



# Blessed Trinity

## Weekend Magazine

Over 60 YEARS COURAGEOUSLY *Living the Gospel*

November 30, 2025 ▪ First Sunday of Advent

## Advent invites us to stop scrolling and pause in silence



*Philip Kosloski - published on 12/19/24*

*We can be distracted in a variety of ways in our daily lives. Advent is a time when we can take a break and contemplate the presence of God.*

For many of us, our daily life consists of walking around, looking down at our phone, hoping the next thing we see will offer us a moment of happiness.

Often it is how we cope with our own situation and the suffering we may be enduring on the inside.

Advent can help us break from that cycle, put down our phone, and enter into the presence of God.

### God wants to speak to you

Pope Benedict XVI reflected on a similar theme during a homily in 2009, stating how the world can "monopolize" our attention:

In our daily lives we all experience having **little time for the Lord** and also little time for ourselves. We end by being **absorbed in "doing"**. Is it not true that activities often absorb us and that society with its multiple interests monopolizes our attention? Is it not true that **we devote a lot of time to entertainment** and to various kinds of amusement? At times we **get carried away**.

Advent is the perfect opportunity to evaluate our own screen time and to compare it to the time we are open to God's presence.

The good news is that God is already knocking at our door, but we need to open it to him and stop what we are doing, as Pope Benedict XVI explains:

The meaning of the expression "advent" therefore includes that of *visitatio*, which simply and specifically means "visit"; in this case it is a question of a visit from God: **he enters my life and wishes to speak to me**...Advent, this powerful liturgical season that we are beginning, invites us to **pause in silence to understand a presence**. It is an invitation to understand that the individual events of the day are hints that God is giving us, **signs of the attention he has for each one of us**.

God wants to "visit" us and to speak to our hearts. However, we need to be listening to him and that requires focused attention, without any distractions to prevent the ears of our heart from hearing his voice.

Originally published at [Aleteia.org](http://Aleteia.org), reprinted with permission



## Mass Intentions

**Saturday, November 29, Weekday in Ordinary Time**

8:00 a.m. Deana Jespersen (dec)

**Saturday, November 29, Vigil for First Sunday of Advent**

4:00 p.m. Mario Rocca (dec)

**Sunday, November 30, First Sunday of Advent**

8:00 a.m. Tobias, Rose, and John Weber (dec)

9:30 a.m. Mass for Parishioners

11:30 a.m. Se Thi Tran (dec)

**Monday, December 1, Advent Weekday**

8:00 a.m. Deacon Lionel Roberts (dec)

**Tuesday, December 2, Advent Weekday**

8:00 a.m. The Congiu Family (dec)

**Wednesday, December 3, Memorial of Saint Francis Xavier, Priest**

8:00 a.m. Mass for Vocations

**Thursday, December 4, Advent Weekday**

8:00 a.m. Carole Davison (dec)

**Friday, December 5, Advent Weekday**

8:00 a.m. Wes Orr (dec)

**Saturday, December 6, Advent Weekday**

8:00 a.m. Paula Dubinsky (dec)

**Saturday, December 6, Vigil for Second Sunday of Advent**

4:00 p.m. James, Matt, and Annette Lawler (dec)  
and Patricia Sullivan (dec)

**Sunday, December 7, Second Sunday of Advent**

8:00 a.m. Sarah Tabor Hosford (dec)

9:30 a.m. Mass for Parishioners and  
Nicole Bistany (dec)

11:30 a.m. John Gray (dec)

## 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.



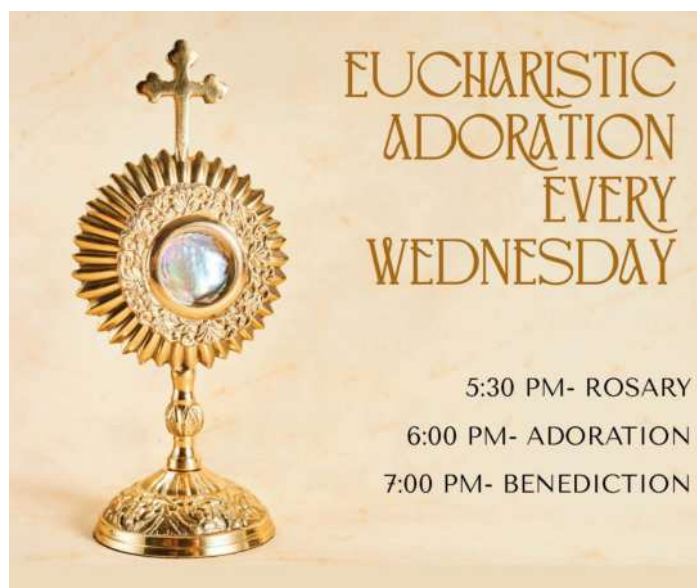
## Are You Hoping to Receive One of the Following Sacraments With Us?

