



**Do nothing out of selfishness or out of
vainglory; rather, humbly regard others
as more important than yourselves.**

PHILIPPIANS 2:3–4



Will You Work in God's Vineyard?

ANN M. GARRIDO

Most parents can resonate with today's gospel. Who hasn't had a child promise to do their chores and then neglect to do them? Or a child who threw a fit when asked to help but then pitched in after all?

Jesus' parables intend to give clues about a mystery he called the kingdom of God—a revelation about what the world will look like when God's dreams for it are realized. We get a good hint that this parable is meant to be about the kingdom of God because it speaks of a vineyard, and Jesus often compared God's kingdom to a vineyard. Vineyards throughout the ancient world were associated with joy and abundance, but they also required much tending. They needed workers, and that is what God has called us to be for the kingdom.

Jesus observed that those who professed to support God's coming kingdom often seemed to do little to help bring it about whereas those who historically had been viewed as resistant to God's ways were more receptive to John the Baptist's preaching—and, we can imagine, Jesus' message as well. They were the ones who proved in the end more willing to lend a hand.

The vineyard of which Jesus spoke still requires workers. It still requires people willing to collaborate with God in gathering the abundant harvest that will mark a season of great joy. We can imagine that, like any parent, God's greatest delight would be to have children who say "yes" and then follow through on their word! ●



**LEARN ABOUT
THE AUTHORS
OF OUR PARISH
COMMUNITY**

Reflect

When I am tempted to be resentful, what would be a healthy response?



St. Joseph's Church

was consecrated on the 29th of January 1928.
It is the oldest standing Roman Catholic Church on the island.

Address: 45 Somerset Road, Sandys MA 03, Bermuda
or
P.O. Box MA 05, Mangrove Bay, Sandys MABX, Bermuda.
Telephone: (441) 234-2321
Email: stjosephbermuda@gmail.com

PASTOR: FR. JACOB SWAPAN GOMES
(441) 292-0607 Ext. 5 or (441) 704-1874 (cell)



Mass Schedule

Saturday Afternoon - 4:00 p.m.
Sunday morning - 9:00 a.m.

Baptism	By appointment: one month in advance
Weddings	1 year in advance (approx.)
Sacrament of Reconciliation	Sunday morning: 8:30 a.m.
Filipino Mass – Saturday	TBA: 11:00 a.m.
Youth Ministry & FHC	4 th October 2026
Youth/Family Mass	25 th October 2026
Pastoral & Finance Council	TBA
Coffee Social	Resumes in November
Second Collection	10 th /11 th October 2026

DIOCESE OF HAMILTON IN BERMUDA
Most Rev. Bishop, Wiesław (Wes) Śpiwak
www.romancatholicbermuda.bm

Parish Team Leaders

Mrs. Elizabeth Card – Pastoral Council Chairperson	Mrs. Annette Barclay St. Vincent de Paul Society Representative
Walette Cross Stewardship Representative	Natalia Walker & Justin Tavares Religious Education - Youth Ministry
Mrs. Mary Harvey - Parish Administrator & Finance Committee Team Leader	Mrs. Jane Farge - Music Ministry



Today's Hymns

Entrance: Christians Let us Love One Another #717
Offertory: Servant Song #820
Communion: Here at This Table #777
Recessional: Sing of the Lord's Goodness #582

Leader of Song: Justin Tavares



This image shows clean hands washing grapes, a sign of readiness to serve in God's vineyard. It reflects the Gospel message that obedience and repentance bring renewal.

The St. Joseph's Parish family takes this opportunity to thank you for coming to worship with us today. May the loving Lord always be with you, and with your families.



Sunday – 4th October 2026

Proclaimer of God's Word
Opening/Closing of the Church
Eucharistic Minister
Collection Counters
Altar Server
Music

Stefano Ausenda
Kathie Ausenda
Joanne Smith
Simon & Mary Stones
Liam/Seamus Stones
Jane Farge

Prayers: Please keep our **sick and shut-ins** in your prayers, especially Ilene Bremar, Andrew Card, Eleanor Correia, Peter Farge, Mary Maybury.

MASS INTENTIONS:

Saturday, 26th September †**Anthony Bicchieri (Tony Bari)**

Sunday, 27th September †**David Medeiros and** †**Maria Lurdes**

BIRTHDAYS

Liz Card **1st October**

ANNIVERSARIES

Mary & Simon Stones **2nd October**

May God, our loving heavenly Father, bless you all with many more special days.

