



Blessed Trinity

Weekend Magazine

Over 60 YEARS COURAGEOUSLY *Living the Gospel*

November 26, 2023 ▪ Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

How Christ the King respects our freedom

Philip Kosloski



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 next page . . .



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

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1600 54TH AVE S.
ST. PETERSBURG, FL 33712

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... Continued from cover

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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Congratulations

Congratulations to Fr. Wayne on his 10th Anniversary of his Pastorate at Blessed Trinity, and also for the 10th Anniversary of the founding of the Knights of Columbus at Blessed Trinity.

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.

11/26 • Rev. Felipe Gonzalez
11/27 • Rev. Alexander Padilla
11/28 • Rev. Pedro J. Zapata
11/29 • For Vocations to Priesthood & Religious Life
11/30 • Rev. Christian Galvan
12/01 • Rev. Anthony Astrab
12/02 • Rev. Drew Woodke

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.

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.

November 26, 2023

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

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

Ez 34:11-12, 15-17 | 1 Cor 15:20-26, 28 | Mt 25:31-46

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

The paradoxical ways we have come to understand Jesus can give us spiritual whiplash. He is both a tender and caring shepherd of sheep and one who sends strong rams and goats to the eternal fire; the executed human and divine man who came into full resurrected glory. He is God incarnate into human history and born in a manger; the servant-leader; the one who is both God and man. This is the beauty of what we call the Paschal Mystery – that the Son of God came into the world and by his life, death, and resurrection he has reconciled us to the Father, and has redeemed us. He saves us from the death of sin. As Catholics we are comfortable with paradox: We are inhabitants of a kingdom of God that is already (here) but not yet (fully realized); we are both an Easter people and we live in a world of Good Fridays. So when Jesus says in today's Gospel that whatever we do to the least of people, we do to Christ himself and we will reap our actions in the fullness of that kingdom, we understand that he is a king unlike any other king. He cares not for pomp and circumstance, but wants to ensure that all – even the least among us – are given his gifts to share. The Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe celebrates that we have a king who cares more for us than anyone on earth could ever care for us, and we are blessed to be able to love and serve him in return.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

In the midst of our busy lives, it is no secret that our thoughts can easily be preoccupied with things other than prayer or our relationship with God. Perhaps we struggle with maintaining a daily prayer practice. So when we pause to take stock of our lives – where our attention is focused during the day-to-day – it's easy to see that God is sometimes "off to the side." Perhaps we take everything we have been given for granted, or maybe we are just not sure how to make him the most important aspect of our lives. Just like cultivating a friendship takes active effort, so does our relationship with God. Just as watering a plant near its center allows the water to spread throughout the surrounding area, to its roots and the soil – thus making it fruitful and full – putting Jesus Christ, our king, at the center of our lives means that his goodness flows into everything else we say and do. Our lives and our hearts will grow in goodness and bear rich fruit.

INVITATION Challenge yourself this week to subvert expectations and keep God first. Show Christ is Lord over your life by prioritizing your faith and building up your priorities around him. Make a daily appointment in your calendar for prayer and look for opportunities to put Christ at the center, or heart, of your daily life.





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

8:00 a.m. Raymond and Pauline Gaffney (dec)

Saturday, November 25, Vigil for The Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

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

Sunday, November 26, The Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

8:00 a.m. Luann Kenning (dec)

9:30 a.m. Mass for Parishioners

11:30 a.m. Margaret Colgate (dec)

Monday, November 27, Weekday in Ordinary Time

8:00 a.m. Joseph and Gertrude Maloney (dec)

Tuesday, November 28, Weekday in Ordinary Time

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

Wednesday, November 29, Weekday in Ordinary Time

8:00 a.m. Mass of Vocations

Thursday, November 30, Feast of Saint Andrew, Apostle

8:00 a.m. Alice Lyons (dec)

Friday, December 1, Weekday in Ordinary Time

8:00 a.m. Robert Schaeufele (dec)

Saturday, December 2, Weekday in Ordinary Time

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

Saturday, December 2, Vigil for The First Sunday in Advent

4:00 p.m. Lionel Roberts, 46 Years a Deacon (liv)

Sunday, December 3, The First Sunday in Advent

8:00 a.m. Bill Isaac (dec)

9:30 a.m. Mass for Parishioners

11:30 a.m. Congiu Family (dec)



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. Visits are up more than 50% above last year's visits.

