



Blessed Trinity

Weekend Magazine

Over 60 YEARS COURAGEOUSLY *Living the Gospel*

March 12, 2023 ▪ The Third Sunday of Lent



The prayer that will make us cling to God

Fr. Peter John Cameron, OP

*My nothingness must kneel below
Thy Cross ...*

Jesus commends the tax collector in the Temple Lk 18:9-14: *This man went home justified.* The Lord

praises him because the man prayed: *O God, be merciful to me, a sinner.* He prayed the prayer of contrition.

The *Catechism* defines contrition as “sorrow of the soul and detestation for the sins committed, together with the resolution not to sin again” 1451.

Facing the horror of our sins may be the most difficult thing imaginable. But, as the Catholic author George Bernanos reassures us, by contrition we enter within ourselves only to die to sin, “and that is where God awaits us.” Or as the poet Rainer Maria Rilke put it, “It’s here in all the pieces of my shame / that now I find myself again.”

Keep in mind: To possess the knowledge of our sins is to be blessed with a precious grace God grants as a gift. No matter how distressing and off-putting it may feel, that knowledge is power. Because it is in the very knowledge of how lost and miserable we are as a result of our sins that God *desires to bind ourselves to himself*. For if God is the one who enables us to see the truth of our sinfulness—with all its shame and humiliation and repulsion—then God even more gives us the grace *through that awareness* to cling to him. St. Augustine counsels us well: “Let us never assume that if we live good lives we will be without sin; our lives should be praised only when we continue to beg for pardon.”

Here’s an effective way to adapt the tax collector’s prayer. Recite the main part of the prayer—*Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God, have mercy on me a sinner*—and then stick on one of your actual sins: *...have mercy on me a sinner: selfish.* Do that over and over until you run out of sins: *...have mercy on me a sinner: impatient...envious...angry...ungrateful.* If I want to stay

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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... Continued from cover

at prayer for a long, long time, that's how I pray.

The grace of contrition is captured in a moving way by Catholic World War I war poet Siegfried Sassoon:

*Bring no assurance of redeemed rest,
no intimation of awarded grace.
Only contrition, cleavingly confessed
to Thy forgiving face.
I ask one world of everlasting loss in all I am,
that other world to win.
My nothingness must kneel below Thy Cross.
There let new life begin.*

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An Act of Contrition

Forgive me my sins, O Lord, forgive me my sins; the sins of my youth, the sins of my age, the sins of my soul, the sins of my body, my idle sins, my serious voluntary sins, the sins I know, the sins I do not know; the sins I have concealed so long, and which are now hidden from my memory.

I am truly sorry for every sin, mortal and venial, for all the sins of my childhood up to the present hour.

I know my sins have wounded Thy Tender Heart, O my Saviour, let me be freed from the bonds of evil through the most bitter passion of my Redeemer. Amen.

O my Jesus, forget and forgive what I have been.

Apostles' Creed

At Mass today we are using the Apostles' Creed instead of the Nicene Creed. The origins of the Apostles' Creed are believed to predate the Nicene Creed. It is universally recognized by many Christians as a shared statement of our faith in God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

The Apostles' Creed may be used at any Sunday Mass, but the church particularly recommends its use during Lent and Easter time. Why? Because the words of this ancient Creed have been used for centuries as the basis of our baptismal promises, and the seasons of Lent and Easter put a strong focus on baptism. During Lent we prepare those who will be baptized at Easter while readying ourselves to renew our own baptismal promises. As we recite the Apostles' Creed, it will stir up in our hearts our commitment to Christ which was first made at our own baptisms and prepare us to renew our promises this Easter.



March 12, 2023

Third Sunday of Lent

Ex 17:3-7 | Rom 5:1-2, 5-8 | Jn 4:5-42

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

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

Even St. Teresa of Calcutta experienced a period of “spiritual dryness.” We pray, we go to Mass faithfully, we serve others – yet at times God’s presence may seem elusive. Like the Israelites, we may ask, “Is the Lord in our midst or not?” As we enter the third Sunday of Lent, today’s readings assure us that God remains with us even during those times we may feel spiritually parched. In Exodus, water flows from a rock to satisfy the people. In the Gospel, Jesus tells the Samaritan woman at the well: “Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again; but whoever drinks the water I shall give will never thirst; the water I shall give will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life.” The woman, a sinner and an outcast, recognizes Jesus as Messiah, and it changes her life. Even when we don’t “feel” God’s presence, we can rest assured that Jesus stands beside us. He is our redemption and our Hope, and “Hope does not disappoint.”

