



“It will be as when a man who was going on a journey called in his servants and entrusted his possessions to them.”

MATTHEW 25:14



The Edges: Where God Works

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

Those who are willing to take great risks are often the ones who give birth to dreams of growth and new life. Often it is at the scary edge of life where such growth ultimately takes place. In 1776, those who sparked a revolution and risked their personal wealth founded a new nation. President Abraham Lincoln issued his Emancipation Proclamation in 1863, when many were urging him not to do so, thus opening the door of freedom to those who found it locked. In South Africa, Nelson Mandela risked speaking out against apartheid, was imprisoned for twenty-seven years, and was eventually freed to become the leader of a new South Africa.

So often those who risk to make life new are those who are living at the growing edge of God’s reign, instruments of God bringing creation to new life.

In the parable in this week’s Gospel, three individuals are entrusted with a treasure of great worth. The third person backs away from any risk, burying it because he is stifled by fear. God’s dynamic presence, on the other hand, grows when individuals risk doing the right thing in spite of the consequences, when they are willing to speak an unpopular truth, when they take a stand for those on the edges of society, when they break down the barriers of racism and oppression. In the end, we need to listen less to our fears and more to our dreams. It’s where God does God’s best work: at the edges. ♦

Reflect

When have you risked bringing about new life?



ST. MICHAEL'S PARISH

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

Baptisms: by appointment 3 weeks in advance

Weddings: by appointment 6 months in advance

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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...

NOVEMBER 18/19TH- THE THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME

5:00PM Lector: Karen Marsh EM: Alberta Canonair
10:00AM Lector: Willie Forbes EM: Joyce Lee
 Collection: Karen Marsh

NOVEMBER 25/26TH - OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

5:00PM Lector: Kathy Anderson EM: Karen Marsh
10:00AM Lector: Pat Robinson EM: Christine DaCosta
 Collection: LaVerne Lau, Pat Robinson

MASS INTENTIONS...

NOVEMBER 18/19TH- THE THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME

5:00PM The Intentions of St. Michael's Parishioners
10:00AM Maxine & Serge Briere ++

NOVEMBER 25/26TH - OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

5:00PM Veronica & Herman Tucker ++
10:00AM The Intentions of St. Michael's Parishioners

You are welcome to attend Morning Masses at

St. Theresa's - 7:30AM Mon.-Fri.

St. Anthony's - 8:00AM Tues.-Fri. | St. Patrick's - 8:00AM Mon.-Fri.

ST. THERESA'S 7:30am Masses are live streamed via the Diocesan Website and their Facebook Page

Stewardship talent
 vision growing support giving time
 commitment blessing sharing LOVE treasure PLEDGE caring
 faith community

Collection: \$

ELECTRONIC CONTRIBUTIONS CAN BE MADE to St. Michael's Church's BNTB Account # 2000 6060 081824 100. YOUR Weekly, monthly or quarterly transaction is appreciated.

When making your online transaction, be sure to include your name and "collection" as your memo on your banking transaction.

Thank you to those parishioners who continue to answer our call for stewardship to St. Michael's.

Bishop's Corner...



Dear Fellow-Catholics,

I just realised that I owe you information regarding the special collection that was arranged in September 2023 in order to support the construction of the new church in Bangladesh. The amount collected was of \$19,572.00. Impressive!

Let me quote the email that was sent to our Chancery:

"On behalf of our Archbishop of Dhaka, Most Rev. Bejoy N. D'Cruze, O.M.I., on behalf of my parish community of St. John's, and myself, I express our gratitude to all the parish communities of the Diocese of Hamilton, for your most generous contribution/donation for the construction of the new church that is under my parish and Dhaka Catholic Archdiocese.

I assure you all of our prayerful remembrance and best regards to you all.

Seeking for prayers, sincerely yours, Fr. Jacob Swapan Gomes."

I can only say: Good job my Dear and Generous People! Thank you!

Have a restful weekend and a blessed week!

+ Wes Swapan Gomes
 Bishop Wes

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Grant us, we pray O Lord our God,

The constant gladness of being devoted to you,

For it is full and lasting happiness

To serve with constancy

The author of all that is good.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,

who lives and reigns with you

in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

one God, forever and ever.

