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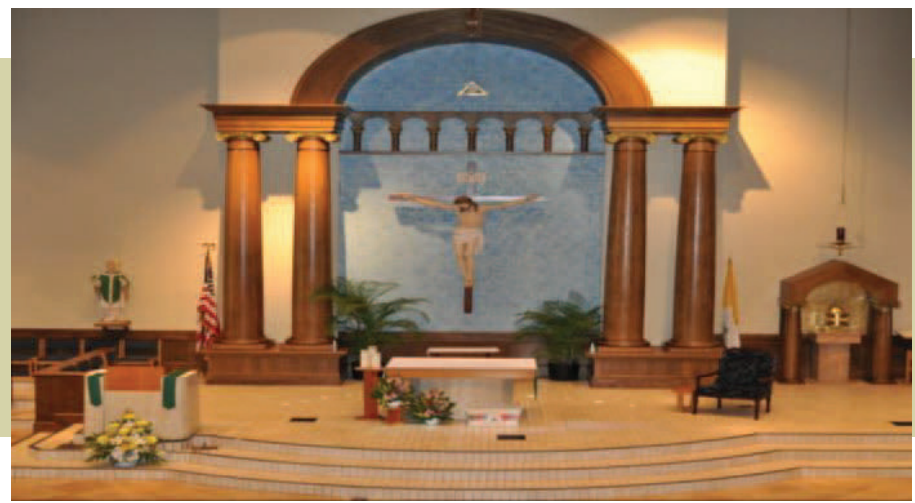
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**BLESSED TRINITY CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
March 23, 2025

**ADDRESS:**  
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352.629.8092  
**FAX:**  
352.351.8872  
**EMAIL:**  
mail@blessedtrinity.org  
**WEBSITE:**  
www.blessedtrinity.org  
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<b>Pastor</b>	Father Patrick J. Sheedy	x3209
<b>Associate Pastors</b>	Father Zbigniew Stradomski Father Titus Kachinda	x3227 x3219
<b>In Residence</b>	Father Joseph Maniangat	595.5605
<b>Deacons</b>	Heriberto Berrios, James Maubach, Stephen Floyd, Rodulfo Reverol, and Jose A. (Chepe) Perez	
<b>Sisters</b>	Immaculate Heart of Mary Reparatrix Misioneras Catequistas	867.9860 622.4500

**MASS SCHEDULE AT BLESSED TRINITY**

<b>WEEKEND</b>	
Saturday	4:00 pm and 6:00 pm
Sunday	7:10 am, 8:45 am, 11:00 am 1:00pm Spanish, 5:00 pm Life Teen
<b>DAILY</b>	
Mon-Fri	7:10 am and 5:30 pm
Wednesday	8:15 am (follows school schedule)
Thursday	6:30 pm (Spanish)
Saturday	8:00am
<b>Reconciliation</b>	<b>Saturday 2:45-3:30 pm 5:00-5:30pm</b>

**MASS SCHEDULE AT OUR MISSION CHURCHES**

<b>WEEKEND</b>	
Saturday	7:00 pm at Christ the King (Spanish)
Sunday	10:15 am at Christ the King 7:00pm at La Guadalupana (Spanish)
<b>DAILY</b>	
Tuesday	7:00pm at La Guadalupana (Spanish)
Wednesday	4:00 pm at Christ the King 4:00 pm at Holy Days of Obligation

FOR ADVERTISING INFORMATION CALL RECTORY AT 629-8092

# PARISH LIFE

MARCH 23, 2025 ~ THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

**MISSION STATEMENT:** Blessed Trinity Catholic Church Stewardship Community recognizes Jesus is Lord. We believe that our Time, Talent and Treasure are gifts from God to be used for the spiritual, educational and social needs of our community, the Diocese and the world at large, especially the poor.

