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APRIL 13, 2025 ~ PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

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PARISH APP: Download at myparishapp.com or search your phone's app store for myParish

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STEWARDSHIP

POTENTIAL

A STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

In the prelude to today’s great Passion Narrative, Saint Paul reminds us that we find our hope in the “emptiness” and “humility” of Christ Jesus; a life that led to the cross, but through the cross, to glory and exaltation. The way is not easy. Good stewards know that it requires a willingness to lay aside all rights of personal privilege; emptying ourselves in the service of others; embracing values different from the values of the world. It requires an understanding that to be “in Christ” means to be a servant because Christ came into the world, not as Lord but as servant. What crosses are we willing to carry? What worldly values are we willing to forego in order to share Christ’s glory?

STEWARDS OF THE WEEK

Gift Shop Volunteers

Nancy and Tana would like to thank all those who are there to open the shop, learn the new cash register system and help fellow parishioners with their purchases. It is our pleasure to have such dedicated, helpful and kind volunteers. We appreciate all that you do!

Thank you for being faithful stewards!

New Parishioners:

Isaiah, Katelyn & Olivia Stewart
Maggie Ellis

Baptisms:

Colton Paul Johns
Genevieve Therese Riley
Alice Hayami Oliver Ceballos
Jenesis Dalett Perez Zarate

Two very different responses to our Lord’s passion are highlighted during the Gospel reading from Luke today: the response of Simon of Cyrene and the response of Jesus’ acquaintances. Of Simon we are told, “They took hold of a certain Simon, a Cyrenian, who was coming in from the country; and after laying the cross on him, they made him carry it behind Jesus.” Whether Simon entered willingly and compassionately into this service or whether he took up the Cross of Christ with a grudge, we don’t know. What we do know is this: Simon did his part faithfully. He stayed near to Christ, carrying the Cross until our Lord reached Golgotha, the site of His crucifixion. We also know that Simon’s family was among the first of the early Christians. Staying near to Christ, embracing the Cross (quite literally), transformed his life and the life of his family.

In contrast, near the end of this Gospel account, we are told of another reaction to Jesus’ passion and death, namely that “all His acquaintances stood at a distance.” They knew Jesus! They had heard him preaching and teaching, witnessed His signs and miracles, maybe even benefitted personally from them. Perhaps they did not participate in mocking Him or calling for His crucifixion. But they chose to stay a safe distance from Him when the going got tough. Unlike Simon, they refused to go too near to Christ.

Where will you place yourself this week? Keeping your distance from all the pain and suffering Christ endured? Or close by, staying near to Him as Simon did? It is when we go near to Christ that we can be transformed by Him. It is by embracing the crosses in our lives, stewarding them well rather than trying to run from them, that we become His true disciples.



WORSHIP

APRIL 13, 2025 ~ PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

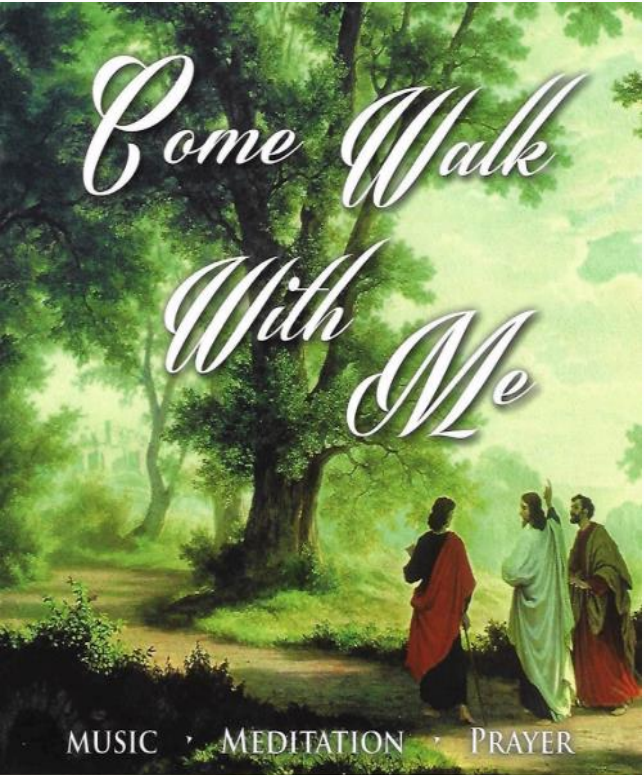
Blessed Trinity Holy Year Pilgrimage

We now have four chartered buses—two for BT school and two for our BT parishioners. If you want a free ride, call in your name. Why fight the traffic?

