



Blessed Trinity

Weekend Magazine

Over 60 YEARS COURAGEOUSLY *Living the Gospel*
November 5, 2023 ▪ The Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

How could my fasting help stop a war?



How could abstaining from food help stop a war that is thousands of miles away?

The Church frequently encourages the custom of fasting and the Pope has designated specific days of fasting a number of times, such as days of fasting for peace in the world.

However, when this topic comes up, we might wonder, **“How is it possible that my fasting will stop a war? What does what I eat or don’t eat have to do with world peace?”**

While it may seem unlikely that fasting could stop a far-away war, there are some deep theological truths at play here. And, in fact, we know fasting has helped in the past, even the recent past.

Pope Francis’ past appeals for fasting

Giovanni Marcotullio wrote in an article for Aletheia how Pope Francis’ 2013 appeal for prayer and fasting helped calm down the Syrian war.

The conflict [in Syria] was close to making the local bonfire of war ignite a global conflagration, presaging terrifying post-atomic scenarios. Pope Francis took recourse then as well to fasting and prayer. “This kind of demon,” Jesus said, “cannot be cast out if not by fasting and prayer.” Matthew 17:21

While the war in Syria didn’t immediately end that night, the conflict didn’t erupt into something much more terrible.

The spiritual power of fasting

Marcotullio then explains in his article why fasting in particular can be beneficial.

Why accompany faith and prayer with fasting? There are various reasons; here, I try to list a few (without

pretending to cover all the bases):

- **Fasting bends man’s pride**, and every war is born from someone’s pride: by fasting, we recognize that we are brothers of the proud, and that we are proud like our warmonger brothers, so we ask God to convert all of our hearts;
- **Fasting leads us to humble prayer**, so we don’t put ourselves on a pedestal with respect to others: the Pharisee who Jesus described in the parable fasted, yes, three times a week, but by boasting of it, he made it a vain gesture; he emptied it of its sacrificial significance and—so to speak—he re-neged on it.
- **Fasting leads those who do it to express compassion toward the direct victims of violence and of war**: We have no merit if we are “on the right side” of the world; not only that, perhaps its our very being “on the right side” that makes us in some way a cooperating cause of the suffering of others;
- **Fasting breaks the dynamics of consumption**, it brings us back to the essentials, and it shows us that we can live even without all of those things that the opulence of our world induces us to consider “essential”: then, our eyes are opened to the prospect of an essentially sober lifestyle, learning an integral ecology that restores to the (often overused) phrase “fair and solidary” to its highest destiny, which is Paradise.

In a spiritual way, fasting can help us personally, as well as the global community, understand the necessity of peace.

Fasting puts us into a particular disposition that cries out to God, begging him to change the hearts and minds of those involved in war.

Above all it comes down to trust: trusting that God can work miracles and that our prayers really do have an effect in the world.

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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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St. Jude Mission

Blessed Trinity Catholic Church

Blessed Trinity invites you to our Mission:
Preparing a Fantastic Holyday Menu for All Seasons

November 12 to 14, 2023

November 12 and 13 7:00 pm—Mission Preaching
November 14 7:00 pm—St. Jude Mass

St. Jude Oil Blessings and Veneration of the Arm Relic of St. Jude each evening

For information please call 727-867-3663

Presented by Fr. Mike Ford, O.P.
Dominican Shrine of St. Jude Thaddeus, Chicago
www.The-Shrine.org

Veterans and First Responders Breakfast

Sponsored by
Blessed Trinity Catholic Church & The Knights of Columbus
This event is being held at Blessed Trinity's Parish Hall



Sunday, November 12, 2023

Mass of Thanksgiving at 9:30 a.m.

Breakfast after the 8:00 a.m. and 9:30 a.m. Masses

Veterans and First Responders Free

\$7.00 per person Tickets-Available at the Door

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.

11/05 • Rev. Jonathan Emery
11/06 • Rev. John Tapp
11/07 • John Paul Grabowski, Seminarian
11/08 • For Vocations to Priesthood & Religious Life
11/09 • Rev. Paul Kochu
11/10 • Rev. Gerald A. Hendry
11/11 • Matthew Fulton, Seminarian



November 5, 2023

Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mal 1:14b-2:2b, 8-10 | 1 Thes 2:7b-9, 13 | Mt 23:1-12

