



Wanting to Be Wanted

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

More than anything, we want to be wanted. As infants, we reach out, wanting to be wanted. When we begin school and discover others who might be friends, we want to be wanted. As teenagers discovering the stirrings of something new and deep, we want to be wanted. And when we grow old, then still we want to be wanted.

The parables Jesus told were always about how God moves in our lives, how God is powerfully intertwined in all that is. Jesus told parables to give us a hint of where to find God. This Sunday's parable is about a rich man with a steward about to be dismissed. The steward then finds ways to ingratiate himself into others' lives so when he is dismissed, he won't be left out in the cold.

It's not the rich man who is the Godperson in the parable. The rich got rich by abusing the poor. Rather, it is the steward who is the image of God—a God who, like the steward, is desperate to be accepted, to find a way into our lives. We might say clever...or even sneaky. It is God who finds a way into our lives when we are afraid, when we face the loss of love, when our worlds are falling apart, when we go looking for him. There, then, is God, eagerly wanting to be wanted. ●

Reflect

***What do I do when I'm feeling unwanted?
Do I recognize that God wants me?***

**ST. MICHAEL'S
FEAST DAY**
IS NEXT SUNDAY,
SEPT. 28th.

COFFEE SOCIAL
following the
10:15 Mass

**No servant can serve two masters....
You cannot serve God and mammon.**

LUKE 16:13



ST. MICHAEL'S PARISH

53 South Road, Paget PG 03 | P.O. Box HM 727, Hamilton HM CX

Pastor: Reverend Joseph F. H. Morley, Vicar General • Cell: 705 0236

Email: stmichaelsbermuda@gmail.com

Weekend Masses: Vigil: 5:00pm, Sunday: 10:15am

Saturday 8:00pm (Neo-Catechumenal Mass).

Baptisms: by appointment 3 weeks in advance

Weddings: by appointment 6 months in advance

www.facebook.com/stmichaelpaget & "LIKE" us | **Diocesan Webpage:** www.romancatholicbermuda.bm

Parish Administrator:

Karen Marsh
email: karenmarsh.bda@gmail.com
(c) 799 0842

Pastoral Council CCD Coordinator:

Patricia Carreiro
email: pcarreiro1976@gmail.com
(c) 737 1047



Mass Schedule & Intentions

*We welcome our parishioners and visitors who have come to St. Michael's to worship this weekend.
May you be blessed by your presence here today.*

MINISTRIES ...

SEPTEMBER 20/21st - TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

5:00PM Lector: Karen Marsh EM: Susan Shreeve
10:15AM Lector: Pat Robinson EM: Willie Forbes
Collection: Karen Marsh

SEPTEMBER 27/28th - THE FEAST OF ST. MICHAEL THE ARCH ANGEL

5:00PM Lector: Joshua Blee EM: Peter Marsh
10:15AM Lector: Cherry Ramdass EM: Christine DaCosta
Collection: Jesse Almeida

MASS INTENTIONS ...

SEPTEMBER 20/21st - TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

5:00PM The intention of St. Michael's Parishioners
10:15AM For all Students, Teachers and School Staff

SEPTEMBER 27/28th - THE FEAST OF ST. MICHAEL THE ARCH ANGEL

5:00PM Martin Kevin Cusack + (11th Anniversary)
10:15AM For all Students, Teachers and School Staff



Stewardship

sharing the gifts we have been given

September 13/14th - COLLECTION: \$673.00

VOTIVES: \$15.00

POOR BOX (SVDP): \$10.00

NEXT WEEK we will have the 2nd Collection for Maintenance

Thank you for your generosity.

ELECTRONIC CONTRIBUTIONS CAN BE MADE ONLINE
to St. Michael's Church's: BNTB Account # 2000 6060 081824 100.

WHEN MAKING YOUR ONLINE TRANSACTION, BE SURE TO INCLUDE YOUR NAME AND "COLLECTION" AS YOUR MEMO ON YOUR BANKING TRANSACTION.

Bishops Corner ...

Dear Fellow-Catholics,

I would like to introduce to you a new "addition" to our clergy who arrived in Bermuda on Saturday, 13th of September.

Fr. Jacob Swapan Gomes was born on the 20th of June 1960 in Dhaka, the capital of Bangladesh. His parents were the late Philip and Elizabeth Gomes. After having graduated from High School, he studied at Notre Dame College in Dhaka where he obtained a Bachelor of Arts Degree. He continued his studies at the Holy Spirit Major Seminary in Dhaka which he completed with a Bachelor's Degree in Philosophy and in Sacred Theology.

He was ordained to priesthood on the 1st of January 1989, and served as Parochial Vicar and then Parish Priest in four parishes within his Archdiocese. He was sent for post graduate studies to the Pontifical University of Santo Tomas in Manila, Philippines, where he achieved a PhD in Theology as well as helped out in the local parishes.

