



Blessed Trinity

Weekend Magazine

Over 60 YEARS COURAGEOUSLY *Living the Gospel*

February 19, 2023 ▪ The Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Fasting for peace on Ash Wednesday with St. John Paul II



Philip Kosloski 3/2/22

The last time a pope asked for fasting for peace on Ash Wednesday was in 2003, when St. John Paul II prayed for an end to violence in the Middle East.

When Pope Francis called for fasting for peace on Ash Wednesday, he wasn't the first pope to initiate such a request. The last time Lenten fasting was directed towards a similar intention was in 2003, in response to rising violence in the Middle East.

St. John Paul II reminded the world in his general audience that everyone is responsible for peace.

As we enter the Lenten season, we need to be aware of today's international situation, **troubled by the tensions and threats of war**. It is necessary that everyone consciously assume responsibility and **engage in a common effort to spare humanity another tragic conflict**. This is why I wanted this Ash Wednesday to be a *Day of Prayer and Fasting to implore peace for the world*. We must ask God, first of all, for conversion of heart, for it is in the heart that every form of evil, every impulse to sin is rooted; we must pray and fast for the **peaceful coexistence of peoples and nations**.

Not only did St. John Paul II hope that this day of prayer and fasting would calm down tensions in the world, but also result in **concrete acts of reconciliation**.

May this day of prayer and fasting for peace with which we begin Lent be translated into concrete acts of reconciliation. From the family circle to the international realm, may each person feel and be *co-responsible for building peace*. Then the God of peace who examines the intentions of hearts and calls his children to be peacemakers (cf. Mt 5:9) will not fail to reward us (cf. Mt 6:4,18).

He also firmly believed that there is always time for dialogue, trusting that both sides of a conflict can come together and resolve their differences in a non-violent way.

This year Ash Wednesday is also a day of prayer and fasting to implore peace for the world. I believe that **when peace is at stake, it is never too late for dialogue**. For this reason, I asked for the prayer and fasting.

Let us remember that we are all responsible for peace in the world, and that our own actions of prayer and fasting can help bring peace to the nations, through the mercy of God. Reprinted with permission Aleteia.org



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

PARISH OFFICE

Monday—Friday 9-12 and 1-4
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1600 54TH AVE S.
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FAX

(727) 864-2679

WEB SITE

<http://btsp.org>
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Catholic Ministry Appeal

In today's Gospel, Jesus gave a radical commandment – "When someone strikes you on your right cheek, turn the other one to him as well" Matthew 5:39.

Today, it is cliché and remains radical, because it has the power to change hearts and nations. Ask Gandhi. Even though he wasn't Catholic, Gandhi leveraged the power of nonviolence to bring about a new kind of revolution. His peaceful tactics inaugurated a massive movement which eventually resulted in economic independence for India. With that we might also reveal the power of such a disposition in our lives! Christ himself did not hide his face "from insults and spitting" Isaiah 50:6.

We all experience being "struck on the cheek" in various ways. We want our parish and diocese to be a haven where people can find the strength to face the evils in their lives. When you support our Catholic Ministry Appeal, you help increase our ability to heal and sustain the bruised and weary. Through your generosity of prayer, gifts, and good words, we can continue to offer the bread of angels to the hungry and make the Catholic Ministry Appeal shine brightly!

God bless you



*Monday, February 20, the parish
office will be closed in honor of
President's Day.*

February 19, 2023

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Lv 19:1-2, 17-18 | 1 Cor 3:16-23 | Mt 5:38-48

Written by
THE
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GROW AS A DISCIPLE | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE

