



Blessed Trinity

Weekend Magazine

Over 60 YEARS COURAGEOUSLY *Living the Gospel*

September 6, 2026 ▪ Twenty-third Sunday In Ordinary Time



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Why do we bless seeds on the Blessed Virgin Mary's birthday?

published on 09/08/16 - updated on 09/04/25

Philip Kosloski

An ancient practice marking the transition from summer to fall has its roots in Judeo-Christian care for creation.

On September 8 the Catholic Church celebrates the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary. In context, the date is exactly **nine months after the solemnity of the Immaculate Conception**. Connected with this particular feast is an ancient "blessing of seeds" that has taken place on this day for hundreds of years.

Farmers and other parishioners would arrive at Mass with their seeds or seedlings and the priest would bless them afterwards. It is a custom that takes as its biblical basis the command of God given to Moses, "Tell the children of Israel that when they enter the land of promise which I shall give them, they are to offer the first-fruits to the priests, and they shall be blessed."

The traditional text of the blessing can be found in the *Roman Ritual*.

Holy Lord and Father, almighty everlasting God, we ask and beseech you to look with merry countenance and fair eyes on these seeds and seedlings. And as you proclaimed to Moses, your servant, in the land of Egypt, saying: "Tell the children of Israel that when they enter the land of promise which I shall give them, they are to offer the first-fruits to the priests, and they shall be blessed"; so too at our request, O Lord, be merciful and pour out the blessing + of your right hand upon these seeds, which you in your benevolence bring forth to sustain life. Let neither drought nor flood destroy them, but keep them unharmed until they reach their full growth and produce an abundant harvest for the service of body and soul. We ask this of you who live and reign in perfect Trinity forever and ever.

Almighty everlasting God, sower and tiller of the heavenly word, who cultivate the field of our hearts with heavenly tools, hear our prayers and pour out abundant blessings upon the fields in which these seeds are to be sown. By your protecting hand turn away the fury of the elements, so that this entire fruit may be filled with your blessing, + and may be gathered unharmed and stored up in the granary; through Christ our Lord.

Source of all blessings

The annual blessing of seeds on the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary **was a way for farmers to mark the closing of the summer harvest and the beginning of fall and winter planting.** Before they engaged in such an endeavor, they sought the blessing of the priest to bring God's protection on their actions. It was a way to recognize the power God has over creation and to place the following year's growing season into his hands.

In addition to being a day where farmers recognized the role of God in protecting their livelihood, farmers sought God's help through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin. As Eve was known as the "**Mother of all the Living,**" Mary

Continued on page 2

Continued from cover....

being the "New Eve" has been given the title of "Mother and Queen of All Creation."

Pope Francis even highlighted this particular role of Mary in his encyclical *Laudato Si'*.

Mary, the Mother who cared for Jesus, now cares with maternal affection and pain for this wounded world. Just as her pierced heart mourned the death of Jesus, so now she grieves for the sufferings of the crucified poor and for the creatures of this world laid waste by human power. Completely transfigured, she now lives with Jesus, and all creatures sing of her fairness. She is the Woman, 'clothed in the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars' (Rev 12:1). Carried up into heaven, she is the Mother and Queen of all creation. In her glorified body, together with the Risen Christ, part of creation has reached the fullness of its beauty. She treasures the entire life of Jesus in her heart (cf. Lk 2:19,51), and now understands the meaning of all things. Hence, we can ask her to enable us to look at this world with eyes of wisdom.

In the end, the blessing of seeds is a way to recognize God as the one from whom all blessings flow and to ask for his assistance and protection through the motherly care of the Blessed Virgin Mary. It is not meant to be a superstitious sacrifice to an unknown god, but a way to entrust everything (even our seeds and seedlings) to the Lord of All Creation, who watches over us and provides for our every need as a loving Father.

Originally published at Aleteia.org,
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Blessed Trinity Scripture Class Resumes

September 8, 2026

Classes will be held in Courtyard
Hall on Tuesdays from 10-11:30am.

We will study Matthew (1-16)

"Jesus the Messianic King"

The books will be \$10.

For further information please call

Rachel Dutilly 727.867.3663

Mass Intentions

Saturday, September 5, Vigil for Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00 p.m. Charles P. Screeton & Christine A. Screeton (dec)

Sunday, September 6, Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 a.m. Michael Kehoe (dec)

9:30 a.m. Mass for Parishioners

11:30 a.m. Virginia Alianello (dec)

Monday, September 7, Weekday in Ordinary Time

8:00 a.m. Michael Kehoe (dec)

Tuesday, September 8, Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

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

Wednesday, September 9, Memorial of Saint Peter Claver, Priest

8:00 a.m. Mass for Vocations

Thursday, September 10, Weekday in Ordinary Time

8:00 a.m. Edwin Good (dec)

Friday, September 11, Weekday in Ordinary Time

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

Saturday, September 12, Vigil for Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

Sunday, September 13, Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 a.m. Ruth Guldner (dec)

9:30 a.m. Mass for Parishioners

11:30 a.m. Olindo Casale (dec)

September 6, 2026

Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Ez 33:7-9 | Rom 13:8-10 | Mt 18:15-20

