



Blessed Trinity

Weekend Magazine

Over 60 YEARS COURAGEOUSLY *Living the Gospel*

August 9, 2026 ▪ Nineteenth Sunday In Ordinary Time

Can we walk on the water of life's stormy sea?



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Fr. Luigi Maria Epicoco

There are two very striking elements in today's Gospel.

Two things are striking about today's Gospel. The first is Jesus' prayer: "Jesus made the disciples get into a boat and precede him to the other side of the sea, while he dismissed the crowds. After doing so, he went up on the mountain by himself to pray. When it was evening he

was there alone." We should be struck by the time Jesus sets aside for prayer. It's a significant, personal, prolonged period of time, and we all know his greatest secret is hidden precisely in this time.

The most obvious effect seems to be the continuation of the story. Jesus catches up with the disciples, but he does so by walking on water. It's a powerful image that shows that prayer keeps Jesus from getting overwhelmed by events. He can master them and traverse them, without letting them literally drown him.

Yet the disciples are frightened by it all: "When the disciples saw him walking on the sea they were terrified. 'It is a ghost,' they said, and they cried out in fear." Here, Peter then makes himself—as always—the spokesman for all: "'Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.' He said, 'Come!' But when he saw how strong the wind was he became frightened; and, beginning to sink, he cried out, 'Lord, save me!' Immediately Jesus stretched out his hand and caught him, and said to him, 'O you of little faith, why did you doubt?'"

Peter, and each of us, could also walk like Jesus on the waters of life's events, but to do this we must trust, we must believe that Jesus can obtain this grace for us. We remain standing in the midst of storms only if we pray, because prayer is the secret source of all faith and all ability to trust. Without it, we drown, without many ways out.

Serenity, Explained!

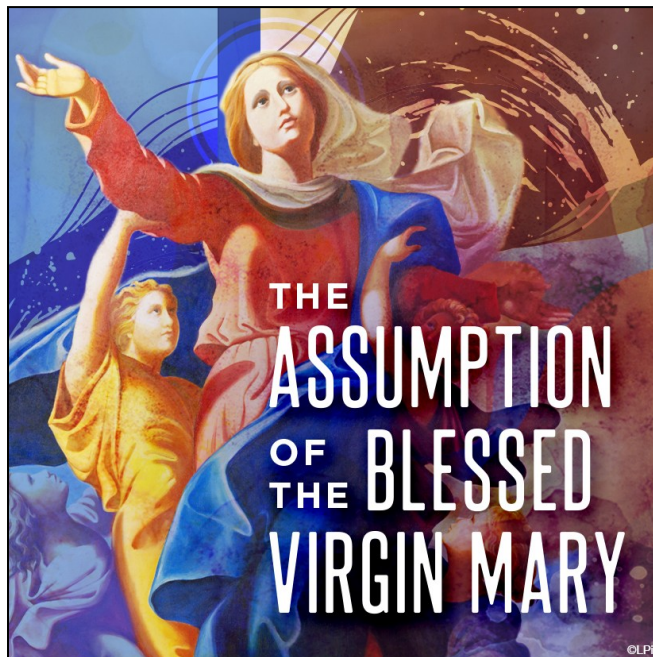
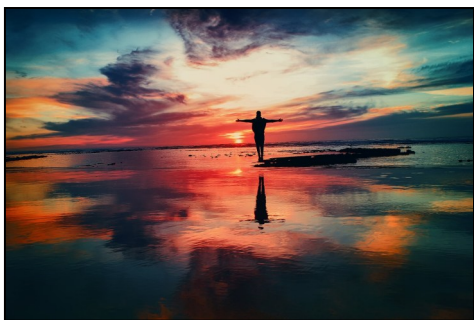
The word “serenity” is only found once in the Catechism of the Catholic Church: in the section describing the effects of the Sacrament of Reconciliation, quoting the Council of Trent when it declared that a good confession “is usually followed by peace and serenity of conscience.” (CCC 1468)

This may give the impression that serenity is not a foremost Catholic virtue, but the succinctness of the Catechism’s reference is actually proof of serenity’s importance.

What is serenity? It is an attitude of calm, one that can only be identified when contrasted with turmoil. It is stillness in a storm. It is Christ, walking steadily across the raging waves.

That the Catechism links it exclusively with reconciliation to God tells us all we need to know about this virtue. Where can we find calm in turmoil, stillness in storm? Where can we find serenity?

