



Blessed Trinity

Weekend Magazine

Over 60 YEARS COURAGEOUSLY *Living the Gospel*

September 13, 2026 ▪ Twenty-fourth Sunday In Ordinary Time

This Bible passage summarizes Mother Teresa's apostolate



Credit: Salvacampillo | Shutterstock

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Philip Kosloski

If you want to know what motivated Mother Teresa and her radical life of self-giving, it all comes down to this specific Bible passage from the Gospels.

Often in the lives of the saints, there will be a particular Bible passage that strikes a chord and ends up being the primary

motivation behind their missionary endeavors.

St. Francis of Assisi, for example, was inspired by the words of Jesus to his disciples, "Take nothing for your journey, no staff, nor bag, nor bread, nor money; and do not have two tunics" (Luke 9:3). This led him to live a life of complete poverty, having no possessions in his ministry.

Mother Teresa was inspired by a different Bible passage, one we have all heard before.

Seeing Jesus in the poor and suffering

St. John Paul II commented on the primary Bible passage that motivated Mother Teresa in his homily for her beatification in 2003:

"As you did to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me" (Mt 25: 40). This Gospel passage, so crucial in understanding Mother Teresa's service to the poor, was the basis of her faith-filled conviction that *in touching the broken bodies of the poor she was touching the body of Christ*.

Mother Teresa set out to seek the poorest of the poor in the world, not because she wanted to become a well-known humanitarian, but because she saw **Christ in the poor and suffering**.

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Whenever she bathed the body of an individual who was dying in the streets, she was bathing Jesus Christ himself.

St. John Paul II confirmed this motivation that Mother Teresa possessed in her missionary apostolate:

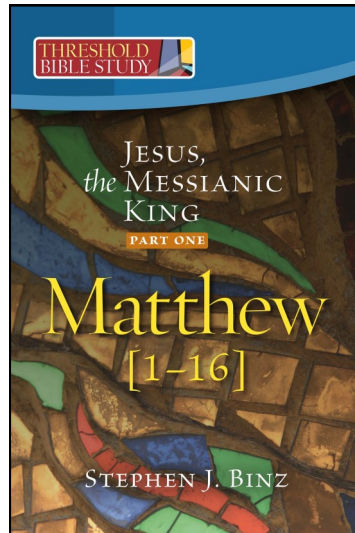
It was to Jesus himself, hidden under the distressing disguise of the poorest of the poor, that her service was directed. Mother Teresa highlights the deepest meaning of service - an act of love done to the hungry, thirsty, strangers, naked, sick, prisoners (cf. Mt 25:34-36) **is done to Jesus himself.**

Mother Teresa did not serve the poor because she received a "spiritual high," or because she "felt better about herself," after doing so. Her primary motivation was that she was serving Jesus Christ.

This should be a reminder to us that whenever we serve other people, even if they are our family members, we are serving Jesus Christ himself. We can express our love of Jesus simply by serving those around us.

Mother Teresa's example is a shining beacon that challenges us to not only listen to God's word, but to live it out in our daily lives.

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Blessed Trinity Scripture Class

Classes are held in Courtyard Hall
Tuesdays from 10:00 am to 11:30 am

We are studying Matthew 1-16

"Jesus the Messianic King"

Books are \$10

For more information please call

Rachel Dutilly at 727-867-3663

Mass Intentions

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)

Monday, September 14, Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross

8:00 a.m. Joseph Cipriano (dec)

Tuesday, September 15, Memorial of Our Lady of Sorrows

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

Wednesday, September 16, Memorial of Saints Cornelius, Pope, and Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs

8:00 a.m. Mass for Vocations

Thursday, September 17, Weekday in Ordinary Time

8:00 a.m. Sandy Lawrence (dec)