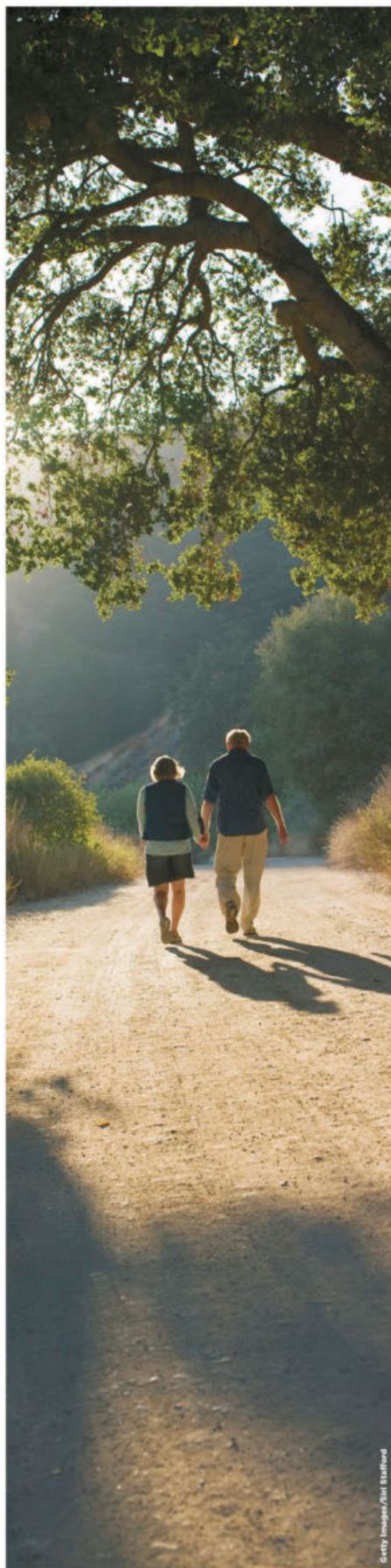
Today is the last Sunday in Ordinary Time before Lent begins. I realize in saying it that way, however, it sounds like a warning (“the bookstore will be closing in five minutes, please bring your purchases to the register!”) rather than an acknowledgement of the celebration that it is. So let me put it another way: Today is the 7th - of 33 - Sundays in Ordinary Time this year, which means, we’ve only just begun. We are in some of the earliest days of the Church’s “ordered” (ordinary/numbered) approach to helping us mature and grow in faith. We do this by living with and in the life of Christ over the course of a year. At each step we celebrate the life, passion, death, and resurrection of Christ, but we also set aside different seasons to focus on those specific elements. And so it makes sense that as we approach Lent, we hear more about what exactly God asks of us. Lent will be a season of preparation for Christ’s passion; have we prepared our hearts accordingly to receive him? Today’s readings remind us of what sets us back: hatred for others; desire for revenge; grudges; worldly wisdom; all things which are destructive of God’s temple - our souls, as Saint Paul says. Having a heart full of these things means there is no room for love, which means there is no room for Christ. Let us pray for God’s help in ridding ourselves of all that is destructive, and for the strength to grow a heart only for him.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

I’d argue that in some ways, Lent actually starts before Ash Wednesday since it requires forethought and planning. We have to prepare for a season of preparation! We have to figure out what to fast from or add to our spiritual lives, and how we might specifically direct our almsgiving. But how ready are we to respond in a meaningful way to the fact that Christ died for love of us? His death transformed our death into the promise of eternal life. Today’s Gospel offers practical actions, things which all Christians should strive for daily, but especially observe during Lent if a spiritual reset is needed. Jesus tells us to turn the other cheek. Hand over your cloak. Go the extra mile: “Give to the one who asks of you, and do not turn your back on one who wants to borrow.” Love your enemies and pray for your persecutors. Lent is a call to act out of love, especially in tough situations. Take these next couple of days to prepare for Ash Wednesday and the weeks that follow.

REFLECT Spend some time taking stock of your spiritual life. Are you holding contempt for someone, or seeking revenge for something? Where might you be falling short in striving to imitate Christ? Bring these thoughts to God in prayer.



Gally Images/Jon Stafford



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



Messa in Italiano

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

February 26 at 4:00pm

Please come to pray and sing in
ITALIANO

Celebrant:

Fr. Anthony M. Fortunato, OdeM.