<b>Parish Staff</b>		<b>629.8092</b>
Sr. Juliet Ateenyi	Ministry to Sick JNakalema@blessedtrinity.org	x3211
Katherine Baker	Business Manager kbaker@blessedtrinity.org	x3218
Megan Losito	Blessed Trinity School mlosito@btschool.org	622.5808
Lori Berndt	Elder Care lberndt@blessedtrinity.org	671.2823
Jason Halstead	Brother's Keeper jason@bkocala.org	622.3846
Lori Moenter	Parish Bookkeeper lmoenter@blessedtrinity.org	x3228
Sue Lanier	Stewardship slanier@blessedtrinity.org	x3208
Paul Miranda	Plant Manager pdminv@yahoo.com	804.2415
Sr. Concepta Najjemba	Soup Kitchen cnajjemba@yahoo.com	789.8139
Melinda Gunn	Parish Secretary mgunn@blessedtrinity.org	x3201
Colleen Rabe	Director of Music & Liturgy crabe@blessedtrinity.org	x3202
Scott Bolton	Angels in Arms sболton@btaia.org	622.6167
Lydia Ross	Youth Ministry lross@blessedtrinity.org	x 3222
Ana Vanegas	Faith Formation avanegas@blessedtrinity.org	x3221
<b>Trinity Catholic High School</b>		<b>622.9025</b>
Lou Pereira	President	
Tammie Vassou	Principal	

**NEW PARISHIONERS ARE WELCOME** to stop by the Church Office to register Monday through Friday 8:00am to 5:00pm or online at [www.blessedtrinity.org](http://www.blessedtrinity.org), click on join us.

**BAPTISM:** We are pleased to help your family prepare for the special event of your child's entrance into our faith community. To help parents and godparents prepare, a class (English) is held the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7:30pm in the Community Center and in Spanish the 2nd Saturday of each month at 9:00am at Guadalupana. Parents and Godparents must attend this class prior to scheduling baptism.

**MARRIAGES:** If you are planning to be married at Blessed Trinity, your preparation process should begin at least four (4) months prior to desired date. We look forward to helping you during your time of engagement and preparation for the vocation of Christian marriage. Call the Church Office for an appointment with one of our priests.

**SICK CALLS AND HOSPITAL VISITS:** If you or a family member are in a local hospital or homebound and would like to receive Communion or Sacrament of the Sick, please call the Church Office at 629.8092 or Sister Juliet at x3211. When registering at the hospital, put your name on the Catholic List.

**PARISH APP:** Download at [myparishapp.com](http://myparishapp.com) or search your phone's app store for myParish

## STEWARDSHIP BY THE BOOK

The parable in today's Gospel clearly warns that we, like the fig tree, will be judged by our fruit. While God mercifully provides us with time and opportunity, let us give witness to our faith with deeds of kindness and generosity!

## LIVESTREAMING

Please be advised that the Mass is being filmed, broadcast, and/or videotaped, including audio recording. Your attendance at Mass constitutes your consent to these recordings, and to the use of the recordings by the church for public communications, social media, evangelization, and other business or religious purposes. God bless and thank you for attending Mass at Blessed Trinity Catholic Church.



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# STEWARDSHIP

POSTLUCE

## A STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

In today's Gospel Jesus offers his parable about last chances. The fig tree will have one last chance to bear fruit before it is cut down and destroyed. Good stewards realize that, like the fig tree, they are endowed with God-given gifts that are meant to "bear fruit" for God and neighbor. God has legitimate expectations of them. They also realize they do not know how much time they have left before the gardener returns for an accounting of their fruitfulness. How are we using our God-given gifts? How might we use our gifts to bear more fruit? The answer requires some urgency.

## STEWARDS OF THE WEEK

### Fish Fry Volunteers

Covenant Mission Team would like to thank all of the people who have given of their time to help make the fish fry so successful!

Thank you for being faithful stewards!

