



Blessed Trinity

Weekend Magazine

Over 60 YEARS COURAGEOUSLY *Living the Gospel*

December 14, 2025 ▪ Third Sunday of Advent

Roll up your sleeves this Advent, invites Pope

I.Media - published on 12/06/25



He encouraged us to serve "without complaining," reminding that "the smile on our lips is a sign of the grace within us."

'The world becomes a better place if we sacrifice a little security and tranquility in order to choose what is right,' said Pope Leo XIV on Saturday, December 6, 2025, during the Jubilee audience held in St. Peter's Square. Before thousands of pilgrims gathered under a gentle winter sun, he reminded them that "no one saves the world alone" and urged Catholics to actively seek God in their daily lives.

After a long tour of St. Peter's Square in the popemobile, the Pope began his teaching by referring to the liturgical season of Advent. This period, he emphasized, invites believers to "learn to recognize [Jesus] each time He comes and to prepare for His return."

"This waiting is not passive," Leo XIV insisted. He called on the faithful to seek God "in the realities of life, with intelligence, with the heart and by rolling up our sleeves."

This quest, he said, concerns "in particular the lay faithful, men and women, because the God who became incarnate comes to meet us in everyday situations."

Quoting the Second Vatican Council, he emphasized the central role of the laity in building the Kingdom – a theological concept that refers both to the present world in which God manifests himself and to the promise of eternal life.

Alberto Marvelli, witness to hope in action

To illustrate his point, the Pope gave the example of Blessed Alberto Marvelli (1918-1946), a young Italian engineer involved in Catholic Action.

"To hope is to participate, to serve the Kingdom of God brings joy even in the midst of great risks," he said, as he recounted his life.

During the Second World War, this young Italian devoted himself to the wounded, the sick and the displaced. At the end of the conflict, he was elected city councillor and worked on reconstruction before dying tragically at the age of 28. "The world becomes a better place if we lose a little security and tranquility in order to choose the good," the Pope assured. The young man was beatified in 2004 by John Paul II.

Continued on page 2

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A call to joyful commitment

Leo XIV invited each of the faithful to reflect on their own commitment: "Am I involved in a good initiative that puts my talents at the service of others?"

He encouraged us to serve "without complaining," reminding that "the smile on our lips is a sign of the grace within us."

Hope, he insisted, is not reduced to passive waiting, but is lived in joy and generosity, even in the face of challenges. "No one saves the world alone," the Pope concluded, recalling that God Himself chooses to act "with us."

Advent, a time of preparation and hope, is an invitation to unite to build a more just and fraternal world. "Together is better," he said, emphasizing that everyone's participation makes the promise of a world renewed by love more tangible.

The pontiff will preside over the last jubilee audience of the year on December 20. The jubilee audiences have been held on Saturdays, and are open to the public like the general audiences of Wednesdays.

On January 6, 2026, Leo will close the 'holy door' of St. Peter's Basilica, thus ending the Jubilee of 2025.

The next jubilee is an extraordinary one: 2033, when we will celebrate the 2,000th anniversary of the Resurrection.

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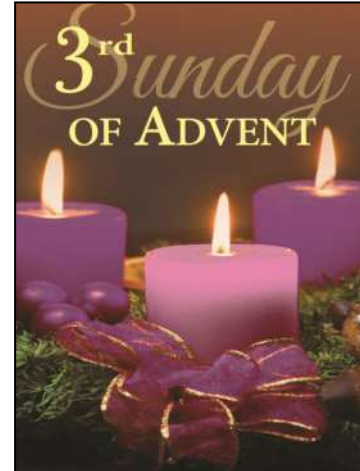
Are You Hoping to Receive One of the Following Sacraments With Us?

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.



Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 13, Memorial of Saint Lucy, Virgin and Martyr

8:00 a.m. Ana and John Strzeszynski (dec)

Saturday, December 13, Vigil for Third Sunday of Advent

4:00 p.m. Patricia Carman (dec)

Sunday, December 14, Third Sunday of Advent

8:00 a.m. Loretta Crown (dec)

9:30 a.m. Mass for Parishioners

11:30 a.m. The Gallace Family (dec)

Monday, December 15, Advent Weekday

8:00 a.m. Frank Zaweski (dec)

Tuesday, December 16, Advent Weekday

8:00 a.m. Matthew Norton Adgie (dec)

Wednesday, December 17, Advent Weekday

8:00 a.m. Mass for Vocations

Thursday, December 18, Advent Weekday

8:00 a.m. Albin Zaweski (dec)

Friday, December 19, Advent Weekday

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

Saturday, December 20, Advent Weekday

8:00 a.m. Peter Keith Gonzalez (dec)

Saturday, December 20, Vigil for Fourth Sunday of Advent

4:00 p.m. Hunter Gutierrez (dec)

