



Blessed Trinity

Weekend Magazine

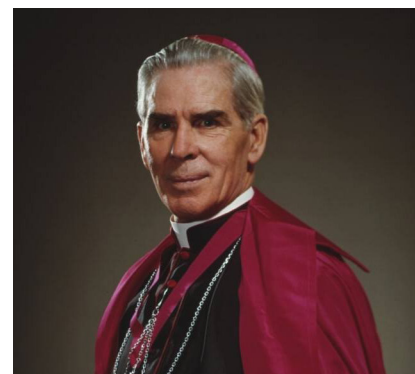
Over 60 YEARS COURAGEOUSLY *Living the Gospel*
September 20, 2026 ~ Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Fulton Sheen's warning is uncannily prophetic

published on 01/24/26 Theresa Civantos Barber

What happens when we're exposed to a relentless stream of highly emotional content? The effects are pretty scary.

When you hear the words of Venerable Fulton Sheen and other holy men and women from the past, there's a common reaction: surprise at how accurately they describe our present-day problems. The truth is that human nature doesn't change. Sin doesn't change. Temptation doesn't change. No matter how much technology changes, we humans are the same. We keep needing the same advice and warnings ... and invitations to hope.



A wise voice from the fairly recent past is Venerable Fulton Sheen, the archbishop and theologian who reached millions with his influential radio and Emmy-winning television show *Life is Worth Living*.

His wisdom is still so relevant today. In fact, one of his quotations seems to describe our current 24-hour news cycle with uncanny foresight! Social media didn't even exist back when he said these words, but it sounds as if he is describing it — especially the worrying effect it has on our ability to see things with right judgment.

What happens when we're exposed to a relentless stream of highly emotional content? Some content brings bad news, and some brings good news, but all of it is designed to play on our emotions.

And the effects are pretty scary.

"Pulled and pulled like the spring on a screen door"

And the full quotation here:

Why can't you see that after a while, our emotions are like the spring on a screen door, pulled and pulled so often? And after a while, it loses all of its resiliency.

And then later on in life, there come real objects and problems toward which the emotions of love and hate and anger and justice and so forth, should be aroused, but they become so exhausted, so emasculated, by being pulled at artificially, that they're no longer aroused.

And that is why, in the face of social injustices, dishonesties, affecting one industry after another, and politics, we remain cold.

Globalization of indifference

When our emotions are constantly whipped back and forth, we actually lose our instinct to react the way we should to serious problems. We become numb.

Decades after Sheen said these words, plenty of research confirms what he said. Stanford psychiatrist Anna Lembke, MD, author of *Dopamine Nation*, explains how social media and compulsive overconsumption can affect our brain chemistry:

Feel-good substances and behaviors increase dopamine release in the brain's reward pathways.

Continued on page 2

Continued from cover....

The brain responds to this increase by decreasing dopamine transmission — not just back down to its natural baseline rate, but below that baseline.

Repeated exposure to the same or similar stimuli ultimately creates a chronic dopamine-deficit state, wherein we're less able to experience pleasure.

We see the truth of what Sheen observed. A constant stream of emotional stimuli makes us less able to respond appropriately to things that matter.

We can't be indifferent

Pope Francis gave a similar warning, calling for an end to the "culture of indifference." He urged the faithful to follow God's example of love, "without ever turning away" from people's needs, especially those of the poor.

What's the solution to chronic overconsumption? We can't let these things take over our lives. Breaks from consuming news and social media are so important. We can't let ourselves stop caring about other people. And we need to be in contact with actual people. As much as technology helps us to stay in touch, we can't overestimate the importance of physical togetherness.

Instead, prayer, time with our families, reading, social events with friends, hobbies, and many more valuable things can and should fill our lives.

And when real problems arise — social injustices and sorrows — we won't be indifferent. We will be ready to respond appropriately, caring for others' needs and using our voices to call for justice and truth.