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

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

We all want to feel special and be noticed. We see it in Adam and Eve's decision to eat the fruit in the garden after the snake promises "your eyes will be opened and you will be like gods." (Gen 3:5) The scribes and the Pharisees in today's Gospel certainly appear to fall into this category of wanting to be noticed: "All their works are performed to be seen," Jesus says. To be clear, we ARE each unique children of God: chosen by him and called by name. We are "wonderfully made" by the Lord (Ps 139:14), and that alone makes us valuable beyond measure. The problem arises when we begin to see our value as something we are responsible for on our own. We no longer give glory to God and acknowledge him as the fount of all good things. Instead, we are tempted to take credit for ourselves - that was the error of the scribes and the Pharisees, and it is one against which we should guard ourselves.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Today's readings are instructive and, frankly, a good reminder that as God's beloved children baptized into Christ, we are called to a higher standard. What is this higher standard? First, it entails "[giving] thanks to God unceasingly," as St. Paul said in today's reading. It also involves practicing what we preach in a way the Pharisees do not. At the heart of Jesus' message today is telling us, his followers, how we are meant to live. We are to follow Jesus' words and strive to imitate his actions with humility and love. Does this mean loving unconditionally? It does. Does this mean not seeking places of honor but rather having a servant's attitude? It does. Are these postures and attitudes that come naturally to us as human beings? As descendants of Adam and Eve? Perhaps not. But if we wish to make Jesus the master of our lives, let us discern where we can be serving others better and putting our energy into the work of building God's kingdom.

PRAY The *Catechism* calls humility the "foundation of prayer." (CCC 2559) Let us pray this week for the humility to do God's will without any praise or recognition. Let us ask the Holy Spirit for wisdom to know what the Lord wants from us and to joyfully fulfill that call even if it means working in the shadows where no one will notice.



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

Journeying Through Grief

“Grief is not a sign of weakness. It is a tribute to the loved one who died, and a healthy response to our heart ache.”

If you would like to be part of a Grief-Support “group” or you would prefer “one on one” support, please call Rachel between 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the parish office, 727-867-3663

Mass Intentions

Saturday, November 4, Memorial of Saint Charles Borromeo

8:00 a.m. Linda & Richard Maloney (liv)
56th Wedding Anniversary

Saturday, November 4, Vigil for The Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00 p.m. James Lawler & Pat Sullivan (dec)

Sunday, November 5, Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 a.m. Richard Aliotti (dec)
9:30 a.m. Mass for Parishioners
11:30 a.m. Francisco & Maria Barbosa (dec)

Monday, November 6, Weekday in Ordinary Time

8:00 a.m. Joseph Ciminera Sr., (dec)

Tuesday, November 7, Weekday in Ordinary Time

8:00 a.m. Chris & Larry Roberts (liv)

Wednesday, November 8, Weekday in Ordinary Time

8:00 a.m. Mass for Vocations

Thursday, November 9, Feast of the Dedication of the Lateran Basilica in Rome

8:00 a.m. Jon Vandellarre (dec)

Friday, November 10, Memorial of Saint Leo the Great, Pope and Doctor of the Church

8:00 a.m. Stanley Abstetar (dec)

Saturday, November 11, Memorial of Saint Martin of Tours, Bishop

8:00 a.m. Linda & Rich Maloney (liv)
56th Wedding Anniversary
Ann Deakins (dec)

Saturday, November 11, Vigil for The Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00 p.m. Bill Hueston (dec)

Sunday, November 12, Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 a.m. Elly & Dick McManus (dec)
9:30 a.m. Mass for Parishioners
11:30 a.m. Viola Romani (dec)

Blessed Trinity Social Group

Some parishioners are initiating a social group to take advantage of all that St. Petersburg has to offer. A list of events and excursions is being compiled. More ideas would be warmly welcomed. We will have a special Flocknote Group created to help disseminate info on upcoming events.

Contact Susan Kruse for more information or to offer suggestions for future outings.

To join the Flocknote Group, call the office Monday - Friday, before noon, and Emily can help to add you to the group.



Congratulations Pat and Bob Gallen as this Year's St. Jude Award Honoree.

Left to Right Mike and Jonna Kehoe, Fr. Wayne, Pat and Bob Gallen, and Joe Ciminera

Saint Mary and
Blessed Trinity Parishes present

FOLLIES 2023

Saturday, November 18, 2023
5:30 pm Italian dinner
6:30 pm Variety Show
Blessed Trinity Parish Hall
1600 54th Avenue South, 33712

Special Guest Star:
Geoff Williams,
Magician/Comedian

COST: \$20.00 per person gets you a
meal and a night of fun and
entertainment!