If you do not have an opportunity to purchase a gift card, 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 5.

We will need the time between December 5 and 8 to organize and prepare for distribution to the families on December 9. Our preferred gift card is \$25, but any and all other gift cards are **most welcome**.

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.



CHRISTMAS ALTAR FLOWERS

For those wishing to contribute towards the Altar flowers, you may do so in one of two ways:

1. Use the Christmas Flowers Envelope included in your envelope packet.
2. Complete this form and return it to the office with your donation.

The names of the donors will be listed in the bulletin and also placed on the Altar. **Deadline for inclusion of your name in the Christmas bulletin is December 21.**

Please Check One:

☐ In Honor of

☐ In Memory of

Donor's Name: _____

Donation Amount: \$ _____

Weekly Offering

including online donation

Weekend of November 19

Offertory totals and other donations will be posted in next week's magazine.

**Thank you for
your continued generosity!**



DIOCESE OF ST. PETERSBURG
**CATHOLIC
MINISTRY**
Appeal

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 26

9:00 and 10:30 am Coffee and Donuts PH
 9:30 am Mass of Thanksgiving
 Celebrating Fr. Wayne's 10th Anniversary and
 Knights of Columbus Founding at Blessed Trinity

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

Saturday, December 2

5:00-7:00 pm. K.O.C. Fish & Chicken Fry PH

Sunday, December 3

ADVENT STARTS

Monday, December 4

7:00 pm Christmas Concert CH

Tuesday, December 5

10:00 am Scripture Class CYH
 7:00 pm Knights of Columbus Meeting PH

Wednesday, December 6

6:00 pm Adult Choir MR

Friday, December 8

Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception- Holy Day of Obligation

Sunday, December 10 Second Sunday of Advent

9:00 and 10:30 am Coffee and Donuts PH

Monday, December 11

7:00 pm "Life in the Spirit" Prayer Group CYH

Tuesday, December 12

10:00 am Scripture Class CYH

Wednesday, December 13

6:00 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal MR

Thursday, December 14

7:00-8:00 pm Advent Penance Service CH

Sunday, December 17 3rd Sunday of Advent

9:00 and 10:30 am Coffee and Donuts PH
 12:30 pm BT Social Group Cookie Exchange PH

Monday, December 18

7:00 pm "Life in the Spirit" Prayer Group CYH

Tuesday, December 19

10:00 am Scripture Class CYH

Wednesday, December 20

6:00 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal MR

Sunday, December 24 4th Sunday of Advent

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



Social Group

The Blessed Trinity Social Group is meeting regularly now. Please join us at the Kahwa coffee shop @ 400 45th Ave S, St. Petersburg, FL 33705 after the 8am mass on the Last Friday of each Month. Bring your ideas! All are welcome!

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

Everything you wanted to know about your faith

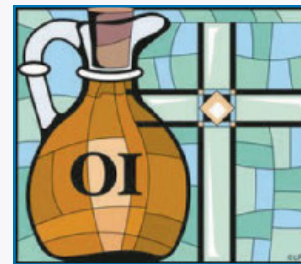
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Christ, Kathryn
Cisek, Marilyn
Comeau, Teresa
Curtis, Sherlyl
Daniels, Joshua
DeZarn, Vickie
D'Azzo, Lina
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Ferrara, Antoinette
Fitzgerald, Dan
Forbes, Monica & Tom
Gawlik, Frank
Gawlik, Sofia
Genereux,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

Irvin, John
Joyal, Christina
Kindel, Helen
Kirchgessner, 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, Cindy
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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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!

Rebecca Haugland
727-326-2452

rhaugland@veracity-insurance.com
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