



Blessed Trinity

Weekend Magazine

Over 60 YEARS COURAGEOUSLY *Living the Gospel*

September 14, 2025 • Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Why Christian hope rests on a belief in eternal life



Philip Kosloski - published on 01/18/25

One of the primary foundational roots of Christian hope is a belief that we are not meant to live forever on earth, but to live eternally with God.

Hope in the Catholic Church is a virtue that points us beyond ourselves and invites us to look forward to the eternal reward God has prepared for us in Heaven.

The reality of an afterlife is what drives Christian hope, as it can give us all a concrete destination to strive for and long to reach.

Eternal life

Pope Benedict XVI reflects on this aspect of Christian hope in his encyclical, *Spe salvi*, by connecting it to baptism:

Today as in the past, this is what being baptized, becoming Christians, is all about: it is not just an act of socialization within the community, not simply a welcome into the Church. The parents expect more for the one to be baptized: they expect that faith, which includes the corporeal nature of the Church and her sacraments, **will give life to their child—eternal life.**

Yet, many of us have doubts about eternity, as Pope Benedict XVI points out:

Faith is the substance of hope. But then the question arises: **do we really want this—to live eternally?** Perhaps many people reject the faith today simply because they do not find the prospect of eternal life attractive.

Continued on page 2



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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

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

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... Continued from cover

What they desire is not eternal life at all, but this present life, for which faith in eternal life seems something of an impediment. To continue living for ever—endlessly—appears more like a curse than a gift. Death, admittedly, one would wish to postpone for as long as possible. But to live always, without end—this, all things considered, can only be monotonous and ultimately unbearable.

Pope Benedict XVI believed that the key for Christian hope was to long for Heaven, seeing it as a destination that gives to us pure joy:

We can only attempt to grasp the idea that such a moment is life in the full sense, a plunging ever anew into the vastness of being, in which we are **simply overwhelmed with joy**. This is how Jesus expresses it in Saint John's Gospel: "I will see you again and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you" (16:22). **We must think along these lines if we want to understand the object of Christian hope**, to understand what it is that our faith, our being with Christ, leads us to expect.

To cultivate Christian hope in our lives, we need to look forward to that day when we will be united fully with Jesus Christ.

It will not be a day of sadness, but one of pure and inexpressible joy, a joy we will experience for all eternity.

Originally published at Aleteia.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



Saturday October 4th

**BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS
ON THE PARISH GREEN AT 9:00AM
BLESSED TRINITY CATHOLIC CHURCH**



September 14, 2025

Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross

Num 21:4b-9 | Phil 2:6-11 | Jn 3:13-17

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

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

Although God had freed our ancestors in faith from their slavery in Egypt, today we find them grumbling against the Lord as they wander in the desert. Even after we've glimpsed so much of God's goodness, we, too, can begin to grumble in challenging moments of our lives. It's precisely then that we need to cling to faith. After serpents appeared and began to bite those who had grumbled against God, those who had been bitten only had to look at the serpent mounted on a pole and put their faith in God once again to be healed. Similarly, when we find ourselves in the trials of life, we need only look at the cross of Jesus with faith. "Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, so that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life." Amid the storms of our lives, we are called to put our trust in his cross, for through it we are saved and set free.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Paul tells us that God the Father "greatly exalted" Jesus for his humility in embracing the cross, and that ultimately, all creation will join the Father in glorifying Christ. We who know the gift of what Jesus did for us on the cross are called to praise him with our voices and our lives. We praise and glorify Christ first through our example. How might our day-to-day interactions give others a glimpse of the humble and self-emptying love of Jesus? Finally, think of the ways that knowing Christ's love has made a difference in your life. Has it made you more patient? Has it made you more hopeful? Think of ways that you could share this in conversation. Telling others about what God has done for you or the difference that he has made in your life is one way of exalting Christ.

