



# BLESSED TRINITY CATHOLIC CHURCH

January 4, 2026

ADDRESS:

5 SE 17th Street  
Ocala, FL 34471

PHONE:

352.629.8092

FAX:

352.351.8872

EMAIL:

mail@blessedtrinity.org

WEBSITE:

www.blessedtrinity.org

SICK CALLS:

352.629.8092

352.207.5835

(Emergency pager)

MISSION:

**CHRIST THE KING**

14045 N US Hwy 301  
Citra, FL 32113

352.595.5605

**LA GUADALUPANA**

11153 West Hwy 40  
Ocala, FL 34482

352.291.2695

**FOLLOW  
US ON**



## PARISH OFFICE - 352.629.8092

<b>Pastor</b>	Father Patrick J. Sheedy	x 3209
<b>Associate Pastors</b>	Father Zbigniew Stradomski	x 3227
<b>In Residence</b>	Father Michael O'Keeffe	x3221
	Father Joseph Maniangat	397-4919
<b>Deacons</b>	Heriberto Berrios, James Maubach, Stephen Floyd, Rodulfo Reverol, Jose A. (Chepe) Perez	
<b>Sisters</b>	Immaculate Heart of Mary Reparatrix	867.9860
	Misioneras Catequistas	622.4500

MASS SCHEDULE AT BLESSED TRINITY

WEEKEND

Saturday 4:00 pm and 6:00 pm

Sunday 7:10 am, 8:45 am, 11:00 am,  
1:00 pm Spanish, 5:00 pm Life Teen

DAILY

Mon—Fri 7:10 am and 5:30 pm

Wednesday 8:15 am (follows school schedule)

Thursday 6:30 pm (Spanish)

Saturday 8:00 am

Reconciliation Thursday 7:00pm (Spanish)

Saturday 2:45—3:30pm (English)

5:00—5:30pm (English)

Sunday 12:15—12:45pm (Spanish)

MASS SCHEDULE AT OUR MISSION CHURCHES

WEEKEND

Saturday 7:00pm (Spanish) at CTK  
Sunday 10:15 am at Christ the King  
7:00 pm at La Guadalupana (Spanish)

DAILY

Tuesday 7:00 pm at La Guadalupana (Spanish)

Wednesday 4:00 pm at Christ the King  
7:00pm (Spanish) at CTK

## PARISH LIFE

JANUARY 4, 2026 ~ THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

**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.*

### Parish Staff **629.8092**

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

### Trinity Catholic High School **622.9025**

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

## STEWARSHIP BY THE BOOK

Today we remember the three wise men from the East who came to pay homage to the infant Jesus, bringing Him rich gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. The gifts we bring—our time, service, and some share of what we earn for the work we do—are equally precious in His sight.

## 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.



# STEWARDSHIP

## POINT

### STEWARDSHIP

#### A STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

In today's second reading we hear the teachings of Saint Paul to the members of the Church at Ephesus. He proclaims that he, and they, are stewards of the gospel of Jesus Christ, and therefore stewards of God's loving, unifying and inclusive grace. He also proclaims that the Holy Spirit is at work within each of them, if only they would be open to the Spirit. Today, our world races by with intolerance, violence, desperate poverty, fear and division. At the beginning of this New Year, perhaps it is appropriate to reflect on Saint Paul's words and ask ourselves how we can be good stewards of the gospel today. How will we allow the Holy Spirit to work within us? How can we be better stewards of Christ's justice and peace?

#### STEWARD OF THE WEEK

##### Cecilia Truesdale

The parish and school would like to thank Cecilia for spending so much of her time running the scrip office! Scrip is a huge benefit for families as well as the parish and we thank her for dedicating so much of her time keeping it running smoothly!

**Thank you for being faithful a steward!**

As our celebration of Christmas continues, today we observe the great feast of The Epiphany of the Lord. The word "epiphany" comes from Greek and means manifestation or appearance. The stewardship way of life is one in which we live in grateful response to God's countless manifestations in our lives.

Our Gospel passage, from Matthew, has much to teach us about stewardship, through the actions of the magi.

As good stewards, the magi were watching for manifestations of God's presence in their lives. "We have seen the star at its rising," they say. Good stewards are keenly aware of the "star" of God's presence and His gifts in their lives. It is this awareness that fills them with gratitude and the desire to both worship God and share His gifts with others.

The magi, upon seeing the manifestation of God's presence in their lives, "were overjoyed." Good stewards, who live with the awareness of God's presence and gifts to them, simply can't help but be filled with joy. Not necessarily the fleeting and superficial kind of joy the world promises through wealth or power, but rather the deep, unalterable joy only God can give.

