

Saint Patrick's Church

23 South Road, Smith's FL05, Bermuda
Rectory/Office Tel: (441)236-9866



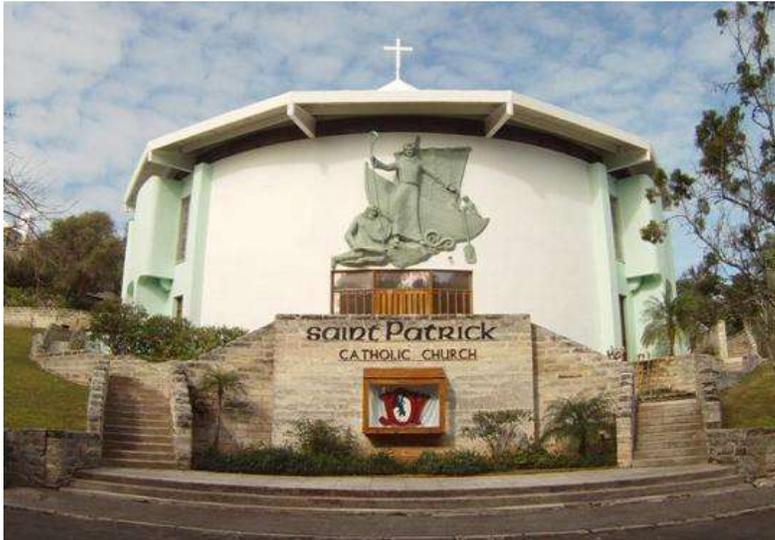
P.O. Box FL267, Flatts FLBX, Bermuda
Email: stpats@logic.bm

SCHEDULE OF MASSES

Monday to Friday: 8:00 a.m.

Saturday: 6:00 p.m.

Sunday: 9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.



SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturdays from 5:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.
or by appointment

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

By appointment one year in advance

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

By appointment five weeks in advance

PRAYING OF THE ROSARY

Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m.

PORTUGUESE MASS

Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m. preceded by the Rosary

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Thursdays at 7:00 p.m.

FILIPINO MASS

Second Friday of every month at 7:00 p.m.

CCD CLASSES

Saturdays during the school year from
9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. in the Church Hall
(*Grades 2, 5, 6, 7 & 8 only*)

CONFIRMATION CLASSES

Wednesdays during the school year from
6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. in the Church Hall

ACTIVELY AGING EXERCISE CLASS

Wednesdays from 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
in the Church Hall

MAMA PLAYGROUP

Fridays from 9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
in the Church Hall

DIOCESE OF HAMILTON IN BERMUDA
Most Reverend Bishop Wieslaw (Wes) Spiewak, CR DD
www.romancatholicbermuda.bm

PARISH PASTORAL TEAM

Rev. Fr. Vivien Nuera, CP
Parish Priest
292-0607 Ext 4

Nancy da Silva
Parish Council Chair
703-8424

David Mutch
Parish Finance Committee Chair
293-5506

Nelia Pimentel & Zilda Moniz
Parish CCD Mentors
ccdstpatsbda@gmail.com

Rev. Dr. Matthew Arnold
Parish Deacon
236-3171

Bruce Fox
Music Director & Organist
stpatriksbdamusic@gmail.com

Joe Amaral
St. Vincent de Paul Society Rep
535-0002

Nicole Renaud
Parish Office Administrator
236-9866 Ext 0#

Office Hours:
Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays
10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

15th March 2026
4th Sunday of Lent
Year A



If you or someone you know is struggling with mental health illness or suicidal thoughts, please call:
236-3770 weekdays from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (MWI)
911 or 239-1111 (24/7 crisis hotline)

Introduction

The lengthy exchange in today's Gospel between the formerly blind man and the Pharisees serves as a reminder that we are all born blind and are given our sight at baptism, when we are first able to see through the eyes of faith. As our Lenten journey continues, let us pray that God will continue to open our eyes to His truth.

