

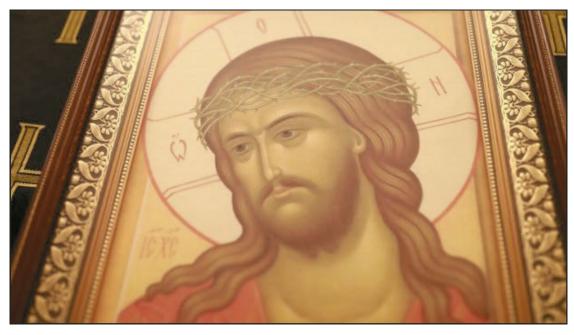
Blessed Trinity

Weekend Magazine

Over 60 YEARS COURAGEOUSLY Living the Gospel

September 7, 2025 • The Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

God is always thinking of you and loving you



Philip Kosloski- published on 08/19/25

Sometimes we can fall into the belief that God doesn't care about us and is absent in our lives, when in fact he is always thinking about us.

During our darkest hours, we can often think that God doesn't love us or that he has somehow abandoned us in our misery.

It is precisely at those times when we need to be reminded of God's constant love of us and how he always thinks of us.

We are in his arms right now

St. John Eudes, a 17th-century priest known for promoting devotion to the Sacred Heart, reflects on this reality in a reflection that he wrote that is included in a book entitled, *Meditations of various subjects*.

He focuses in particular on how **God is thinking of us at this very moment** and every moment of our lives:

From the moment of my creation until now, **He has borne me in His arms**, in His bosom and in His Heart, with more care and love than a mother carries her child, and **not a single moment has passed without His thinking of me, loving and preserving me.**



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 - Friday 8:00 am Communion Service, 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

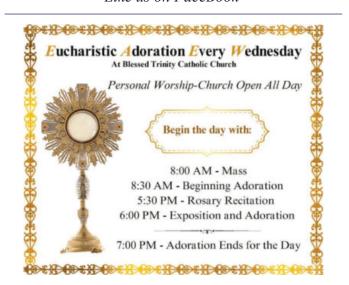
Confessions will be held Saturdays 2:45-3:45 pm

Parish Office

Monday—Friday 9:00 am-12:00 pm and 1-4 pm Closed for Lunch Noon to 1:00 pm 1600 54the Ave S St. Petersburg, Fl 33712

Phone, (727) 867-3663 **FAX**, (727) 864-2679

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... Continued from cover

The reality is that if God somehow "forgot" us, we would cease to exist, as St. John Eudes explains:

[I]f God were to withdraw His Almighty Hand which sustains me, and were to cease for a single moment to preserve me, I would at that very instant return to the nothingness from which He drew me. Therefore, He gives me at each successive moment the identical being He conferred at the first instant of my life and with the selfsame power and goodness with which He gave it to me then.

The fact that God is continually sustaining us and loving us into existence should prompt us to give thanks to him and to dedicate our lives to him:

I belong to Him, therefore, by as many ties as there have been moments in my life and I am deeply indebted to Him for each succeeding moment as for the first.

God can appear to be absent from our lives at times, but it is at those moments when God is the closest to us. We may not be able to physically see or sense his presence, but he is there.

Our existence is proof that God loves us and sees great value in our lives.

Be at peace knowing that God is with you at this very moment, thinking about you and beholding you. It's up to us to think of God and to let him gaze at us with the love of a father.

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How to apply the Sacred Scriptures this week to your life.



September 7, 2025

Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Wis 9:13-18b | Phlm 9-10, 12-17 | Lk 14:25-33