There is only one place: the merciful embrace of God in His sacraments. ©LPi



August 15, 2026, not a day of obligation this year

Mass Intentions

Saturday, August 8, Vigil for Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00 p.m. Arlene Thompson (dec)

Sunday, August 9, Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 a.m. Gary S. Ayers (liv)

9:30 a.m. Mass for Parishioners and
Thomas Gallagher (dec)

11:30 a.m. Marlene Romani (dec)

Monday, August 10, Feast of Saint Lawrence, Deacon and Martyr

8:00 a.m. Donald Cantrell (dec)

Tuesday, August 11, Memorial of Saint Clare, Virgin

8:00 a.m. Earl Murray (liv)

Wednesday, August 12, Weekday in Ordinary Time

8:00 a.m. Mass for Vocations

Thursday, August 13, Weekday in Ordinary Time

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

Friday, August 14, Memorial of Saint Maximilian Kolbe, Priest and Martyr

8:00 a.m. Daniel Chin (dec)

Saturday, August 15, Vigil for Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00 p.m. Marion Giacalone (dec)

Sunday, August 16, Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 a.m. Dominic Bommarito (dec)

9:30 a.m. Mass for Parishioners

11:30 a.m. Alice Dviondviak (dec)

August 9, 2026

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

1 Kgs 19:9a, 11-13a | Rom 9:1-5 | Mt 14:22-33

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

As I prepared to become a teacher, a professor reminded me that the most effective way to command the attention of a room full of boisterous students is to lower my voice. Matching their volume only adds to the chaos. But approaching with a low, calm voice demands attention due to the contrast in volume. Prior to the scene in which Elijah encounters God on Mount Horeb, he was fleeing for his life. He was distraught. Likewise, in the Gospel the Apostles were in distress as they were tossed about on the sea. Chaos, anxiety, and distress are unfortunately all too common experiences. But God breaks through our worries and brings peace. God speaks to Elijah in a whisper. Christ walks calmly toward the disciples in the rocking boat. God doesn't match the chaos and the volume of our broken world. When Christ says, "Peace be with you," it is a genuine extension of peace to our weary souls from the Prince of Peace. The challenge for us comes in finding the quiet to experience the peace that Christ offers.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

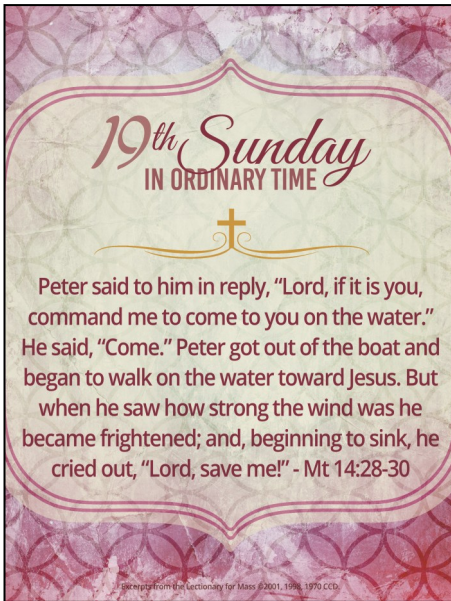
Doing the work of God does not mean that we always have to get louder. Proclaiming the Good News may mean that our words grow softer while the gentleness and peace from the Spirit become more visible. I find it interesting that as the crowds are dispersing and the Apostles are getting into a boat, Jesus finds a spot of solitude to pray. All too often in my own ministry, I see the tasks that need to be completed and disregard my own need for solitude. But it is in this quiet that we hear the voice of God that gives life to ministry and that guides us in the path of holiness. God will not add chaos to the world – peace is in his nature and he cannot act contrary to his nature. And so in the midst of our busyness and brokenness, God lowers his voice and calls us to attention.

LISTEN

Particularly with the expansive nature of technology, it can be difficult to block out the world in order to silence our minds and hearts. But we know from Christ's example of prayer and from Elijah's experience on Mount Horeb that God speaks to us in the quiet. Spend some time this week in quiet solitude to make yourself available to encounter God and hear his voice.



Walking on Water, by Ivan Almazovskiy (1885), Public Domain



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.

Prayer for Protection during Hurricane Season

O God, Master of this passing world, hear the humble voices of your children. The Sea of Galilee obeyed Your order and returned to its former quietude.

You are still the Master of land and sea. We live in the shadow of a danger over which we have no control: the Gulf, like a provoked and angry giant, can awake from its seeming lethargy, overstep its conventional boundaries, invade our land, and spread chaos and disaster.

During this hurricane season we turn to You, O loving Father. Spare us from past tragedies whose memories are still so vivid and whose wounds seem to refuse to heal with passing of time.

O Virgin, Star of the Sea, Our beloved Mother, we ask you to plead with your Son on our behalf, so that spared from the calamities common to this area and animated with a true spirit of gratitude, we will walk in the footsteps of your Divine Son to reach the heavenly Jerusalem, where a stormless eternity awaits us.

