



**Be watchful! Be alert!
You do not know when
the time will come.**

MARK 13:33



How Has God Shaped You?

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

Sometimes it seems as if life is a laboratory of designed experiments on how to become human, all of them allotted ten-year blocks.

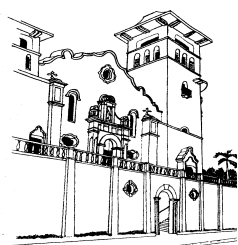
Have you noticed how nine- and ten-year-olds can be easy to be around? Then about the time we've gotten being a kid down to a science, life begins to move us into adolescence. We want to be independent and responsible, but we don't yet have all the skills. We have sexual feelings, but we're expected not to act on them. About the time we reach adulthood and move into our twenties, it seems we can finally do what we want, but then we might drink too much, spend too much, drive too fast, and party too long. Once we begin to settle down around year thirty, we have to learn how to live with another person. One likes it warm, the other cool. One seeks to save, the other spends. One is a homebody, the other enjoys going out on the town. By the time we've gotten to our sixties and seventies, we may have figured out life, but by then we've used up most of our energy.

What's going on?

Faith suggests it's the hand of God shaping us into the sort of persons we're meant to be. "Lord, you are our father; we are the clay and you our potter: we are all the work of your hand" (Isaiah 64:7). Advent may be a time to figure out how God is acting in your life now and look back to see that God was shaping you all along. ●

Reflect

What did you learn in your last ten-year block of life?



St. Theresa's Cathedral

P.O. Box HM 1191, Hamilton, HM EX, Bermuda

Tel. 441-292-0607 – Fax 441-292-2477

Office Hours: 10:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Diocesan Website: www.romancatholicbermuda.bm

Email: sttheresas@northrock.bm



Bishop Wes Spiewak, CR, Diocese of Hamilton in Bermuda

Chancery Office & Holy Calvary Cemetery Office: 232-4414 – orcc@northrock.bm

IN RESIDENCE: Rev. Dandy Traje, CP., Rector – Tel: 292-0607 Ext. 3

St. Vincent de Paul Society Parish Rep: Joanne Judd & Tom Sinclair

Parish Catechetical Leader: (CCD) - TBA

St. Theresa's Gift Shop: 292-0416 – Shop Hours: Tuesdays & Saturdays from 10am – 2pm

Confessions: By appointment only

Baptisms: By appointment – 5 weeks in advance

Weddings: By appointment – 1 year in advance. Pre-Marriage Course is required for all weddings here or elsewhere

Facebook: Our Catholic Diocese is on Facebook. Visit our page & “LIKE” us and join our on-line community.

DATES	TIMES	INTENTIONS FOR
Sat. Dec.2	6:30 pm	St. Theresa's Parish Family
Sun. Dec.3 (Portuguese)	8:30 am	Antonio & Ernestina Rebello
	10:00 am	Kevin Ledo
		Rogério, Manuel e Humberto Santos
		Jose e Amelia Almeida
	11:30 am	Couples for Christ & Family Ministries
	6:00 pm	Intentions & In Thanksgiving of Maurica
Mon. Dec. 4	7:30 am	Maria Angelina Rego
Tues. Dec. 5	7:30 am	Rosiloina Medallo
Wed. Dec. 6	7:30 am	Goretti Resendes
	12:10 pm	Intentions of Joanne Judd
Thurs. Dec. 7	7:30 am	Reynoldo Realeza
	12:10pm	Intentions of Joanne Judd
Fri. Dec. 8	7:30 am	Intentions of Christopher Rego
	12:10 pm	Raymunda Ciasico & Cornelio
Sat. Dec.9	6:30 pm	Bishop Wes Spiewak
Sun. Dec. 10 (Portuguese)	8:30 am	Intentions of Anias DeSilva-Minks, Ariana
	10:00 am	DeSilva-Minks & Mary DeSilva
	11:30 am	St. Theresa's Parish Family
	6:00 pm	Intentions of Nenita & Salvador Capacite