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

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

I am particularly struck by this line from Solomon's prayer in today's first reading from the Book of Wisdom: "Or who ever knew your counsel, except you had given wisdom and sent your holy spirit from on high?" Solomon doesn't seem to be seeking direct answers to the questions he presents today, but rather, uses them as a sort of poem of praise to honor God in all his glory. In modern language, we could rephrase his questions: What do we know that God has not instilled into our minds? What wisdom do we have that was not infused by the Holy Spirit? There are many things that we cannot understand without the wisdom God gives us. May we, like Solomon, praise and thank God for this gift. Let us trust that where our feeble, corruptible humanity falters, our heavenly Father is our refuge in every age.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Today's Gospel is certainly one that we need God's wisdom to understand. This reading always makes me do a double take or a read-over. "What did Jesus just say?!" His words today are stark and can feel disconcerting. "If anyone comes to me without hating his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple." When I encounter a challenging Scripture such as this one, I try to immediately root myself in concrete truths about the Lord. First, I acknowledge that he is good and desires my good. He is all-knowing, all-powerful and all-loving. After centering on those realities, I can look at this Gospel again, but this time through a clearer lens. Ultimately, this Gospel is a piercing reminder of the radical renunciation desired by the Lord. It is a rubric for the narrow road and for sanctity. Jesus does not mince his words. nor does he seek to confuse or confound: to follow Jesus is to release our hearts from earthly attachments, to embrace our cross and to set our lives in proper order. Clear and direct? Certainly. Easy? Not at all. But doing this in union with Jesus? Absolutely possible.

REFLECT

Today, consider reflecting on your attachments - the places you cling to anything that is not Christ. As you go into these tender places, invite Jesus to gently reveal where he wants to grant you his freedom.



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, September 6, Weekday in Ordinary Time 8:00 a.m. Communion Service (No Mass)

Saturday, September 6, Vigil for Twenty-Third Sunday in

Ordinary Time

4:00 p.m. Matt, Jim, and Annette Lawler and

Patricia Sullivan (dec)

Sunday, September 7, Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 a.m. Paula Sue Dubinsky (dec) 9:30 a.m. Mass for Parishioners 11:30 a.m. John Gray (dec)

Monday, September 8, Feast of the Nativity of the

Blessed Virgin Mary

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

Tuesday, September 9, Memorial of Saint Peter Claver, Priest

8:00 a.m. Barbara Honsberger (dec)

Wednesday, September 10, Weekday in Ordinary Time

8:00 a.m. Mass for Vocations and

Joan Summerbell (liv)

Thursday, September 11, Weekday in Ordinary Time

8:00 a.m. Phil Roach (dec)

Friday, September 12, Weekday in Ordinary Time

8:00 a.m. Clare Frazier (dec)

Saturday, September 13, Memorial of Saint John Chrysostom,

Bishop and Doctor of the Church

8:00 a.m. Communion Service (No Mass)

Saturday, September 13, Vigil for Twenty-Fourth Sunday in

Ordinary Time

4:00 p.m. Tom and Marie Cullen (dec)

Sunday, September 14, Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 a.m. Joseph Ripriano (dec) 9:30 a.m. Mass for Parishioners

11:30 a.m. Robert Smith and Family (dec)

Prayer for Protection from Hurricanes

God, Our Father, Creator and Lord of the universe, you have set the earth on its foundation and all the elements of nature obey your command. We humbly beseech you to keep us safe from all dangers and calm the storm that threatens us. May we be secure in Your loving protection and serve you always with grateful hearts. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, One God, forever and ever.

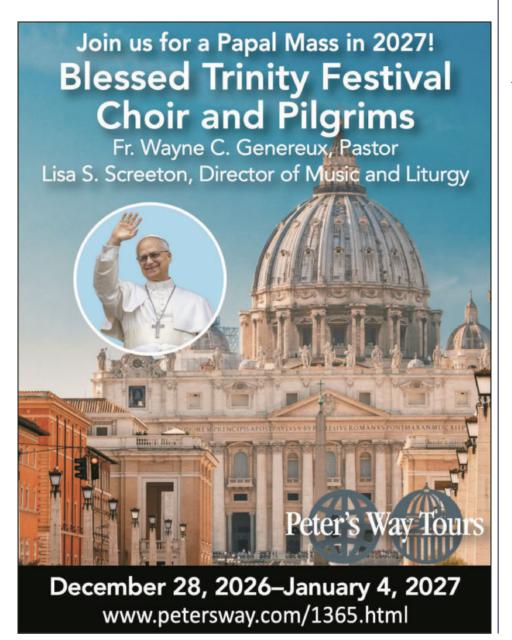
Amen.



Handbell Choir

The 1st Handbell Choir rehearsal will be on Thursday, September 11 at 5:00 pm in the music room. Come, and bring a friend! No experience necessary.