Amen.



The second collection is for Restoring the Sacred



Weekly Offering

Weekly Giving 08/02/26

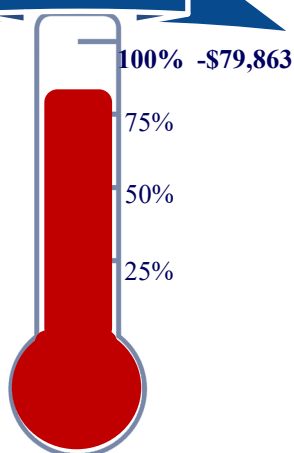
Offertory	\$ 6,462
Other Donations	\$ 998
Restoring the Sacred	\$ 682
St. Vincent de Paul	\$ 255

**Thank you for your
generosity!**

Catholic Ministry Appeal



2026 GOAL



Collected to date: \$62,447
which is 78%

Amounts pledged or expected:
100.4%

**Thank you for your generosity!
Keep up the good work!**



Everyday Stewardship

I remember when all three of my children were learning to swim. In the beginning, it seemed like no matter how much assurance I gave them, they were certain they would drown. Even after watching me float in the water, they were pretty sure their bodies were created to sink. In time, they grew more comfortable in the water. Eventually, they could even swim the length of the pool. But this did not happen overnight. They had to grow in their faith that swimming was possible, not just for others, but for them as well.

Too many of us who are Christians believe that holiness is for someone else. We believe that the stories of the saints are about super humans who had something in greater supply than us. When our faith is weak, we assume that we can never have the faith of these holy men and women.

On the contrary, faith and holiness are not things only possible for a few. But we must practice our faith to grow in our faith. We must strive for holiness if we are to become holy.

Like a child fears the water before learning to swim, we often fear the path that leads to greater faith or holiness. We are not convinced that God can work in our lives to create a saint. Yet except for Mary, the Immaculate Conception, every saint was a sinner. God called every saint to exit the boat and walk toward Jesus on the water. In time, with practice and trust in God, they found they did not sink either.

Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS
© Liturgical Publications

Upcoming Events

***Church closed due to renovations,
Masses will be held in Parish Hall.**

Saturday, August 8

2:30 pm-3:30 pm Confessions MC

Sunday, August 9

Coffee and Donuts after the 8:00 am Mass only CYH

Monday, August 10

6:30 pm "Life in the Spirit" Prayer Meeting CYH

Wednesday, August 12

5:30 pm Adoration PH

Saturday, August 15

2:30 pm-3:30 pm Confessions MC

Sunday, August 16

Coffee and Donuts after the 8:00 am Mass only CYH

Key for Events

PC= Parish Center, MR=Music Room, CYH= Courtyard Hall,
MC=Ministries Center, CYH-1= Courtyard Hall Classroom #1,
CH=Church, 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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An Invitation from the Office of the Lay Pastoral Ministry Institute (LPMI)



So often, people ask how they might grow in their faith. In response to this searching, the Lay Pastoral Ministry Institute was initiated in 1998. The LPMI provides education and formation for laity in the Catholic faith. The program is designed to enhance personal faith and develop intellectual aptitude to enrich personal ministry. It is a four-year program: an informal year of discernment and three years of formal academic training and spiritual growth. Upon completion of the program, participants are formally "commissioned" by the Bishop.

The initial segment of the program, the **Year of Discernment**, consists of eight Saturday sessions from 9:30 am to 3:00 pm. The classes meet at Christ the King Parish, located at 821 S. Dale Mabry Hwy, Tampa. Classes begin in September, and will meet once monthly through April 2027.

For anyone interested in attending the LPMI Year of Discernment, the registration form and program information can be found on the LPMI web site at: <https://www.dosp.org/lpmi/year-of-discernment/> or call the LPMI office at (727) 344-1611.



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

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Baker Family
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Becker, Mary
Brown, Bob & Beverly
Calamita, John
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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
Distefano, Michael
Ellis, John
Feltes, Lauren
Fitzgerald, Dan

Gawlik, Frank and Sofia
Genereux, Carol
Grimberg, Carol
Gutske, Karl
Hawkins, Ashlyn
Hawkins, Barbara
Helbig, Len
Hoffman, Bette
Hoskins, Kevin
Hurley, Scott
Joyal, Christina
Kartsaklis, 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
Riordan, Donald
Romani, Angelo
Sacks, Laura
Shelby, Montez
Smith, Elizabeth
Stankiewicz, Cy
Vanderbeck, Cindy
Vanderbeck, Jay
Wagoner, Diane
Walsh, Thomas
Watson, Linda
Weselowski, Chris
Youngman, Ruth

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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