



Blessed Trinity

Weekend Magazine

Over 60 YEARS COURAGEOUSLY *Living the Gospel*

February 22, 2026 ▪ The First Sunday of Lent

Receiving Holy Communion is how Jesus kisses us with his love



Philip Kosloski - published on 02/14/26

We may not realize it, but Jesus kisses us every time we receive him in Holy Communion.

Kissing is seen as a sign of affection in most parts of the world, and it often symbolizes a close bond with another person. While not everyone engages in kissing other people, culturally it is strongly associated with love, even if it is filial love.

One thing that can be difficult in our relationship with God is the reality that we can not physically see or touch Jesus as he was 2,000 years ago. Jesus does not walk around on this earth in a bodily form and so it can be difficult to express our own love of him.

At the same time, one of the most supreme ways we can encounter Jesus in a physical way is through the reception of Holy Communion.

A kiss of love

Continued on page 2

... Continued from cover

St. John Paul II described the reception of Holy Communion in this way when visiting the church of St. Valentine in Rome in 1992:

[A]ll of us, must prepare well for this “**osculum pacis**” [kiss of peace], for this Eucharistic Communion in which Jesus wants to begin to live in us [In] Eucharistic Communion, Jesus enters us, he wants to live in our hearts, this is the expression of the most complete, **most perfect love**.

Have you ever thought of receiving Holy Communion as a kiss of love?

Often we can forget that we are even receiving Jesus, as the host does not look any different and typically we do not feel any different after Mass.

Yet, the simple truth is that at Mass, the bread and wine change into the body, blood, soul and divinity of Jesus Christ. When we receive him during Holy Communion, he is "kissing" us with his love.

Jesus is the Divine Bridegroom who desires his Bride, the Church, which consists of you and me. Every time we go to Mass we are entering into the Wedding Feast of the Lamb, open and receptive to receive the love of the Bridegroom.

It is a beautiful reality that takes time to mediate on and to integrate into our own personal beliefs. Once we are able to do that, Mass changes from something boring and repetitive, into a beautiful exchange of love.

Originally published at Aleteia.org, reprinted with permission

Mass Intentions

Saturday, February 21, Vigil for First Sunday of Lent

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

Sunday, February 22, First Sunday of Lent

8:00 a.m. Dan Ayers (liv)
9:30 a.m. Mass for Parishioners
11:30 a.m. Francisca Ruiz (dec)

Monday, February 23, Monday of the First Week of Lent

8:00 a.m. Dottino Family (liv & dec)

Tuesday, February 24, Tuesday of the First Week of Lent

8:00 a.m. Fred Deuel (dec)

Wednesday, February 25, Wednesday of the First Week of Lent

8:00 a.m. Mass for Vocations

Thursday, February 26, Thursday of the First Week of Lent

8:00 a.m. John Keefe, Jr. (dec)

Friday, February 27, Friday of the First Week of Lent

8:00 a.m. Mark Ryan (liv)

Saturday, February 28, Vigil for Second Sunday of Lent

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

Sunday, March 1, Second Sunday of Lent

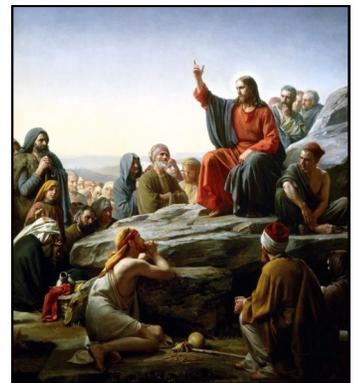
8:00 a.m. Vicki DeZarn (dec)
9:30 a.m. Mass for Parishioners
11:30 a.m. Mario DeAngelis (dec)