Please contact Lisa at **Iss@btsp.org**, or by calling 727-867-3663, ext. 309 if you should have questions.



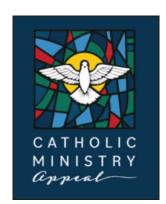


Weekly Offering

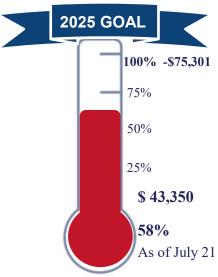
Offertory totals will be reported in next week's magazine.

They were not available at the time of printing.

Thank you for your generosity!



Catholic Ministry Appeal



Thank you for your prayerful giving!

Upcoming Events

Sunday, September 6 and 7 Mission Co-Op Weekend

Sunday, September 7

Coffee and Donuts after the 8:00 am and 9:30 am Masses

Monday, September 8

Life in the Spirit CYH 6:30 pm

Tuesday, September 9

Scripture Class resumes 10:00 am **CYH**

Wednesday, September 10

Adoration

8:30 am CH Church open all day for prayer

5:30 pm Rosary

6:00 pm **Eucharistic Exposition and Meditation**

Benediction 7:00 pm

Sunday, September 14

Coffee and Donuts after the 8:00 am and 9:30 am Masses PC

Monday, September 15

6:30 pm Life in the Spirit CYH

Tuesday, September 16

10:00 am Scripture Class **CYH**

Wednesday, September 17

Adoration

8:30 am Church open all day for prayer CH

5:30 pm Rosary

Eucharistic Exposition and Meditation 6:00 pm

Benediction 7:00 pm

Thursday, September 18

4:00 pm St. Vincent de Paul Meeting

Key for Events

PC= Parish Center, MR=Music Room, CYH= Courtyard Hall, CH=Church, CYH-1= Courtyard Hall Classroom #1, CR=Choir Room, FF=Faith Formation Room, PL=Parking Lot





Scripture Classes

Blessed Trinity Scripture Classes will resume on Tuesday, September 9th from 10:00 - 11:30 am. We will study "Mary, Royal Mother of the Messiah," Lessons1-30. Classes will be held in Courtyard Hall. Books will be \$12. For further information call Barbara Townsend 727-867-3605.