Mass Intentions

Saturday, February 18, Vigil for Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00 p.m. Lorraine Arie & Rita Hamilton (Dec)

Sunday, February 19, Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 a.m. Dennis Dutilly (Dec)

9:30 a.m. Mass for Parishioners

11:30 a.m. Vytas & Angela Regalis (Dec)

Monday, February 20, Weekday in Ordinary Time

8:00 a.m. Kyle Youngman (Dec)

Tuesday, February 21, Weekday in Ordinary Time

8:00 a.m. Lloyd Forteau (Dec)

Wednesday, February 22, Ash Wednesday

8:00 a.m. Mass for Vocations

10:00 a.m. Alice Abstetar (Dec)

7:00 p.m. The Abstetar & Coston Families (Liv and Dec)

Thursday, February 23, Thursday after Ash Wednesday

8:00 a.m. Earl Beddoe (Dec)

Friday, February 24, Friday after Ash Wednesday

8:00 a.m. Fred Deuel (Dec)

Saturday, February 25, Saturday after Ash Wednesday

8:00 a.m. Sheila Mustascio (Dec)

Saturday, February 25, Vigil for the First Sunday of Lent

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

Sunday, February 26, The First Sunday of Lent

8:00 a.m. Marie Kerr (Dec)

9:30 a.m. Mass for Parishioners

11:30 a.m. Resurrecion Geronimo (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.

02/19 • Rev. Donald Amodeo

02/20 • Rev. Curtis V. Carro

02/21 • Rev. Eduardo A. Chinch, SDB

02/22 • For Vocations to Priesthood & Religious Life

02/23 • Rev. Edwin Palka

02/24 • Rev. Viet Nguyen

02/25 • Rev. Kevin Yarnell

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.



Regulations on Fasting and Abstinence

Fasting and abstinence have a long history in the Church. The custom of self-denial is meant to simplify one's lifestyle so that freed from all distractions, we may hear and respond to God's continued call to conversion and holiness.

- ♦ Fasting is to be observed on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday by all Catholics between the ages of 18 to 59 years (inclusive). On days of fasting, one full meal is allowed. Two smaller meals, sufficient to maintain strength, may be taken according to one's needs, but together should not equal another full meal. Liquids are allowed.
- ♦ Abstinence from meat is to be observed by all Catholics who are 14 years of age or older. Ash Wednesday, all the Fridays of Lent, and Good Friday are days of abstinence.
- ♦ Pastoral Note: Persons unable to observe the above regulations due to ill health or other serious reasons, may practice other forms of self-denial that are suitable to their condition.

RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

My pastor likes to say that his parents would always remind him to "leave a place you visited a little better than the way you found it." I have always tried to live by those words as well. The important word here is "tried" as I am sure that I have not always been successful.

The desire to always go a step further, to give even more than is required, is truly honorable. Jesus speaks to his disciples about this when he urges them to give more than what is asked and to travel two miles in service when all that was required of them is one. As disciples of Jesus, we are called to live the same way. It is fundamental to understanding a stewardship way of life.

True generosity has no limits. When we say that mature disciples are to answer the call of Jesus Christ regardless of the cost, we are inviting good stewards to embody this type of generosity. We can be the person who does not respond to the call, be the person who responds and gives what is required, or, finally, be the person who seeks to give above and beyond what is required. God doesn't just give us what we need, but he gives us more than we need. Made in his image, we are called to do the same. If we try to live in this manner every day, then we might just succeed in leaving this world a little better than the way we found it.

Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

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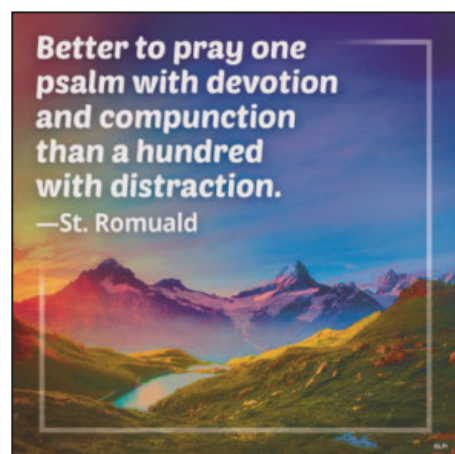


Record Update Help!

We need your help to update our parish records. Many folks have disconnected their landlines or changed their cell phone number. If you have moved or changed your phone number, please fill out and return an information card as soon as possible. The cards can be found in the entryway of the church and returned to the parish office or dropped in the collection basket.

Better to pray one psalm with devotion and compunction than a hundred with distraction.