ATTENDANCE & COLLECTION

MASS	Attendees	Collection
Saturday, 19 th Sept – Filipino Mass	37	527
Saturday, 19 th Sept. – 4:00 p.m.	6	80
Sunday, 20 th Sept. – 9:00a.m.	52	422
	95	\$1029

Thank you for your kindness and generosity, it is appreciated.
Banking information: St. Joseph's Parish – Account Number:
20006060757062100

The 4:00 p.m. Saturday Mass will continue until 31st October 2026.



THE FALL SUPPER will be held on Saturday, 24th October, in the Parish Centre.
Available Tickets: 40 Dine-In and 70 Take-out.

Take-outs **must** be picked up between 5:30 – 6:30 p.m.

The Dine-in supper starts at 7:00 p.m. (served)

Tickets: Adults \$40 - Children (12 and under) \$15.
Menu: Soup: Chicken, fish, pasta, vegetable stir-fry, spring rolls, cakes/cookies.

Tickets are available from Liz Card
RAFFLES (Dine-In only)

ST. JOSEPH'S YOUTH MINISTRY /RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAMME will resume next Sunday, 4th October, 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. If you have a child who will be 5 years old by mid-December, and you would like them participating in the programme, please come and join us.

A strong religious education programme is highly valued by those, who, truly, believe in the Good News of Christ's gospel message, ***but to be successful, it needs the full support of the parents.***

BISHOP's CORNER

Dear Fellow-Catholics,

The week beginning with this Sunday is going to be quite intense in our diocesan community.

Firstly, on Tuesday the 29th of September, the solemnity of the Archangels marks the liturgical feast of St. Michael's Parish in Paget. May this be an occasion for all of us to surround this Catholic community with our prayers and warmest thoughts, invoking the blessing of the Lord and the protection of their mighty Patron.

Secondly, Thursday the 1st of October, marks the feast of St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus and the Holy Face, the Little Flower, the Patroness of our Cathedral Parish and our Diocese. Again, may this liturgical feast encourage each one of us to a special moment of prayer for St. Theresa's Parishioners as well as for our Diocese.

Thirdly, Saturday the 3rd of October, offers two festive occasions. At 11:00am at St. Anthony's Church, there will a third community celebration of the Plenary Indulgence in the Jubilee Year of St. Francis of Assisi. He passed away on the 3rd of October 1226, so on this Saturday it will be precisely 800 years from his passing. There will be confessions from 10:30 a.m. for those who would like to receive this Sacrament.

Also on Saturday, October 3rd, there will be a special celebration of thanksgiving for Fr. Dandy Traje, CP. Fr. Dandy will preside at the 6:30 p.m. Mass at our Cathedral and preach. After the Mass, the Parish Council have organised a dinner as a thank you moment for the four years of his ministry in Bermuda. Even if Fr. Dandy will stay with us for a few more weeks, this evening will be an official farewell event for him.

May you have a restful weekend and a truly blessed week!

Bishop Wes

TRUE OBEDIENCE AND CHANGE

The 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A reminds us that actions speak louder than words. Jesus tells a story about two sons. One says no to his father but later changes his mind and does what he was asked. The other says yes but never follows through. This story teaches that obedience means doing, not just saying.

The readings for the 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A all point to the same truth. God looks at our hearts and our choices. It is not enough to say we believe. We must live what we believe. Turning away from sin and choosing what is right brings life and hope.

These readings also show that God is fair and merciful. He wants us to turn back when we make mistakes. When we admit we are wrong and try again, He welcomes us with love. Repentance opens the way to peace and joy in His presence.

REFLECTIONS:

- Do my actions match my words when it comes to faith?*
- When have I said I would do something good but failed to follow through?*
- How does the parable of the two sons challenge me in my own life?*
- What areas of my life need repentance and change?*
- How does God's fairness give hope to those who turn back to Him?*
- In what ways can I practice humility like Jesus?*
- Do I seek recognition, or am I willing to serve quietly?*
- How can I show true obedience to God in my daily life?*
- What steps can I take to be more aware of my need for God's mercy?*
- How does this Sunday's message encourage me to live differently?*

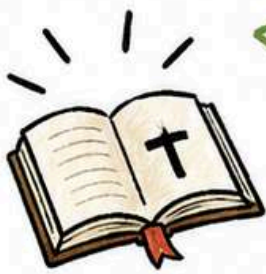
Humility is not easy. Many people want to be important and respected. But Jesus teaches that real honor comes from putting others first. He did not seek power or glory. Instead, He chose to lower Himself and serve. Because of this, He was lifted up.

