



Blessed Trinity

Weekend Magazine

Over 60 YEARS COURAGEOUSLY *Living the Gospel*

February 8, 2026 • The Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Even when life is miserable, it can be good: Pope's thoughts

Kathleen N. Hattrup - published on 02/01/26

"These Beatitudes remain a paradox only for those who believe that God is other than how Christ reveals him."

Drawing on the Gospel from Mass this February 1, Pope Leo offered his own reflection on the Beatitudes, one of the most well-known Gospel passages for Christians and non-believers alike.

"On the mountain," the Pope said, "Christ gives his disciples the new law, no longer written on stone. It is a law that renews our lives and makes them good, even when the world seems to have failed us and is full of misery."

Here is the full text of the Pope's brief reflection:

Dear brothers and sisters, happy Sunday!

Today's liturgy proclaims a beautiful passage from the Good News that Jesus announces to all humanity: the Gospel of the Beatitudes (Mt 5:1-12). These are, in fact, lights that the Lord kindles in the darkness of history, revealing the plan of salvation that the Father accomplishes through the Son, with the power of the Holy Spirit.

On the mountain, Christ gives his disciples the new law, no longer written on stone. It is a law that renews our lives and makes them good, even when the world seems to have failed us and is full of misery. Only God can truly call the poor and afflicted blessed (cf. vv.3-4), because he is the highest good who gives himself to all with infinite love. Only God can satisfy those who seek peace and justice (cf. vv. 6.9), because he is the just judge of the world and the author of eternal peace. Only in God do the meek, the merciful and the pure of heart find joy (vv. 5.7-8), because he is the fulfilment of their expectations. In persecution, God is the source of redemption; in falsehood, he is the anchor of truth. Therefore, Jesus proclaims: "Rejoice and be glad!" (v. 12).

These Beatitudes remain a paradox only for those who believe that God is other than how Christ reveals him. Those who expect the arrogant to always rule the earth are surprised by the Lord's words. Those who are accustomed to thinking that happiness belongs to the rich may believe that Jesus is deluded. However, the delusion lies precisely in the lack of faith in Christ. He is the poor man who shares his life with everyone, the meek man who perseveres in suffering, the peacemaker persecuted to death on the cross.



Continued on page 2

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In this way, Jesus illuminates the meaning of history. It is no longer written by conquerors, but rather by God, who is able to accomplish it by saving the oppressed. The Son looks at the world through the Father's love. On the other hand, as Pope Francis said, there are "the experts in illusion. We should not follow them because they are unable to give us hope" (*Angelus*, 17 February 2019). Instead, God gives this hope primarily to those whom the world dismisses as hopeless.

Therefore, dear brothers and sisters, the Beatitudes become for us a measure of happiness, leading us to ask whether we consider it an achievement to be bought or a gift to be shared; whether we place it in objects that are consumed or in relationships that accompany us. It is in fact because of Christ (cf. *Mt* 5:11) and thanks to him that the bitterness of trials is transformed into the joy of the redeemed. Jesus does not speak of a distant consolation, but of a constant grace that always sustains us, especially in times of affliction.

The Beatitudes lift up the humble and disperse the proud in their inmost thoughts (cf. *Lk* 1:51). Therefore, we ask for the intercession of the Virgin Mary, servant of the Lord, whom all generations call blessed.

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Mass Intentions

Saturday, February 7, Vigil for Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00 p.m. Helene Logue (dec)

Sunday, February 8, Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 a.m. Charles R. "Brum" Donohue (dec)

9:30 a.m. Mass for Parishioners and
Bob and Carol Forcier 69th Wedding Anniversary

11:30 a.m. Rae Covey (dec)

Monday, February 9, Weekday in Ordinary Time

8:00 a.m. Earl Beddoe and Lloyd Forteau (dec)

Tuesday, February 10, Memorial of Saint Scholastica, Virgin

8:00 a.m. Marie Kirchgessner (dec)

Wednesday, February 11, Weekday in Ordinary Time

8:00 a.m. Mass for Vocations and Dick McManus (dec)

Thursday, February 12, Weekday in Ordinary Time

8:00 a.m. Thomas Locricchio (dec)

Friday, February 13, Weekday in Ordinary Time

8:00 a.m. Beddoe and Bento Families (liv & dec)

Saturday, February 14, Vigil for Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00 p.m. John and Teresa Cirillo (dec)

Sunday, February 15, Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 a.m. Anderson Pena and Silvia Lopez (liv)

9:30 a.m. Mass for Parishioners

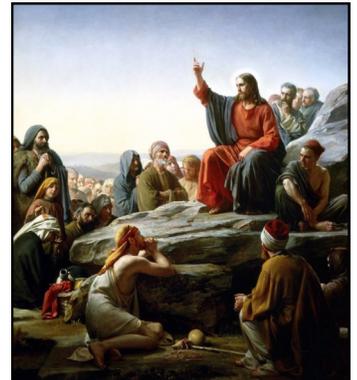
11:30 a.m. Dr. Dwight Valentine (dec)

Blessed Trinity Lenten Mission

A Reflection of one of the most avoided teachings of our Catholic Faith: Hell!

