



## A Haunting Question

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

**“W**hat are you looking for?” asks Jesus of the two disciples who come to see who he is and what he is about. They are Jesus’ first words in John’s Gospel, and that’s what the entire Gospel of John is about, an answer to that piercing question.

I spent the week living with that question, never really finding an answer that seemed to fit, or perhaps I got too many answers, all of them somehow falling short. Why do I spend an hour early each morning sitting in the silence? I read some Scripture, but then mostly I sit with the silence. Many are the times when my mind drifts to other times and places and daydreams. Sometimes the silence is scattered with boredom; at other times it stumbles with prayerful words; and sometimes in the silence I look for answers to the plaguing whys of life. Mostly, though, I sit in the silence. I’d like to call it prayer, but then I wonder if I’m simply floundering in wishful thinking. So I return to that haunting question—“What are you looking for?”

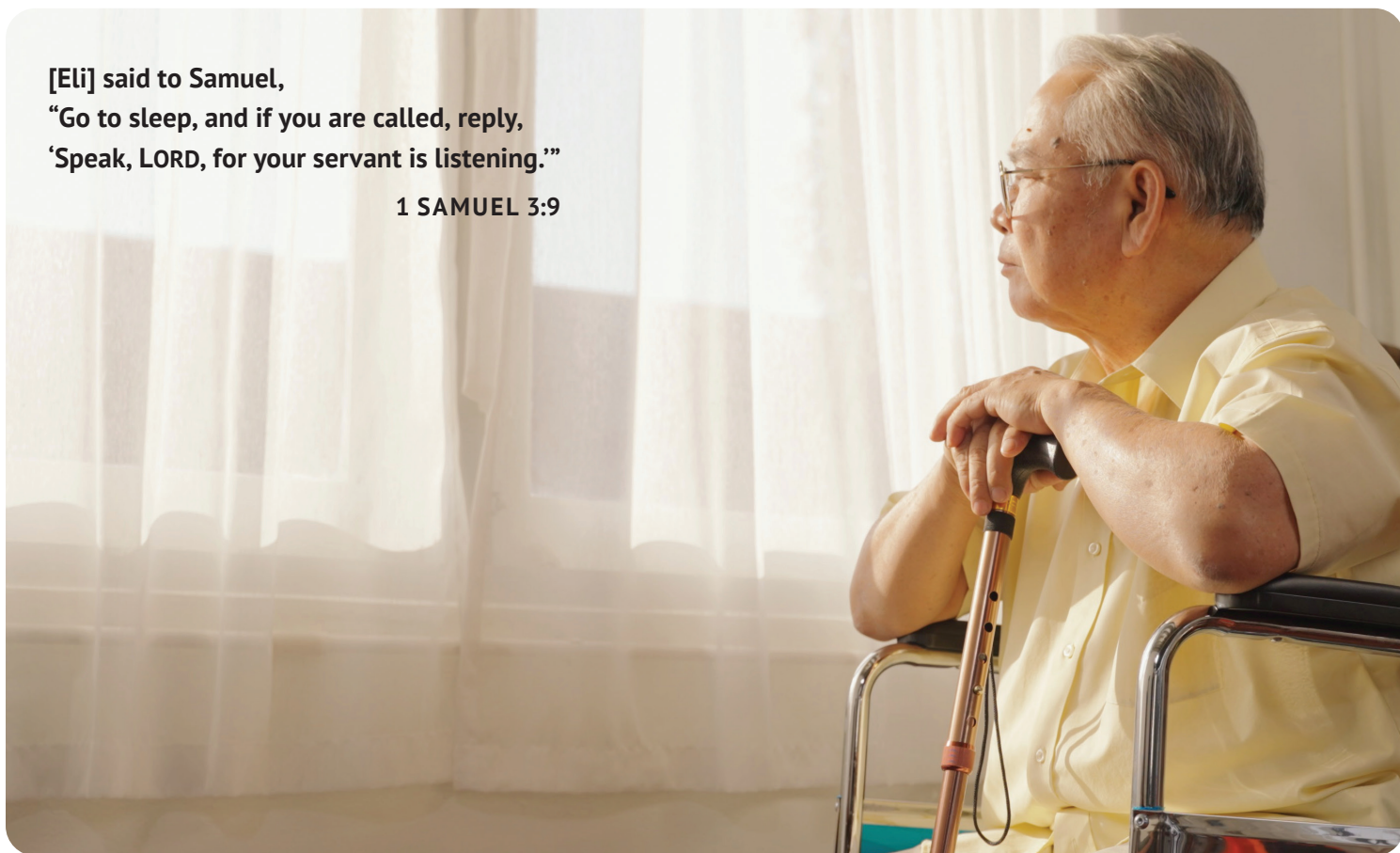
I think perhaps the answer is similar to what I look for when I gather with friends. Sometimes the get-together is engaging, but not always. Sometimes it is memorable, but not always. Sometimes we just hang out, and that can be enough. Ultimately relationships keep me grounded. That also is why I spend time in the silence. It’s what I’m looking for when I pray—to be in relationship with God, to be grounded lest I drift away and grow lost. ●

### Reflect

*When you pray, what are you looking for?*

[Eli] said to Samuel,  
“Go to sleep, and if you are called, reply,  
‘Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening.’”

