



As [Jesus] rode along, the people were spreading their cloaks on the road.... They proclaimed: “Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord. Peace in heaven and glory in the highest.”

LUKE 19:36, 38

The Emptying Process

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

We like to fill life with good things—good friends, good times, good jobs, good memories. They are all graced moments of life. Life is also marked by an emptying process. Friends move away, good times come to an end, jobs become boring. Saint Teresa of Kolkata (Mother Teresa) once noted how even God can’t fill what is already full. The emptying process may very well be the action of God in our lives, emptying us to make room for God’s gift of resurrection and life in its fullest.

Holy Week is the story of such a process—one long saga that begins with Palm Sunday as it focuses on how Jesus willingly emptied himself even unto death. The story moves on to Holy Thursday and the gift of the Eucharist to sustain us in the emptying. On to Good Friday, where, once more, a narration in stark liturgical strokes tell of the emptying of Jesus. Finally, the Easter Vigil and the Feast of the Resurrection, the culmination of a journey through death into life. We tell this weeklong story because the story of Jesus is also our story—more of God working in us rather than our own doing. The Jesuit theologian Karl Rahner once noted that one of the tasks of life is to learn how to die well. Our willingness to learn that lesson, again and again, is how we begin to share in the resurrection, even as we live our lives today. ●

Reflect

How does my faith help me through times of emptiness?



St. Anthony's Church

26 Middle Road -Warwick WK03, Bermuda
Phone: (Office Direct Line) 441-238-1784

Parish Email: stanthonybermuda@gmail.com

Fr. Joe Morley 441-705-0236

Reconciliation: By appointment

Baptisms: By Appointment – One month in advance

Weddings: By Appointment –A year in advance

Organist: Jane Farge

St. Anthony's Club (CCD): Fridays 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm

Coordinator: Anna Daniel 441-236-2438

Email: stanthonyccd@yahoo.com

St. Vincent de Paul Rep: Pat Rodrigues

St. Vincent de Paul No. 525-1191

Mass Schedule at St. Anthony's

April 12	6:15 pm	John & Jacinta Reis++
April 13	11:30 am	Parishioners of St. Anthony
April 15	8:30 am	
April 16	8:30 am	
April 17	7:00 pm	Holy Thursday Service -- Jose Francisco Linhares & Maria Connie Cabral++
April 18	3:00 pm	Good Friday Service
April 19	7:30 pm	Manuel Moura+
April 20	11:30 am	Easter Flower Memorials & Bernardino Moura Moreira+

Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are needed to serve as lectors, Eucharistic ministers, ushers, collection counters, etc. If you can assist, kindly let Father Joe know.

WORDS OF LIFE -April 13th

“Suicidal individuals—with or without a terminal illness—typically do not want to die; they want to escape what they perceive to be an intolerable situation, and they inaccurately believe that suicide is their only way out. The patient requesting assisted suicide is often asking, ‘Does anyone want me to be alive, or care enough to talk me out of this request and support me through this difficult time?’”

USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities, “Every Suicide is Tragic” usccb.org/every-suicide-tragic

Bulletin for April 12/April 13, 2025

Weekly Collections at St. Anthony's

March 29/March 30	\$ 4,325.00
April 5/ April 6	\$ 1,084.00

Online payments can be made directly into the Bank account of St. Anthony's – Butterfield Bank – BD \$ Current A/c – 20006060061567100 and US \$ Current A/c - 20006840061567100.

Please make sure to indicate what the donation is for in the memo field when making the payment i.e., Gen collection; Maintenance; Mission Sunday, etc. Multiple payments can be made for those times that you are away or on vacation. Please note that we are charged \$20 for US checks drawn on a US Bank. Kindly do not place Canadian or British currency in the collection baskets.

Maintenance Collection – this weekend

Counting Schedule:

This week: Annette and Steve
Next week: Annette and Dennis

Pastor's Point

Dear Parishioners,

I am continuing from the last several weeks as I was off the island recently on a pilgrimage to Rome with Fr. Dandy, and Fr. Vivian as we prayed for all of us as we entered the 4 holy doors for the Jubilee year. I hope that you find this information to be most helpful.

V. THE TEACHING OF THE MAGISTERIUM

1 The prohibition of euthanasia and assisted suicide

With her mission to transmit the grace of the Redeemer and the holy law of God, the Church is obliged to exclude all ambiguity in the teaching of the Magisterium concerning euthanasia and assisted suicide. Today medical end-of-life protocols, such as various *Do Not Resuscitate Orders*, cause serious problems regarding the duty to protect the life of patients in the most critical stages of sickness. On one hand, medical staff feel increasingly bound by patient self-determination declarations. They can feel deprived of their freedom and duty to safeguard life, even where they could do so. On the other hand, widely reported abuse of such protocols result in final decisions about care in which neither patients nor families are consulted. The legalization of euthanasia has created wide margins of ambiguity regarding obligations to provide care.