Mass Intentions

Sat.	14th	6:00 p.m.	Parishioners of St. Patrick's
Sun.	15th	9:00 a.m.	✠ Daniel DeFrias ✠ José Neto
		11:00 a.m.	✠ Mario de Frias
Mon.	16th	8:15 a.m.	✠ Anthony Sousa
Tue.	17th	8:00 a.m.	✠ Karla deSousa
Wed.	18th	8:00 a.m.	✠ Paulo Cardoza
Thu.	19th	8:00 a.m.	✠ LaVerne Lau
Fri.	20th	8:00 a.m.	✠ Frank & Josephine Cabral
Sat.	21st	6:00 p.m.	Parishioners of St. Patrick's
Sun.	22nd	9:00 a.m.	✠ José da Conceição Melo ✠ José Luis DaSilva ✠ José & Maria Botelho
		11:00 a.m.	✠ Carlos Faria

Pastoral Reflection

"Joy in the Middle of Lent"

Have you ever wondered why Catholics suddenly speak about joy in the middle of Lent, a season normally associated with fasting, penance, and sacrifice?

This is the reason the Church celebrates Laetare Sunday, a special moment of encouragement placed right in the middle of the Lenten journey. The origin of the word *Laetare* is Latin and means "Rejoice." It comes from the opening words of the Mass for that day: "*Laetare, Jerusalem,*" which translates to "Rejoice, Jerusalem."

At first glance, this may seem strange. Lent is a serious time when Christians reflect on sin, practice self-denial, and prepare their hearts for the suffering of Christ. Yet right in the middle of this season, the Church pauses and tells the faithful to rejoice.

The reason is deeply spiritual. Lent is not meant to be a season of sadness, but a journey toward salvation. The Church understands that spiritual discipline can be difficult. People grow tired, discouraged, or tempted to give up their sacrifices halfway through the season. So, Laetare Sunday acts like a moment of light during that long journey.

It is similar to travelers crossing a desert who suddenly see signs that their destination is getting closer. The Church is reminding the faithful that the purpose of Lent is not suffering itself, but the joy that comes through redemption.

To remind us of this, several small changes appear on Laetare Sunday. The priest may choose to wear pink or rose-colored vestments instead of the usual purple, flowers may appear on the altar again, and the tone of the liturgy becomes slightly more joyful. These signs are not meant to end Lent early, but to give hope to those who are still walking along the path.

Spiritually, Laetare Sunday reminds Christians that penance is never the final word. Beyond fasting, sacrifice, and repentance lies the joy of resurrection. The Church allows believers to have a glimpse of the joy of Easter even before the season of Lent has ended.

Therefore, when Catholics celebrate Laetare Sunday, the message is simple but powerful: the road of sacrifice leads somewhere. The cross is not the end of the story. Joy is coming!

So, how well have you prepared for Laetare Sunday this year?

Blessings,

Fr. Vivien L. Nuera, CP
Parish Priest



Weekly Stewardship Thought

How often do we invest our time, talent, and treasure in creating an appearance that does not matter at all to God? We may try to impress others with our clothing, home, career, possessions, car, and other marks of distinction, but remember none of those things will impress God. Instead, He will look into our hearts to see how much we loved Him, how much we loved others, and how we showed that love by using our time, talent, and treasure here on earth.

Stewardship of Treasure

Offerings Last Weekend:	\$2,847.00
Offerings to Date:	\$37,620.00
Target Offerings (Week 10):	\$38,000.00
Poor Box Last Weekend:	\$227.00



Notification of Online Transfers

Please be reminded whenever coordinating any online transfers to our **Butterfield Bank Account #20006060102074100**, we would be most grateful if you could please **send an email to the Rectory office to advise of the incoming funds and how they should be allocated.** Unfortunately, even when senders include a memo on their end, the transfer details do not always appear on our end, particularly for funds received from HSBC and Clarien Bank. Thank you!