PRAISE

Today, spend some time thanking and praising God for the gift of the cross and our salvation in Christ. You might wish to use this traditional prayer frequently used during the stations of the cross in Lent: "We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you. Because, by your holy cross, you have redeemed the world."



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 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 the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross

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

Sunday, September 14, Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross

8:00 a.m. Joseph Ripriano (dec)

9:30 a.m. Mass for Parishioners

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

Monday, September 15, Memorial of Our Lady of Sorrows

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

Tuesday, September 16, Memorial of Saints Cornelius, Pope, and Cyprian, Bishop and Martyrs

8:00 a.m. David Santry (dec)

Wednesday, September 17, Weekday in Ordinary Time

8:00 a.m. Mass for Vocations and
Gary DeGeorge (dec)

Thursday, September 18, Weekday in Ordinary Time

8:00 a.m. George Kattula (dec)

Friday, September 19, Weekday in Ordinary Time

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

Saturday, September 20, Memorial of Saint Andrew Kim Taegon, Priest, and Paul Chong Ha-sang, and Companions, Martyrs

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

Saturday, September 20, Vigil for Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00 p.m. Gerald Hayman (dec)

Sunday, September 21, Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

9:30 a.m. Mass for Parishioners

11:30 a.m. John Gray (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.



Practicing Catholic - Beneath the Surface

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Mini reflection: When the unfaithful of the Israelites were bitten by the serpents, they were healed by looking upon the instrument of their suffering: the serpent itself, mounted on Moses' staff. To heal us, God invites us to look upon the cross.

The Cross is Not Negotiable

"Holiness isn't for wimps," Mother Angelica famously said. "And the cross isn't negotiable, sweetheart — it's a requirement." I love Mother Angelica, and I love this quote. Following God is *tough*, and to do it you have to make a decision to *be tough*, to endure tough things — and ultimately, to love the toughness of it all, because within that struggle God meets us with mercy and salvation.

But in light of today's readings, I think Mother Angelica would forgive me for tweaking her words a tiny bit. Holiness *is* for wimps, *because* the cross isn't negotiable.

When the unfaithful among the Israelites were bitten by the serpents, they were healed by looking upon the instrument of their suffering: the serpent itself, mounted on Moses' staff. With a literary flourish that puts Homer and Shakespeare to shame, God inverts that primitive symbol. To heal us, he invites us to look upon the cross — the sacrifice which achieved our redemption.

Jesus came here to die on that cross for us. For the wimps. Because we couldn't do it ourselves, even if we tried. We couldn't right all of our wrongs, not if we had a million years to do it. We would keep screwing it up. We would keep failing. We're wimps; that's what we do.

But the cross — the cross is a magnificent invitation to something more. Divinity Himself, assuming the cloak of flesh and the weight of sin, so that when we look at the cross we might recognize ourselves. So that we might see what we have been, what we are, what we could be.

And none of it is negotiable. ©LPi



Weekly Offering

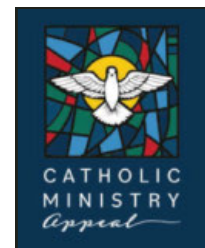
Weekly Giving 08/31/25

Offertory	\$ 8,390.00
Other Donations	\$ 95.00
St. Vincent de Paul	\$ 411.00
Restoring the Sacred	\$ 25.00

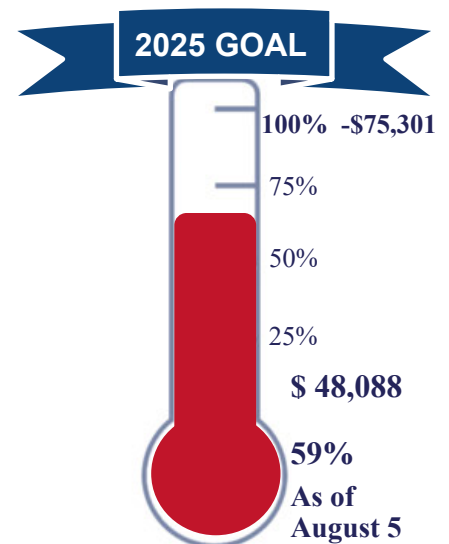
Weekly Giving 09/07/25

Offertory	\$ 9,165.00
Other Donations	\$ 602.00
Mission Cooperative	\$ 2,717.00
St. Vincent de Paul	\$ 155.00
Restoring the Sacred	\$ 625.00

Thank you for your generosity!