Sunday Readings

Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

Proverbs 31:10–13, 19–20, 30–31 / 1 Thessalonians 5:1–6 / Matthew 25:14–30

FIRST READING – Proverbs 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-3

When one finds a worthy wife, her value is far beyond pearls. Her husband, entrusting his heart to her, has an unfailing prize. She brings him good, and not evil, all the days of her life. She obtains wool and flax and works with loving hands. She puts her hands to the distaff, and her fingers ply the spindle. She reaches out her hands to the poor, and extends her arms to the needy.

Charm is deceptive and beauty fleeting; the woman who fears the Lord is to be praised. Give her a reward for her labors, and let her works praise her at the city gates.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM – Psalm 128:1-5

R. Blessed are those who fear the Lord.

Blessed are you who fear the Lord, who walk in his ways! For you shall eat the fruit of your handiwork; blessed shall you be, and favored. **(R)**

Your wife shall be like a fruitful vine in the recesses of your home; Your children like olive plants around your table. **(R)**

Behold, thus is the man blessed who fears the Lord. The Lord bless you from Zion: may you see the prosperity of Jerusalem all the days of your life. **(R)**

SECOND READING – 1 Thessalonians 5:1-6

Concerning times and seasons, brothers and sisters, you have no need for anything to be written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief at night. When people are saying, “Peace and security,” then sudden disaster comes upon them, like labor pains upon a pregnant woman, and they will not escape.

But you, brothers and sisters, are not in darkness, for that day to overtake you like a thief. For all of you are children of the light and children of the day. We are not of the night or of darkness. Therefore, let us not sleep as the rest do, but let us stay alert and sober.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia.

Remain in me as I remain in you, says the Lord.

Whoever remains in me bears much fruit. *Jn 15:4a, 5b*

Alleluia, alleluia.

GOSPEL – Matthew 25:14-30

Jesus told his disciples this parable: “A man going on a journey called in his servants and entrusted his possessions to them. To one he gave five talents; to another, two; to a third, one—to each according to his ability. Then he went away. Immediately the one who received five talents went and traded with them, and made another five. Likewise, the one who received two made another two. But the man who received one went off and dug a hole in the ground and buried his master’s money.

“After a long time the master of those servants came back and settled accounts with them. The one who had received five talents came forward bringing the additional five. He said, ‘Master, you gave me five talents. See, I have made five more.’ His master said to him, ‘Well done, my good and faithful servant. Since you were faithful in small matters, I will give you great responsibilities. Come, share your master’s joy.’ Then the one who had received two talents also came forward and said, ‘Master, you gave me two talents. See, I have made two more.’ His master said to him, ‘Well done, my good and faithful servant. Since you were faithful in small matters, I will give you great responsibilities. Come, share your master’s joy.’ Then the one who had received the one talent came forward and said, ‘Master, I knew you were a demanding person, harvesting where you did not plant and gathering where you did not scatter; so out of fear I went off and buried your talent in the ground. Here it is back.’ His master said

to him in reply, ‘You wicked, lazy servant! So you knew that I harvest where I did not plant and gather where I did not scatter? Should you not then have put my money in the bank so that I could have got it back with interest on my return? Now then! Take the talent from him and give it to the one with ten. For to everyone who has, more will be given and he will grow rich; but from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. And throw this useless servant into the darkness outside, where there will be wailing and grinding of teeth.’”

Dear Padre,

My grandmother says Catholics used to fast from midnight until they received Communion. When did the fasting time change to only one hour, and why?



The ancient discipline of fasting before Communion became a universal practice by the fifth century. Until 1953, those who would

receive holy Communion refrained from consuming food, water, and medicine from midnight to the time of Communion. In 1953 and 1957, Pope Pius XII reduced the fast from food to three hours and from water for one hour (Christus Dominus and Sacram Communionem).

In 1966, Pope St. Paul VI further reduced the fast to one hour and allowed water and medicine at any time (Paenitemini). In 1973, he reduced the fast for the sick and elderly to fifteen minutes before Communion when one hour is prohibitive (Immensae Caritatis).