He then returned to his Archdiocese where he ministered as a Parish Priest and as a Founding Parish Priest in two parishes, supervising the construction of churches and the pastoral infrastructure. For one year he was a Missionary Priest in New Jersey visiting the Bangladeshi Catholics on the East Coast of the USA several times. Prior to his secondment here he had already visited Bermuda three times.

Fr. Jacob's Work Permit is for two years with the possibility of an extension depending on the renewal of his multiple-entry US Visa. He has been assigned to be the Parish Priest of St. Anthony's and St. Joseph's Parishes.

Welcome to Bermuda Fr. Jacob! May God bless you and your ministry among our good people!

Wishing you all a restful weekend and a blessed week!

+ We: 
Bishop Wes



A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

I would like that our first great desire be for a united Church, a sign of unity and communion, which becomes a leaven for a reconciled world. [We see] too much discord, too many wounds caused by hatred, violence, prejudice, the fear of difference, and an economic paradigm that exploits the Earth's resources and marginalizes the poorest.

HOMILY, ROME, MAY 18, 2025



Pastor's Point . . .

Dear Parishioners,

People like Saul who converts to Paul, are people who are lead by the Spirit to something better than before. A person can fool others, but one cannot fool God. The power of the Spirit causes us to change to the point that life becomes worth living, my job becomes a source of inspiration as opposed to income alone. My eyes are open to see the need for me to do something without being asked because now I can make a difference in the world.



Amos depicts the injustice of sellers in the marketplace. The poor are treated unjustly, something God will not forgive. In contrast to the actions in the marketplace, the responsorial psalm for today emphasizes what God does on behalf of the poor. God "raises up the lowly from the dust, fom the dunghill he lifts up the poor, to seat them with princess, with the princes of his own people." (Psalm 113:7) The psalm expresses a special love for the poor, for those who are treated unfairly.

The scriptures from the First Letter to Timothy invites us to reflect on communal intercessory prayer. It is right that we pray for one another, even those individuals with whom we may have disagreements. When we pray, we ought to ask God for blessings on those we love and on those toward whom we hold no affection. This may not be easy, but with the help of God, I can learn to forgive and hopefully forget or at least try to forget without bitterness.

Today's parable from Luke is challenging and not very easy to understand. While the steward in recognized as being quite clever, he is looking out for himself, no one else. Yes the men who owed the steward's master must have been happy for the reduction of their debt, but did not know the real reason why. The steward lowers their payment because he wants to have some people to turn to when he is fired. At the very end of this parable, we find insight into its meaning: "No servant can serve two masters. He will either hate one and love the other, or be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and mammon." (16:13). Therefore, let us keep our priorities straight daily by serving God, not money since really everything belongs to God - we are mere stewards of His creation. We cannot take such to the grave.

Have a productive week with the Lord and your brothers and sisters that you come across this upcoming week. They are a blessing and so are you.

God bless,

Fr. Joe Morley, Pastor & Vicar General DOHB.

WORDS OF LIFE:

"Throughout salvation history, God has welcomed repentant sinners with special joy. Jesus concludes the parable of the lost sheep with these words: 'there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety- nine righteous people who have no need of repentance' (Lk 15:7)*."

*NABRE © 2010 CCD. Used with permission. USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities "Life Matters: Forgiveness and Healing After Abortion"

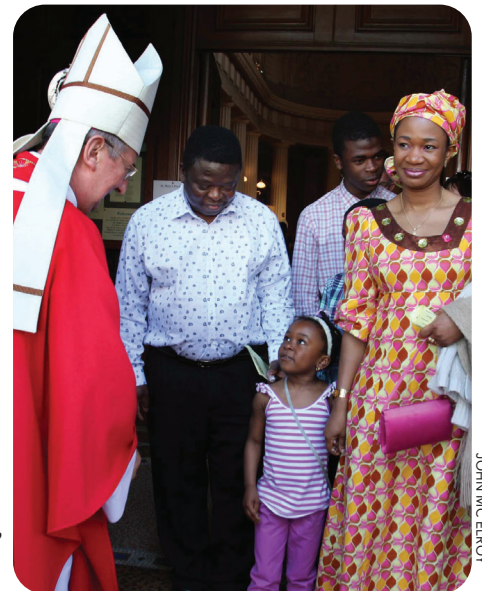
Dear Padre,

At a recent gathering, a relative questioned my family's continued participation in the Catholic Church because of the sexual abuse cover-up.

What is the best way to address this question?

Resist the temptation to argue or make any response that is not respectful. Choose to respond with empathy and understanding; perhaps something like this: "I understand and respect your feelings. Some have made the difficult choice to leave the Church. Others find the choice to remain also difficult.