Sunday, December 21, Fourth Sunday of Advent

8:00 a.m. Glen Davis (dec)

9:30 a.m. Mass for Parishioners

Charles Paul Screeton (dec)

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



December 14, 2025
Third Sunday of Advent
Is 35:1-6a, 10 | Jas 5:7-10 | Mt 11:2-11

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

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

One morning, I woke up feeling exhausted after a fitful night of sleep. I was achy and generally under the weather. Despite this, I made a to-do list because the day's work still needed to be accomplished. I was determined to not let this sickness interrupt my productivity, even though I *knew* I needed to rest. It occurred to me, then, that rest — and dependence on others and God — is sacred also. In today's psalm, we hear of the many ways the Lord provides: The *Lord* gives, the *Lord* raises, the *Lord* loves, the *Lord* protects, the *Lord* saves. We cannot accomplish our own salvation, but we can rest in the promise the Lord provides, and we can hope in the salvation offered in Christ. As we wait in joyful anticipation for the coming of Jesus at Christmas, let us find time to rest in his Word and his presence, trusting that our salvation does not depend on us and has already come to fruition in Christ.

REST

We are more able to see the signs of God's providence in our lives when we take time to reflect. Make time to rest in God's presence this week. This could mean stopping into a chapel for a couple minutes of quiet prayer, reflecting on Scripture using *Lectio Divina*, or reading the story of Christ's nativity in the Gospel. These simple practices will prepare our hearts to recognize Christ's presence and goodness at each moment of our lives.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

As we saw in our psalm, God is the one who takes initiative, who provides for our salvation. In our work to share the faith with others, sometimes our task is simply to help others become aware of the ways God is providing for them by pointing out the signs of his action in their lives. When the disciples of John came to Jesus asking if he was "the one who is to come" or whether they should "look for another," Jesus reminds them of the evidence all around them: the blind regain their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, and the dead are raised. As we help others to see God's work in their lives, we are also leading them to greater faith and trust in him.



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!



Take Note



Our Music Ministry now has a website where you can learn new music, find out about music events, and learn more about growing opportunities in the Music Ministry at Blessed Trinity.

Find us at btspmusic.org

Come Join the
Social Group



2920 34th St. S next to Aldi
Friday, December 26th at 9:00 am



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:

☐

IN HONOR OF:

☐

IN MEMORY OF:

Donors Name: _____

Donation Amount: \$ _____

What Makes You Special

John the Baptist is truly an intriguing figure of history. He was a cousin of Jesus and literally prepared all those who would listen for this new way of life ushered in by a Messiah. Besides the key role he plays in the Gospel story, his depiction in Scripture, and then in literature, movies, and other media, gives us an image of a pretty unique person. How about locusts and wild honey for dinner? Can you imagine camel's hair as a staple in your wardrobe? He lived differently, and he stood out among the status quo. Of course, his look and cuisine didn't stand out nearly as much as his message.

How do you stand out? What separates you from the crowd? God has created each of us completely unique and with a combination of gifts like no one else. How can you uncover and understand your unique gifts? First, reflect on what makes you happiest in life. We are happiest when we are using the talents God gave us. Next, think about what comes naturally to you, whether it is a skill, task, or emotion. Recurring patterns in our behavior and experiences provide clues to our giftedness. Finally, what do other people see in you? The communities we live in, whether it is our family, parish, school, or workplace are filled with people who can provide clues to us by their observations. After these steps, can you say what makes you special? Now, let's start to grow that, lean on it, and stand out in a way that brings glory to God.

Second Collection will be for Retired Religious Fund

RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

The Season That Gives Back

I don't have anything left to give.

You can't pour from an empty cup.

All I do is give. Who is giving to me?

Raise your hand if these thoughts have ever run through your head. I'm sure they occur to all of us from time to time. We can become so easily depleted by the fast pace of life and whatever vocation God has called us to, whether that's parenthood, a demanding professional career or the caretaking of friends and family (or as so often happens, a hybrid of all three). Many of us also undergo certain seasons — seasons of the year, but also seasons of life — that seem to sap us of energy and leave us totally empty.

In these times, it seems impossible to continue in the spirituality of Everyday Stewardship. Graciousness, mindfulness, prayerfulness, gratitude, accountability — maintaining some semblance of these characteristics in our daily life feels not only overly optimistic, but totally impossible.

The Church gives us certain liturgical seasons that are meant to fill us up, almost like spiritual pit stops. Advent is one such season, and the Scriptural passages we reflect on at Mass during these four weeks are filled with images of nature defied. We see the dry steppe blooming. We see the weak made firm. We see the frightened made strong. We see the lame walk. We see the Virgin give birth.