Blessed Trinity Lenten Mission

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

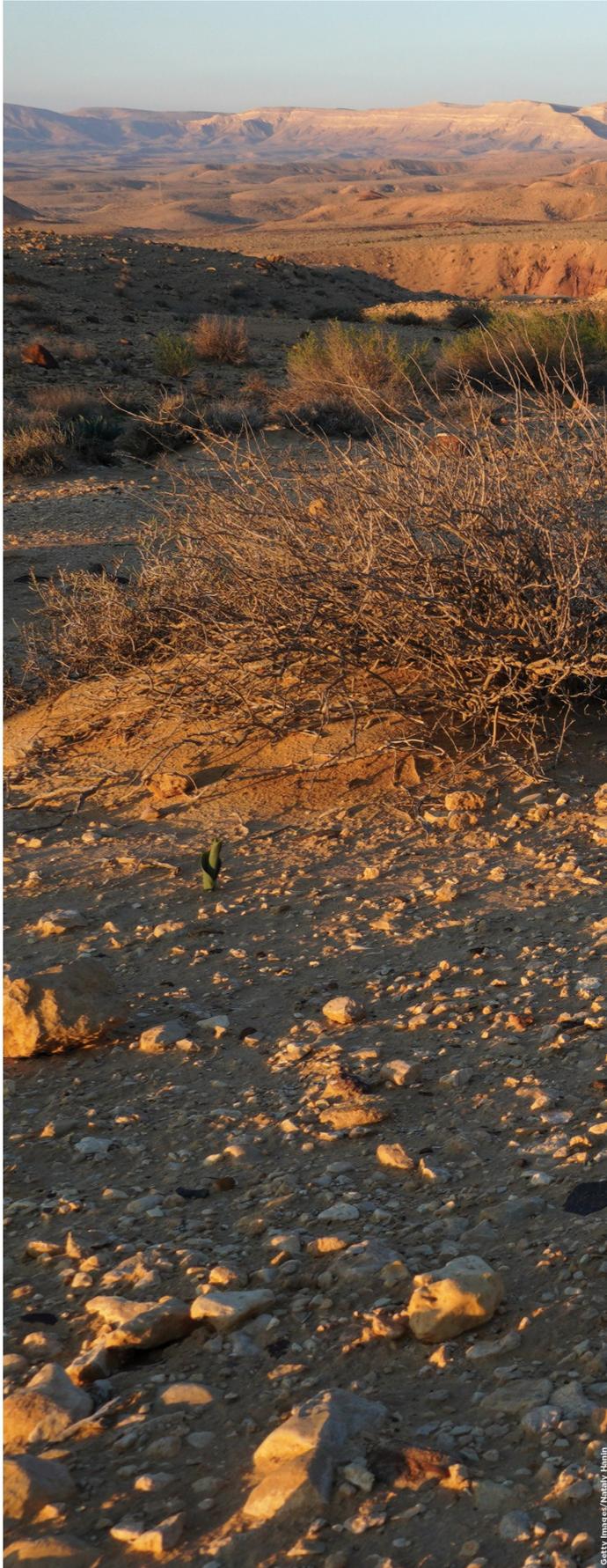
February 23, 24, and 25 at 7:00 pm
Parish Center

- 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 22, 2026

First Sunday of Lent

Gen 2:7-9; 3:1-7 | Rom 5:12-19 | Mt 4:1-11

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

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

Although we're at the very beginning of Lent, today's first reading from Genesis prepares us for words we will hear on the night of the Easter Vigil: "O truly necessary sin of Adam, destroyed completely by the Death of Christ! O happy fault that earned so great, so glorious a Redeemer!" (Exsultet) *O truly necessary sin?! O happy fault?!* What could these words actually *mean*? I think the Exsultet is drawing us to see that sin is not the end of the story. In the mysterious working of grace, being in a state of needing God's forgiveness (sin) opens us up to the possibility of experiencing and receiving his endless love and mercy. As we take on practices of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving this Lent, may we not grow discouraged when we inevitably fall short, but may we recognize that our very weakness presents us with an opportunity to rejoice in his merciful love.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

At the heart of evangelization is announcing the good news that our sin doesn't have the last word. St. Paul puts it this way: While death came through Adam's sin, "the gift is not like the transgression. For if by the transgression of the one, the many died, how much more did the grace of God and the gracious gift of the one man Jesus Christ overflow for the many." While sin certainly wreaks havoc by bringing suffering and death into our world, the conviction of the Church is that the restoration God brings about through the death and resurrection of Jesus elevates humanity to a state far better than what we lost in the fall. What might it look like to witness to this great hope we have in Jesus in our own lives? How can we offer encouragement to those who feel they have fallen too far from grace that God's mercy is far more powerful than any transgression they may have committed?