## New Parishioners:

- Josue, Carolina & Maria Sanchez Acosta
- Diogenes, Melissa, Jesus & Marcelo Acosta Ramirez
- Jose, Carmen, Maria & Gorge Zabala-Gauna
- Segundo, Maria & Jackeline Siguencia
- Jose, Alicia, Alreis & Lisa Diaz Lopez
- Gavin, Sara, Graeden & Gunnar Gosik

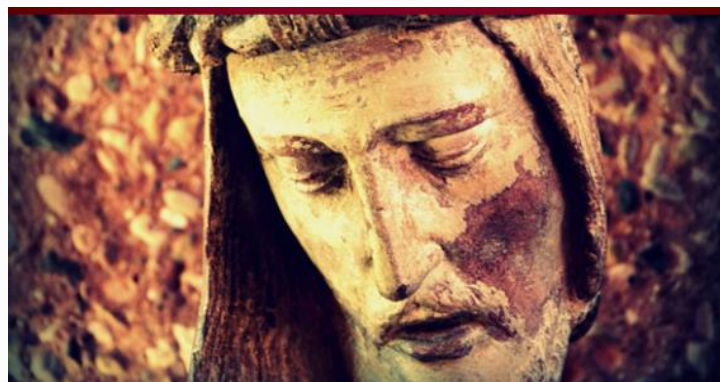
## Baptisms:

- Michael Lawrence Carroll
- Walter James Boyle

Today's Gospel passage reminds us that life is precious and the gift of time on this earth is just that — a gift. None of us knows how much time will be granted to us, so we must use this gift intentionally to glorify God and serve our neighbor.

Jesus offers the parable of the fig tree to further illustrate this truth. The owner of the orchard came searching for fruit on a fig tree he had planted in his orchard. Finding no fruit on the tree after three years, he told the gardener to cut it down. But the gardener intercedes and asks for one more year to cultivate and fertilize the tree in hopes it would bear fruit in the future. The fig tree was not dying; it simply wasn't doing much of anything at all. Can this be said of us and our lives as well?

The season of Lent is a time to carefully reflect on the way we spend our time. Do we make God our first priority, tending to our spiritual growth and sacramental life with diligence? Do we give the next priority to our loved ones, focusing intentionally on them each day without distractions from phones, screens, or thoughts of work? If not, now is the moment to repent of our waste of time or of misplaced priorities on our use of time. God is merciful but just. Let's turn to Him and ask Him to make our lives fruitful while we still have time to do so.



## Capital Punishment

We need to pray daily for the abolition of capital punishment.

God is the author, the giver of all life from conception to natural death. God and God alone has the right to give and take life.

States have the right to protect society from criminals. They can fulfill that duty by taking criminals out of society—if necessary for the whole life of the dangerous person.

Capital punishment promotes an "eye for an eye" mentality. It does not help to promote a loving, human environment.

Capital punishment costs (financially) much more money than life in prison.

History proves that many hardened criminals, when allowed to live, have had a complete change of heart and have become Christ like. A number have become saints.

There are six states at present who have executions planned for the remainder of this year, for a total of eleven. They are: Tennessee (4), Louisiana (1), Oklahoma (1), Texas (2), Arizona (1) and Florida (2). The Florida executions are: Edward Thomas James on March 20 and Michael Tanzi on April 8.

Ohio has issued execution warrants for two but Governor Mike DeVine has barred all executions since 2020 unless a new method of execution is adopted.

We are a civilized nation. Pray for a final end to all executions in our state and nation. We become much more Christ like if we can get this accomplished. We have everything to gain and nothing to lose.

WORSHIP

MARCH 23, 2025 ~ THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT



So far we have heard from 449 families. The parish and our diocese very much appreciate your active involvement in helping the Catholic church spread the faith locally and throughout the world.

We have received \$213,632.23 in donations/pledges so far.

If you do not have the OCA pledge envelope you can find it in the vestibule or in the stewardship room. Because of our baptism, all of us together have a vital part to play in the total mission of the Catholic faith.

Drop your response in the weekend offering basket or at the church office. We will wait another week or two before we write to all who have not yet responded.