Bishop's Corner

For these reasons, the Church finds it a necessity to reaffirm as definitive teaching that euthanasia is a *crime against human life* because, in this act, one chooses directly to cause the death of another innocent human being. Euthanasia is defined as “an action or an omission which of itself or by intention causes death, in order that all pain may in this way be eliminated.”^[i]

Euthanasia, therefore, is an intrinsically evil act, *in every situation or circumstance. Any formal or immediate material cooperation* in such an act is a grave sin against human life. Euthanasia is an act of homicide that no end can justify and that does not tolerate any form of complicity or collaboration. Those who approve laws of euthanasia or assisted suicide become accomplices in grave sin.

Each life has the same value and dignity for everyone: the respect of the life of another is the same as the respect owed to one's own life. One who chooses with full liberty to take one's own life breaks his or her relationship with God and others. Assisted suicide increases the gravity of this act because it leads another to turn from hope and break the covenant that establishes the human family.

When a request for euthanasia or assisted suicide rises from despair, although “the guilt of the individual may be reduced, or completely absent, nevertheless the error of judgment ... does not change the nature of this act of killing.”^[ii] Such actions are never a real service to the patient, but a help to die.

Euthanasia and assisted suicide are always the wrong choice. Medical and health care professionals cannot support or participate in any euthanistic practice, neither at the request of the patient, and much less that of the family.^[iii]

^[i] Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, Declaration *Iura et bona* (5 May 1980), II: AAS 72 (1980), 546.

^[ii] Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, Declaration *Iura et bona* (5 May 1980), II: AAS 72 (1980), 546.

^[iii] Pontifical Council for Pastoral Assistance to Health Care Workers, *New Charter for Health Care Workers*, n. 169.

God bless,

Fr. Joe Morley, (Acting) Pastor & Vicar General

Source : Letter of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, *Samaritanus bonus* on the care of persons in the critical and terminal phases of life. Compendium 2020, p. 8. United States Conference of Catholic Bishops Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities,

Dear Fellow Catholics,

The Vatican Publishing House has published the Pontifical Yearbook 2025 and the *Annuario Statisticum Ecclesiae 2023*, which was compiled by the Central Office of Church Statistics. The data reported in the Pontifical Yearbook offers information regarding the life of the Catholic Church worldwide for 2024. The *Annuario Statisticum Ecclesiae* offers a snapshot of the main quantitative phenomena concerning the pastoral activity of the Catholic Church worldwide, including statistical insights for the biennium 2022–2023.

The global Catholic population increased by 1.15% between 2022 and 2023, rising from approximately 1.39 billion to 1.406 billion, a percentage very similar to that of the previous biennium. The distribution of baptized Catholics varies in the various geographic areas, in accordance with the different demographics of each continent.

Africa includes 20% of the Catholics of the entire planet and is characterized by a highly dynamic spread of the Catholic Church. The number of Catholics increased from 272 million in 2022 to 281 million in 2023. With a growth of 0.9% over the biennium, the Americas consolidate their position as the continents to which 47.8% of the world's Catholics belong. Of these, 27.4% reside in South America, 6.6% in North America, and the remaining 13.8% in Central America. The Asian continent records a growth of Catholics of 0.6% over the biennium, and its weight is around 11% of the global Catholic population. Europe, while hosting 20.4% of the world Catholic community, confirms itself as the least dynamic area, with an increase in the number of Catholics over the biennium of just 0.2%. The Catholics of Oceania numbered just over 11 million in 2023, an increase of 1.9% compared to 2022.

The number of bishops in the Catholic Church has grown over the last biennium with an overall variation, rising from 5,353 in 2022 to 5,430 in 2023. At the end of 2023, there were 406,996 priests, with a decrease of -0.2%. Permanent deacons constitute the group of clergy that is growing most vigorously. In 2023, their number reached 51,433 compared to the 50,150 recorded in 2022. The reduction of both professed religious brothers who are not priests and professed religious sisters, which has occurred over time, continued in 2023, albeit at a less intense pace. The temporal trend observed worldwide in the number of major seminarians indicates an uninterrupted decline that has been recorded since 2012.

Have a restful weekend and a blessed Holy Week!

Bishop Wes

Additional Bulletin Notes

Important Announcements

There will be NO 12:10pm Mass at St. Theresa's during Holy Week. The Mass will resume on Wednesday, 23rd of April and will be celebrated from Wednesday to Friday.

There will be a Holy Land collection on Good Friday, 18th April.

Please be advised that there will be two Lenten Reconciliation Services on Wednesday of Holy Week, April 16th, both at St. Theresa's Cathedral, in two sessions; 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm; and from 7:30 pm to 8:30 pm. There will be one additional priest from Canada to help with this Sacrament.

Lenten Reconciliation Services

The Diocesan schedule for the Lenten Reconciliation Services is listed at the back of the church on the bulletin board.

Jubilee Children's Function

On Saturday, 21 June, 2025 at St Anthony's there will be a special event for our diocesan children. More details to follow.