REFLECT

Throughout the Gospels, we hear story after story of sinners ending up closer to God than those who think themselves to be perfectly obedient (The Prodigal Son [Lk 15:11-32]; the Pharisee and the Tax Collector [Lk 18:9-14]). As you contemplate which Lenten practices to adopt in these next few weeks, keep in mind that holiness isn't found in perfect adherence to these practices, but by humbling yourself to recognize the God who loves you even when you fall.

Everyday Stewardship - Recognize God in Your Ordinary Moments

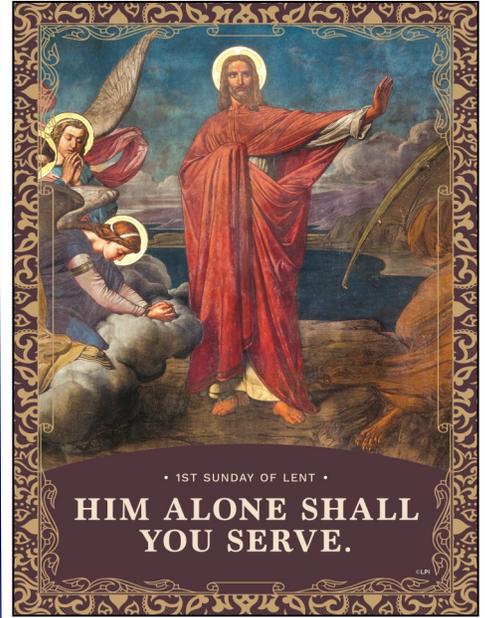
The 6 Characteristics of an Everyday Stewardship for Lent – Mindful

What is it that tempts you the most? Is it an action, a person, or a place? It is something that seems innocent enough, like a food, a drink, or an event? When you really start reflecting, you find that there are many temptations all around. Even if you are strong and never succumb to a certain temptation, it is still there waiting for a weak moment in your life.

One difficulty in the life of a disciple trying to live a stewardship way of life lies in the temptations we never actually see. We are too busy thinking about past failures or successes, or we are fixated on what possibilities the future holds that we miss the important things going on in the present. Jesus could be standing directly in front of us, but we miss him because we are looking everywhere except straight ahead.

Being mindful means that we are looking out for how and when God will call us this very day. Our decisions this day will have a huge impact on the future. If we only look to the future, we will miss those important calls to action. We may even find ourselves in a desert of sorts, looking for any way out we can find. However, God may need us to give of ourselves for a reason we cannot yet discern while in that desert. We need to stay awake, be aware, and look for His hand in all things. If we don't, we may even miss the pathway out of that desert when it presents itself.

– Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPi



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.

so easy, you could do it in your sleep

Join the blessed bells ensemble
email lisa for more info: 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
- MEALS, LUXURY HOTEL, AND AIR INCLUDED
- From \$3795.00 per person (land only)

Contact Lisa Screenshoton at lss@btsp.org
www.petersway.com
EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

Second Collection will be for St. Vincent de Paul



Weekly Offering

Weekly Giving 02/15/26

Offertory	\$ 9,843
Other Donations	\$ 215
Restoring the Sacred	\$ 50
Catholic Ministry	
Appeal	\$ 621
St. Vincent de Paul	\$ 393

Thank you for your generosity!

Stewardship Prayer

O Divine Giver of all gifts, grant us the daily graces we need to follow closely in the footsteps of Jesus in the way we live out our lives and make use of our gifts.