Finally, the magi were so filled with awe upon encountering the newborn Jesus, they prostrated themselves before him and "opened their treasures and offered him gifts." This is precisely why good stewards generously share their material gifts — as a loving act of worship to an extravagantly loving God.

Let us rejoice in God's manifestations in our lives and be watchful for the new ways He is calling us to share ourselves and our gifts in gratitude to our King in the year ahead.



#### Double Your Donation!

Fran Marino & Steve Farrell, who established the "Marino Endowment" here at Blessed Trinity, and which now stands at \$1,321,972.99, have given us a new incentive to grow this fund.

They will double, yes double, any donation you put into the Marino Endowment. Your \$5,000 automatically will become \$10,000—your \$50,000 will become \$100,000 etc.

The interest raised each year from this fund is used to help TC students who cannot afford the tuition and fees.

Thank you Fran & Steve for this enticing offer.

#### Perpetual Adoration Homilist

We will have a special weekend homilist, Fr. David Wathen, O.F.M., January 10/11, 2026, that will be speaking on the topic of Adoration.

Fr. David Wathen, O.F.M., a member of the Franciscan Custody of the Holy Land. Our Franciscan province has as its mission the care of the Christian shrines in the Holy Land and the pastoral care of the local Christians in that same land. I professed my solemn vows in Washington, D.C. in our monastery church on September 1, 1985, and was ordained a priest in the same church on May 22, 1999, by Cardinal Hickey. The Holy Land was my home for nine years, including three years in Bethlehem, three years in Jerusalem, and almost three years in Tiberias. For most of the last 35 years, I have been organizing and guiding pilgrimages to the Holy Land and Europe. Presently, I'm the director of the pilgrimage office at the Franciscan Monastery of the Holy Land in Washington, D.C.

## WORSHIP

JANUARY 4, 2026 ~ THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

#### A STEWARDSHIP PRAYER for the New Year

Good and gracious God,  
a new year of grace is upon us,  
giving us impressions of  
crisp beginnings  
new goals, a fresh sense of hope.

Though we cling to our own  
expectations  
for the year ahead,  
we know you alone  
are the sovereign of our future,  
Lord of our lives, and the source  
of whatever good we may do.

We thank you, O Lord,  
for the gift of the days and weeks  
you have entrusted to us.  
Teach us to be good stewards  
of our time ahead,  
that we go about our days  
keeping you  
at the center of our lives.

In the midst of our daily pursuits  
and activities,  
focus our eyes on the needs of others;  
help us respond with compassion  
to the poor;  
and open our hearts  
to a suffering world.

We ask for a year of peace,  
a year that brings an end  
to hatred and strife,  
and a year where we find  
a deeper joy  
that can only be found in you.

We ask this through Christ your Son  
who lives and reigns with you  
and the Holy Spirit,  
One God, forever and ever.

Amen.



**Sunday, January 4th**—No Life Night due to Christmas break. Come to the 5:00pm Mass with your families and celebrate God's gift of the eucharist!

**Sunday, January 11th**— Life Teen Spring Kickoff! Start the new year right with friends, games, food, and more! Life Teen is kicking off the new year together, and we want you to join us. Tonight is a great opportunity to bring a friend!

### Blessed Trinity Parish Council

*The Blessed Trinity Parish Council is a group of nine to fifteen adult parishioners. Council members are elected or appointed for a 3-year term and may be appointed to one additional 3-year term.*

*The Parish Council members strive to embody the stewardship way of life, guiding and serving our Blessed Trinity community with its Pastor. Our purpose is to enable the parish community to carry out the 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.*

The next meeting will be held on **Tuesday, January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2026**.

If you are interested in getting to know more about the parish council, please let us know:

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

Gisela Salas, Vice-President – [drgsalas@gmail.com](mailto:drgsalas@gmail.com)

Emily Vey, Secretary- [terrorqueen@cox.net](mailto:terrorqueen@cox.net)

### READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK

Is 42:1-4, 6-7

Acts 10:34-38

Mt 3:13-17



### Father Pat's 3rd Sacrament Meeting

Fr. Pat's 3rd Sacrament meeting will be on Sunday, January 11th at 9:55am in the gym.

This is a mandatory meeting for all parents and children that are making their First Holy Communion or Confirmation.

Please try to make it to this meeting but if you can't, there will be a make-up meeting on Saturday, January 17th at 9am in the chapel.



### Joyful Again, Orlando! Retreat

For

Widows and Widowers

February 28 to March 1, 2026

San Pedro Retreat Center

95 Bishop Grady Lane

Winter Park, FL 32792

This retreat is especially designed to help the widowed (6 months or more) to find hope & joy again.