Easter Flowers

Additional forms for the Easter flowers offerings are available at the back of the church. The deadline is this weekend if your loved ones are to be remembered this Easter Sunday.

Registration Forms

Additional registration forms are available at the back of the church. Kindly fill them in and place either in the collection baskets or return to Father Joe at your earliest possible convenience.

Easter Egg Hunt

Easter egg hunt for children will be held next Sunday after the 11:30 mass.

St. Joseph's Afternoon Tea

St. Joseph's will be hosting an afternoon tea on Sunday May 18th at St. James Church hall in Somerset from 2 pm to 5 pm. Tickets are \$45. To reserve tickets call Elizabeth Card at 234-0872 or email lizatstjosephs@gmail.com. More details on the bulletin board at the back of the church.

Dinner Bingo at St. Anthony's

On Saturday April 26 there will be a dinner bingo in the church hall at 7:30 pm. Tickets are \$30 for adults and \$15 for children under 12 years of age. Tickets can be purchased from Pat Rodrigues, Anna Daniel or any parish council member. Donations of prizes for the bingo and raffle are requested and can be given to any parish council member.

Renovations of Altar Flooring

Dear Parishioners,

The floor around the Altar needs replacing. The most appropriate solution is to have the carpet removed and the flooring retiled. Samples of flooring tile are at the entrance of the Church; and the St. Anthony's Parish Council would like you, the Parishioners of St. Anthony's to vote for the tile of your choice - one vote per person. Please place your vote in the ballot box. The tile with the most votes will be used for the Altar.

Thank you.

Pat Rodrigues

Jubilee Prayer for 2025

Father in heaven, may the faith you have given us in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother, and the flame of charity enkindled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit, reawaken in us the blessed hope for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel. May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the whole cosmos in the sure expectation of a new heaven and a new earth, when, with the powers of Evil vanquished, your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope, a yearning for the treasures of heaven. May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our Redeemer throughout the earth. To you our God, eternally blessed, be glory and praise for ever. Amen

Dear Padre,

I'm thinking about going to the Easter Vigil, but why does it have to be so long?

When an event seems long, it may have to do with our expectations. If we go to the Easter Vigil and expect it to be like a Sunday Mass, then it will seem long. The typical parish Easter Vigil lasts two to three hours. There are some communities who vigil all night. Why does it have to be so long? Because this is one night of the year when we Catholics tell our whole story.

There are four parts of the Vigil. Part One is the *Lucernarium* (Light) when we gather around the paschal fire from which the paschal candle is lit. Then follows the passing of the light to members of the congregation, who are holding candles. By candlelight, we hear the Exsultet—the Easter Proclamation, sung only on this night. Part Two is the Liturgy of the Word, when we take our time listening to readings, singing psalms, and reflecting on salvation history. Part Three is the Sacraments of Initiation, when new members are welcomed into the Church, baptized, and confirmed, and all renew their baptismal promises. And Part Four is the Liturgy of the Eucharist, when new members receive holy Communion for the first time. The Easter Vigil is rich with meaning, solemn as well as joyful, and to fully experience it, we must take our time. ●



ALEXANDROS MICHAELIDIS / SHUTTERSTOCK

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ARTINI / SHUTTERSTOCK

A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

We are preparing to celebrate the victory of the Lord Jesus Christ over sin and death.... But today, there is a war.... Christ bore his cross to free us from the dominion of evil. He died so that life, love, peace may reign.... What victory is there in planting a flag on a pile of rubble?

ANGELUS, ROME, APRIL 10, 2022

Monday

April 14
Monday of Holy Week
Is 42:1–7
Jn 12:1–11

Tuesday

April 15
Tuesday of Holy Week
Is 49:1–6
Jn 13:21–33, 36–38

Wednesday

April 16
Wednesday of Holy Week
Is 50:4–9a
Mt 26:14–25

Thursday

April 17
Thursday of Holy Week
(Holy Thursday)
Chrism Mass:
Is 61:1–3a, 6a, 8b–9
Rv 1:5–8
Lk 4:16–21
Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper:
Ex 12:1–8, 11–14
1 Cor 11:23–26
Jn 13:1–15

Friday

April 18
Friday of the Passion of the Lord (*Good Friday*)
Is 52:13–53:12
Heb 4:14–16; 5:7–9
Jn 18:1–19:42

Saturday

April 19
Holy Saturday
(Easter Vigil)
Gn 1:1–2:2 or 1:1, 26–31a
Gn 22:1–18 or 22:1–2, 9a, 10–13, 15–18
Ex 14:15–15:1
Is 54:5–14
Is 55:1–11
Bar 3:9–15, 32–4:4
Ez 36:16–17a, 18–28
Rom 6:3–11
Lk 24:1–12

Sunday

April 20
Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord
Acts 10:34a, 37–43
Col 3:1–4 or 1 Cor 5:6b–8
Jn 20:1–9