Daily, may we renew with You our small part of the world by allowing Your will to be accomplished in and through us.

Help us to trust in Your love for us and to grow in our fidelity and relationship with You.

We thank You for the trust You place in us as stewards of our personal gifts. May the Holy Spirit guide us in placing our time, talent and treasure at the service of each other so that together we may faithfully witness the Christian message and thus become Your holy people.

Amen

Easter
ALTAR FLOWERS
PLEASE CHECK ONE

IN HONOR OF: IN MEMORY OF:

: _____

DONOR'S NAME: _____

DONATION AMOUNT: _____



FOR THOSE WISHING TO CONTRIBUTE TOWARDS THE ALTAR FLOWERS, YOU MAY DO SO IN ONE OF TWO WAYS:

1. USE THE EASTER FLOWERS ENVELOPE INCLUDED IN YOUR ENVELOPE PACKET.
2. COMPLETE THIS FORM AND RETURN IT TO THE OFFICE WITH YOUR DONATION.

DEADLINE FOR INCLUSION OF YOUR NAME IN THE EASTER BULLETIN **IS MARCH 22.** THE NAMES LISTED FOR REMEMBRANCE AND HONOR WILL BE PLACED ON THE ALTAR.

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/17536016/>

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





DONATIONS APPRECIATED

YOU'RE INVITED TO
ENJOY A STRAWBERRY SHORTCAKE
HOSTED BY THE SOCIAL GROUP

FEBRUARY 22ND
STARTING AT 4:30

DURING THE LYNN BARTOLOTTA
BENEFIT CONCERT IN THE
PARISH HALL!

Upcoming Events

Sunday, February 22

Faith Community Nursing Event during "Coffee and Donuts" after the 8:00 am and 9:30 am Masses	PC
4:30 pm Bartolotta Concert and Shortcake Social	PC

Monday, February 23

7:00 pm Lenten Mission	PC
------------------------	----

Tuesday, February 24

10:00 am Scripture Class	CYH
7:00 pm Lenten Mission	PC

Wednesday, February 25

No Adoration Today

7:00 pm Lenten Mission	PC
------------------------	----

Thursday, February 26

5:00 pm Handbell practice	MR
6:30 pm Choir Practice	MR

Friday, February 27

Blessed Trinity Social Group Meeting after the 8:00 am Mass Location is at Circo@5035 34th St S, St. Petersburg 33711	
5:00 pm to 7:00 pm K of C Fish Fry Dinner	PC

Saturday, February 28

2:30 pm–3:30pm Confessions in the Cry Room	CH
--	----

Sunday, March 1

Coffee & Donuts after the 8:00 am and 9:30 am Masses	PC
KOC Tootsie Roll Drive at all Masses	CH

Monday, March 2

6:30 pm Life in the Spirit	CYH
----------------------------	-----

Tuesday, March 3

10:00 am Scripture Class	CYH
7:00 pm Knights of Columbus Meeting	PC

Wednesday, March 4

Adoration	
5:30 pm Rosary	CH
6:00 pm–7:00 pm Holy Hour	CH

Thursday, March 5

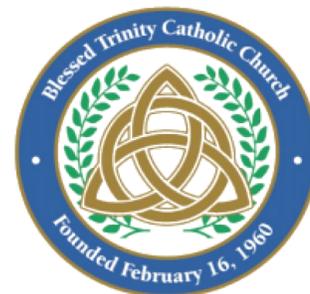
5:00 pm Handbell practice	MR
6:30 pm Choir Practice	MR

Friday, March 6

5:00 pm to 7:00 pm K of C Fish Fry Dinner	PC
6:00 pm Stations of the Cross	CH

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 2:30-3:30 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>

Like us on FaceBook



Text BTSP to 84576 or online at
btsp.flocknote.com

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
 Clark, Matthew Pierce
 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
 Gutske, Karl
 Hawkins, Ashlyn
 Hawkins, Barbara
 Helbig, Len
 Hoffman, Bette
 Hoskins, Kevin
 Joyal, Christina
 Kartsaklis, Michael
 Kehoe, Jonna and Michael
 Klima, Sue
 Kraynak, Gary
 Lague, Norbert
 Lashley, Diana
 LeVan, George
 Lewis, Cynthia
 Mays, Hank
 Membreno, Mary & Gus
 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.