"As a mature and discerning person, I am not making excuses for behaviors that are inexcusable. I cannot and will not defend behavior that should not be defended. I choose to remain in the Church because I choose to remain in a relationship with Jesus, and that relationship includes my reception of the sacraments of the Church. I value the sacraments even as I remain vigilant about the conduct of those who have been entrusted with celebrating those sacraments. I retain my practice of the sacraments and, at the same time, I retain my responsibility to be alert to abusive behavior. This is not acceptance or approval of what most certainly happened. It is continuing to participate in what is beautiful and wise and true so that, in the company of other believers, I may become more like Christ." ●



JOHN MC ELROY

Fr. Thomas M. Santa, CSsR / DearPadre.org

What is Happening in Our Diocese?

St. MICHAEL'S

- EMMAUS Bible Study: Each Tuesday at 3pm in the Pastor's Office
- Neocatechumenal Way - "The Word" is on Wednesdays at 8:00pm
The celebration of the Neocatechumenal Way Eucharist - each Saturday at 8:00pm.

St. THERESA'S

- Daily Mass is celebrated at 7:30am.
- Noon Day Mass in St. Theresa's Cathedral: The 12:10pm Mass has resumed and will be celebrated on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays
- The Portuguese Mass and Adoration has resumed on Saturday's at 9:00am

St. ANTHONY'S

- Daily Mass is celebrated Tuesday - Friday at 8:30am

St. PATRICK'S

- Daily Mass is celebrated at 8:00am
- The Rosary is recited every, WEDNESDAY at 10:00am
- The Portuguese Mass and Adoration on Wednesdays has resumed at 7:00pm.
- A mass in Tagalog takes place on, THE SECOND FRIDAY of the month at 7:00pm.

St. JOSEPH'S

- A Filipino mass is celebrated every, THIRD SATURDAY OF THE MONTH at 11:00am

STELLA MARIS

- A Filipino mass is celebrated on the LAST Wednesday OF THE MONTH at 7:00pm

St. THERESA'S GIFT SHOP September 9th, 10:00am-2:00pm.
Tuesdays and Saturdays 10:00am - 2:00pm



NEXT SUNDAY, SEPT. 28th.

THERE WILL BE A COFFEE SOCIAL following the 10:15 Mass to celebrate our Parish Feast. Please come and join us on this special day.

Anyone who would like to prepare something sweet or savoury for the social, please email stmichaelsbermuda@gmail.com, to let us know what you will bring. If you'd like to donate toward our flowers for our feast, in memory of a loved one, please place your contribution in an envelope and mark it Feast Day Flowers.

Let's make our Feast Day a special day for our Parish, come and help be part of the fellowship we are aiming to grow and build on.

See you next Sunday.

THANK YOU IN ADVANCE.



JUBILEE MASS FOR MIGRANTS AND FOREIGN LABOURERS:

NEXT Saturday, Sept. 27th there will be a 2025 Jubilee Year celebration for the Migrants and Foreign Labourers in our Diocese.

At 11:00am there will be Holy Mass at St. Theresa's Cathedral in Pembroke, followed by a light lunch in the Cathedral hall. If you are planning to attend, please contact the Chancery Office at 232-4414 or by email to orcc.bermuda@gmail.com

The Feast of St. Theresa and the 10th Anniversary of Episcopal Ordination of Bishop Wes

Will be celebrated on **Saturday, 4th October 2025 at 7:45pm** in St. Theresa's Hall. Tickets will be on sale starting from this weekend, September 13/14, from St. Theresa's Parish Council Members. Tickets will also be available for purchase from the Rectory Office;

Adults: \$40.00 and
children 12 and under: \$20.00.

All are welcome to come and celebrate Bishop's pastoral anniversary with us.



DINNER BINGO

Stella Maris Church will be holding a DINNER/BINGO
to help raise funds for their church maintenance fund on
Saturday, October 11th at 7:30PM
in the St. Theresa's Church Hall.

Tickets: Adults \$25 and Children \$15 (10 & under).

**For tickets please contact Susanna at:
535-3195**

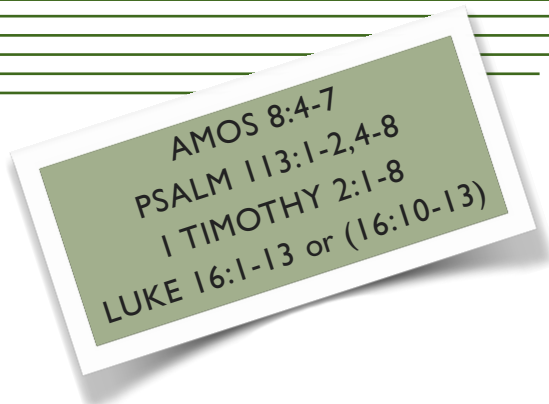
m landscaping@northrock.bm

WOULD YOU BE WILLING TO HELP US AT ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH?