**Originally published at Aleteia.org,
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Mass Intentions

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)

Monday, September 21, Feast of Saint Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist

8:00 a.m. Kevin Birchfield (liv)

Tuesday, September 22, Weekday in Ordinary Time

8:00 a.m. Earl W. Murray, Sr. (dec)

Wednesday, September 23, Memorial of Saint Pius of Pietrelcina, Priest

8:00 a.m. Mass for Vocations

Thursday, September 24, Weekday in Ordinary Time

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

Friday, September 25, Weekday in Ordinary Time

8:00 a.m. Glen Davis (dec)

Saturday, September 26, Vigil for Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00 p.m. The Comeau and La Rosa Families (dec)

Sunday, September 27, Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 a.m. Michael Grimm (dec)
9:30 a.m. Mass for Parishioners
11:30 a.m. Thomas Condra (liv)

September 20, 2026

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 55:6-9 | Phil 1:20c-24, 27a | Mt 20:1-16a

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

Writing to the Philippians while in prison, St. Paul feels complete peace about his fate. To stay on this earth means fruitful labor for him; to die means entering eternal life with God. Having lived apart from God in the past, he finds immense joy at being able to labor for the Lord, despite the suffering it entails. Upon first glance, the parable St. Matthew recounts in his Gospel offers a glimpse of God's generous mercy. But reading the parable alongside Paul's letter reveals another layer of meaning: Those who have more time to labor in the vineyard of the Lord are given a great gift – the chance to bear immense fruit. Our long hours laboring in the Lord's vineyard are not something we're meant to merely suffer through on our way to our eternal reward. Rather, they are an opportunity to be drawn into communion with the Lord. As with St. Paul, the joy that comes from realizing that we share in the very life and work of God is available to us now, not only in the life to come.

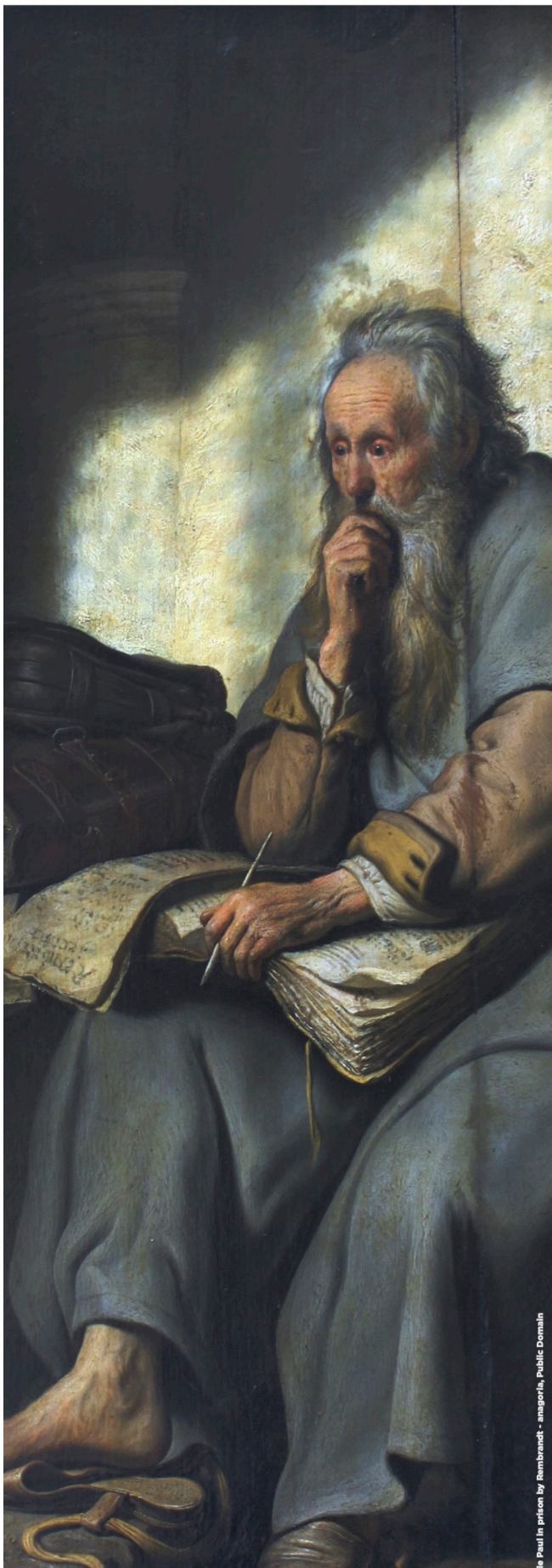
GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Each of the vocations to which God calls us requires sacrifice and includes challenges. Living in humble obedience to the will of God is not easy, but it is full of peace. To focus only on the eternal reward offered after death disregards the love, peace, and joy of the kingdom that we are gifted *now*. We are invited to be laborers in the vineyard, co-creators with the Master of the universe. As we creatively and compassionately allow God's love to flow through us, we infuse new life and love into the world around us. When we truly believe that a life lived in Christ is the most abundant life, we stop asking what is fair and we begin to eagerly invite others to join us in the vineyard. Doing the will of God in this life is a reward unto itself.

