



# Blessed Trinity

## Weekend Magazine

Over 60 YEARS COURAGEOUSLY *Living the Gospel*

March 15, 2026 • The Fourth Sunday of Lent



## Pope notes 3 Gospel passages for beginning a new life

Kathleen N. Hattrup - published on 03/08/26

"Dear friends, there is no energy better spent than that dedicated to freeing our heart."

Before praying the midday Angelus on this 3rd Sunday of Lent, Pope Leo noted how the Gospel reading of this liturgy and those to come "illuminate the path of those who, at Easter, will receive Baptism and begin a new life." They are passages to help catechumens, those who are joining the Church, and also to help all of us "be more authentic and joyful Christians."

The Holy Father pointed out one small fruit to take from the passage: ...how beautiful it is when we lose track of time in order to give attention to the person we are encountering, as we see in this passage.

**Here is the full translation of his brief reflection:**

Dear brothers and sisters, happy Sunday!

Since the first centuries of the Church's history, the dialogue between Jesus and the Samaritan woman, the healing of the man born blind, and the resurrection of Lazarus illuminate the path of those who, at Easter, will receive Baptism and begin a new life. These great Gospel passages, which we read beginning this Sunday, are intended for the catechumens to help them on their journey to become Christians. At the same time, these passages are heard once again by the entire community of believers to help them to be more authentic and joyful Christians.

Indeed, Jesus is the response to our thirst. As he suggested to the Samaritan woman, the encounter with him stirs in the depths of each person "a spring of water gushing up to eternal life" ( Jn 4:14). How many people in the entire world are searching even today for this spiritual spring! "Sometimes I am there too," writes the young Etty Hillesum in her diary. "But more often stones and grit block the well, and God is buried beneath. Then he must be dug out again."<sup>[1]</sup> Dear friends, there is no energy better spent than that dedicated to freeing our heart. For this reason, Lent is a gift: we are starting the third week and now we are able to intensify the journey!

It is also written in the Gospel that: "His disciples came [and] they were astonished that he was speaking with a woman" (Jn 4:27). They are reluctant to accept his mission as their own, so the Master has to prompt them: "Do you not say, 'Four months more, then comes the harvest'? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting" (Jn4:35). The Lord still says to his Church: "Lift up your eyes and recognize God's

*Continued next page . . .*

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surprises!" In the fields, four months prior to the harvest, one sees practically nothing. But there, where we see nothing, grace is already at work and its fruits are ready to be gathered. The harvest is great: perhaps the workers are few because they are distracted by other activities. Jesus, on the other hand, is attentive. According to custom, he ought to have simply ignored that Samaritan woman; instead, Jesus speaks with her, listens to her, and shows her respect – without a hidden agenda and without disdain.

How many people seek in the Church this same sensitivity, this availability! And how beautiful it is when we lose track of time in order to give attention to the person we are encountering, as we see in this passage. Jesus was so spiritually nourished by God's desire to reach people on the deepest levels that he even forgot to eat (cf. Jn 4:34). Thus, the Samaritan woman becomes the first of many female evangelizers. Because of her testimony, many from her village of despised and rejected people came to meet Jesus, and also in them faith bubbled forth like pure water.

Sisters and brothers, today let us ask Mary, Mother of the Church, to be able to serve, with Jesus and like Jesus, those men and women thirsting for truth and justice. This is not the time for opposition between one church and another, between "us" and "them": those who worship God seek to be men and women of peace, who worship him in Spirit and in truth (cf. Jn 4:23-24).