If you think you don't have anything left to give this Advent, think again. This is the season of miracles when what we thought was depleted brings new life.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPi

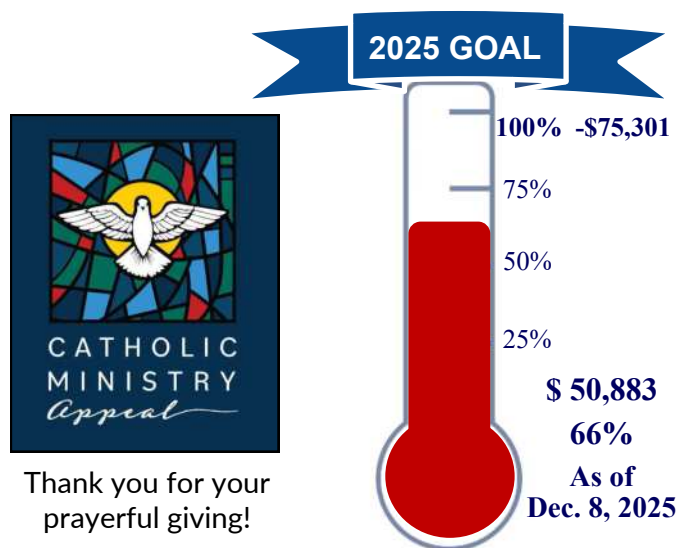


Weekly Offering

Weekly Giving 12/07/25

| | |
|----------------------|-----------|
| Offertory | \$ 21,344 |
| Other Donations | \$ 1,363 |
| Restoring the Sacred | \$ 2,726 |
| St. Vincent de Paul | \$ 377 |

Thank you for your generosity!



Marriage Jubilee Mass

The Marriage Jubilee Mass of Thanksgiving will take place at the Cathedral of St. Jude the Apostle on Sunday, February 8 at 3:00 pm.

This event honors couples throughout the diocese who will celebrate their 25th or 50th anniversary as well as those celebrating 51 or more years of marriage during the 2026 calendar year.

Please RSVP by calling our parish office by Thursday January 15th.

Upcoming Events

Sunday, December 14

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

Monday, December 15

6:30 pm Life in the Spirit CYH

Wednesday, December 17

Adoration

5:30 pm Rosary CH

6:00 pm Eucharistic Exposition and Meditation CH

7:00 pm Benediction CH

Thursday, December 18

5:00 pm Handbell Practice MR

6:30 pm Choir Practice MR

Sunday, December 21

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

Monday, December 22

6:30 pm Life in the Spirit CYH

Wednesday, December 24

No Adoration today

4:00 pm Annual Children's Vigil Mass CH

8:15-8:45pm Community Carol Singalong CH

9:00 pm Christmas Evening Mass CH

Thursday, December 25 Christmas Day

8:00 am Mass CH

9:30 am Mass CH

11:30 am Mass CH

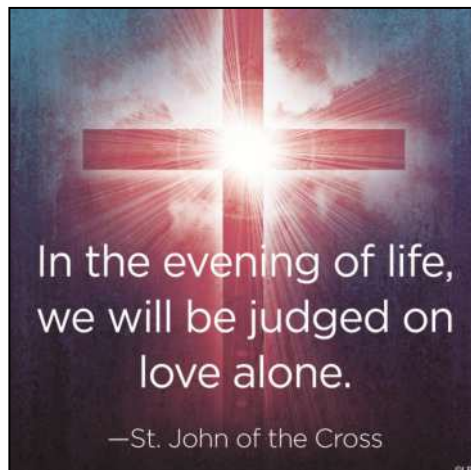
Friday, December 26

BT Social Group Coffee Meeting after the 8:00 am Mass

Location @ The Buzz, 2920 34th St S

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

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

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BLESSED TRINITY
CATHOLIC CHURCH

December 14, 2025

Dear Friends in Christ,

Subject: Rev. Mr. William Lovelace

Deacon Bill recently informed me of a vision problem he has experienced and feels it is in his best interest to minimize early and late evening driving until other options can be explored. Deacon Bill recently moved to Sun City Center. Therefore, he will be leaving his service as Deacon at Blessed Trinity. His last day will be December 21, 2025.

Deacon Bill, and his wife Melayna extend their sincere thanks to the Blessed Trinity community for welcoming them to Blessed Trinity 13 years ago. He appreciated the opportunities and support he has received. He said, "It has been a privilege to walk in our faith journey together, and we are grateful for the many blessings and wonderful experiences we have shared while serving here." His wife Melayna has served the parish in our Choir and cantor during the weekend Masses. He said, "We will always keep the great people of Blessed Trinity in our thoughts and prayers. Thank you for your understanding."