At our Pastoral & Finance Council ad hoc meeting held last Sunday morning, a few topics were discussed that involved our church property, and it was decided that the priority should be that we start by painting the church which is beginning to look "bad" (the roofs were done a few months ago). Justin has agreed to oversee this work and is looking for able-bodied volunteers for Saturday, 4th October (rain date 11th). If you can give some time (stewardship) to help to beautify St. Joseph's please contact Justin Tavares on 516-4326. Lunch will be provided.

Note: This is only the church, not the Parish Centre.

Our Sunday Readings



Investments

AMOS 8:4-7

Reading closely

1. To whom is Amos addressing these words?
2. What do the speakers want?
3. What all are the speakers doing to get what they want?
4. How do you imagine these people behaving?
5. How do you think other people feel about this group? Why?
6. How does God react to what's happening?
7. How might people have reacted to Amos' words?
8. Do you think it was hard for Amos to say all this?
9. Do you think Amos was ever in danger?

Living the word

10. Why do you think people try to accumulate money and/or possessions?
11. What are examples from today's times in which financial gain for one person comes at the expense of other people?
12. In what ways do you struggle against greed?
13. In what ways does this passage challenge you?

THE FIRST READING

Greedy merchants

Amos preached during the eighth century BC. In this passage he voices God's outrage at tactics used by merchants to make money.

- Although the merchants meet the religious obligation not to work on the sabbath and other holy days, they are eager for such days to end so that they can continue making money (v.5a)
- The merchants secretly adjust their scales and other measuring tools so that the amount of grain they sell looks like more than the amount that is really there (v.5b)
- The part of the harvest that they should throw away (the *refuse*) they either sell separately or secretly mix in with the wheat (v.6c)

God will avenge the poor

Although Jewish law repeatedly insists on caring for the poor, the only thing these merchants want to do is make money, even if that means making the poor sell the very shoes on their feet (v.6b). In response to this blatant violation of the needs of others, God vows to avenge the poor and punish the offenders.

LUKE 16:1-13

Reading closely

1. What all might the steward have done to get fired?
2. How does the master react to his steward's behavior?
3. How quickly does the steward act?
4. What all might the debtors be thinking?
5. How does the master react next?
6. How would you describe the steward?
7. How would you describe the master?
8. Where is there humor in the story?
9. What might have happened next?
10. Who are *the children of this world* and *the children of light*?
11. What all could *dishonest wealth* mean?
12. What are *eternal dwellings*?
13. What all is being compared in verses 10-13?

Living the word

14. How does this passage challenge you?
15. How wisely do you manage your possessions?

THE GOSPEL READING

Caught!

A steward managed a wealthy person's finances, just like a store manager today oversees the work but doesn't actually own the store. The manager acts on behalf of and even represents the owner.

When the master learns that his steward is wasting his money, he fires him. First, though, he tells the steward to write down a financial record, including a list of people who owe him things.

Smooth move

The steward relies on a system of reciprocity or *quid pro quo* to provide for his future. He tells those who owe his master something to cancel part of their debt. These debtors don't know that the master has fired the steward, so they think the master is showing them compassion.

Because the steward represents the master, he, too, seems compassionate. Once he leaves his master, he can count on help from these debtors because it was customary to help those who helped you.

Who has the last laugh

When the master learns what the steward has done, he can't undo the steward's actions. For one thing, he doesn't want everyone to know that his steward outmaneuvered him. Secondly, even though he's lost money, his debtors all think he's generous and merciful. He would seem uncharitable if he restored the original debts.

Using mammon in a crisis

The story shows how savvy the steward is in dealing with his crisis. He uses money, *mammon*, to provide for his immediate future.

Jesus tells his disciples that they must use money in a similar way. Like the debtors who will provide a temporary home for the steward, God will provide a permanent home for those who share their money with the poor. Such people reveal that they care about people more than possessions. Just as God will not forget the greed of the merchants in the first reading, God will not forget generosity.

Dishonest wealth

The expression *dishonest wealth* implies that all material possessions are a roadblock to God. If we're so attached to money that we can't give it away, then God won't trust us with *true wealth* — his kingdom. We should give away all that we can, for only when we put the needs of others first will we show our devotion to God (v.13) and *receive what is ours* (v.12).

PRAYER

by Saint Leo the Great

Grant us, O Lord,
not to mind earthly things,
but rather to love heavenly things.
While all things around us pass away,
may we hold fast to those things that last forever.
O Lord,
give to your people the Spirit of truth and peace,
that we may know you with all our minds.
May we follow what is pleasing to you with all our
heart, and so come to possess the gifts of your
bountiful goodness. Amen.