## National Collection: Catholic Relief Services/World Mission Sunday March 29/30

Catholic Relief Services provides funding for the USCCB Office of International Justice and Peace, Migration and Refugee Services, and Pastoral Care for Migrants and Refugees; relief work of the Holy Father; and the Catholic Legal Immigration Network.

In 1926 Pope Pius XI instituted Mission Sunday for the whole church with the first worldwide mission Sunday collection taking place in October 1927. That day is celebrated in all the local churches as the feast of catholicity and universal solidarity so Christians the world over will recognize their common responsibility with regard to the evangelization of the world.



### Brother's Keeper Lenten Soup Dinners

Get those taste buds ready! Brother's Keeper Soup Kitchen will be serving its fabulous Wednesday night Lent Soup & Bread Dinner. Beginning on Ash Wednesday (March 5) and continuing on Wednesdays in Lent, come have the best soup in town in the Parish Hall from 5:00pm to 6:30pm.

**Volunteers Needed:** If you'd like to assist and serve the Lenten Soup Dinners, please contact Jason at 622-5544 or [jason@bkocala.org](mailto:jason@bkocala.org).

### Uganda Student Sponsors

A warm and appreciative thank you to all parishioners who have continued their sponsorship, and those who have newly signed up to sponsor students at the parish school in Nalweyo. It is a wonderful gift you are giving that will have an impact on these students for the rest of their lives.

We just want to remind everyone that sponsorship is on-going. There are about 180 students who still need sponsors. You can sign up at any time. Just contact Sister Juliet if you'd like to help provide the support that these students need to continue attending school at the parish.

Thank you and God bless!

### NOW HIRING: Soup Kitchen Cleaning Help

The Brother's Keeper Soup Kitchen is accepting applications for Soup Kitchen cleaning help. This is a part-time position, Monday through Friday from 10am to 1pm assisting with daily cleaning responsibilities. This is a paid position. If you are interested in learning more or applying for the position, please contact Jason Halstead at (352) 622-3846 or [jason@bkocala.org](mailto:jason@bkocala.org).

### What is the Parish Council?

'In every parish in every diocese, a pastoral council shall be established, if the diocesan bishop, after consulting with the council of presbyters, so decides' (Canon 536, #1)

Our Blessed Trinity Parish Council (BTPC) members strive to embody the stewardship way of life, guiding and serving our BT community, with our pastor.

Our purpose is to enable the parish community to carry out our mission statement. We help coordinate the ministry efforts of the parish, organize parish-wide events, and serve as a communication hub for the ministries and parish staff.

Council members are elected or appointed for a 3-year term and may be appointed to one additional 3-year term.

Our BTPC meetings are held every month on the 2nd Tuesday of the month excluding July.

Would you like to serve as a parish council member?

There are currently 2 vacancies on the parish council.

If you are interested in serving as a parish council member, please contact:

Bill Kennedy, President, at 443.759.0678 or [bill.kennedy@matteigroup.com](mailto:bill.kennedy@matteigroup.com)

Paul Miller, Vice-President, at 760.799.2791 or [LDPJ95@msn.com](mailto:LDPJ95@msn.com)

Gisela Salas, Secretary, at 352.433.5111 or [Drgsalas@gmail.com](mailto:Drgsalas@gmail.com)



**Sunday, March 23rd**—No Life Night because of Spring break but join us for Life Teen Mass!

**Sunday, March 30th**— Join us after the Life Teen Mass for Life Night, free meal begins at 6:00pm.

### Uganda Mission Trip—Summer 2025

The annual mission trip to Uganda is planned for June 15-30.

If you would like to join the mission team on this year's trip, please call Katherine Baker at 352.629.8092 or email [kbaker@blessedtrinity.org](mailto:kbaker@blessedtrinity.org).

A \$300.00 non-refundable deposit and a copy of your passport that does not expire prior to January 1, 2026 is required to secure a spot.