The buses for the parish will depart our parking lot at 8:30am on April 29th so please be here by 8:15am. We plan to arrive in enough time for adoration and confession if you want to go and then Mass at 12:10pm.

After a short 1/2 hour break after Mass we will get a guided tour of the cathedral.

We should be back home about 4:30pm but don’t hold me to that time.



Location: **Blessed Trinity Catholic Church**
5 SE 17th Street
Ocala, FL 34471

Date: **May 4, 2025** Time: **6:30 PM**

Contact: **Parish office at 352-629-8092**



MARK FORREST
IRISH TENOR



OUR CATHOLIC APPEAL
The Catholic Foundation of Central Florida

Later on this week we will send an OCA request letter to all our parishioners who have yet to respond.

I know you can give anytime over the year to OCA but we hope to clean most of it up now.

So far we have received responses from 522 families.

We have received donations and pledges in the amount of \$247,697.23.

May the good Lord continue to bless your generosity.

Communal Penance

I would like to place special emphasis on the Sacrament of Reconciliation! I know we have ten separate times listed on Thursday, Friday and Saturday of Holy Week.

But, could you really try to come to our parish communal penance on this Monday, April 14 at 6:00pm. We have moved the time from 7:00pm to 6:00pm to make it easier for everyone, including our priests.

We have 17 priests coming. We will have a very short service at 6:00pm then we will expose the Blessed Sacrament.

While you are in line you will get help to examine your conscience from the church screens.





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.

Bake Sale To Support Uganda Mission

Save the date! On the weekend of April 26/27, a bake sale is planned to once again raise funds for teacher's school text books and supplies, and supplies for the students who attend mission schools in the Nalweyo parish.

We hope to have a variety of baked goods to satisfy everyone's taste buds—and Lent will be over, so there will be no reason to feel guilty about indulging your sweet tooth!

And for anyone who enjoys baking, we will very gratefully accept donations for our sale. Any donations can be left in the church office on Friday, April 25, or before any of the weekend Masses. If you have questions, don't hesitate to contact Lorraine Wieskamp at 352.441.1143 or wieskamp37@gmail.com.

Thank you for your support!



TASTE AND SEE THE GOODNESS OF THE LORD! Psalm 34:8

God has blessed our Church with the gift of the Charismatic Renewal -giving rise to prayer groups throughout the world.

Here at BT, the *Fountains Of Living Water* prayer group has been meeting weekly since 1978. It is a testimony of God's Power and Love in the lives of everyday people –where his Holy Spirit has provided so much Healing & Restoration.

This community gathering has been a Well Spring of Faith, Hope & Love. Come, "Taste and See the Goodness of the Lord!"

We meet Thursday nights in the Adult Day Care from 7-8:30pm. For info: Richard@ 352-342-2982 or Katy@352-342-2983 or email i2bxtn@gmail.com.

Fountains of Living Water Prayer Group

The Music Corner

The Music of Easter

6:00am Sunrise outside Mass with keyboard & cantor

7:10am Church Mass with singers, piano, organ and choir postlude

8:45am Church Mass with choir, handbells, piano, organ (don't miss the special choral prelude at 8:38am!)

