



Blessed Trinity

Weekend Magazine

Over 60 YEARS COURAGEOUSLY *Living the Gospel*

August 24, 2025 • The Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time



If you want to follow Jesus, find the most unimportant person in your life

Brother Silas Henderson, SDS - published on 09/22/18

And when you've found him, receive him as Our Lord: The message we'll hear this Sunday.

Jesus sat down, called the Twelve, and said to them, "If anyone wishes to be first, he shall be the last of all and the servant of all."

Taking a child, he placed it in their midst, and putting his arms around it, he said to them, "Whoever receives one child such as this in my name, receives me; and whoever receives me, receives not me but the One who sent me."

—Mark 9:35-37

The gospels tell us that even "the Twelve"—Jesus' closest followers—struggled to understand who and what he was. Those who traveled with Jesus recognized his special relationship with God (this was easy enough to see in the miracles he performed), but we can also imagine how confusing and even overwhelming Jesus' sermons, parables, and miracles might have been. We can certainly understand how they might have missed the point of Jesus' message and mission.

And so, we have this Sunday's Gospel, in which we find Jesus' closest collaborators arguing about which of them was most important. But when Jesus learns what they have been discussing, he responds with an act that perfectly summarizes what it means to be a true disciple: He places a child in the middle of the group, telling them, "Whoever receives this child in my name, receives me."

The world in which Jesus lived shared our own culture's obsession with power and status, and a child would have been seen as a total non-entity in first-century Palestine. Children had no social status or legal rights. And so, as a "non-person," to paraphrase Scripture scholar Daniel Harrington, S.J., a child would have been completely dependent on others for survival. Beyond that, however, anyone who cared for or showed kindness to a child could expect nothing in return. "By embracing the child," Harrington concludes, "Jesus displays his acceptance of the child as worthy of respect and care."

There is no great theological discourse or political rhetoric here. In a single gesture, Jesus summarizes the beauty and the mystery of his message: Even those whom the world sees as insignificant are important in God's eyes. To be Jesus' follower means that we have to be willing to embrace those dismissed by the world. True greatness comes from serving others.

This kind of service and availability to the least members of society requires great humility and openness. Our care for children, vulnerable adults, the homeless, shut-ins, the victims of abuse, refugees, and migrants doesn't offer us prestige, power, or wealth in return. And yet, Jesus is making it clear that this was to be the

Continued on page 2



Pastor

Rev. Wayne C. Genereux

Deacon

Deacon Bill Lovelace

Clergy Assistance

Fr. Jack McDowell, OFM, Fr. Randall Roberts, OFM
Fr. Anthony Fortunato, OdeM, Fr. Ken Breen, 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 and 11:30 am

Follow the Sunday Mass on our website, btsp.org

Confessions will be held Saturdays 2:45-3:45 pm

Parish Office

Monday—Friday 9:00 am-12:00 pm and 1-4 pm

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... Continued from cover

mission of the Twelve. It would have been as difficult for them to accept and live out as it is for us today.

To believe that Jesus is calling us to a life of discipleship means that we must be willing to place ourselves at the service of others. And this willingness to serve frees us from the division we hear about in this Sunday's Second Reading: "Where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there is disorder and every foul practice. But the wisdom from above is first of all pure, then peaceable, gentle, compliant, full of mercy and good fruits ... and the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace for those who cultivate peace" (James 3:16-18).

Jesus embodied this willingness to serve in his Passion and death and these themes form the framework for our celebration this Sunday (see Wisdom 2:12, 17-20 and Mark 9:30-32). The invitation for us, then, is to open our hearts and be willing to sacrifice our time, gifts, and resources to create space in our homes and communities for those whom our society dismisses as unimportant.

Whom have I dismissed as being unimportant in the past?

Do I allow the needs of migrants, refugees, the homeless, the elderly, the abused, and the unborn to touch my heart?

What is the example of Jesus' own self-sacrificing service asking of me today?