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

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

St. Teresa of Calcutta once wrote, "If we have no peace, it is because we have forgotten that we belong to each other." Community, when lived according to Christ's command to love one another, fills us with joy and companionship. In the Gospel, Jesus tells the disciples that living as a Church also means holding one another accountable when a member of the community has gone astray. While we are not responsible for the choices others make, we have a responsibility to help one another out of love. Ezekiel's task as a prophet was not always an easy one, nor is it easy today to speak out against injustice or wrongdoing. But the good news of our faith and our Church is that we belong to Christ and to each other. When we speak the truth in the face of injustice, it should serve to rally one another toward righteousness as we journey as one Body to the eternal glory of heaven.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Our Gospel speaks about moments where members of the Church help one another to recognize and turn away from sin. Each of us will have moments in which we need to be reminded of God's commands and called to conversion. In those moments, we can give powerful witness to Christ by receiving the truth with humility and allowing ourselves to be led back to the loving arms of the Good Shepherd. Acceptance of our own shortcomings and flaws can be an opportunity to recognize that we are not the agents of our own salvation. Then, by seeking the love and forgiveness of God – especially in the sacrament of reconciliation – we show, by our example, that all people are called to be reconciled with our Lord so that we may live together in the fullness of his glory for all eternity.

PRAY

A prayer before confession:

God, you know all that I do and all that is in my heart.

I turn to you today because I know that I have made choices that have hurt others and rejected you.

You have made me conscious of an emptiness in my life because of my sinfulness.

I want to turn back to you and the way of life to which you call me.

In your mercy, hear and answer me. Amen.



JOIN THE Social Group FOR A BOWLING Outing!

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27TH
1:00 PM
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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.

YOU ARE INVITED TO

FIRE OF THE SPIRIT

NIGHT OF PRAISE, WORSHIP, SCRIPTURE & HEALING

WORSHIP | PRAISE | SCRIPTURE | HEALING

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 11

MUSIC STARTS AT 7:30 PM
DOORS OPEN AT 6:30 PM

WE MEET IN THE PARISH HALL AT ST JUDE'S CATHEDRAL
 5815 5th Ave N
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Join us for a powerful night of praise, worship, scripture, and healing. Come expectant—come ready to be renewed, encouraged, and filled with His presence!

Bring your friends and come ready to sing, worship, and be blessed!

If you cannot attend in person please join us on zoom.

Meeting # 870 4813 1125
PASSCODE# 164234

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Weekly Giving 08/30/26

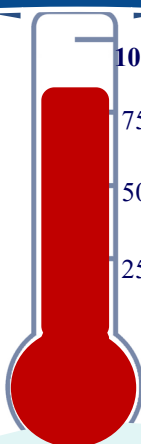
Offertory	\$ 8,089
Other Donations	\$ 276
Restoring the Sacred	\$ 85
St. Vincent de Paul	\$ 388

**Thank you for your
generosity!**

Catholic Ministry Appeal



2026 GOAL



100% -\$79,863

75%

50%

25%

Collected to date: \$68,317
which is 85%
Amounts pledged or expected:
\$81,728 which is 102.3%!

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



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Everyday Stewardship

I have to smile when I read in St. Paul's Letter to the Romans, "Owe nothing to anyone, except to love one another." I smile because I know that in today's world few people owe nothing to anyone. We have credit card debt, mortgages, student loans, car loans, and new loans to consolidate old loans. It would seem that we actually owe everything to everyone.

These debts are of this world. I am pretty sure no one residing in heaven is still making mortgage payments. We have created contracts in this world to make possible certain transactions of goods, services, and shelter. But there is one thing that we naturally owe one another and that lasts longer than our time on earth: love.

You do not need to take out a loan to have more love to give. There also is no limit to the love you have been given to share. However, it is the one gift that we sometimes treat with the least respect. We hold back love due to sins of pride, prejudice, and apathy. We distort and manipulate love for our own gain and selfish desires. We can find ourselves placing more importance on the things for which we have taken out loans than the love that is eternal.

I am trying the best I can to get to a point where I no longer owe anything to banks and mortgage lenders. I don't want to leave this world owing anyone for the earthly things I had in this life. But even more importantly, I realize the shame it would be to leave people behind that didn't get enough love from me. There is nothing greater than love.

Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

© Liturgical Publications

Upcoming Events

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

Saturday, September 5

2:30 pm-3:30 pm Confessions MC

Sunday, September 6

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

Monday, September 7 - Office will be closed for Labor Day

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

Tuesday, September 8

10:00 am Scripture Class resumes CYH

Wednesday, September 9

5:30 pm Adoration PH

Saturday, September 12

2:30 pm-3:30 pm Confessions MC

Sunday, September 13

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

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FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25TH

AFTER THE 8:00 MASS AROUND 8:45

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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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Barhorst, Brady
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Becker, Mary
Boetger, Carole
Brown, Bob & Beverly
Calamita, John
Christ, Kathryn
Clark, Christine and
Henry
Clark, Brittany Noel
Clark, Matthew Pierce
Comeau, Teresa
Cortez, Patrick
Coughlin, Bernadette
Curcio, Louis
Daniels, Joshua
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
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Kartsaklis, Michael
Klima, Sue
Kraynak, Gary
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Narinelly, Sarah
Newcomb, Jeff
O'Connor, Mary
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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

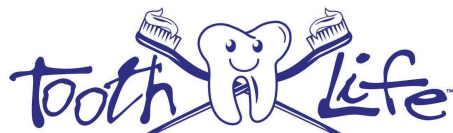


To request the Anointing of the Sick for yourself or a loved one, please contact the parish office, 727-867-3663.

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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