February 23, 24, and 25 at 7:00 pm
Parish Center

- Witness talk: Do all good people go to heaven?
- Why we deny, minimize or ignore the truth about hell.
- If God is Love, why does hell exist?
- How important is the RCC's doctrine on hell? Does it really matter?
- A reminder of Jesus' teachings and warnings about hell judgement
- The need to understand the truth about hell in today's world
- Video clips: Msgr. Charles Pope



There is no better time to reflect on *Hell* than at a Lenten Mission!

Presenters: Rachel Dutilly and Joe Ciminera



February 8, 2026
 Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
 Is 58:7-10 | 1 Cor 2:1-5 | Mt 5:13-16

Written by
 THE
 FAITHFUL
 DISCIPLE

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

My understanding of prayer changed when I read St. Teresa of Calcutta’s statement that says, “I used to believe that prayer changes things, but now I know that prayer changes us and we change things.” Prayer is not an incantation that can change the will of God. It is the act of raising our hearts and minds to God, and of opening ourselves — our will, our understanding, our joys, and our sorrows — to be sanctified. The prophet Isaiah seems to be saying something similar in the first reading. He lists off the commands of the Lord to clothe the naked, feed the hungry, and shelter the homeless, and then tells the faithful that if they do these things, “then your light shall break forth like the dawn.” We certainly serve those who are vulnerable because each person has immeasurable dignity and deserves to be cared for as a child of God. But the act of caring for another also changes us. We are made more fully into who we were created to be — not an individual living in isolation, but one who is deeply connected in community to the rest of humankind.

SERVE

The corporal works of mercy are to feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, clothe the naked, shelter the homeless, visit the sick, visit the imprisoned, and bury the dead. This is not a list meant to overwhelm, but rather to provide opportunities to care for God’s children. What act of service can you and your family engage in this week to allow the light of Christ to shine through you?

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

An act of service, then, is much bigger than simply donating money or giving of our time. In caring for our neighbor, we proclaim God’s goodness to a world in darkness, bearing witness to the love of God which is the source of all our actions. In the Gospel, Christ calls his followers to be “the light of the world,” reminding us that he wants to shine his light through us. But we are not the source of the light. Even when we are the ones serving, we still remain only the vessel the true light shines through. When we love others, we are changed because we allow ourselves to be conformed more closely to Christ, allowing others to encounter his love in our actions.

Benefit Concerts

Sunday, February 22, 2026
 Featuring Fr. Victor, Steve, and Mary Bartolotta

Thank You
 for supporting the
Lynn Bartolotta
 Endowed Memorial Scholarship Fund
 @ University of South Florida

Donate online: <https://giving.usf.edu/online/gift/f/536016/>

2:30pm @ St. Justin Martyr
 10851 Ridge Rd. Seminole, FL
 “Paving the Way”

4:30pm @ Blessed Trinity
 (Parish Hall)
 1600 54th Ave S. St. Pete, FL

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.

We are looking for members for the new

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 contact Lisa Screeton at lss@btsp.org



Ash Wednesday, February 18

Services will be at 8:00 am,
9:30 am, and 7:00 pm



Weekly Offering

Weekly Giving 01/25/26

Offertory	\$ 11,497
Other Donations	\$ 70
Restoring the Sacred	\$ 75
Catholic Ministry	
Appeal	\$ 10
St. Vincent de Paul	\$ 1,973

Weekly Giving 02/01/26

Offertory	\$ 13,789
Other Donations	\$ 1,498
Restoring the Sacred	\$ 385
Catholic Ministry	
Appeal	\$ 100
St. Vincent de Paul	\$ 360

**Thank you for your
generosity!**

Join the Choir!

- SUPPORT THE SINGING OF THE ASSEMBLY AT THE WEEKLY 9:30 AM MASS
- WEEKLY REHEARSAL THURSDAY AT 6:30 P.M.
- ALL VOICE PARTS NEEDED
- A POSITIVE SPIRIT AND DESIRE TO SERVE IS ALL YOU NEED!

CONTACT LISA SCREETON

lss@btsp.org



Join the St. Patrick's Day Festival Choir!

Help us Entertain at the Knights of Columbus St. Patrick's Day party on Saturday, March 14, 2026. Four 45-minute rehearsals on Thursdays from 6:30 p.m. - 7:15 p.m. in the Music Room beginning February 19, 2026.