Tickets are available at both parishes
beginning October 15

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Weekly Offering

including online donation

Weekend of October 29

Offertory	\$ 9,863
Other Donations	\$ 1,177
St. Vincent de Paul	\$ 1,389
National Collections	\$ 190
Restoring the Sacred	\$10,000
Bartolotta Benefit	
Concert	\$ 1,060

**Thank you for
your generosity!**



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2023 Goal \$74,446.52



**Thank you for your
prayerful giving!**

“Life in the Spirit” Prayer Group

Monday evenings at 7:00 pm in
Courtyard Hall.

All are welcome!

For more information please call
727-867-3663.

Upcoming Events

Sunday, November 5		
9:00 and 10:30 am	Coffee and Donuts	PH
Monday, November 6		
7:00 pm	Life in the Spirit Prayer Group	CYH
Tuesday, November 7		
10:00 am	Scripture Class	CYH
7:00 pm	Knights of Columbus Mtg.	PH
Wednesday, November 8		
6:00 pm	Adult Choir Rehearsal	MR
Sunday, November 12		
9:00 & 10:30 am	Veterans Pancake Breakfast	PH
7:00 pm	St. Jude Mission	
Monday, November 13		
7:00 pm	St. Jude Mission	
Tuesday, November 14		
10:00 am	Scripture Class	CYH
7:00 pm	St. Jude Mission	
Wednesday, November 15		
6:00 pm	Adult Choir Rehearsal	MR
Saturday, November 18		
5:30 pm Dinner		
6:30 pm Show:	FOLLIES	PH
Sunday, November 19 *Fr. Wayne's 10 Year Anniversary		
9:00 and 10:30 am	Coffee and Donuts	PH
3:00- 6:00 pm	*Free Thanksgiving Dinner @ Enoch Davis Center 1111 18 th Ave S., St. Pete	
Monday, November 20		
7:00 pm	"Life in the Spirit" Prayer Group	CYH
Tuesday, November 21		
10:00 am	Scripture Class	CYH
Wednesday, November 22		
6:00 pm	Adult Choir Rehearsal	MR
Thursday, November 23 * Thanksgiving Day		
Office Closed		
Friday, November 24		
Office Closed for Thanksgiving		
Sunday, November 26		
9:00 and 10:30 am	Coffee and Donuts	PH
Monday, November 27		
7:00 pm	"Life in the Spirit" Prayer Group	CYH
Tuesday, November 28		
10:00 am	Scripture Class	CYH
Wednesday, November 29		
6:00 pm	Adult Choir Rehearsal	MR

PH= Parish Hall, MR=Music Room, CYH= Courtyard Hall, CH=Church



Beware of scammers: We will never call or text you to ask for money or to purchase gift cards.



Keep in touch with us!

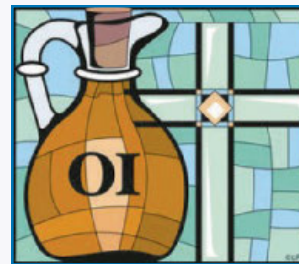
Text BTSP to 84576 or connect with us online at btsp.flocknote.com



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Austreng, Dick
Barr, Bill
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Christ, Kathryn
Cisek, Marilyn
Comeau, Teresa
Curtis, Sherlyl
Daniels, Joshua
DeZarn, Vickie
D'Azzo, Lina
Feltes, Chuck & Lauren
Ferrara, Antoinette
Fitzgerald, Dan
Forbes, Monica & Tom
Gawlik, Frank
Gawlik, Sofia
Genereux, Carol
Grimberg, Carol
Hawkins, Barbara
Helbig, Len
Hoffman, Bette
Huff, Walt

Irvin, John
Kindel, Helen
Kirchgeessner, Marie
Klima, Sue
Lanigan, John
Lashley, Diana
Lawler, Matthew
LeVan, George
Lewis, Cynthia
Maharne, Cecile
Manley, Jan
Manley, Paul
Matthews, Daniel
Mays, Susan
Membreno, Mary & Gus
Mesick, Phil & Nancy
Nagy, Matthew
Newcomb, Jeff
O'Connor, Mary
Oliphant, Sean
Parmigiani, Valerie
Powers, Jim
Preeper, Helen
Riley, Marie

Roberts, Deacon Li-
onel
Romani, Angelo
Schulz, Ingrid
Shelby, 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.

THANK YOU! Johnnie Jones Plumbing

For all your great and professional work in my Home!!

Cecile Maharne



Questions about Medicare, Affordable Care Act, Medicaid. Call, email or visit my website for more information!

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