Space is limited – register early.

Call: Debra at 609-902-9760 or Rita at 352-239-2523 for more information.

### Marriage Preparation

Preparing for the sacrament of marriage?

Saturday, February 7 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, [www.blessedtrinity.org](http://www.blessedtrinity.org) under sacraments.

Please note: the next Pre-Cana program will be Saturday, April 25.

### St. Peregrine Mass

Please join us in praying for a cure for cancer. The monthly devotional Mass to St. Peregrine, the patron saint of cancer patients, will be Thursday, January 8, at the 5:30pm Mass.

Medals and holy cards are available before or after Mass. Please come pray with us.

**January 3 / 4:** In memory of Christine Baker from the Blessed Trinity 3A Class

**January 10 /11:**

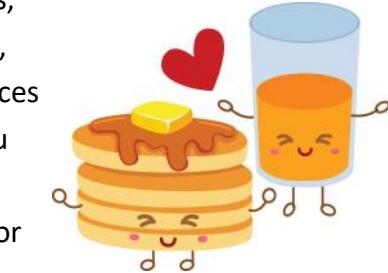
Please call the Church Office at 629.8092 x3201 if you would like more information on placing flowers on the altar.



### 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, the next one will be Sunday, January 11.

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



### Blood Pressure Screening

Free blood pressure screening in the parish nurse's office in the parish hall from 8:00am -1:00pm on Sunday, January 4.





Monday, Jan 5	7:10am	Ssemudo Family L/D
	5:30pm	Allen Griener †
Tuesday, Jan 6	7:10am	Jerry Pollard †
	5:30pm	Lee Justice †
Wed, Jan 7	7:10am	Helma Margaret Crossman †
	8:15am	Teresa Kazek †
	5:30pm	Dorothy Hurley †
Thursday, Jan 8	7:10am	O'Brien-Rothfusz Families L/D
	5:30pm	Anne LaPlant (L)
Friday, Jan 9	7:10am	Souls in Purgatory
	5:30pm	Elizabeth & Fred Weaver (L)
Saturday, Jan 10	8:00am	Ssemudo Family L/D
	4:00pm	Rev. John Few †
	6:00pm	Richard Nagy †
Sunday, Jan 11	7:10am	Angelo & Anna Zappulla †
	8:45am	Dr. Jenny Shaeffer & Family (L)
	11:00am	Amy Merritt †
	1:00pm	Spanish Community
	5:00pm	Rose Bilancio †

Please pray for James DiMari, Marilyn Curran and Joleen Gonzalez who have 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: 2:00am - 3:00am**

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

**Mondays: 1:00am - 2:00am**

**Mondays: 2:00am - 3:00am**

**Tuesdays: 3:00am - 4:00am**

**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

##### Matthew Vallez

Farrier Services  
904.945.6369

##### Mr. Auto Insurance

352.351.4121  
Fax 352.351.5672

Please see our Ads at the back for all our business supporters.

# Antioch Retreat

**January 17-18, 2026**

RETREAT BEGINS 9AM SAT & ENDS 6:30PM SUN

**BLESSED TRINITY CATHOLIC CHURCH  
5 SE 17TH STREET OCALA, FL 34471**

**COST PER STUDENT: \$40 (INCLUDES 4 MEALS)  
SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE, CONTACT LYDIA ROSS**

**Register  
online:**

DEADLINE TO REGISTER: JANUARY 11



CONTACT: LYDIA ROSS, LROSS@BLESSEDTRINITY.ORG

#### STEWARSHIP OF TREASURE ~ WEEKLY OFFERINGS

##### Weekly Offering

**December 21, 2025**

Weekend Total: 460 \$ 24,981.60 Year to date collection: \$ 1,858,145.90

Electronic Offering Total: 410 \$ 51,947.07

Loose Cash / Votives Total: \$ 722.00 Year to date budget: \$ 2,144,775.00

School Mass Offering: \$ 520.00 Year to date deficit: (\$286,629.10)

Non Sunday: 61 \$ 8,771.00

**Grand Total for Week: \$ 86,941.67**

Amount needed for Operating Expenses: \$ 85,791.00

Difference \$ 1,150.67

"Thank you for your donations."

Reminder: Do your best to put your envelope number on the "memo" line of your check.

## "Making All Things New": Stewardship and New Year's Resolutions

### Epiphany: To Find Our Meaning in Christ

On the weekend of January 3 and 4, 2026 we celebrate the Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord.