NEXT WEEK'S MINISTRY SCHEDULE: 9th/10th December, 2023

	6:30PM	8:30AM	11:30AM	6:00 PM
Proclaimer:	J. Judd	B. D. Knights	V. Turner	R. Bernard
Communion	P. Whitecross	G. Lovecchio	J. Alcantara	Volunteer Needed
Ministers:	C. Carreiro	O. Scarth	A. Cannonier	Volunteer Needed
Song Leaders:	K. Judd	J. Pearman	M. Gravito	

SUNDAY & SPECIAL OFFERINGS WITH ONLINE BANKING & PARISH ENVELOPES

Please make direct payments to St. Theresa's Cathedral at Bank of Butterfield A/C #20006060-482732100 and include “Sunday Offering” in the memo field. Also, the parish encourages the use of Sunday Offering Envelopes to promote the concept of stewardship of treasure. Thank you for your continued support in remembering the needs of the Cathedral.

Saturday Adoration in the Chapel of St. Theresa's Cathedral: 9am – Holy Mass in Portuguese followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Adoration – 10:00am - Benediction

MARK YOUR CALENDARS: FILIPINO MASS

Commencing in **January 2024** a Filipino Mass celebrated by Fr. Dandy Traje and will be held on the 3rd Saturday of each month at 11:00am at St. Joseph's Church in Somerset.



MEMORIAL FLOWERS FOR CHRISTMAS



Forms are located on the communion rail and at the main doors of the Cathedral for anyone, who wishes to make an offering for St. Theresa's Christmas Flowers “In Memory” of their deceased loved ones. All names will be remembered on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

Deadline is Sunday, December 10th.
Thank you for your anticipated support!

LECTORS' WORKBOOKS

The Lector's Workbooks for the new liturgical year are available in the Sacristy. Please check your name off the list, when you have taken your workbook.



ADVENT GIVING TREE: The Giving Tree is up at the back of the Cathedral and tags have been placed on the tree. The gifts are for the children from the Star Lighthouse Foundation. Once you have purchased your gift, place it in the bins provided after Mass on the weekend. When returning your gift, please have the tag attached to the gift. We look forward to your participation in this Parish outreach in making these children happier this Christmas! **Deadline is Sunday, Dec. 17th.**



WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

We are servants of God, each with his or her own task. We will be judged good stewards if, on His coming, He finds us ready and conscientiously pursuing the tasks to which we have been called.

Steward's Sharing of Treasure

	<u>Date</u>	<u>Actual</u>
Collection:	25 th /26th December, 2023	\$ 3,541.00
	To Date: Week 47	\$243,850.00
<i>Thank you for your support!</i>		

ST. THERESA'S CHAPEL



December 3rd - December 9th, 2023

Donation Given for Two 7-Day Votive Candles

"In Memory of Ermelinda and Mariano Medeiros".

INTRODUCTION:

Apologies, not available at print time.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY: Christmas Food Voucher Programme - 2023

The St. Vincent de Paul Society is providing Christmas Food Vouchers again this year. The deadline for receiving names and details has commenced. **Distribution takes place**

Saturday, 9th Dec 2023. You can call 525-1191 and leave a message on the SVDP voicemail or speak to Joanne Judd or Thomas Sinclair our SVDP parish representatives should you have any questions.

The SVDP Society Committee



ST. THERESA'S GIFT SHOP:

Christmas cards, Advent Calendars, Advent Wreaths and candles, as well as other items are now on sale at the Gift Shop. Please place your order for the 2024 Catholic Calendar at the Gift Shop. Thank you for your patronage and your continued support!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS: On Saturday, December 16th at 9:00am, our CCD students will be watching the movie "The Star". It is a tale of faith and friendship that actually revolves around the story of Christmas. The film is 90 minutes, and this duration of the event is open to other children in our parish of every age (100+ included). If you or your child will be attending please email us, as we need to organize seating and prepare enough popcorn.

Advent Retreat Day:

Tuesday, December 5th, our priests will be having an Advent Retreat Day. From 11:15-12:15, we will be praying at St. Theresa's Cathedral with adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. Please feel free and invited to join us.