Words of Wisdom: "What does welcome a little child mean? It means giving loving attention to those who are often overlooked. I imagine myself standing in line to meet a very important person and noticing a little child passing by. Would I leave the line and pay all my attention to the child? I imagine myself going to a grand party where I will meet very interesting and powerful people. Could I forget about the party to sit on the street for a few hours with a man who stretches out his hands and asks me for some money? I imagine myself being invited to receive an award. Could I let the honor go to spend the time with a depressed, elderly woman who is forgotten by her friends and feels isolated in her apartment ... To welcome the 'little child' I have to become little myself."—Henri Nouwen in *The Road to Daybreak*

Originally published at Aletheia.org, reprinted with permission

Eucharistic Adoration Every Wednesday
At Blessed Trinity Catholic Church

Personal Worship—Church Open All Day



Begin the day with:

8:00 AM - Mass
8:30 AM - Beginning Adoration
5:30 PM - Rosary Recitation
6:00 PM - Exposition and Adoration
7:00 PM - Adoration Ends for the Day

“
THE ONE WHO
HUMBLES
HIMSELF WILL
BE EXALTED.”
(LK 14:11)



August 31, 2025

Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

Sir 3:17-18, 20, 28-29 | Heb 12:18-19, 22-24a | Lk 14:1, 7-14

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

There's a well-known story about an actor who was asked by an elderly priest to recite Psalm 23. The actor agreed only if the priest also recited the psalm. While the actor's delivery was met with esteem and applause, the priest's was met with raw emotion, stunned silence, and tears. The actor, smiling, said, "I may know the psalm, but the priest, he knows the Shepherd." I can't help but be reminded of this story when reading today's Gospel. Like the Pharisees, the actor represents the one who was the "center of attention" who was humbled whereas the priest, in his humble service to God, found himself exalted. That is where true humility lies, when our actions and our everyday lives are rooted in God first and not ourselves.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

As Jesus reminds us today, "Every one who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted." Beyond telling us this truth, Jesus lived it. Scripture tells us that Jesus – the second Person of the Holy Trinity – "emptied himself, taking the form of a slave..." (Phil 2:7), and that he came not "to be served but to serve" (Mk 10:45). Each of us is invited to consider the ways we can imitate the same humble servant-leadership which Jesus showed throughout his life. What does servant leadership look like, practically speaking? Some simple examples: At work, it might look like signing up to do those less desirable tasks that others would prefer to avoid. In our homes, it could look mean letting your children or spouse choose what's for dinner rather than asserting your own preferences over meal planning. In our relationships, it might mean allowing a friend to talk through their struggles without offering advice or sharing how you might have handled things differently. With the eyes of faith, each of us can see countless opportunities to practice the virtue of humility in daily life.

WITNESS

Like the priest in the story above who revealed God to the crowd in his recitation of Psalm 23, you have the opportunity to let God shine through in your life to others. Be a servant leader, seeking to glorify God rather than yourself. When you are humble you "will be exalted" and "repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."



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



Grief Support

At this time, individual/one-on-one *Grief Support* is available by calling Rachel at the church office.

Group support meetings will take place when a group is formed.

For more information call:
867-3663

Mass Intentions

Saturday, August 23, Weekday in Ordinary Time

8:00 a.m. Joseph Marchese, Sr. and Thomas Giardini (dec)

Saturday, August 23 Vigil for Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00 p.m. Dorothy Jackson (liv)

Sunday, August 24, Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

9:30 a.m. Mass for Parishioners

11:30 a.m. Nick Calandra (dec)

Monday, August 25, Weekday in Ordinary Time

8:00 a.m. Shane Sacks (liv)

Tuesday, August 26, Weekday in Ordinary Time

8:00 a.m. Evans Beddoe (dec)

Wednesday, August 27, Memorial of Saint Monica

8:00 a.m. Mass for Vocations

Thursday, August 28, Weekday in Ordinary Time

8:00 a.m. The Dottino Family (liv and dec)

Friday, August 29, Memorial of the Passion of John the Baptist

8:00 a.m. Lauren Cornwell (liv)

Saturday, August 30, Weekday in Ordinary Time

8:00 a.m. William Issac (dec)

Saturday, August 30 Vigil for Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00 p.m. Bill and Robin Biloski (liv)

50th Wedding Anniversary

Sunday, August 31, Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 a.m. Dawn and Malaya Cullen (liv)

9:30 a.m. Mass for Parishioners

11:30 a.m. Luann Kenning (dec)

Let's go to ROME!