If you are undecided, you can still join the group at a later date but may not get the group price for the airfare.

### Bus Driver Needed

Do you have a CDL? Would you be willing to drive a group down to the pilgrimage at St. James Cathedral on Tuesday, April 29th?

If you can help out with this one time event, please call the church office at 352.629.8092.



### Covenant Mission Team Fish Fry

EVERY FRIDAY DURING LENT 3:30-7:30pm

March 7, 14, 21 & 28 & April 4, 11 & 18

In the Blessed Trinity Parish Hall  
5 SE 17<sup>th</sup> Street, Bldg. B (to the left of the Church)

#### MENU

Fried or Baked Fish	\$10
Fish Tacos	\$10
Baked Ziti	\$10
Fried Clams	\$11
Fried Shrimp	\$11
Combo	\$11

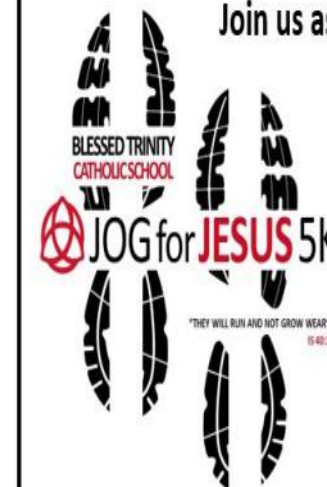
All dinners served w/roll & choice of 2 sides  
✓ Fries ✓ Mac-n-Cheese ✓ Cole Slaw ✓ Green Beans ✓ Applesauce

Dine In with us or Carry Out  
Proceeds fund our Mission Trip in June

*We thank you for your support!*

Frequent Fryer Cards available:  
Buy 6 meals and your 7<sup>th</sup> one is free!  
For more information, please call 875-7456

### Join us as we Jog for Jesus!



Blessed Trinity Catholic School will host a 5K on Saturday, March 29 to raise funds for the school. You can walk, run, or jog for Jesus.

Register to participate online with the link below or scan the QR code.

Sponsorship opportunities available, call 352-598-7050.



8 AM | Saturday, March 29

Citizens Circle | SE Osceola Avenue

[jogforjesus5k.itsyourrace.com](http://jogforjesus5k.itsyourrace.com)



Monday, March 24	7:10am 5:30pm	Sisters of IHMR L/D Ceaser Ballesteros †
Tuesday, March 25	7:10am 5:30pm	Angelo Manera † Hank & Barbara Caver †
Wed, March 26	7:10am 8:15am 5:30pm	Carol Sue Weidler † Javelona Family † Homer Rothfusz †
Thursday, March 27	7:10am  5:30pm	Dominic & Appollonia Sergi † Phyllis Weaver †
Friday, March 28	7:10am 5:30pm	Semudo Family L/D Dominador Ellacer †
Saturday, March 29	8:00am 4:00pm 6:00pm	Leopoldo Javelona † Helen Cardassi † Andrew Kail †
Sunday, March 30	7:10am 8:45am  11:00am 1:00pm 5:00pm	Marion Sinnamon † Concetta & Mariano Lipari † Rosalie Thompson Albright Hatfield † Spanish Community William Schnur †

Please pray for Sheila Dunphy who has recently passed away.

### Mobile Device Giving

Scan the QR code to donate online.

Thank you for your donation!



### Perpetual Adoration

The following hours need to be filled:

**Sundays: Midnight-Mondays 1:00am**

**Sundays: 2:00am - 3:00am**

**Tuesdays: 1:00am - 2:00am**

**Thursdays: Midnight - Fridays 1:00am**

**Fridays: 11:00pm - Midnight**

**Fridays: 1:00am - 2:00am**

**Also in need of substitutes, especially between Midnight and 5:00am**

Our stewardship way of life here at BT encourages each family to commit one hour a week to the adoration chapel; please prayerfully consider this ministry's needs and if you are unable to serve, please pray that God will send individuals to sustain this core ministry, here at Blessed Trinity.