BISHOP'S CORNER



Dear Fellow-Catholics,

"Today's world, marked by violence and conflict needs fraternity, peace, and friendship," said Pope Francis during his address to an audience of around five hundred members of the Fraternity of Romena in Italy and the Nain Group.

In his address, the Holy Father highlighted three experiences that allow the light of the Gospel to filter through and risk the darkness of life; hospitality, care, and fraternity. "In fact this is the experience lived by those who arrive tired and oppressed, amidst the beauty of nature and the charm of silence, to spend a few days at the ancient Romanesque parish church where the Fraternity of Romena is based, a space of beauty, simplicity and listening," said the Pope. He noted that "Romena was born with this spirit, as a place where anyone can feel at home; everyone can arrive with what oppresses them, with the desire to rest in body and spirit and to breathe in the fragrance of the Gospel." The Pope stressed, "Never to lose this spirit" and invited those present to "always work to cultivate this style of openness and welcome, to continue to be an oasis of freedom, expressing God's infinite and gratuitous love for every creature."

The Pope also stressed that "Today's world, still marked by violence and conflict, is in great need of this brotherhood, this social friendship" and it is for this reason that he asked each member present to "Continue to practice fraternal hospitality, to offer a place where people can rest their heads and where everyone can feel loved by God and part of a universal fraternity, the one that the Father wanted to inaugurate in Jesus and that Jesus asks us to build together with Him and with the Holy Spirit." Pope Francis concluded by saying that, "Life is too short to be selfish."

Have a calm weekend and a blessed Advent!

Bishop Wes

Dear St. Theresa's Parishioners, I would like to inform you that Mrs. Karen Scarth has been employed as a new St. Theresa's Parish Administrator beginning with the 1st of December 2023. I would like to wish Mrs. Scarth all God's blessing on her new job journey. I hope that this job will bring her plenty of fulfillment and happiness Please be informed that there will be new opening hours of St. Theresa's Parish Office, i.e. Tuesday to Friday from 10:00am to 4:00pm.

Dear Padre,

Why are the Gospels Matthew and Mark so alike? Why did the Church keep both Gospels when so much of Mark seems to be a mirror image of Matthew?

The Gospels were written over time and used by the faithful when they gathered for worship. They read the Hebrew Scriptures (Old Testament) and accounts of the life and ministry of Jesus collected by Matthew, Mark, and Luke.

The Christian communities were often great distances from one another. A community may have had access to only one of these accounts. There is considerable similarity because the Gospel writers depended on one another. All three Gospels include some of the same incidents. Each also has incidents or details unique to that Gospel.

These were not the only accounts written about the life and ministry of Jesus. At some point, the Church had to decide which should be considered the inspired word of God. There were four accounts that were widely used: Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. With their similarities and differences, the Church accepted these four accounts as Gospel—the Good News. ●

This first page of the Gospel of Mark is from a fourteenth-century Armenian illuminated manuscript painting by Sargis Pitsak.



The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
December 4	December 5	December 6	December 7	December 8	December 9	December 10
Advent Weekday	Advent Weekday	Advent Weekday	St. Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church	Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary	Advent Weekday	Second Sunday of Advent
Is 2:1–5	Is 11:1–10	Is 25:6–10a	Is 26:1–6	Gn 3:9–15, 20	Is 30:19–21, 23–26	Is 40:1–5, 9–11
Mt 8:5–11	Lk 10:21–24	Mt 15:29–37	Mt 7:21, 24–27	Eph 1:3–6, 11–12	Mt 9:35– 10:1, 5a, 6–8	2 Pt 3:8–14
				Lk 1:26–38		Mk 1:1–8

Helping Catholics Apply Gospel Messages Today!

Find hope and inspiration in the award-winning *Liguorian* magazine. Subscriptions available for as little as \$12 per year. Visit Liguorian.org for details.



A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

[Jesus] ...is at the door to our heart. He knocks. Do you know how to listen to the Lord...who has come today to visit you...? He came to Bethlehem, he will come at the end of the world, but every day he comes to us. Be attentive, look at what you feel in your heart when the Lord knocks.

ANGELUS, ROME, NOVEMBER 29, 2020