Contact Lisa Sreeton
lss@btsp.org

PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO ITALY

DECEMBER 28, 2026 -
JANUARY 4, 2027

- PAPAL MASS ON JANUARY 1, 2027
- MASS AT ST. PAUL OUTSIDE THE WALLS
- TOUR THE VATICAN MUSEUMS
- SEE THE SISTINE CHAPEL
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www.petersway.com
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Italian Festival

Menu
Cannellini Bruschetta
Chicken Scampi over Angel Hair
Mascarpone Bread Pudding

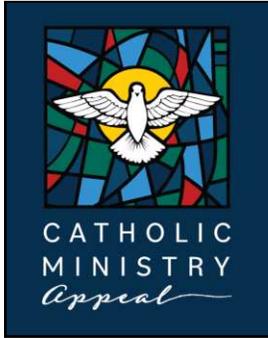
Live Music
Dancing Encouraged

**Saturday 2/14
5-8pm**

ltd tix \$25
on sale after Mass
and Parish Office

more info
KofC@btsp.org

Second Collection will be for Restoring the Sacred



2026 Catholic Ministry Appeal Children of God

The 2026 CMA mailing was recently sent to parishioners. This year's theme is: "Children of God." After reflecting upon the blessings God has given you, please prayerfully consider making a commitment to the appeal. Sharing your gifts with the vital ministries funded by the appeal truly impacts the lives of thousands across our diocese. Make a gift at: SupportMinistry.dosp.org or scan the QR code below:



Ave Maria University and Saint Theresa of Calcutta Museum Bus Pilgrimage

Feb 24, 2026, 7:30 am – 9:30 pm

Naples, 5050 Ave Maria Blvd, Ave Maria FL 34142

Join us on February 24, 2026 for a transformative Bus Pilgrimage to Ave Maria University and the Saint Teresa of Calcutta Museum. Step into a day filled with prayer, beauty, and inspiration as we explore two remarkable Roman Catholic destinations that illuminate the heart of the Church.

Departs 7:30 am from Holy Name of Jesus Catholic Church
5800 15th Ave S, Gulfport, FL

Call: Jim Gillis, OFS 727-564-1733 for more information

Have breakfast, bring a bag lunch, stopping for dinner on the way back



Magnificat of St. Petersburg, a Ministry to Women, Invites you to a Magnificat Meal

Saturday, February 21, 2026—9:30 am to 12:30 am

Cathedral of St. Jude the Apostle

Reservations—\$18.00, Check payable to Magnificat

Join us for Mass at 8:15 am

Speaker: Floredenis Brown



Please mail your check, payable to Magnificat, to our treasurer, Linda Barron, 6069 Second Avenue North, St. Petersburg, FL 33710. Checks must be received by February 16, 2026. Your ticket will be at the door. Send your check early—seating is limited.

Questions or Need More Information? E-mail magnificatofstpetersburg@gmail.com or text Jane at 727-452-7404 or Linda at 727-415-2693.

Upcoming Events

Sunday, February 8

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

Monday, February 9

6:30 pm Life in the Spirit CYH

Tuesday, February 10

10:00 am Scripture Class CYH

Wednesday, February 11

Adoration

5:30 pm Rosary CH

6:00 pm Eucharistic Exposition and Meditation CH

7:00 pm Benediction CH

Thursday, February 12

5:00 pm Handbell practice MR

6:30 pm Choir Practice MR

Saturday, February 14

5:00 pm Italian Fest PC

Sunday, February 15

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

Monday, February 16

President's Day ~Office Closed

6:30 pm Life in the Spirit CYH

Tuesday, February 17

10:00 am Scripture Class CYH

Wednesday, February 18

Ash Wednesday

Services at 8:00 am, 9:30 am, and 7:00 pm CH

No Adoration Today

Thursday, February 19

10:00 am BT Book Club FF

4:00 pm St. Vincent de Paul Meeting TBD

5:00 pm Handbell practice MR

6:30 pm Choir Practice MR

Friday, February 20

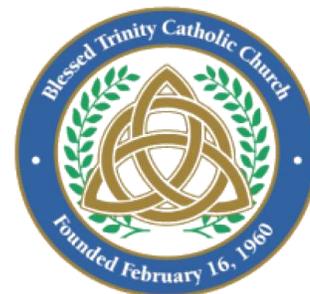
K of C Fish Fry Dinner after the 4:00 pm Mass PC

Sunday, February 22

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

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 - Friday 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

St. Petersburg, FL 33712

Phone, (727) 867-3663

FAX, (727) 864-2679

Website, <http://btsp.org>

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 Clark, Brittany Noel
 Clark, Matthew Pierce
 Comeau, Teresa
 Cortez, Patrick
 Coughlin, Bernadette
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 Daniels, Joshua
 D'Azzo, Lina
 DeLong, Judy
 DeLong, Todd
 Feltes, Lauren
 Fitzgerald, Dan
 Gawlik, Frank and Sofia

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 Grace, Kelly
 Grimberg, Carol
 Gutske, Karl
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 Hawkins, Barbara
 Helbig, Len
 Hoffman, Bette
 Hoskins, Kevin
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 Kehoe, Jonna and Michael
 Klima, Sue
 Kraynak, Gary
 Lague, Norbert
 Lashley, Diana
 LeVan, George
 Lewis, Cynthia
 Mays, Hank
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 Narinelly, Sarah
 Newcomb, Jeff
 O'Connor, Mary
 Parillo, Ceil

Parillo, Dave
 Parmigiani, Valerie
 Preeper, Helen
 Riley, Marie
 Riordan, Donald
 Romani, Angelo
 Sacks, Laura
 Schulz, Ingrid
 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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