### 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 to schedule an appointment.





November 30, 2025  
First Sunday of Advent  
Is 2:1-5 | Rom 13:11-14 | Mt 24:37-4

Written by  
THE  
FAITHFUL  
DISCIPLE

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

For many in the upper latitudes of the northern hemisphere, this is the darkest time of the year, the time when the duration of daylight is at its lowest. It's providential, then, that our first reading calls us to "walk in the light of the Lord!" Paul tells us that we do this by "throw[ing] off the works of darkness" and "put[ting] on the armor of light." While we might not struggle with the vices listed in Paul's Letter to the Romans, each of us has our own struggles against sin. As we begin this Advent season, let us take time to do a thorough examination of conscience to discern areas of weakness and sin – those "works of darkness" Paul talks about – in our own lives. Then, consider taking up practices that help you to foster the opposing virtues to arm yourself against these temptations. As you grow in these virtues, you'll certainly be on your way up the mountain of the Lord and walking in his light!

## **PRAY**

Take a moment to pray this week for those "divine appointments" – those individuals who might come your way – seeking encouragement or insight into the spiritual questions in their lives. Ask for the grace to be "awake" so that you're ready to meet them when they come. We can't always predict when these encounters will happen, but we can prepare ourselves to receive these persons as Christ and offer them our full attention and love.

## **GO EVANGELIZE**

### **PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT**

Today's Gospel calls us to vigilance. Jesus tells us, "Therefore, stay awake! For you do not know on which day your Lord will come." While he is speaking about our need to be ready to meet the Lord when he comes at the end of our lives, it's also an invitation for us to always be ready to share our faith with others whenever the opportunity presents itself. As Scripture says, we should "always be ready to give an explanation to anyone who asks you a reason for your hope." (1 Pet 3:15) We never know the moment when someone will come to us in need of prayer, a word of encouragement, or with questions related to their own spiritual hunger. We must always be ready to meet them where they are and offer a word of hope.



## Music Ministry Moment

### *Why does Music during Mass change at Advent?*

Music at Mass changes during Advent to reflect the season's themes of anticipation, watchful waiting, and spiritual preparation for the arrival of Christ. Music is more subdued, reflective, and somber than Christmas music, with a focus on themes of longing and preparation *rather* than the full celebration of Jesus' birth.

### *Why don't we sing the Gloria during Advent?*

Music at Mass should always reflect the liturgical season and set the appropriate tone of the scriptures from which music is chosen. The first words of the Gloria come from the Angels singing it to the shepherds the night Jesus was born, so it shouldn't be sung as we await the birth. When we sing the Gloria at Midnight Mass, it introduces the great celebration of Christ's arrival!

Blessed Trinity and St. Vincent de Paul presents:



## Christmas Angel Giving Tree

The Angels on this tree assist our SVDP families celebrate Christmas. All Children deserve to open a gift on Christmas morning.

The tree will go up on Sat. Nov. 15<sup>th</sup> and will be filled with ornaments for our Parish families to choose from. The tree will stay up till all Angels have been claimed.

Return gifts unwrapped with the Angel attached to the bag. **(It is imperative to not lose the Angel, as it is attached to a special child.) ONLY NEW GIFTS.**

All gifts must be returned under the tree by **Dec. 7th**.

## Learn About the Parish Trip to Rome in 2027!



There will be an information session on Thursday, **December 11, 2025** from 5:00 pm to 6:00 pm in the church, a **ZOOM link will also be available**. We will discuss the Blessed Trinity trip to Rome to attend a Papal Mass and Audience.

The Blessed Trinity Festival Choir will also sing a concert for the City of Rome and sing Masses at St. Peter's Basilica

and the Basilica of St. Paul Outside the Walls.

For more information email Lisa Screeton at [LSS@btsp.org](mailto:LSS@btsp.org)

## 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 Parish Office along with your donation.

The donor's names will be listed in the bulletin and the honorees names will be placed on the Altar.

**The deadline for inclusion of your name in the bulletin is Dec. 17.**

**Please Check One:**

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Donation Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*Only A Few Tickets Left!*  
**GET TICKETS NOW!**

*We Await...*



**An Evening of Lessons and Carols**  
**Wine reception to follow**

DECEMBER 7, 2025  
6:00 P.M. IN THE CHURCH  
(\$10 SUGGESTED DONATION)

### RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

#### Wide-Open Eyes

When my first child was born, we had a nursery created for him that featured images from "The Beginner's Bible" painted on all the walls. (You may have seen this Bible before, where the Biblical figures in the book all had large wide-open eyes.) Images of Adam and Eve, David and Goliath, and Jesus were displayed on all four walls. On the largest wall was a big picture of Noah's Ark with lots of animals. As our son got older, we would point to images on the wall as we read bedtime stories to him. Our son is now in his 20's and living several hours from us, so those days are far behind in our rearview mirror of life.