Special Collection for The Family Centre

Next weekend, all parishes will take up a Special Collection on **March 21 & 22** as part of our Diocesan Lenten Almsgiving this year to support The Family Centre, a non-profit organization dedicated to improving the lives of families in Bermuda. They provide innovative, free-of-charge mental health counselling services for children, teens, and their families, as well as various community outreach programmes and advocacy initiatives. The Family Centre is committed to ensuring access to support without barriers. Their holistic, therapeutic approach to care fosters healing, wellness, and empowerment. Please use the envelopes marked “Special Collection” for your kind donations and give generously! If you prefer to donate electronically, please make your transfers online directly to the **ORCC Special Account at Butterfield Bank #20006060021098100**. Remember to include “Family Centre” in the memo line, and send an email to the Chancery Office at orcc.bermuda@gmail.com to ensure funds are allocated accordingly. Thank you!



Renew Your 100 Club Membership

Thank you to all those who have supported the St. Patrick’s 100 Club initiative over the years, creating significant annual contributions to support our various parish projects. Our first cash prize draw for 2026 will be held at the end of April, so if you haven’t already done so, please use the marked envelopes to renew your \$100 membership today! You can also transfer online to **Butterfield Bank Account #20006060102074100** and note “100 Club” in the memo field. Please remember to send an email to the Rectory office to ensure receipt and proper allocation. If you’re considering joining for the first time, please speak to David Mutch for more information.

Holy Week Ministries

Please take a few moments of your time after Mass to review the sign-up sheets located on the counter at the entrance to the church and see where you can volunteer for the various Mass ministries on Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday. Please note the earlier start time this year for our **Good Friday service beginning at 5:00 p.m.**



Call for Gift Shop Volunteers

The St. Theresa’s Cathedral Gift Shop has recently lost a valuable member of their volunteer team and is in dire need of assistance. They are looking for at least one more person to volunteer in the shop on Saturdays from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. and/or as a fill-in for any absences. If you are interested and available, please contact Joanne Smith at the Gift Shop at 292-0416, or drop by in-person.

Prayer List

Almighty God, giver of life and health, we ask you to send forth your blessings of comfort and strength to those who are sick and suffering, and their caregivers, in particular:



- | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| Joe Pacheco | Dylan Peart |
| Manuel Gonçalves | Christine Eldridge |
| Denise Somerville | Trish Walsh |
| Debbie Sampson | Carole Scraders |
| Jo Frith | Shirley Love |
| Carol Melanson | Carol Maitland |
| Liz Weaver | Jackie Jordan |
| Bill Tatem | Gary Ascento |
| Andrew Card | |



St. Patrick’s Dinner BINGO

This is the final weekend to purchase tickets for our parish Dinner BINGO on **Saturday, March 21 at 7:15 p.m.** (immediately following Mass). Join us in the Church Hall for an evening of food, fun, and fellowship to celebrate the Feast of our Parish’s Patron Saint! We will have a variety of great raffles, and all of the BINGO winners will receive cash prizes! Tickets are \$50 for adults and \$20 for children aged 12 and under which includes a full dinner, tea/coffee, and two BINGO cards. Refreshments will be available for purchase, and we will be continuing our tradition of a community dessert table. Please use the sign-up sheet at the entrance to the church if you are able to contribute. There is also a sign-up sheet for volunteers needed to help with the decorating, serving of food, and selling of drinks, raffles, and BINGO cards. If you would like to donate a raffle prize, please contact any Parish Council or Social Committee member. Proceeds from this event will go towards the purchase of four new amplifiers which are a major component of the sound system for our organ.

Donations for Easter Flowers

Envelopes are now available on the counters at the entrance to the church for your kind donations towards the purchase of this year’s Easter flowers in memory of your loved ones. Please ensure you record the names of your loved ones clearly on the envelope for inclusion in the Easter bulletin. The deadline for the Rectory office to receive all names and donations will be on **Palm Sunday, March 29.**



Smile for the Day!