Originally published at [Aleteia.org](http://Aleteia.org),  
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## Mass Intentions

### Saturday, March 14, Vigil for Fourth Sunday of Lent

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

### Sunday, March 15, Fourth Sunday of Lent

8:00 a.m. Bernie Young (dec)

9:30 a.m. Mass for Parishioners

11:30 a.m. Charlie and Peggy Cummins (dec)

### Monday, March 16, Lenten Weekday

8:00 a.m. Daniel J. Ayers (liv)

### Tuesday, March 17, Solemnity of Saint Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary

8:00 a.m. Fr. Theophile Hostie (liv)

### Wednesday, March 18, Lenten Weekday

8:00 a.m. Mass for Vocations

### Thursday, March 19, Lenten Weekday

8:00 a.m. Candace Getgen (liv)

### Friday, March 20, Lenten Weekday

8:00 a.m. Debra DiRico (dec)

### Saturday, March 21, Vigil for Fifth Sunday of Lent

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

### Sunday, March 22, Fifth Sunday of Lent

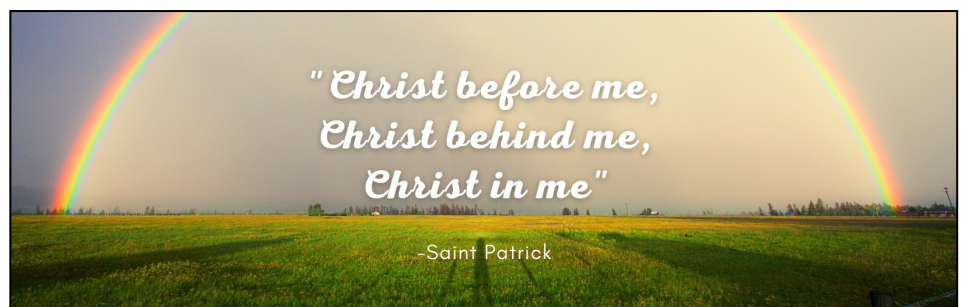
8:00 a.m. Ann Deakins (dec)

9:30 a.m. Mass for Parishioners

11:30 a.m. Polycarpo Tran (dec)



Fridays at 6:00 pm in March  
Good Friday, April 3 at 8:30 am





March 15, 2026

## Fourth Sunday of Lent

1 Sm 16:1b 6-7, 10-13a | Eph 5:8-14 | Jn 9:1-41

Written by  
THE  
FAITHFUL  
DISCIPLE

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

There has been much commentary over the centuries about Jesus' use of saliva and mud to heal the man born blind. One of the most profound interpretations I have read reminds us that in Genesis, God made man out of "the dust of the ground." (Gen 2:7) Jesus' use of mud in the Gospel suggests that he is re-creating the blind man before him. The man receives a whole new life, such that even those who see him after his healing question whether he is the same person as before: "Isn't this the one who used to sit and beg?" ... "No, he just looks like him." Through this Gospel, I've come to believe that Jesus is inviting us to see that every time he touches us in the sacraments, we are inwardly re-created, inwardly renewed. As we come to this midway point in Lent, let's open our eyes to the ways God is waiting to meet us with his healing love in the sacraments, and avail ourselves of this amazing grace.

### GO EVANGELIZE

#### PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Our first reading offers a powerful reminder that although humans see what's on the outside, God looks at our hearts. While the prophet Samuel thought surely God's hand was on Jesse's oldest son, God chooses David, the youngest, who was out tending the sheep. In the Gospel, the Pharisees look at the man born blind and think he is a sinner, born from sinners. But underneath is a man whom Jesus sends (the name of the pool that Jesus instructs him to go wash in means "Sent") to bear witness to all that God has done for him. God often chooses the unlikeliest (in our eyes) persons to be the messengers of his Gospel. At times we may wonder why God has chosen us or feel ourselves lacking in the qualities needed to lead others to the Lord. In those moments, let's trust that through our baptism and confirmation, the Lord has put his Spirit in us and has equipped us for the work of sharing the Gospel.

### REFLECT

The lyrics "I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see," from the hymn "Amazing Grace" is based in part on today's Gospel reading. The man born blind says, "He put clay on my eyes, and I washed, and now I can see." Locate a favorite rendition of this song and use it in your prayer time this week, reflecting on the ways God has brought you greater spiritual vision and inner renewal this Lent.



## 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.



## An Evening to Remember Dinner Cruise Experience

Thursday, April 23

Starlite Dinner Cruise

3400 Pasadena Ave S

Boarding at 6:30 pm

Departing promptly at 7:00 pm

Cost is \$67.45

Includes this amazing cruise, dinner, a choice between 10 entrees, house dessert, coffee or tea and entertainment, tax and tip included.