**The Lord looks forward to your visit!**

**Please see the list of hours, which is in the Vestibule, on the counter near the staircase, that need one more adorer.**

For your special hour of praise before the Blessed Sacrament call or email: Carol Blackstock 352-622-7348 or 352-425-8638, carolblackstock@gmail.com.

"People ask me: 'What will convert America and save the world?' My answer is prayer. What we need is for every parish to come before Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament in holy hours of prayer."  
- St. Mother Teresa



### ADS OF THE WEEK

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### Legion of Mary

Our Legion of Mary is having its annual Acies, consecration to our blessed mother, on Sunday, March 23 at 2:30pm. It will be held at Queen of Peace Catholic Church. We would love to see all of our auxiliary members there.

### Council of Catholic Women Retreat

Blessed Trinity Council of Catholic Women invites the ladies of the BT parish to a Retreat on Mercy, a focus on women saints who put the works of mercy into action.

We will gather at the King of Kings Hall on April 5th, 9:00am-12:00pm with light refreshments.

Bring your bible

RSVP to Marty Duesel at 352.861.2853 or text 352.362.8657



### Grieving?

**We understand that grief can be overwhelming, and we are here to help. Our 8 week Grief Support Program offers a faith-based space for healing and support, combining video teachings, group discussions and prayer. Let the comforting presence of the Church walk with you through this difficult time. For more information call Casey Ball @ 352-216-3278**

### Blessed Trinity Holy Year Pilgrimage

The parish is inviting anyone who wants to join us on April 29th at St. James Cathedral in Orlando.

There we will have time for adoration, confessions and Mass plus a tour of the cathedral.

Adoration begins from early morning until 12:00 noon. Confessions at 11:30am and the Mass will be celebrated at 12:10pm. The tour will be at 1:30pm and lasts about an hour.

There will be a short break after Mass to eat your own bag lunch.

If you need a ride to Orlando, call the church office.



### Outdoor Prayer Garden

Have you found it yet?

It is just to the left of the church entrance.

The 30 foot statue of Jesus will welcome you.

The weather suits an outdoor journey with Jesus from His being condemned to death for our salvation to His crucifixion and burial. You can even sit and rest at each station. Don't pass it up.

It is a golden opportunity for you at any time to enter more fully into the sacrifice of Jesus for us, especially now during Lent.

**Stewardship**  
**Saint for March**  
**Saint Joseph**



Next to the Blessed Virgin Mary, Saint Joseph is the most honored saint in the Catholic church for being the foster father of Jesus and the husband of Mary. Joseph's life is depicted in the gospels, particularly in Matthew and Luke. He was born in Bethlehem and is described as being a descendant of King David.

Mary was betrothed to Joseph, but was pregnant with the Christ child before Joseph took her into his home. According to Jewish law at the time, Mary could have been stoned to death if she was believed to have been unfaithful to her betrothed. An angel of the Lord told Joseph to take Mary into his home, that the child was conceived through the Holy Spirit, and that his name would be Jesus.

After Jesus' birth at Bethlehem, in yet another dream, Joseph was told to take Mary and Jesus to Egypt and remain there until Herod's slaughter of newborns had come to an end with Herod's own death. Joseph, Mary, and Jesus returned to the region of Galilee and settled in Nazareth where Joseph taught his craft of carpentry to Jesus. Joseph is last mentioned in the Gospels when, on their pilgrimage to Jerusalem, he and Mary frantically searched for the lost Jesus in Jerusalem, and found him in the Temple (Luke 2:42-52).

Saint Joseph was declared patron saint and protector of the universal church by Pope Pius IX at the close of the First Vatican Council in 1870. He is also considered a spiritual model for families and Christian teaching frequently stresses his patience, persistence, and hard work as admirable qualities Christians should reflect upon and embrace. He is the patron saint of fathers, foster fathers, husbands, the unborn, working people in general and social justice.