Made you look.

Advertise here to reach your local audience.

Scan to get started!

Visit 4ipi.com/advertising-solutions

DEBRA ARCAMONTE
 Realtor® | Luxury Property Specialist
 (727)409-0754
debra.arcamonte@floridamoves.com
www.DebraArcamonteFloridaRealtor.com
 3637 4th Street N. Suite 100
 St. Petersburg, FL 33704

Parishioner

**NOTHING IS IMPOSSIBLE
 NOTHING IS IMPOSSIBLE WITH GOD.
 NOTHING IS IMPOSSIBLE**

FLORIDA MORTUARY
 Funeral & Cremation Services

Quality, Compassion, & Personalized Care Since 1987

727.748.1580

ASPEN N. DONOHUE
 Licensed Funeral Director,
 Managing Director

Advertise Here!

Engage with consumers in your neighborhood.

ADT-Monitored Home Security

Get 24-Hour Protection From a Name You Can Trust

- Burglary
- Fire Safety
- Flood Detection
- Carbon Monoxide

ADT Authorized Provider | SafeStreets

833-287-3502

ST. PETERSBURG

Funeral Home & Memorial Chapel

Michael Moloney *Brian Moloney*

Family Owned | Veteran Owned

Serving Pinellas County and the Greater New York Area for Four Generations

Inquiry: service@stpetefuneralhome.com
 6201 Central Ave. St Petersburg, FL 33710
727-954-0204

www.stpetersburgfuneralhome.com

Little space.
 Big impact.

Advertise here
 Call 800-950-9952

catholicmatch®
 Florida

CatholicMatch.com/FL

Complete Plumbing Services & Supplies

Johnnie Jones Plumbing Co.

Founded by Carl H. Jonasson Sr.
 Barbara J. Pace CFC 1427395
 27247 23rd Ave. North
 St. Petersburg, FL 33713-4318

727-323-2300

Brett Funeral Home & Cremation Services

4810 Central Avenue
Tel. 727-321-3321
www.brettfuneralhome.net
Catholic Owned & Operated Since 1960

Does your organization need a newsletter? We'll cover the printing costs!



Learn more at lpicomunities.com

FREE AD DESIGN WITH PURCHASE OF THIS SPACE

Call 800.950.9952

CENTURY 21 Coastal Alliance

Hello Neighbor!

NANCY LABARE
Realtor | CENTURY 21 Coastal Alliance

"Every family and every dream deserves a home that feels just right." - Nancy LaBare

Nancy LaBare, MBA, GRI, PSA | Realtor | Parishioner | 607-760-8483 | labarenc21@gmail.com

IF YOU LIVE ALONE

MDMedAlert!™ STARTING AT **\$19⁹⁵** /mo.

At HOME and AWAY!

- ✓ Ambulance/Police
- ✓ Family/Friends
- ✓ GPS & Fall Alert

CALL NOW! **800.809.3570**

ACCREDITED BUSINESS
BBB A+ Rating

md-medalert.com

Advertise in Our Church Bulletin!

Contact Trey Hill
thill@4LPi.com
(800) 950-9952 x02613

RAYMOND JAMES
GFA
Gasparilla Festival of the Arts
56TH ANNUAL

FEB. 28 - MARCH 1
Make it a family day at GFA with **FREE** admission, children's activities, and more!

JULIAN B. LANE RIVERFRONT PARK • TAMPA • gasparillaarts.com

Never miss our bulletin!

Subscribe

Have our bulletin emailed to you every week.

Visit www.parishesonline.com