Epiphany! What a wonderful word. Even its secular definition is thrilling: "a sudden realization about the nature or meaning of something." It brings all sorts of images to mind: a light bulb suddenly turning on, shedding brilliant illumination; a revelation that brings a gasp; an idea so vivid we pause and give thanks; a truth so powerful we fall to our knees.

The feast of the Epiphany is all of those things and more. We celebrate the mysterious appearance at Jesus' birthplace of three men from the East. They had set off on a most quixotic journey, seeking what they would find at the end of a star's dazzling rays. What, we wonder, did they make of the epiphany with which their journey ended? Did they spend the rest of their lives trying to discern what their discovery of the baby meant, or did the Christ Child gift them with "a sudden realization" of His nature?

What more could they—or we—want of a life's journey, then to find, in our epiphany, the Christ waiting for us?

The twelve days of Christmas have led us to this place, where Gentiles from afar have discovered Christ, thereby revealing that He came for everyone, for each one of us throughout history, and not just for the Jewish people to whom he was born. The feast of Epiphany brings us to the last week of our liturgical celebration of Christmas.

But for the Christian steward, Epiphany is not an end but a beginning. This feast reminds us that the New Year beckons us to openness about the epiphanies to which God leads us if we but keep an open, prayerful heart, a heart full of deep, awed gratitude.

Let us pray never to become too jaded, too full of certainty, too wrapped up in the routine of life to be asleep at the time of epiphany. If we could resolve to keep only one New Year's Resolution, let it be this: to pay attention to the epiphanies God places before us.

### Our Catholic Appeal

Please get ready for our new donations / pledges to our annual Diocesan Catholic Appeal.

This year's parish assessment has been revised from \$184,191 to \$331,773.

This is a major increase for our parish. The increase is due to the fact that this past year we paid \$541,499 less to our Catholic schools, especially to T.C., because of the scholarships available to each family from the state. All funds paid by the parish to our Catholic schools are deducted by the Diocese from our total offertory collection.

We pay 20% assessment on the remainder and, this year, that comes out to \$331,773.

So we need all of you to pray about your donation (pledge) to our Catholic Appeal. Especially this year so we can make our assessment of \$331,773.

Together we can do it. With God on our side and you listening to God, it will happen.

Thanks.

### God is Needed

Many of you have read "God is Needed." Some of you keep reading different chapters over and over. You may want to consider giving "God is Needed" as a gift to family members or friends.

Many of you have not yet purchased "God is Needed." It would be a good choice on your part to get it. It will inspire different aspects of your spiritual life.



Stewardship is a commitment of mind and heart to the Lord; a way of life that needs constant renewal and transformation. This time of year has always been one of looking forward to a new year, reflecting on the changes we need to make in our lives and resolving to follow through on those changes. Perhaps those who seek to make resolutions to be better stewards might find inspiration in the following quick samples:

**Stewardship of Prayer:** Resolve to strengthen your relationship with the Lord. Notice how often you pray and what hinders you from praying. Commit to short, daily prayer times.

**Stewardship of Family:** Resolve to set aside more time to stay connected with your family. Eat dinner together, schedule regular dates with your spouse, plan family outings, and go to Mass together.

**Stewardship of Health:** Resolve to get those medical and dental checkups. Adopt healthier eating habits. Add exercise and other physical activity to your daily routine.

**Stewardship of Possessions:** Resolve to possess a little more "lightly" this year. Consider ways you can reduce the amount of all that stuff you own. Distinguish between those items that are necessary and those that are considered luxurious and unnecessary.

**Stewardship of the Parish Family:** Resolve to serve your faith community in some way this year such as at liturgy, in the parish's outreach or education and formation efforts.

**Stewardship of Money:** Resolve to render sacred your annual budget. Reprioritize your financial goals to ensure that the Lord comes first in your spending. Take positive steps to improve your financial health.

**Stewardship of Work:** Resolve to be faithful to your daily, work-related tasks and offer them up to the Lord. Cultivate your skills. Deepen your knowledge. Be mindful of how you are building the Kingdom of God.

**Stewardship of Neighbor:** Resolve to be a person of hospitality; to make time and space for others who enter your life. Be more aware of those times when a neighbor, co-worker, fellow parishioner or stranger, needs a moment of kindness, a little attention or an affirming gesture on your part.

**Stewardship of Mind:** Resolve to keep your mind active. Commit to being more informed on the issues of the day. Read your bible. Familiarize yourself with the church's social teachings.

**Stewardship of the Poor:** Resolve to live with more compassion and in solidarity with those less fortunate. Remember the poor in prayer, and commit to helping relieve in some way the plight of those who are impoverished or marginalized.