Friday, September 18, Weekday in Ordinary Time

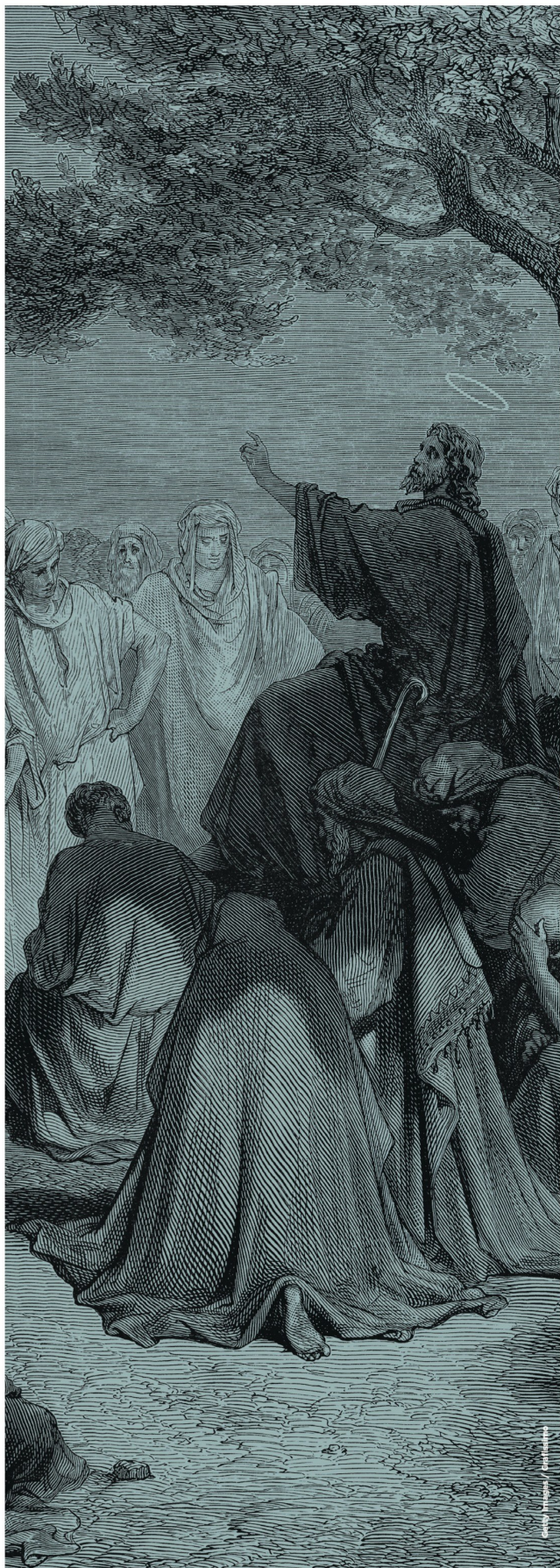
8:00 a.m. Ernest "Skip" Lewis (dec)

Saturday, September 19, Vigil for Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00 p.m. Deacon John Thompson (dec)

Sunday, September 20, Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 a.m. Cayden Riley (dec)
9:30 a.m. Mass for Parishioners
11:30 a.m. Dan Cronin (dec)



September 13, 2026

Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

Sir 27:30—28:7 | Rom 14:7-9 | Mt 18:21-35

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

It strikes me that the real issue in the Gospel is that the first man whose debt the king forgives fails to see that his fellow servant who owes him a smaller debt is just like himself. “Could anyone refuse mercy to another like himself, can he seek pardon for his own sins?” Sirach asks. I think we sometimes languish in unforgiveness because we think of others’ wrongful actions as being somehow worse than ours. As a result, we hold others to a higher standard, while expecting people to easily excuse our failings. Perhaps the first step toward the radical forgiveness that Jesus calls us to in today’s Gospel is to foster compassion for our fellow human beings. When we are wronged, it may be helpful to remind ourselves of the classic phrase, “There but for the grace of God, go I.” When we recognize that those who wrong us have the same struggles as our own, we are more likely to extend the same mercy we wish to be offered to us.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

After the attempted assassination of Pope John Paul II by Mehmet Ali Ağca in 1981, the future saint forgave his would-be assassin from his hospital bed, only four days after the shooting that nearly took his life. Later, the pope went to visit Ağca in prison, and the two spoke for more than 20 minutes. Since that time, John Paul’s example has stood as a witness to the power of God at work in us; the strength to forgive, it is clear, comes not from ourselves, but from the Lord. Our willingness to receive God’s grace and to extend forgiveness to others offers a powerful witness to the goodness of God, who is “kind and merciful, slow to anger and rich in compassion.”

