



Blessed Trinity

Weekend Magazine

Over 60 YEARS COURAGEOUSLY *Living the Gospel*

March 22, 2026 • The Fifth Sunday of Lent

Here's how you can see God in this life



Philip Kosloski - published on 03/15/26

If you want to see God before you die, you need to be open to his presence and remove all attachment to sin.

Often we read about a saint who was able to see God in a dream or vision, and how it radically changed their life.

When we read about such stories, we may want to have a similar experience, either seeing God with our eyes, or feeling his presence.

Spiritually speaking, this is possible and available to anyone, but the requirements for such an encounter are difficult to achieve.

An open heart, detached from sin

St. Theophilus of Antioch wrote in a book addressed to Autolytus about what we need to do to see God:

God is seen by those who have the capacity to see him, provided that they keep the eyes of their mind open. This might seem like a simple statement, but it comes with a lot of connected issues. St. Theophilus explains how sin can darken our capacity to see God:

Continued next page . . .

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All have eyes, but some have eyes that are shrouded in darkness, unable to see the light of the sun. Because the blind cannot see it, it does not follow that the sun does not shine. The blind must trace the cause back to themselves and their eyes. In the same way, you have eyes in your mind that are shrouded in darkness because of your sins and evil deeds.

St. Theophilus provides a powerful image, one that can help us in our spiritual life. In a certain sense it is not that God is "invisible" and that he makes himself visible to certain people.

What really happens is that we need to take off our blindfold and see God who is standing right in front of us. We can't see what we are not open to seeing. If our spiritual eyes are blinded by our habitual sins, we won't be able to see anything.

St. Theophilus illustrates this further, "A person's soul should be clean, like a mirror reflecting light. If there is rust on the mirror his face cannot be seen in it. In the same way, no one who has sin within him can see God."

The good news is that we can cleanse our soul through the sacrament of confession received worthily, thus increasing our capacity for God.

Once we are truly ready to see, hear or feel God's presence, the blindfold will be taken off and we will see the one we love.

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Mass Intentions

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)

Monday, March 23, Lenten Weekday

8:00 a.m. Rachel Dutilly (liv)

Tuesday, March 24, Lenten Weekday

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

Wednesday, March 25, Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord

8:00 a.m. Mass for Vocations and

Maria & Alex Sarmiento (liv)

Thursday, March 26, Lenten Weekday

8:00 a.m. Pat Meyer (dec)

Friday, March 27, Lenten Weekday

8:00 a.m. Robert Drefahl (dec)

Saturday, March 28, Vigil for Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion

4:00 p.m. Barbara Tirone (dec)

Sunday, March 29, Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion

8:00 a.m. Petty Lewis and Marijo Huetten (dec)

9:30 a.m. Mass for Parishioners

11:30 a.m. Getgen Family (liv & dec)



Fridays at 6:00 pm in March

Good Friday, April 3 at 8:00 am

THE FEAST OF THE
Annunciation



March 22, 2026

Fifth Sunday of Lent

Ez 37:12-14 | Rom 8:8-11 | Jn 11:1-45

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

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

The raising of Lazarus marks an irreversible turning point in Jesus' ministry. It's impossible to publicly raise someone from the dead and continue to fly beneath the radar. It's no surprise that the next time we meet Jesus, he'll be greeted with Hosannas and palm branches as the promised Son of David. But we also know that by raising Lazarus, Jesus attracts the attention of his enemies and sets himself on a course that ultimately leads to the cross. In our own life of discipleship, there may be times when we will have to step up and make a decisive and public choice for our faith or our values. Standing up for what's right may bring praise and admiration, or lead to misunderstanding or even persecution. We can draw strength in these decisive moments from the knowledge that the One we follow is the resurrection and the life. Any risk we take in following him is worth it in the end.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Today's Gospel passage features the shortest and perhaps one of the most profound verses in all of Scripture: "And Jesus wept." This text reveals that before he restored his friend to life, we have a God who weeps with us over the losses and tragedies of our lives. Likewise, before we can announce the Good News of the Gospel, we must learn the "art of accompaniment," as Pope Francis reminded us in *Evangelii Gaudium*. (169) This requires that we offer "our closeness and our compassionate gaze" to all those we seek to evangelize. When our first action consists of compassion, empathy, and entering into the joys and sorrows of others, our efforts at evangelization will bear much fruit.

INVITATION

St. Paul tells us to "Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep." (Rom 12:15) As we enter the final week of Lent and prepare for Holy Week, spend some time thinking about who in your life is experiencing a particular moment of joy or sorrow at this time. Consider one concrete action you can take to be present to them: it could be dropping off a meal to someone who recently had surgery, sitting with someone who lost a loved one and listening as they share stories of their lives together, or bringing a special treat to celebrate a friend's recent accomplishment. Then - do it.



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

MONTHLY SOCIAL CLUB MEETING
FRIDAY, MARCH 27

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JOIN US EVERY LAST FRIDAY
 AFTER THE 8:00 AM MASS. LOCATION
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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 22** in the Parish Hall

For questions contact Sylvia, fredfof@yahoo.com



Weekly Offering

Weekly Giving 03/15/26

| | |
|--------------------------|----------|
| Offertory | \$10,505 |
| Other Donations | \$ 155 |
| Restoring the Sacred | \$ 430 |
| St. Vincent de Paul | \$ 140 |
| National Collections | \$ 1,400 |
| Catholic Ministry Appeal | \$ 20 |

Thank you for your generosity!



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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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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.



Anima Christi, Explained

The Anima Christi prayer takes its name from its opening lines: *Soul of Christ* – “*Anima Christi*” in Latin. In this prayer, the faithful invoke the image of Christ crucified, calling upon the salvific elements of his wounds, his Body and his Blood to strengthen them, imploring him to save them from “the malicious enemy” and to bring them, in their final hour, to his presence.

The author of this prayer is unknown, but it originated in the 14th century and was referenced in St. Ignatius’ *Spiritual Exercises*. It is traditionally said after or before receiving the Eucharist. ©LPi

Upcoming Events

Please note: Parish Center will not be available for use after March 15

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 – 8:00 pm Blessed Trinity Penance Service
Brief Homily followed by individual Confessions

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

Saturday, March 28

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

Sunday, March 29, Palm Sunday

Coffee & Donuts after the 8:00 am and 9:30 am Masses CYH
and Faith Community Nursing Event CYH

Monday, March 30

6:30 pm Life in the Spirit CYH

Tuesday, March 31

10:00 am Scripture Class CYH

11:00 am Chrism Mass at Cathedral of St. Jude

Wednesday, April 1

Adoration

5:30 pm Rosary CH

6:00 pm – 7:00 pm Holy Hour CH

Thursday, April 2, Holy Thursday

7:00 pm Mass of the Lord's Supper

Friday, April 3, Good Friday

8:00 am Stations of the Cross CH

3:00 pm The Lord's Passion CH

7:00 pm Divine Mercy Chaplet 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>

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btsp.flocknote.com

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 Connor, Kathryn
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 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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