11:00am Church Mass with singers, violin, flute, piano and organ

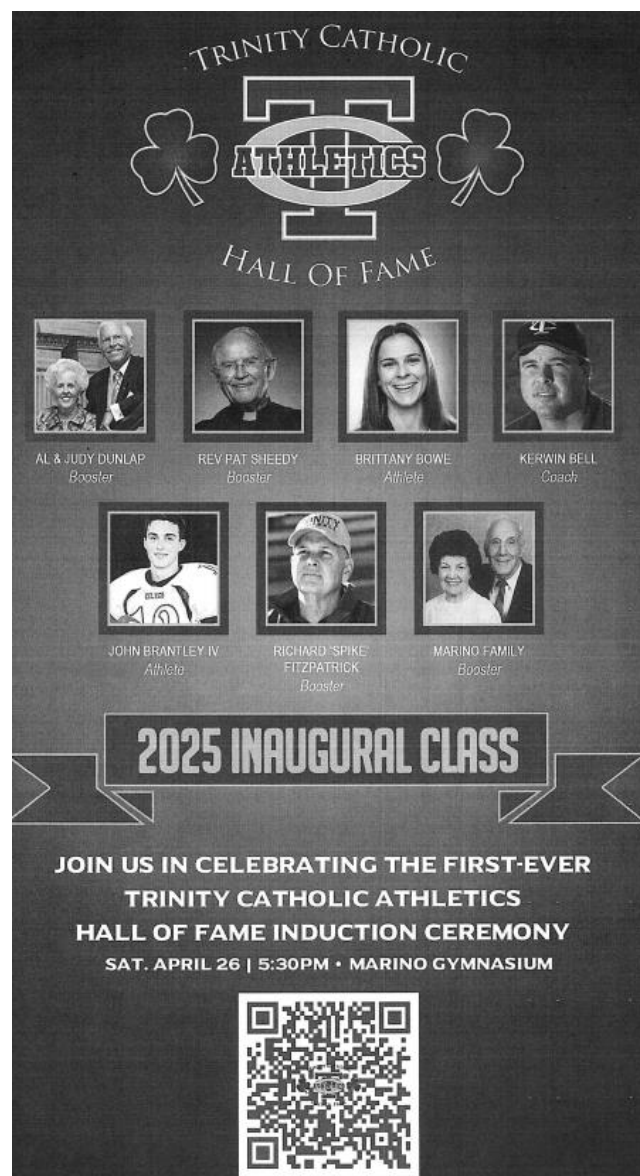
11:00am Parish Hall Mass with Psalt singers, guitar, flute, piano, drum and trumpet

5:00pm Traditional Mass with Liz Cook on piano



Sunday, April 13th—Join us for a short Living Stations dress rehearsal after Life Teen Mass, followed by a Passion of Christ dinner movie night in the King of Kings building. Permission form required for entry, you may get one from Lydia Ross.

Sunday, April 20th— No Life Night on Easter Sunday. Enjoy time with your families!



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 17th 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 7th one is free!

For more information, please call 875-7456

DIVINE MERCY NOVENA

Begins Good Friday April 18th, 6:00pm in the outdoor prayer garden.

Holy Saturday, April 19th, 3:00pm at the Divine Mercy Shrine in the church chapel.

Easter Sunday, April 20th, 6:00pm at the Divine Mercy Shrine in the church chapel.

Monday-Friday April 21st-25th, 6:00pm at the Divine Mercy Shrine in the church chapel.

Saturday, April 26th 3:00pm at the Divine Mercy Shrine in the church chapel.

Divine Mercy Sunday April 27th celebration:

The Holy Hour of Mercy will be after the Spanish Mass from 2:30-3:30pm in the church.





Monday, April 14	7:10am 5:30pm	Semudo Family L/D Mary Margaret O'Shea †
Tuesday, April 15	7:10am 5:30pm	Scott, Gary, Brian, Craig Wicks † Bill Callen †
Wed, April 16	7:10am 5:30pm	Alan Fuller † George & Clemencia Florez & Edward & Florence Baum †
Thursday, April 17	7:30pm	Ed Hamilton †
Friday, April 18	Good Friday—No Mass	
Saturday, April 19	7:30pm	Ed Hamilton †
Sunday, April 20	6:00am 7:10am 8:45am 11:00am(C) 11:00am(H) 1:00pm 5:00pm	Rosario Raffa † Ed Hamilton † Marisa McPherson (L) Ann Long † James Seaton † Spanish Community Annalee Weaver †