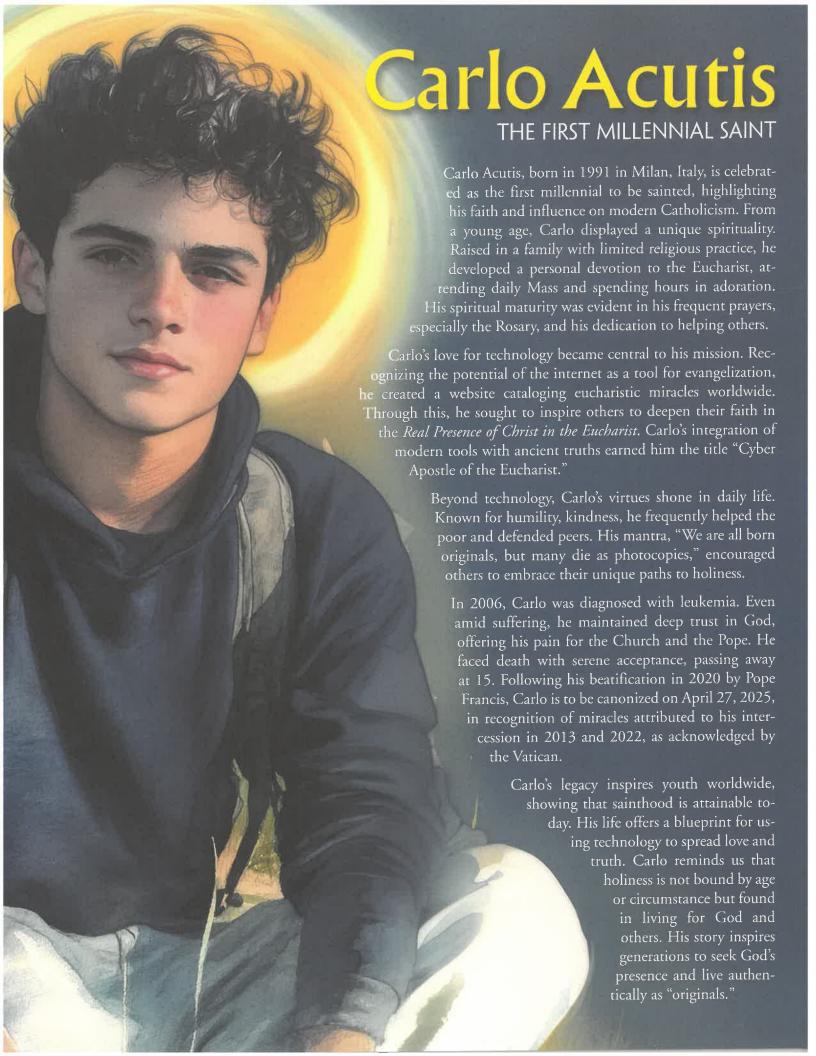


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STEPS TO SAINTHOOD

The process of canonization in the Catholic Church is a rigorous journey that declares a person to be a saint. It involves several stages overseen by the Church to ensure that the candidate's life reflects exceptional holiness and fidelity to God. Here are the main steps:

1. Servant of God

The process begins after the candidate has passed away and a minimum of five years has elapsed (though this can be waived by the Pope, as in the case of John Paul II and Mother Teresa).

The local bishop investigates the candidate's life, virtues, and reputation for holiness, collecting testimonies and documents. If the investigation is deemed satisfactory, the bishop sends the results to the *Dicastery for the Causes of Saints* in Rome (previously named the Congregation for the Causes of Saints), and the candidate is titled Servant of God.

2. Venerable

The Dicastery for the Causes of Saints examines the candidate's life and writings to determine whether they demonstrated heroic virtue—a life of extraordinary goodness and closeness to God. If approved, the Pope declares the candidate Venerable.

3. Beatification

For a martyr, no miracle is required; their death must be verified as a direct witness to the faith.

For a confessor (someone who lived a holy life but did not die as a martyr), one miracle attributed to their intercession must be verified. This typically involves a medically unexplained healing approved by a team of doctors, theologians, and ultimately the Pope.

Once the miracle is confirmed, the candidate is declared Blessed in a special ceremony. Beatification allows for limited public veneration, often in the candidate's diocese or region.

4. Canonization

A second miracle, occurring after beatification, must be verified for both martyrs and confessors.

Following a thorough investigation, the Pope officially declares the candidate a Saint in a canonization ceremony, making them universally venerated in the Church. The new saint is assigned a feast day and becomes a model for the faithful.

Canonization is not about perfection but recognizes a person who has cooperated fully with God's grace and can inspire others in their journey of faith.

EUCHARISTIC MIRACLES

Carlo Acutis undertook a remarkable project to catalog Eucharistic miracles from around the world, using his skills in technology to create a website that made these miracles widely accessible.

A Eucharistic miracle is an extraordinary event where the bread and wine consecrated during Mass visibly manifest as Christ's body and blood, or where other phenomena affirm the *Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist*. These miracles are seen as divine signs to strengthen faith in the mystery of the Eucharist.

Carlo's website featured descriptions, photographs, and historical information about each miracle, organized in an accessible way. His goal was to help others grow in faith and deepen their devotion to the Eucharist, especially at a time when belief in the Real Presence was waning.

This project is significant because it bridges faith traditions with modern tools, showing how technology can inspire and educate. Carlo's work continues to rekindle love for the Eucharist and remind people of God's tangible presence in their lives.

TWO MIRACLES

Healing a Brazilian child

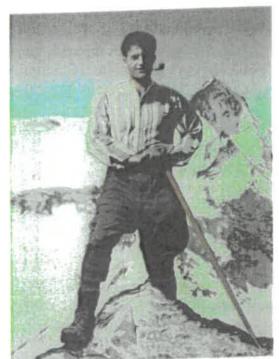
In 2013, a Brazilian boy named Matheus Vianna was healed from a rare pancreatic condition after praying to Acutis and touching one of his relics. Matheus's pancreas was completely healed and he was able to eat normally without restriction.