STUDY

This week, return to the first reading from the prophet Isaiah. As you reflect on his call to "seek the Lord while he may be found," consider the gift of God's love and presence in your life right now. And as we labor in the vineyard, keeping our eyes on the ultimate reward of eternity with our Creator, may we also recognize the immense gift of knowing, loving, and serving God in this life.



St. Paul in prison by Rembrandt - anagoria, 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.



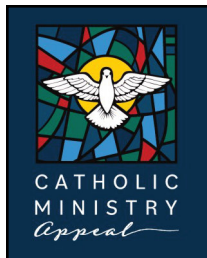
Weekly Offering

Weekly Giving 09/13/26

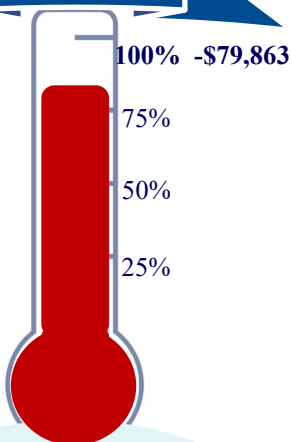
Offertory	\$ 5,630
Other Donations	\$ 46
Restoring the Sacred	\$ 436
St. Vincent de Paul	\$ 291
Catholic Ministry Appeal	\$ 20

Thank you for your generosity!

Catholic Ministry Appeal



2026 GOAL



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

As everyday stewards, I hope that each of us try to live daily lives of generosity for the glory of God. I hope that we are all working to cultivate characteristics of a good everyday steward so that we can grow in maturity of faith and draw closer to Christ. But if we could accurately see on a magical computer spreadsheet how everyone else around us was living life would it impact how we lived out our stewardship way of life? If we found out that others weren't trying as hard as we were or they were not nearly as generous would it give us reason to pause?

In the workplace, school, and general life, people can easily look around and choose to adapt what they are doing to match more closely what others are doing. Why give work more hours if no one else is willing? Why give a 20% tip to a waiter if you suspect everyone else is only giving 15%? Why spend hours studying for a test when no one else is taking it that seriously?

Our lives of stewardship should never be measured against that of others. Even though we are all called to give all we are and all we have to God, each one of us is unique in our response to that call. Instead of any type of comparison that may temper our generosity, we should hold to the truth that the more we give of ourselves the more fulfilled we will feel. Also, as we grow in our relationship with God, the more we will want to glorify him. Stewardship is not a competition. It is a call to serve God without counting the cost.

Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS © Liturgical Publications

Upcoming Events

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

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

Monday, September 21

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

Tuesday, September 22

10:00 am Scripture Class CYH

Wednesday, September 23

5:30 pm Adoration PH

Friday, September 25

BT Social Group Coffee Meeting at the Buzz after the 8:00 am Mass

Saturday, September 26

2:30 pm-3:30 pm Confessions MC

Sunday, September 207

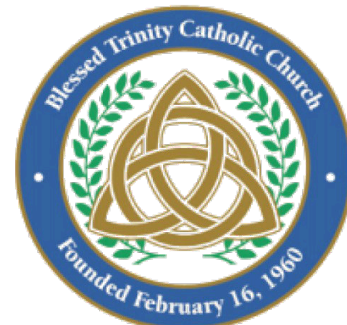
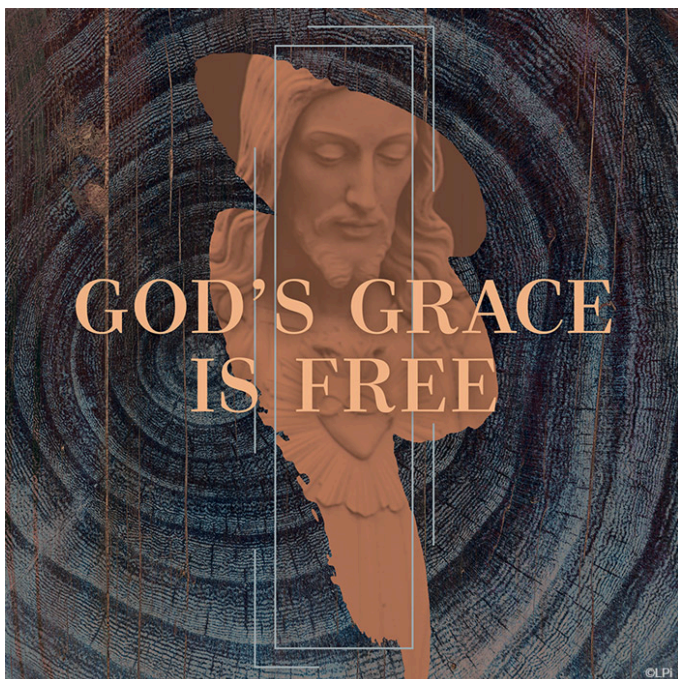
Coffee and Donuts after the 8:00 am Mass only CYH

Faith Community Nursing-BP Screenings
after 8:00 am and 9:30 am Masses

1:00 pm BT Bowling outing at Ten Pin Lanes

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](http://btsp.org)

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



Adult & Youth Faith Formation Registration 2026-2027

Blessed Trinity Catholic Church is planning our Fall Faith Formation Classes.

What sacraments are *you* in need of?

Please fill in this form and return to the parish office, or put in basket provided, no later than October 5th.

Family Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone #: _____

Email: _____

Child Family Member(s) you wish to register in Religious Education

Please check all sacraments needed

First, Middle & Last Name	Date of Birth	Grade	Baptism	1 st Communion	Confirmed

Adult Family Member(s) interested in the OCIA program

Please check all sacraments needed

First, Middle & Last Name	Date of Birth	Baptism	1 st Communion	Confirmed

Please turn over →

Ongoing Adult Catholic Formation

Adults interested in ongoing Catholic Faith Formation on a variety of topics to be determined.

_____ **Yes,** I am interested in exploring my Catholic Faith. Please let me know the topics.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip Code _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Return this form to the parish office no later than October 5th. Form may be dropped off at the office or mailed to:

Blessed Trinity Catholic Church
Attn: Father Wayne C. Genereux
1600 54th Ave S.
St. Petersburg, FL 33712



BEFORE



JULY 2026

INTERIOR CHURCH
RENOVATION PROGRESS



AUGUST 2026



SEPTEMBER 2026

Arnold, Barbara
Baker Family Barhorst,
Brady Barhorst,
Rosemary 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
Joyal, Christina
Kartsaklis, Michael
Klima, Sue
Kraynak, Gary
Lague, Norbert
Lashley, Diana
LeVan, George
Lewis, Cynthia
Mays, Hank
Merinar, Betty
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

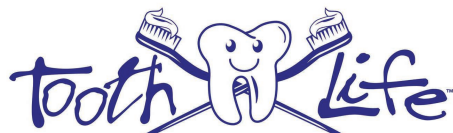


To request the Anointing of the Sick for yourself or a loved one, please contact the parish office, 727-867-3663.

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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