Please pray for Robert Simpson 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

Skin Cancer Center of Central Florida

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352.259.6553

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Lack of Water Remains a Global Crisis:
A Question of Stewardship



On Saturday, March 22, World Water Day was celebrated to raise awareness of the global water crisis. In 2021, our Holy Father, Pope Francis, made a plea for people the world over to be more responsible in the protection and use of water, as clean water is denied to an estimated 2.2 billion people around the world. The pontiff reminded us that water should not be considered a commodity to be bought and sold, but a valuable gift in which everyone should have access as a fundamental human right.

The pontiff observed that “without water, there would have been no life, no urban centers, no agriculture, forestry or livestock,” and yet the world and its people have not exercised good stewardship over this fundamental and essential gift to the planet. “Wasting it, disregarding it or contaminating it has been a mistake that continues to be repeated even today,” he said. The Holy Father asked how in our age of technological advances, “access to safe, drinkable water is not within everyone’s reach.”

Referencing his apostolic letter, Laudato si, Pope Francis reminded us that “access to safe drinkable water is a basic and universal human right, a condition for the exercise of other human rights.” He went on to say that water is a gift to which all human beings, without exception, have the right to have adequate access, so that they can lead a dignified life. Thus, “Our world has a grave social debt towards the poor who lack access to drinking water, because they are denied the right to a life consistent with their inalienable dignity.”

Pope Francis concluded his message by calling for urgent action to end the global water crisis: “Let us make haste, therefore, to give drink to the thirsty. Let us correct our lifestyles so that we do not waste or pollute. Let us become protagonists of that goodness that led St. Francis of Assisi to describe water as a sister ‘who is very humble, and precious and chaste!’”

Water is a gift that connects every aspect of life. Access to safe water and sanitation can quickly turn problems into potential, contributing to improved health for women, children, and families around the world. What is vital is how we respect and value this gift. Here are a few ways we can expand our consciousness about the value of water.

Keep yourself informed on the global clean water crisis. Once we become aware of water access issues around the globe, we will better appreciate the need to take action to ensure we aren’t misusing the gift of water that we consume. Challenging and changing our water habits is an easy way to notice the impact we are having on water consumption.

Be mindful of the ways you use water. While we shouldn’t give up drinking water each day, consider the small ways you waste water on a daily basis and then cut back. For example, turn off the faucet while brushing your teeth. Watch the water you consume while washing or rinsing utensils, glassware or pots and pans.

Reduce the amount of water used while taking a shower. A 10-minute shower uses at least 25 gallons of water. Try to reduce your shower time by a few minutes. One source recommends keeping your shower time down to two songs.

Repair leaks in your house. One environmental researcher suggested that a typical household loses thousands of gallons of water each year due to ordinary leaks in faucets, pipes and garden hoses. Take time to make needed repairs. You’ll save water and money along the way.

Reduce water consumption in home appliances. Dishwashers and washing machines use a lot of water. Consider making sure those washers are full before doing a load of laundry or dishes.

Include nonprofits that provide clean water in your charitable giving. There are a number of widely known nonprofit organizations that have made it their mission to address this global clean water crisis. Check out these nonprofits and prayerfully consider adding them to your list of charitable beneficiaries.

BLESSED TRINITY LIFE TEEN PRESENTS

Brunch with the Bunny

SATURDAY
APRIL 19
BEGINS AT 9:30
WITH BLESSING OF BASKETS

Ticket: \$8 per person
(CHILDREN UNDER 2 - FREE)
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[TINYURL.COM/BRUNCHWITHTHEBUNNY](https://tinyurl.com/brunchwiththebunny)



*Early bird pricing
ends April 16!*



PEACE & SOCIAL JUSTICE

Fair Trade is a sustainable and alternative model that helps framers make a viable living and stay on their own land while advancing many economic, social and environmental goals without being at the mercy of unstable market prices. That means farmers will be paid a stable price year after year which is significantly higher than the fluctuating market price. **Fair Trade** premiums allow farming communities to collectively decide which development projects they want to use the money on, like improving access to clean water, education and healthcare. This makes a real impact on the quality of the lives of the farmers, their families and their employees. We will be selling **Fair Trade** coffee, tea, cocoa and olive oil after Mass this weekend.