—St. Romuald



Remembering the Good Times

Sock Hop / Sadie Hawkins Dance

Knights of Columbus Council 15862 invites all cool cats to a:

50's to 80's Sock Hop / Sadie Hawkins Dance

February 18th Parish Hall

7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

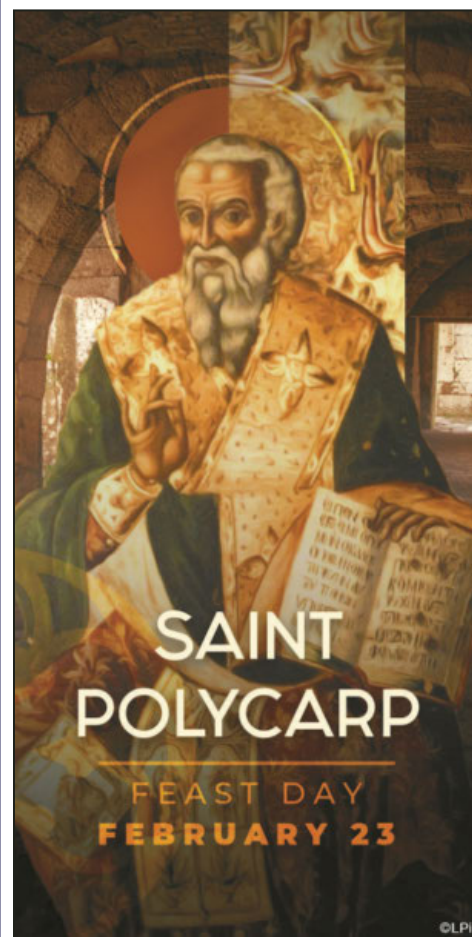
Tickets \$15 a piece

Tickets are available for purchase from your friendly, neighborhood Knight of Columbus, or by visiting the gift shop or parish office.

Light Refreashments included



The proceeds of the 50/50 lottery will be donated to Mary's Outreach for Women, a pro-life help center for pregnant women who choose life



Men: Seize this opportunity and bring others with you!

As you enter a new year, take the opportunity to learn from others and grow in virtue. Stand with other men in the battle to reclaim our families and culture for the glory of God!

"For though we live in the world, we are not carrying on a worldly war."

2 Corinthians 10:3

Are You Ready?



13th Annual Tampa Bay Men's Conference

Saturday, February 25, 2023

Higgins Hall at St. Lawrence Catholic Church, Tampa

\$60 per person with a special 2 for 1 Father/Son combo ticket
Tickets include lunch and free parking!

For tickets or more information visit: suncoastcatholicministries.com



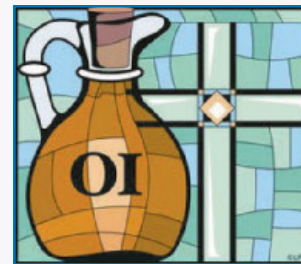
Bishop
David L. Toups



Father Dwight
Longenecker

Arnold, Barbara
Barr, Bill
Brown, Bob & Beverly
Christ, Kathryn
Comeau, Teresa
Congui, Mario
Curtis, Sherlyl
Daniels, Joshua
DeZarn, Vickie
Feldes, Chuck & Lauren
Ferrara, Antoinette
Fitzgerald, Dan
Forbes, Monica & Tom
Genereux, Carol
Grimberg, Carol
Hawkins, Barbara
Helbig, Len
Hoffman, Bette
Huff, Walt & Carole
Irvin, John and Marsha
Kindel, Helen
Kirchgessner, Marie
Lanigan, John
Lashley, Diana
Lawler, Matthew

LeVan, George
Lewis, Cynthia
Maharne, Cecile
Manley, Jan
Manley, Paul
Membreno, Mary & Gus
Mesick, Phil & Nancy
Parmigiani, George
Parmigiani, Valerie
Preeper, Helen
Privitera, Sandy
Roberts, Deacon Lionel
Romani, Angelo
Shelby, Ron & Montez
Stankiewicz, Cy
Thompson, Susan E.
Thuline, James and Lil
Vanderbeck, Jay
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.



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