PRAY

Radical forgiveness is a challenging spiritual practice; it is not easy! To forgive as Christ calls us to requires that we cultivate an interior disposition of humility and compassion. This ancient prayer from St. Ephrem can help to open our hearts to overcome anger or judgment toward those who have wronged us: *Lord and Master of my life, spare me from the spirit of indifference, despair, lust for power, and idle chatter. Instead, bestow on me, your servant, the spirit of integrity, humility, patience and love. Yes, O Lord and King, let me see my own sins, and not judge my brothers and sisters for you are blessed for ever and ever. Amen.*



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.

JOIN THE Social Group FOR A BOWLING Outing!

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27TH

1:00 PM

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Weekly Offering

Weekly Giving 09/06/26

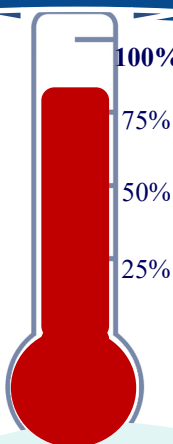
Offertory	\$ 7,561
Other Donations	\$ 767
Restoring the Sacred	\$ 707
St. Vincent de Paul	\$ 193

**Thank you for your
generosity!**

Catholic Ministry Appeal



2026 GOAL



100% -\$79,863

75%

50%

25%

Collected to date: \$69,518.00
which is 87%

Amounts pledged or expected:
\$81,728 which is 103.8%!

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



Everyday Stewardship

Life was not always easy with my father when I was growing up. Let's just say he made many decisions along the way that led to fear, anger, and sadness for my family and me. Unfortunately, I was the only one in the family that would years later truly forgive him for his actions. My mother and sister held onto the resentment and anger they felt all their lives. For my father and me, reconciliation led to several years of a deepening relationship before his passing in 2011.

Forgiveness is not easy and I do not consider myself better or stronger because I was able to forgive and my family members could not. However, I can say that the blessings I received due to forgiveness and a renewed relationship with my father were far better than the animosity experienced by others. I also learned that forgiveness benefited me far more than my father.

As good stewards of time, we must realize that each passing day will never come again. What we do with that time is completely up to us. We can be wise and use it to build bridges, heal wounds, and cultivate love where there is hate. We can also choose to waste time in fear, resentment, and anger. I thank God often for the gift of my dad. However, I thank God more for the gift of time spent with him and the ability to see him not with my human eyes, but with the eyes of Jesus.

Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS © Liturgical Publications

Upcoming Events

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

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

Monday, September 14

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

Tuesday, September 15

10:00 am Scripture Class CYH

Wednesday, September 16

4:00 pm St. Vincent de Paul Meeting FF

5:30 pm Adoration PH

Saturday, September 19

2:30 pm-3:30 pm Confessions MC

Sunday, September 20

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

CATHOLIC TRIVIA – JUST FOR FUN

Question: True or false: A pope's pontificate begins at their coronation.

Answer: False. It begins when they accept the election results.

©LPi

Friendliness, Explained!

The modern world we all must share seems, in some ways, to be shrinking.

For good or ill, thanks to the internet, the widespread use of social media, and the omnipresence of smartphones, we are finding ourselves interacting frequently with people who live, act, and think differently than we do.

It may well be that the virtue of friendliness, known officially as affability, is more important than ever.

In fact, being attached as it is to the virtue of justice, friendliness is a debt we owe our fellow human beings, writes St. Thomas Aquinas (*Sum., II:II, 114, Art. 2*). The fact is, we cannot evangelize without kindness. We can see this in the instructions Christ gives his disciples in the Gospel of Matthew: "As you enter a house, wish it peace. If the house is worthy, let your peace come upon it; if not, let your peace return to you."

(Matthew 10:13) ©LPi



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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Text BTSP to 84576 or online at
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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
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Grimberg, Carol
Gutske, Karl
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Hawkins, Barbara
Helbig, Len
Hoffman, Bette
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Hurley, Scott
Joyal, Christina
Kartsaklis, Michael
Klima, Sue
Kraynak, Gary
Lague, Norbert
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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
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Vanderbeck, Jay
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Walsh, Thomas
Watson, Linda
Weselowski, Chris
Youngman, Ruth

Anointing of the Sick

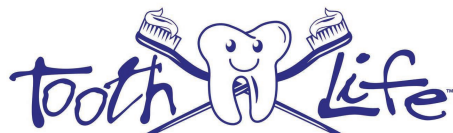


To request the Anointing of the Sick for yourself or a loved one, please contact the parish office, 727-867-3663.

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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