Planned Giving Advisory Council (PGAC)

Attention Professional Advisors! Join a group of Catholic Central Florida professionals who serve their clients with financial and estate planning. What is the Planned Giving Advisory Council (PGAC)? This council comprises a group of active and talented financial and estate planning professionals dedicated to the mission of the church. The Catholic Foundation provides educational and networking opportunities to support Central Florida professionals with incorporating distinct services that will help their clients realize the philanthropic impact they are accomplishing through their giving and connect them to resources to further their philanthropic journey. Learn more at cfocf.org/advisorycouncil.

Here’s how your parish may benefit:

- We vet each PGAC applicant, ensuring parishioners have access to a directory of trusted professional advisors who understand their Catholic faith.
- Many Catholics struggle to find financial and legal professionals who understand the Catholic worldview—this initiative helps bridge that gap.
- Catholic professionals gain a space to discuss how their work intersects with faith and charitable giving.
- The PGAC actively promotes philanthropy and supports the church through its services and networks.
- PGAC members learn about the impact charitable giving (present and future) can have on the parishes and ministries in our diocese.

We are grateful for your support and eager to continue serving your parish and the diocese through the ministry of the PGAC.

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK

Acts 10:34a, 37-43

Col 3:1-4

Jn 20:1-9



SCRIP

Scrip is available every Sunday (except holidays) after the 8:45am Mass until after the 11:00am Mass. If you can’t make it to one of those Masses you can always drop your order at the church office and we will get it ready for you to pick up! Stop by and see us!

Knights of Columbus Breakfast

The Knights of Columbus invites you to attend the breakfast after the 7:10am and 8:45am Mass on the second Sunday of each month, next one is this Sunday, April 13.

The meal consists of scrambled eggs, bacon, sausage, pancakes, french toast, biscuits and gravy, coffee and three different juices. All you can eat for only \$6.00 for adults and \$3.00 for children under 10.

Please come have breakfast with us!

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE ~ WEEKLY OFFERINGS

Weekly Offering		April 6, 2025	
Weekend Total:	465	\$ 28,619.25	Year to date collection: \$ 3,210,386.43
Electronic Offering Total:	385	\$ 34,740.56	
Loose Cash / Votives Total:		\$ 2,314.00	Year to date budget: \$ 3,281,499.00
School Mass Offering:		\$ 223.00	Year to date deficit: (\$71,112.57)
Non Sunday:	68	\$ 13,093.36	
Grand Total for Week:		\$ 78,990.17	
Amount needed for Operating Expenses:		\$ 84,141.00	
Difference		(\$5,150.83)	

“Thank you for your donations.”

April 12 / 13:

April 19 / 20: No Flowers—Lent

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



GIFT SHOP NEWS

First Communion and Easter gifts and cards are in store now!

Remember your “Little White Book” for Easter season devotions.

Open before Saturday evening Masses and after Sunday morning Masses.

Special hours this week, Wednesday the 16th, 3:30-5:30pm



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FREE Week

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Brunch With The Bunny
Saturday, April 19
9:30am
Parish Hall

Pre-Cana
Saturday, April 26
8:00am-5:00pm
King of Kings Building

Holy Year Pilgrimage
Tuesday, April 29
St. James Cathedral

Mark Forrest Concert
Sunday, May 4
6:30pm
Blessed Trinity Church

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Building Committee

Chuck Pigeon 352.342.6319
cpigeon@pigeon-roberts.com

Bus Drivers

Julie Cyrulinski 352.875.9856
julienne_cyrulinski@yahoo.com

Church Volunteers

Melinda Gunn 352.629.8092
mgunn@blessedtrinity.org

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