On a personal note, I have always supported the Deacon Ministry in the Catholic Church. Deacons and their wives give great support to our Church. This is one of the fruits of the Second Vatican Council. Bill and Melayna received the St. Jude Award for their outstanding service at Blessed Trinity from Bishop Parkes a few years ago. Deacon Bill has been involved in preparing our young people for the Sacraments of Confirmation and those coming into the Catholic Church. We have a few candidates again this year, and Deacon Bill has arranged zoom meetings with them for the remainder of their training.

We will have a reception in the Parish Hall for Deacon Bill and Melayna following the 9:30 a.m. Mass on Sunday, December 21. Deacon Bill and his wife will celebrate Christmas with their family in Connecticut.

I have been very grateful to Bill and Melayna for their service, and we wish them all the best.

Kind personal regards,

Fr. Wayne C. Genereux, Pastor

Liturgical Calendar

December 2025-January 1, 2026

802nd Anniversary of the Nativity Inaugurated by St. Francis



Advent and Christmas



BLESSED TRINITY
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Holiday Schedule
December 1 through 31, 2025 – January 1, 2026

Advent Mission. Your Self-Directed Mission

Confession: *The Only Key to Living Forever*

Every parishioner was given a free book at the end of October about Confession to read prior to our Advent Penance Service on **December 11. Plus, we have had opportunities for all parishioners to receive additional guidance regarding confession.**

Sunday December 7, “We Await” Advent Concert, and Reception 6:00 p.m. Advent Concert of Lessons and Carols in the Church, Featuring the Blessed Trinity Bell and Festival Choirs, and Special Guests, under the direction of Lisa Screeton, Choir Director of Music & Liturgy. Reception will follow in the Parish Hall at 7:00 p.m., sponsored by the Knights of Columbus.

Monday, December 8, Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception
(Holy Day of Obligation)

Mass Times: 9:00 a.m., 7:00 p.m.

Thursday December 11, Evening Penance Service

7:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. Brief Service followed by individual confessions.
Visiting Clergy will assist with Confessions.

Wednesday, December 24, Christmas Eve

Annual Children’s Vigil Mass at 4:00 p.m., A Tradition at Blessed Trinity
Community Carol Singalong at 8:15-8:45 p.m.
Followed by a period of Sacred Silence
Christmas Evening Mass at 9:00 p.m.

Thursday, December 25, Christmas Day

Mass Times: 8:00 a.m. 9:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.

December 27-28 Feast of the Holy Family

Saturday, December 27, **Daily Mass:** 8:00 a.m.

Vigil Mass of the Holy Family 4:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 28. **Mass times:** 8:00 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 11:30 a.m.

January 1, 2026, New Year’s Day- Solemnity of Mary Mother of God

No 8:00 a.m. Mass. Mass times: 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m. (Holy day of Obligation)

Argo, Becky
 Arnold, Barbara
 Baker Family
 Barhorst, Brady
 Becker, Mary
 Brown, Bob & Beverly
 Calamita, John
 Christ, Kathryn
 Connor, Kathryn
 Cisek, Marilyn
 Clark, Christine and
 Henry
 Clark, Brittany Noel
 Comeau, Teresa
 Cortez, Patrick
 Coughlin, Bernadette
 Curcio, Louis
 Daniels, Joshua
 D'Azzo, Lina
 DeLong, Judy
 DeLong, Todd
 Feltes, Lauren
 Fitzgerald, Dan
 Gawlik, Frank and Sofia

Genereux, Carol
 Grace, Kelly
 Grimberg, Carol
 Gueli, Connie
 Gutske, Karl
 Hanafee, Michael
 Hawkins, Ashlyn
 Hawkins, Barbara
 Helbig, Len
 Hoffman, Bette
 Hoskins, Kevin
 Huff, Walt
 Hunnefeld, Sarah
 Joyal, Christina
 Kartsaklis, Michael
 Kehoe, Jonna and Michael
 Kirchgessner, Marie
 Klima, Sue
 Kraynak, Gary
 Lague, Norbert
 Lashley, Diana
 LeVan, George
 Lewis, Cynthia
 Mattingly, Pamela

Mays, Hank
 Membreno, Mary & Gus
 Narinelly, Sarah
 Newcomb, Jeff
 O'Connor, Mary
 Parillo, Ceil
 Parillo, Dave
 Parmigiani, Valerie
 Pilcher, Joel
 Preeper, Helen
 Riley, Marie
 Riordan, Donald
 Romani, Angelo
 Sacks, Laura
 Sanderson, Jack
 Shelby, Montez
 Smith, Elizabeth
 Stankiewicz, Cy
 Vanderbeck, Cindy
 Vanderbeck, Jay
 Walsh, Thomas
 Watson, Linda
 Youngman, Ruth
 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.

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.

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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