Catholic Ministry Appeal



Thank you for your prayerful giving!

Upcoming Events

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

6:00 pm Eucharistic Exposition and Meditation

7:00 pm Benediction

Thursday, September 18

4:00 pm St. Vincent de Paul Meeting CYH

5:00 pm Handbells MR

6:30 pm Choir Practice MR

Sunday, September 21

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

Monday, September 22

6:30 pm Life in the Spirit CYH

Tuesday, September 23

10:00 am Scripture Class CYH

Wednesday, September 24

Adoration

8:30 am Church open all day for prayer CH

5:30 pm Rosary

6:00 pm Eucharistic Exposition and Meditation

7:00 pm Benediction

Friday, September 26

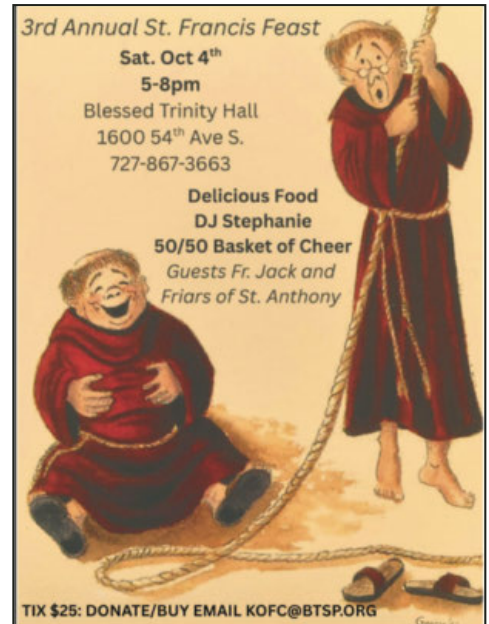
Social Group Meeting at Kahwa after the 8:00 am Mass

Saturday, September 27

3:00 pm BT Social Group's Car Wash and Bake Sale PL

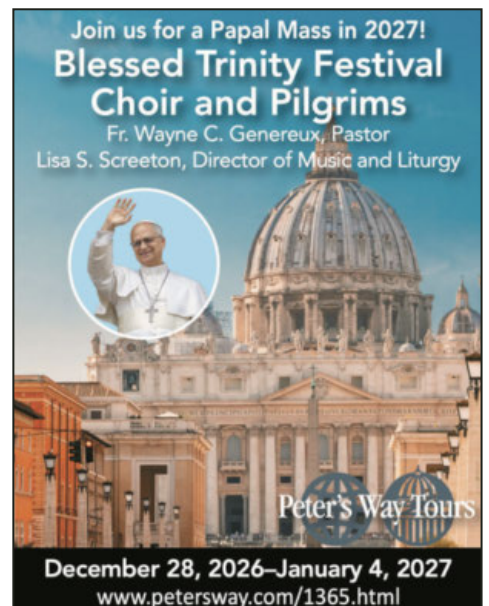
Key for Events

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



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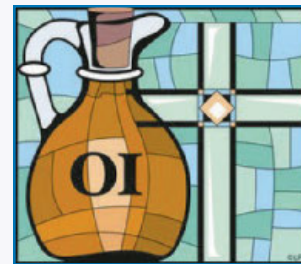
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Coughlin, Bernadette
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If you or a close family member would like to be added or removed from our prayer list, please contact the parish office at 727-867-3663.

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