigues you the most. As Americans, the first person we might think of is King George III, whose reign has become synonymous in our national lore with the concept of tyranny.

We don't have much familiarity with kingship in modern American society. Kings tend to make us uneasy. Presidents, on the other hand — we can handle those, because we know we are a president's boss. No matter how much power he has, we are the electorate. We are the source of that power. We're comfortable with this arrangement.

But with kings it is profoundly different. Traditionally, the king derives his power from God. His rule bridges humanity with the divine.

We should reflect carefully on whether or not we have made Jesus Christ king in our hearts, or whether we regard him as a president. The difference isn't just one of titles, it's one of roles. Subjects do not demand anything of a king. They beseech. They entreat. They submit, and they accept.

Do we demand of Christ, or do we beseech? Do we tolerate God's edicts with grumbling, or do we embrace His word as the means of our reconciliation with Him?

The "good thief" treated Christ as a king. His counterpart treated him as a president. And it's worth remembering that Jesus Christ is not the President of the Universe.

Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

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Donor-Advised Funds Another Smart Way to Give!

A Donor-Advised Fund (DAF) is ideal for those that need a tax break now but aren't sure which charities they want to support or how much they would like to give. Funds placed in a Catholic Foundation Donor-Advised Fund are deductible immediately. The donor can then decide over time what grants will be given to qualified 501(c)(3) organizations that comply with the USCCB guidelines. A DAF is also an excellent tool to add to your estate plan.

For more information, please visit www.cfdaf.org or contact the Catholic Foundation at daf@catholicfoundation.org or 727.374.0220.



Blessed Trinity Giving Tree St Vincent de Paul Society

Come and see the Giving Tree in the back of the church for an opportunity to share your blessings at Christmas with the less fortunate in our community.

Please take a paper angel and purchase a gift card for a child or a teen. This will help needy parents provide Christmas enjoyment for their families. There are also angels for gift cards toward a family dinner. These are all families your Blessed Trinity St Vincent de Paul Society has assisted in the past year.

If you do not have an opportunity to purchase gift cards, please consider dropping a check, made out to St. Vincent de Paul, or cash, in the poor box in the back of the church and we will obtain the needed gift cards.

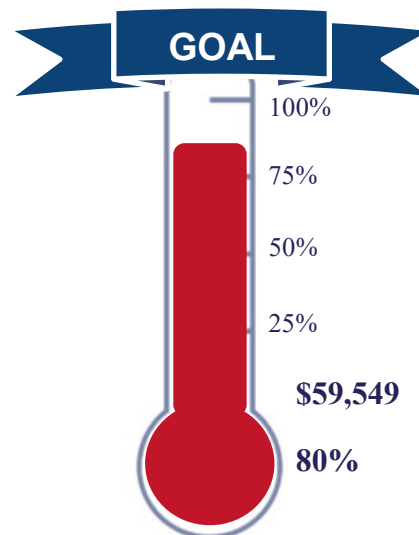
All gift cards with angels attached should be returned by Tuesday, December 6. We will need the time between December 6 and December 9 to organize and prepare for distribution to the families on December 10.

Gift cards may be placed in the poor box, or dropped off at the Parish office during the week.

Thank you and God Bless you for your generosity.



Our Goal \$74,741



**Thank you for your
prayerful giving!**



Messa in Italiano

Our Lady's Chapel,
Cathedral of St. Jude
5815 - 5th Avenue N.,
St. Petersburg, FL

November 27, 2022 at 4:00pm

Please come to pray and sing in
ITALIANO

Celebrant:

Fr. Anthony M. Fortunato, OdeM.

Living as a Disciple Takes Courage *We got this!*

- Join our Scripture Reflection community!
- Receive a personal message each day via email or text.
- Includes a prayer intention and question of the day.
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SIGN UP:
BeCourageousEachDay.org
or text REFLECTION to 84576

A Service of the Diocese of St. Petersburg &
Bishop Gregory Parkes

Keep in touch with us!

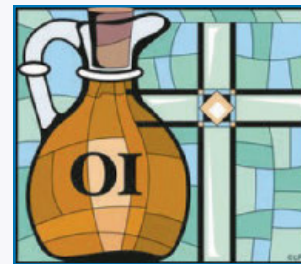
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DeZarn, Vickie
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Ferrara, Antoinette
Fitzgerald, Dan
Forbes, Monica & Tom
Genereux, Carol
Gosselin, Norman
Grimberg, Carol
Hawkins, Ashlyn
Hawkins, Barbara
Helbig, Len
Hoffman, Bette
Holley, Gerry
Huff, Walt & Carole
Irvin, John and Marsha
Kindel, Helen
Kirchgeessner, Marie
Lanigan, John

Lashley, Diana
Lawler, Matthew
LeVan, George
Lewis, Cynthia
Maharne, Cecile
Manley, Jan
Manley, Paul
Membreno, Mary & Gus
Mesick, Phil & Nancy
Oliphant, Brian
Parmigiani, George
Parmigiani, Valerie
Preeper, Helen
Privitera, Sandy
Privitera, Peter
Roberts, Deacon Lionel
Romani, Angelo
Shelby, Ron & Montez
Stankiewicz, Cy
Theissen, Robert
Thompson, Susan E.
Thuline, James and Lil
Vanderbeck, Jay
Walsh, Thomas
Wanize, Tom
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.



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