The loosening of the restrictions was in no way intended to lessen the reverence for the holy Eucharist. The changes were made to allow as many Catholics as possible to receive the Eucharist, which can be difficult when priests are in short supply. For the same reason, Immensae Caritatis also allowed the practice of having extraordinary ministers give Communion. Despite the changes to the Communion fast, unity and uniformity have been maintained. And of course, Catholics are free to fast before Communion beyond the duration and degree currently prescribed. ❖

Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR / DearPadre.org

A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

Today the Church tells us: “Use what God has given you and look at the poor.” At times, we think that to be Christian means not to do harm. And not doing harm is good. But not doing good is not good.

We must do good, come out of ourselves and look...at those who are more in need.

ANGELUS, ROME, NOVEMBER 15, 2020



Around the Diocese . . . Our Parish News . . .

- **ST. PATRICK'S:** The Rosary takes place every Wednesday's morning at 10am. Everyone is welcome.
- **The 12:10 Mass at St. Theresa's Cathedral**
Please join us for 12:10 Mass each Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. All are welcome.
- **LECTIO DIVINA takes place** every Monday evening at 7pm via Zoom. Franz Wohlmuth is the contact person, gwohlmuth@logic.bm. You will receive a Zoom link contact number along with the following Sunday readings. Monday evening meetings are led by Bishop Wes.
- **ST. THERESA'S GIFT SHOP:** Regular opening hours 10am - 2pm each Tuesday and Saturday. Stop by for a visit.
Thank you for your continued patronage.

- **FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CLASSES WILL BEGIN IN JANUARY 2024.**
Children from 6 years of age are eligible to receive FHC. If you wish to register your child/ children for preparation classes, email our Parish CCD Coordinator, Patricia Carreiro, at pcarreiro1976@gmail.com. More details to come.

A Parish Registration Form must be completed if you haven't already done so. If you require a Parish Registration Form email: stmichaelsbermuda@gmail.com. The form will be sent to you to complete and to resubmit. First Holy Communion takes place on the Feast of Corpus Christi, Sunday May 30th, 2024.
- **EMMAUS BIBLE STUDY** will restart on Tuesday, January 16th, at 4:00pm
- **PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING** this Tuesday, November 21st at 6pm.

The Catholic Company presents



What is an Advent wreath?
And why do you need one?

While the exact origin of the Advent wreath is uncertain, one thing is undeniable: the use of this symbol is a longstanding tradition in our Catholic Faith, dating back to at least the 17th century.

As we progressively light the candles throughout the Advent season, we acknowledge God's coming through reflection, prayer, and hope. We make our own private vigil while awaiting the Light of the World.

Not only do we recall His first coming, we also await His second coming, when He will judge the living and the dead.

Significance of the Advent Wreath's Shape and Color

Since circles have no beginning and no end, the circular shape of the Advent wreath symbolizes eternal life in Christ. The wreath holds four candles, which are lit one-by-one over the four weeks of the Advent season. Generally, three are violet (purple) and one is rose-colored, each representing 1,000 years. Added together, the four candles symbolize the 4,000 years that humanity waited for the Savior.

Violet is a liturgical color symbolizing penance, sacrifice, and prayer. During the first, second, and fourth weeks of Advent, we light violet candles as a reminder of the preparation of heart and mind undertaken during this season, which was traditionally known as a "little Lent."

The Third Sunday of Advent is called Gaudete (Rejoice) Sunday. On this day, we celebrate that our wait is almost over. Since rose is the liturgical color used to signify joy, we light the rose candle on the Third Sunday of Advent as we rejoice in anticipation of the coming of the Messiah.

Materials Used in the Advent Wreath

Advent wreaths were traditionally made of evergreen branches, which have long been a symbol of the constancy and faithfulness we aspire to as Christians. Evergreens flourish during every season, remaining unchanged through the harshness of winter. We are called to live our Faith this same way—with holy confidence and fortitude.

Holly, with its prickly leaves, represents the Crown of Thorns. Pinecones represent the Resurrection, because they contain the seeds of a new tree and therefore of new life.



MEALS ON WHEELS is urgently seeking volunteers to assist with meal preparation, meal delivery and various other duties. If you can spare some time, please contact our volunteer coordinator on **236-1815** or via email at mowvolunteers@logic.bm or fill in a volunteer form located on our website www.mealsonwheels.bm