St. Peter's in Vatican City, along with a concert in St. Ignatius Church in Rome.

Mark your calendars for a parish meeting about the trip on Thursday, September 4 at 6:30 pm in the church. You may sing with the festival choir on this trip with a nominal rehearsal commitment. You do not need to read music, only have the desire to take this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. If you have any questions, please contact Lisa in the parish office at ext. 309 or email at lss@btsp.org.

DO YOU HEAR RINGING????

I do! Are you ready to make beautiful music and create fun memories? Can you hold a handbell? Do you like to make beautiful music, laugh and have fun?

Blessed Trinity Music Ministry has just the place for YOU!

We are forming a handbell ensemble! No experience is necessary, and you do not need to read music, just be willing to learn an easy notation system. Handbells are a beautiful way to enhance liturgy and become part of our growing Music Ministry.

Soon we will have a meeting about the where, when, and how, but in the meantime, please contact Lisa at lss@btsp.org, or by calling 727-867-3663, ext. 309.



Weekly Offering

Weekly Giving 08/17/25

Offertory	\$ 4,588
Other Donations	\$ 1,087
St. Vincent de Paul	\$ 366
Catholic Ministry	
Appeal	\$ 355

Thank you for your generosity!

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

Get to Know Jesus

When I speak and write, I mention my family quite often. Those of you who have been reading these reflections for the past 5+ years — or who have read my books — may think you know them. When I travel, I do get asked about my family by those who have entered my life through the words on a page. My hope is that by sharing stories about my family and life the reader gets a chance to see himself or herself in the story as well. Then the point being made in the article or reflection can take on stronger meaning because it hits home. However, no matter how much I write about my family and how much you read about them, you will only have a glimpse as to the real people. It will take an actual relationship with one of them to get you to the point where you can say you know them.

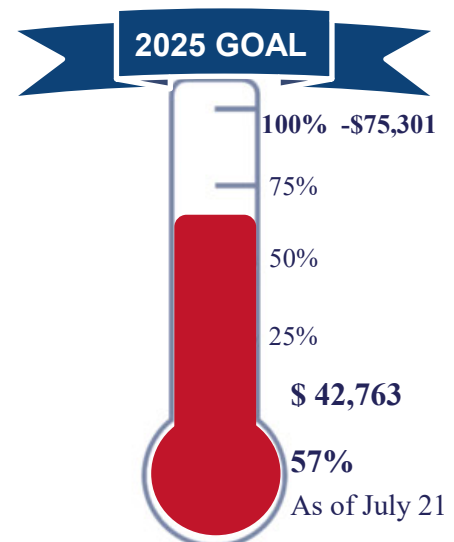
That is the same way with Jesus. First, more Catholics need to read more and learn more about Jesus. Bible studies should be the norm and not the exception in our lives. Second, too many of us in the Church can explain who Jesus is from our past formation classes and reading, but we do not actually know him. Jesus is not a topic, a theological term, or simply a historical figure. He is a real being who is alive! He is not dead, but alive! He calls us to do more than read about him. He calls us into an intimate relationship with him. We grow in relationship with Jesus by worshipping at the Mass, spending time with him in adoration, resting in him in the quiet, and by having the Jesus in us meet the Jesus in others. If you do not know him personally, get to know him. I would love for you all to meet my family in person someday, but I would much rather you get to know Jesus instead.

—Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

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Catholic Ministry Appeal



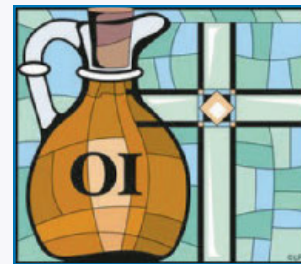
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To request the Anointing of the Sick for yourself or a loved one, please contact the parish office, 727-867-3663.

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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