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

In today’s Gospel, Jesus breaks with custom by talking to a woman – a Samaritan woman, no less. He “sees” her – knowing she has been married five times before and is living with a man not her husband. Yet he chooses to reveal to her his identity as the Messiah and offers her “living water.” But it doesn’t end there. The woman at the well goes forth and shares her experience with others. Many more came to believe in the Messiah based on her testimony. What an unlikely disciple! We may feel that we, too, are unlikely disciples: We are sinners, we’ve made mistakes, perhaps we feel we are unworthy to “represent” Jesus to others. But nothing is further from the truth. Jesus invites us not only to partake of the living water but to share it with others so that all may believe.

ACTION Put a note on your mirror or bedside: “Hope does not disappoint.” Each morning, remind yourself that Jesus is the source of our hope, and try to think of ways to share this hope with others.



Are You Hoping to Receive One of the Seven Sacraments With Us?

Matrimony

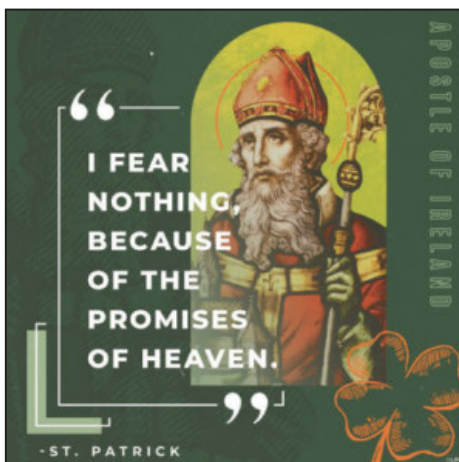
Congratulations on your engagement! Every Diocese in Florida requires at least six months preparation before marriage. Please call our Pastor, Fr. Wayne Genereux, at the Parish Office for an appointment before setting a date.

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



Mass Intentions

Saturday, March 11, Vigil for the Third Sunday of Lent

4:00 p.m. Rae Covey (Dec)

Sunday, March 12, The Third Sunday of Lent

8:00 a.m. Teri Saimond (Dec)

9:30 a.m. Mass for Parishioners

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

Monday, March 13, Lenten Weekday

8:00 a.m. Pat & Ann Varville (Dec)

Tuesday, March 14, Lenten Weekday

8:00 a.m. Michael Wilcox (Dec)

Wednesday, March 15, Lenten Weekday

8:00 a.m. Mass for Vocations

Thursday, March 16, Lenten Weekday

8:00 a.m. Kyla & Nathan Roberts (Liv)

Friday, March 17, Saint Patrick, Bishop

8:00 a.m. Mike McParlan (Dec)

Saturday, March 18, Saint Cyril, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

8:00 a.m. Ann Deakins (Dec)

Saturday, March 18, Vigil for the Fourth Sunday of Lent

4:00 p.m. Clifford Thomas (Dec)

Sunday, March 19, The Fourth Sunday of Lent

8:00 a.m. Vern Fox (Dec)

9:30 a.m. Mass for Parishioners

11:30 a.m. Philip Roach (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.

03/12 • Rev. Michael Suszynski

03/13 • Rev. Jose Tejada

03/14 • Rev. Patrick Rebel

03/15 • For Vocations to Priesthood & Religious Life

03/16 • Rev. Belisario Riveros

03/17 • Rev. Anthony B. Nyong, CM

03/18 • Rev. Joseph M. Olikkara, MST

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.

RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

The 6 Characteristics of an Everyday Stewardship for Lent – Grateful

Happy Birthday! It may or may not be your birthday now, but I know it will be coming up at some point. I hope you receive many cool presents and get to spend quality time with friends and family. On special days like birthdays, Christmas, and anniversaries, it is good to celebrate. After all, we need some fun and celebration in our lives.

But what about the day after? Presents remain, but the presence of others may be over, and it is back to the daily grind. Yesterday, you were filled with gratitude. You hold the memory of yesterday still close so that fuels you for the day. However, how about 2, 3, or 4 days from then? The truth is that many joys in this life cannot stay with us forever. They belong to a certain place in time. We will have our memories, yet those thoughts will never be a suitable substitute for the real thing.

There is one joy that remains throughout all our days: the joy we find in Jesus. What he gives us does not fade. The amazing thing about what he offers us is that it also provides a lens through which we see all things. Now we can see the smallest reasons to be grateful. We no longer have a life where we go from one celebration to another with the ordinary in between. All life and time are extraordinary! All gifts, great and small, are precious. This offering seems too good to be true, so what's the catch? Like all gifts given to us, for the gift to have meaning, we must be willing to receive it. The choice is yours. You can live in the ordinary, or you can revel in the extraordinary, now and forever.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

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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.