This Sunday challenges us to examine our hearts and actions. Are we truly following God, or just saying the right words? Do we seek to serve others, or do we put ourselves first? Jesus calls us to real obedience, true repentance, and humble service. When we live this way, we walk the path that leads to life.

PRAYER

Lord, help me to follow you with true obedience. Let my actions reflect my faith, not just my words. When I fail, give me the courage to repent and change. Teach me to be humble, like Jesus, and to put others before myself. Guide me to walk in your ways each day. Amen.

Source: Young Catholics 2026



26TH SUNDAY

IN ORDINARY TIME

• YEAR A •



MAIN MESSAGE

- God is just and merciful.
- Repent and turn back to God.
- Actions show true obedience.
- Humility and love lead to life.



KEY SCRIPTURE

66 Which of the two did his father's will?"
They answered,
"The first."

Matthew 21:31



THE READINGS

 **FIRST READING** (Ezekiel 18:25-28)
Turn from wrong; live.

 **PSALM** (Psalm 25)
Guide me in your truth, Lord.

 **SECOND READING** (Philippians 2:1-11)
Have the mind of Christ; serve others.

 **GOSPEL** (Matthew 21:28-32)
Actions, not words, show true obedience.

THEMES TO KNOW

 God's justice is fair

 Repentance brings life

 Actions matter more than words

 Humility brings honor

 Unity in Christ

WHAT THIS MEANS FOR US

 Check your heart and your choices.

 Turn back when you make mistakes.

 Put others first like Jesus.

 Let your actions show your faith.

TRY THIS

 Do one thing today you know is right, even if it's hard.

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- ? Do my actions match my words?
- ? Where do I need to turn back to God?
- ? How can I be more like Jesus in humility and love?



Dear Padre,

Why must I choose practicing Catholics as my baby's godparents?

The Church is clear about the qualifications of godparents: at least sixteen years old; leading lives of faith; confirmed and having already received Communion, among others.

(See the *Code of Canon Law*, 872–874.) “Godparent” isn’t simply an honorary title we bestow on someone.

It’s an important role in a child’s faith life. Parents and godparents introduce us to Jesus and teach us to pray. We talk to Jesus on our own and learn more about him through Scripture. Our parents take us to church. We watch their example and that of our godparents. It is the gradual process of being introduced to Jesus by those who know him that leads us to trust him and have faith in him. At baptism, a godparent lights a candle from the Easter candle and holds it for the child as the presider says, “Receive the light of Christ.” That is how faith comes to us: a gift from God, but through other people. Parents and godparents must have the bright flame of faith in their own hearts if they hope to pass it to the child.

It is permitted to have only one godparent, fulfilling the requirements previously mentioned, and a special “witness” who is a person of faith but is not Catholic. ●

Fr. Gary Lauenstein, CSsR / DearPadre.org

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
September 28	September 29	September 30	October 1	October 2	October 3	October 4
Weekday	Sts. Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael, Archangels	St. Jerome, Priest and Doctor of the Church	St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus, Virgin and Doctor of the Church	The Holy Guardian Angels	Weekday	Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time
Jb 1:6–22	Dn 7:9–10, 13–14 or Rv 12:7–12ab	Jb 9:1–12, 14–16	Jb 19:21–27	Jb 38:1, 12–21; 40:3–5	Jb 42:1–3, 5–6, 12–17	Is 5:1–7
Lk 9:46–50	Jn 1:47–51	Lk 9:57–62	Lk 10:1–12	Mt 18:1–5, 10	Lk 10:17–24	Phil 4:6–9
						Mt 21:33–43



MARIUS MURESAN / UNSPLASH



AGE CYMRU / UNSPLASH

A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

Jesus taught us that in discerning how to help our neighbor, we must imitate the example of the Good Samaritan, who selflessly gave of his time and resources to someone whom he had never previously met.... When we help those in need, especially those who cannot repay us, we become the Lord’s instruments.

MESSAGE TO FADICA NETWORK, ROME, FEBRUARY 27, 2026

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