**Being a Good Steward of Lent**

Every liturgical season has its natural stewardship connection, providing seasonal focus and themes for spiritual growth. Perhaps no season is as rich as Lent in providing a springboard for exploration, reflection, and transformation. As people who hope to lead others to a fuller expression of discipleship as Christian stewards, let us consider Lent as a gift which we are called to steward well.

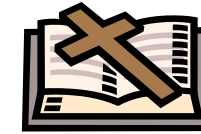
**Part of our Catholic culture:** I often tell leaders who are ready to adopt new practices or to deepen current ones that Lent has great potential, because Catholics will do things during Lent that they will not do any other time of the year! Whether we were baptized as infants or were initiated as adults, Lent is a season that connects to our daily lives. The three traditional practices of prayer, fasting and almsgiving lead us to live each day as good stewards who put God first and who think about and act on behalf of others.

**Metanoia:** Lent is a season of turning away, turning toward, and turning around. Jesus tells us to repent and believe in the Gospel. The repentance of Lent is about turning away from sin, and it is about turning toward God. We are invited to turn our lives around, to embrace the way of Christ as people who are truly committed to grow in his self-giving way. This turning can also be one of accepting the call to grow as good stewards, as we turn away from selfishness, self-centeredness, and sinfulness, and turn toward God as the giver of all good gifts.

**Simplicity and Sacrifice:** During Lent, we encounter again Jesus' mercy, forgiveness, healing, and salvation, and we recognize more fully the depths of Christ's sacrifice on the cross. Jesus' sacrifice challenges us to give of ourselves, our talents, time, prayer, attention, and resources. This call to sacrifice also leads us to separate our wants from our needs, inviting us to simplify our lives, rid ourselves of unnecessary material possessions, and open our hearts to the grace of life lived in imitation of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

**READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK**

Jos 5:9a, 10-12  
 Cor 5:17-21  
 Lk 15:1-3, 11-32



**LIFE TEEN CARWASH-March 29/30**

Come and support our students going to Camp Hidden Lake next summer in Georgia!

Drop your car off before Mass or drive through before or after to get a sparkling car cleaned up by our Life Teen students.

Your car will look as great as you feel after receiving Christ at Mass!



**STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE ~ WEEKLY OFFERINGS**

Weekly Offering	March 16, 2025		
Weekend Total:	399	\$ 19,033.25	Year to date collection: \$ 2,978,120.87
Electronic Offering Total:	420	\$ 37,397.33	
Loose Cash / Votives Total:		\$ 2,199.20	Year to date budget: \$ 3,029,076.00
School Mass Offering:		\$ 345.13	Year to date deficit: <b>(\$50,955.13)</b>
Non Sunday:	76	\$ 9,350.00	
<b>Grand Total for Week:</b>		<b>\$ 68,324.91</b>	
Amount needed for Operating Expenses:		\$ 84,141.00	
<b>Difference</b>		<b>(\$15,816.09)</b>	

“Thank you for your donations.”

March 22 / 23:

March 29 / 30: No Flowers—Lent

Please call the Church Office at 629.8092 x3201 if you would like more information on placing flowers on the altar.



**Marriage Preparation**

Preparing for the sacrament of marriage? Saturday, April 26 is the date for the next Blessed Trinity Pre-Cana Marriage Preparation program. The program runs from 8:00am to 5:00pm in the King of Kings building at Blessed Trinity and includes continental breakfast and lunch. Cost is \$50 per couple.



Register on the Blessed Trinity website under “Sacraments”.

Please note: the next Pre-Cana program will not be until October 4, 2025.

**Blessed Trinity**

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**Life Teen Car Wash**  
Saturday/Sunday, March 29/30  
During all the Masses  
Blessed Trinity Campus

**Jog For Jesus**  
Saturday, March 29  
8:00am  
Citizens Circle

**Holy Year Pilgrimage**  
Tuesday, April 29  
St. James Cathedral

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