CRS Rice Bowls



Blessed Trinity is making Rice Bowls with Lenten reflection calendars available for parishioners to participate. You can pick one up in the vestibule at the back of the church. At the end of Lent, **please do not bring the Rice Bowls back to the church**, but

rather, count the money you have collected and write a check payable to Catholic Relief Services and mail to:

Catholic Relief Services
CRS Rice Bowl
PO Box 5200
Harlan, IA 51593-0700

You may also donate online at www.crsricebowl.org

5th Annual Hispanic Men's Conference "THE EUCHARIST IN YOUR LIFE"

Presented by the Diocese of St. Petersburg and Suncoast Catholic Ministries. The event (in Spanish) will be held on Saturday, April 15, 2023, from 7:30am to 3:00pm, in the Social Hall of Nativity Catholic Church, 705 E. Brandon Blvd., Brandon, FL. Guest Speakers are **Fr. Pedro Núñez**, EWTN radio and television host, and **Fr. Rafael Capó**, National Eucharistic Preacher and Dean of Theology at St. Thomas University in Miami.

Cost is \$35 per individual ticket, and \$20 per ticket for father and son attending together. Cost at the door, if tickets still available, is \$40. To buy tickets and for more information, visit:

<http://suncoastcatholicministries.com/espanol>

Did You Know? The Prevalence of Abuse in Society

In surveys of adults, one out of five women and one out of ten men reported that they were sexually molested before they were 18 years old. This means that an estimated 40 million adult survivors of child sexual abuse are living in the United States today. An estimated 9.6% of all school children will be molested by an educator or an employee of a school between kindergarten and 12th grade. Between 13 and 34% of all females will be victims of sexual assault before the age of 18, and 7 to 16% of all males will also be victimized before they are 18.

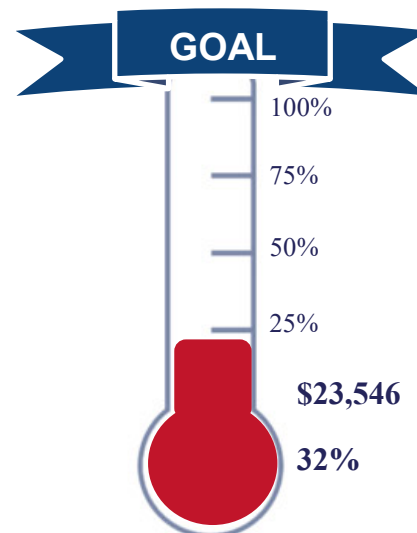
For particular help you may call John Lambert, LCSW, Victim Assistance Minister at (866) 407-4505.

Source: D. Finkelhor, "Current Information on the Scope and Nature of Child Sexual Abuse," *The Future of Children* 2 (1994): 31-53.



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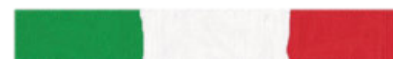


**Thank you for your
prayerful giving!**



Keep in touch with us!

Text BTSP to 84576 or connect
with us online at
btsp.flocknote.com



Messa in Italiano

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

March 26 at 4:00pm

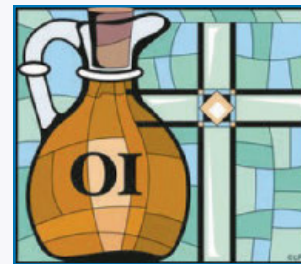
Please come to pray and sing in
ITALIANO

Celebrant:

Fr. Anthony M. Fortunato, OdeM.

Arnold, Barbara
Barr, Bill
Brown, Bob & Beverly
Christ, Kathryn
Comeau, Teresa
Curtis, Sherlyl
Daniels, Joshua
DeZarn, Vickie
D'Azzo, Lina
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
Newcomb, Jeff
O'Connor, Mary
Parmigiani, George
Parmigiani, Valerie
Preeper, Helen
Privitera, Sandy
Riley, Marie
Roberts, Deacon Lionel
Romani, Angelo
Shelby, Ron & Montez
Stankiewicz, Cy
Tarnowski, Lawrence
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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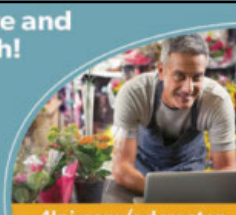
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