We prepared quite a lot for his birth. When our next two children were born, the preparation time had decreased significantly. Most parents know what I am talking about. The newness of your first-born brings with it so much emotion that you are compelled to spend countless hours preparing. When the next children are born, you are certainly excited, but you act differently and with a little more reserve.

For most readers, this is not your first Advent. It probably won't be your last. If you approach these December days simply as a way to prepare for Christmas, you may find yourself just doing the same old thing as last year. However, if you spend this time reflecting on the time when Jesus returns or when you shall see him face-to-face, you might be able to stir up some of that emotion of anticipation within you. Jesus is coming again. When people of all ages understand that reality, it can be a cause for large, wide-open eyes indeed.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS, ©LPi

### Music is Instrumental!

Help Blessed Trinity build an instrumental ensemble! We currently have vocal and handbell choirs, but want to build a group of instrumentalists for the Music Ministry.

Did you play an instrument in high school? College? Community Band? Professionally? Just for fun?

If you play guitar, strings, trombone, tuba, trumpet, saxophone, oboe, clarinet, bassoon, or percussion we NEED you!

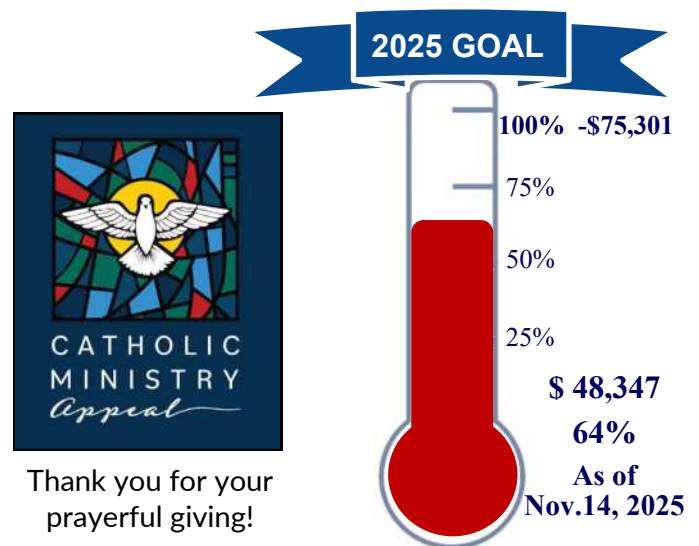
Call Lisa in the office or email [lss@btsp.org](mailto:lss@btsp.org)



### 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!**



**The Blessed Trinity Social Group's**

# FOOD DRIVE

Help Feed Our Neighbors  
Drop off in the Narthex of the Church

**Canned Meats and Toiletries are especially appreciated**

**Thanks for your ongoing generosity!**

## Upcoming Events

### Sunday, November 30

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

### Monday, December 1

6:30 pm Life in the Spirit CYH

### Tuesday, December 2

7:00 pm Knights of Columbus Meeting PC

### Wednesday, December 3

#### Adoration

5:30 pm Rosary CH

6:00 pm Eucharistic Exposition and Meditation CH

7:00 pm Benediction CH

### Thursday, December 4

5:00 pm Handbell Practice MR

6:30 pm Choir Practice MR

### Sunday, December 7

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

6:00 pm "We Await..." Advent Concert CH

Reception to follow in the Parish Center

### Monday, December 8 Immaculate Conception-Holy Day of Obligation

6:30 pm Life in the Spirit CYH

9:00 am Mass CH

7:00 pm Mass CH

### Wednesday, December 10

#### Adoration

5:30 pm Rosary CH

6:00 pm Eucharistic Exposition and Meditation CH

7:00 pm Benediction CH

### Thursday, December 11

4:00 pm St. Vincent de Paul Meeting CYH-1

5:00 pm Handbell Practice MR

6:30 pm Choir Practice MR

7:00 pm Advent Penance Service CH

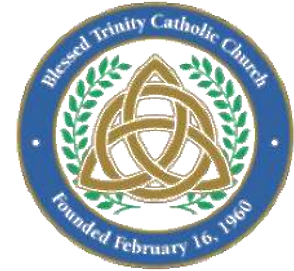
Followed by individual confessions

### Sunday, December 14

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

## 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



## 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

Fr. Eric Peters

## 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](http://btsp.org)

## Confessions

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 54th Ave S  
St. Petersburg, FL 33712

**Phone**, (727) 867-3663

**FAX**, (727) 864-2679

**Website**, <http://btsp.org>

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Vanderbeck, Jay  
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Zajac, Leslie



## 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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