Healing a University Student

In 2022, a Costa Rican woman named Valeria suffered a serious head trauma after falling from her bicycle in Florence. Her doctors said she had a very low chance of survival. Valeria's mother prayed to Acutis at his tomb in Assisi, and Valeria began to breathe on her own the same day. She made a full recovery and was discharged from intensive care after 10 days.

Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati

A Global Patron and Companion for Young Adults, Athletes, and Ordinary People



Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati is a saint for the modern world, and especially for young people. Born in 1901 in Turin, Italy, his time on earth was short—only 24 years—but he filled it passionately with holy living. Pier Giorgio was a model of virtue, a "man of the beatitudes," as Pope John Paul II called him at his beatification ceremony in 1990. He was described by friends as "an explosion of joy." As Pier Giorgio's sister, Luciana, says in her biography of her brother, "He represented the finest in Christian youth: pure, happy, enthusiastic about everything that is good and beautiful."

To our modern world which is often burdened by cynicism and angst, Pier Giorgio's life offers a brilliant contrast, a life

rich in meaning, purpose, and peace derived from faith in God. From the earliest age, and despite two unreligious parents who misunderstood and disapproved of his piety and intense interest in Catholicism, Pier Giorgio placed Christ first in all that he did. These parental misunderstandings, which were very painful to him, persisted until the day of his sudden death of polio. However, he bore this treatment patiently, silently, and with great love.

Pier Giorgio prayed daily, offering, among other prayers, a daily rosary on his knees by his bedside. Often his agnostic father would find him asleep in this position. "He gave his whole self, both in prayer and in action, in service to Christ," Luciana Frassati writes. After Pier Giorgio began to attend Jesuit school as a boy, he received a rare permission in those days to take communion daily. "Sometimes he passed whole nights in Eucharistic adoration." For Pier Giorgio, Christ was the answer. Therefore, all of his action was oriented toward Christ and began first in contemplation of Him. With this interest in the balance of contemplation and action, it is no wonder Pier Giorgio was drawn in 1922 at the age of 21 to the Fraternities of St. Dominic, and became a Third Order lay Dominican.

Pier Giorgio was handsome, vibrant, and natural. These attractive characteristics drew people to him. He had many good friends and he shared his faith with them with ease and openness. He engaged himself in many different apostolates. Pier Giorgio also loved sports. He was an avid outdoorsman and loved hiking, riding

horses, skiing, and mountain climbing. He was never one to pass on playing a practical joke, either. He relished laughter and good humor.

As Luciana points out, "Catholic social teaching could never remain simply a theory with [Pier Giorgio]." He set his faith concretely into action through spirited political activism during the Fascist period in World War I Italy. He lived his faith, too, through discipline with his school work, which was a tremendous cross for him as he was a poor student.

Most notably, however, Pier Giorgio lived his faith through constant, humble, mostly hidden service to the poorest of Turin. Although Pier Giorgio grew up in a privileged environment, he never lorded over anyone the wealth and prestige of his family. Instead, he lived simply and gave away food, money, or anything that anyone asked of him. It is suspected that he contracted from the very people to whom he was ministering in the slums the polio that would kill him.

Even as Pier Giorgio lay dying, his final week of rapid physical deterioration was an exercise in heroic virtue. His attention was turned outward toward the needs of others and he never drew attention to his anguish, especially since his own grandmother was dying at the same time he was. Pier Giorgio's heart was surrendered completely to God's will for him. His last concern was for the poor. On the eve of his death, with a paralyzed hand, he scribbled a message to a friend, reminding the friend not to forget the injections for Converso, a poor man Pier Giorgio had been assisting.

When news of Pier Giorgio's death on July 4, 1925 reached the neighborhood and city, the Frassati parents, who had no idea about the generous self-donation of their young son, were astonished by the sight of thousands of people crowded outside their mansion on the day of their son's funeral Mass and burial. The poor, the lonely, and those who had been touched by Pier Giorgio's love and faithful example had come to pay homage to this luminous model of Christian living.

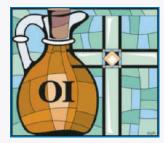
Pier Giorgio's mortal remains were found incorrupt in 1981 and were transferred from the family tomb in the cemetery of Pollone to the Cathedral of Turin.

Source: https://frassati.nyc/about-pier-giorgio

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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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