You must have your money to Susan or Jim Kruse by March 29

 A steaming cup of coffee is the central focus of the image. The cup is white and sits on a wooden surface. Coffee beans are scattered around the base of the cup. The background is dark and moody, with light coming from the side, creating a warm atmosphere.
 

**MONTHLY SOCIAL CLUB MEETING**  
**FRIDAY, MARCH 27**

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## CASTING A CALL TO OUR THEATER LOVERS

You are invited to join the Blessed Trinity Social Group for a matinee performance of

### ***THE PRINCE OF EGYPT, THE MUSICAL***

The epic journey of Moses, with a message of hope and freedom Score by Stephen Swartz, his credits include Godspell and Wicked

**Palm Sunday, March 29 at 2:00 pm**

Mix, mingle and ticket pickup prior to the performance, in the lobby, at 1:30 pm St. Pete City Theatre, the Little Theatre 4025 31st Street South, St. Petersburg

**\$25.00 per person**

Cash to Sylvia Foster after 9:30 am Mass on **March 15** or March 22 in the Parish Hall

For questions contact Sylvia, [fredfofost@yahoo.com](mailto:fredfofost@yahoo.com)

## Second Collection will be for Catholic Relief Services



### Weekly Offering

Weekly Giving 03/08/26

Offertory	\$ 13,026
Other Donations	\$ 16,160
Restoring the Sacred	\$ 703
St. Vincent de Paul	\$ 115

Thank you for your generosity!

### St. Anthony's Prayer for Peace of Mind

O holy Saint Anthony, your deep faith in Jesus Christ comforted your heart, especially during times of trial and distress. Help me grow in faith, so I may experience peace of mind and heart in my present needs (Here mention). Free me from undue anxiety, needless worry, and burdensome fears. Grant me sure confidence, unflinching trust in God's loving mercy and daily serenity. ~ Amen

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

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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.

### Lung Cancer Screenings

Representatives from Moffitt Cancer Center will be at Coffee and Donuts after the 8:00 am and 9:30 am Masses this weekend to educate and answer questions about lung cancer screenings.

The Lung Cancer Screening Bus will be doing screenings in our parking lot on June 20 by appointment only. If you are a smoker or former smoker you may get this valuable screening free of charge.

Come enjoy coffee and donuts and get some valuable information.



**JOIN OUR ENSEMBLE!**

CONTACT LISA: LSS@BTSP.ORG

## Upcoming Events

### Saturday, March 14

2:30 pm –3:30 pm Confessions in the Cry Room CH  
5:00 pm Knights of Columbus St. Patrick's Dinner PC

### Sunday, March 15

Coffee & Donuts after the 8:00 am and 9:30 am Masses PC  
Moffitt Cancer Center will be at Coffee and Donuts  
after the 8:00 am and 9:30 am Masses PC

### Monday, March 16

6:30 pm Life in the Spirit CYH

### Tuesday, March 17

10:00 am Scripture Class CYH

### Wednesday, March 18

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

### Thursday, March 19

10:00 am Book Club FF  
4:00 pm SVDP Meeting FF  
6:30 pm Choir Practice MR

### Friday, March 20

6:00 pm Stations of the Cross CH

### Saturday, March 21

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

### Sunday, March 22

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

### Monday, March 23

6:30 pm Life in the Spirit CYH

### Tuesday, March 24

10:00 am Scripture Class CYH

### Wednesday, March 25

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

### Thursday, March 26

6:30 pm Choir Practice MR  
7:00 pm Penance Service,  
followed by individual confessions CH

### Friday, March 27

BT Social Group Meeting after 8:00 am Mass @ **Form 43 X Sugar Baby**  
located at 2621 Fairfield Ave S in the Warehouse Arts District  
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](http://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>

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 Barhorst, Rosemary  
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 Calamita, John  
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 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  
 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  
 Palys, Constance

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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