- Q:** What do you get when you cross a four-leaf clover with poison ivy?
A: A rash of good luck!



A WORD FROM THE LATE POPE FRANCIS

We are in need of a new light: that of faith, which Jesus has given us. We have been “illuminated” by Christ in Baptism, and thus we are called to behave as children of the light. [This] requires a radical change of mind-set [and] a capacity to judge men and things according to another scale of values, which comes from God. May this new illumination transform us in attitude and action, so that we... may be bearers of a ray of the light of Christ.

The Bishop's Corner – Bambino Gesù Hospital

Dear Fellow-Catholics,

The Vatican's children's hospital, Bambino Gesù, is considered the leading paediatric hospital in Europe, and the 6th best in the world, according to the US magazine Newsweek's 2026 World's Best Hospitals ranking. Created in collaboration with the data gathering company, Statista, the ranking highlights leading hospitals around the world in 12 medical fields, including paediatrics. The 2026 edition evaluated 2,500 hospitals in 32 countries. The ranking is compiled with information gathered from a comprehensive international survey of healthcare professionals, independent data on the quality of care and patient safety, and indicators derived from their assessments and reported clinical outcomes.

"This recognition stems from the daily teamwork of the entire hospital community: doctors, nurses, healthcare professionals, technical and administrative staff, researchers, volunteers, and religious personnel who, together, take care of children and their families," said Tiziano Onesti, President of the Bambino Gesù Hospital, in a press release published by the establishment. He emphasized "It is the quiet dedication of these women and men – in the wards, laboratories, offices, reception, and support services – that makes highly specialized care possible, combined with attention to the human and relational aspects of treatment."

Additionally, the press release underlines how Bambino Gesù is today the leading paediatric centre in Europe in terms of the number of affiliations with European reference networks for rare diseases (affiliated with 20 out of 24 networks). It records almost 3 million outpatient services, 100,000 visits to the emergency room, and over 33,000 surgical procedures every year.

It is good to know that the institutional Church is also able to do good work 😊

Have a joyful "pink" Sunday of Lent and a blessed week!

Bishop Wes



Portuguese Lyrics for Sunday Masses at 9:00 a.m.

Santo, Santo, Santo (Holy, Holy, Holy)

Santo, Santo, Santo é o Senhor, Deus do Universo.
Cheios estão os céus e a terra,
Da Tua glória, Hossana!
Hossana, Hossana, Hossana nos céus. (2x)

Bendito o que vem em nome do Senhor.
Hossana nas alturas, Hossana!
Hossana, Hossana, Hossana nos céus. (2x)

Mystery of Faith (sung in English during Lent only)

Save us, save us, Saviour of the world, for by your cross and resurrection, you have set us free.

Cordeiro de Deus (Lamb of God)

Cordeiro de Deus, que tirais o pecado do mundo.
Tende piedade de nós!

Cordeiro de Deus, que tirais o pecado do mundo.
Tende piedade de nós!

Cordeiro de Deus, que tirais o pecado do mundo.
Dai-nos a paz, dai-nos a paz, dai-nos a vossa paz!

Next Weekend's Ministry Schedule

21st & 22nd March 2026

5th Sunday of Lent

	<u>6:00 p.m.</u>	<u>9:00 a.m.</u>	<u>11:00 a.m.</u>
Communion Ministers	M. DaCosta & M. DeSilva	C. Frias & L. DeFrias	K. Garcia & S. Mutch
Lector(s)	B. DaPonte	N. da Silva & D. Gaspar	K. Onen
Song Leader	J. Mathias	R. Lopes	D. Mutch
Mass Server(s)	J. Every & F. Virbert	R. Carreon	C. Sta Maria & C. Sta Maria
Hospitality Ministers	R. & M. Simas	T. Botelho & C. Moss	C. Veloso & VOLUNTEER
Gift Bearers	Berlo Family	T. Botelho & Family	H. Faria & A. Tomaz
Flowers Ministry:	Ashley Bento		