1 SAMUEL 3:9



## St. Joseph's Church

43 Somerset Road – Sandys, MA 03, Bermuda

(Direct Line) 441-238-1784

(Located between Arnold's Supermarket & Somerset Cricket Field)

Parish Email: [stjosephs@northrock.bm](mailto:stjosephs@northrock.bm)

Pastor: Fr. Attilio Morelli

Reconciliation: By appointment

Baptisms: By Appointment – One month in advance

Weddings: By Appointment – usually about a year in advance

Sunday Mass: 9:00 am

## St. Anthony's Church

26 Middle Road -Warwick WK03, Bermuda

Phone: (Office Direct Line) 441-238-1784

Pastor's Mobile: 441-777-2166

Pastor: Fr. Attilio Morelli



Father's Contact: Whatsapp &

Telegram: +14417772166

LinkedIn: Attilio Morelli

Skype: fattiliomorelli

Facebook: fattiliom

Parish Email: [stanthonybermuda@gmail.com](mailto:stanthonybermuda@gmail.com)

Reconciliation: Saturdays at 5:00 p.m. or by appointment

Baptisms: By Appointment – One month in advance

Weddings: By Appointment – A year in advance

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

Coordinator: Anna Daniel 441-236-2438

Email: [stanthonyccd@yahoo.com](mailto:stanthonyccd@yahoo.com)

Organist: Tony Bari: [tbari@northrock.bm](mailto:tbari@northrock.bm) 441-236-1314

St. Vincent de Paul Rep: Pat Rodrigues

St. Vincent de Paul – 525-1191

Portuguese Charismatic Group (PCG):

Fridays @ 8:15pm – TV Room, in the Cottage

Neocatechumenal Community (NCW):

Wednesdays & Saturdays 8:00 PM in the Hall

### Mass Schedule at St. Anthony's

Sat. Jan 13 6:15 pm Alice Lucy Tannock+  
8:00 pm NCW Eucharistic Celebration

Sun Jan 14 11:30 am

Tues Jan 16 8:15 am

Wed Jan 17 8:15 am John Boyle+

Thu Jan 18 8:15 am

Fri Jan 19 8:15 am

Sat. Jan 20 6:15 pm Maria Conceicao Cabral + Jose  
Francisco Linhares++  
8:00 pm NCW Eucharistic Celebration

Sun Jan 21 11:30 am

## BULLETIN for January 13/January14, 2024

### Weekly Collections at St. Anthony's

Dec 31/Jan1 \$ 914.00

Jan 7/Jan 8 \$1,485.00

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

Counters this week: Annette and Pat

Next week: Annette and Gabby

### Pastors Note

Dear friends,

Next Sunday will be the Word of God Sunday as established by Pope Francis and by Pope Benedict before him. The Second Vatican Council emphasized the importance to place the Word of God at the center of the life of the Church and of individual Christians. The Lectionary of the Liturgy has been reconfigured so that people may have a more comprehensive exposure to the Holy Scripture at Sunday Mass and daily mass, and diocesan and parish activities have been recommended to encourage people to become familiar with the Scripture. When the Holy Scriptures are proclaimed in the Christian assembly and received with faith, they work within the soul and the life of those who listen and have the power of transform lives. It is much more than giving instruction, laws, rules or telling past history. It is a living being. The Word of God made flesh is Jesus Christ, is a person, so being in touch with the Word is being in touch with Him. If we make our contact with the Word something just intellectual, we miss the point. That is why Bible studies, even though they are still useful, they are not the proper way to deal with it. It is necessary to approach the Word in a spiritual way, a living way, having a relationship with it. In the older language, we should say it is a matter of having a 'spirituality' of the Word of God. This is the proper way that the relationship with the Word is approached in the Catholic way. Furthermore, in order to experience the full power of the Word of God, it is not anymore enough to limit ourselves to the exposure that we have once a week at the daily mass. The Jews already knew this. They go to listen to the Torah on

Tuesday Night and on the Shabbat. Rabbis say that a man who stays four days without listening to the Word of God is already spiritually dead. Early Christians did the same. They came out to listen to the Word of God on Wednesdays and during the mass on Sunday, and the readings were abundant -- chapters and chapters. Before the invention of the press, they did not have books. In order to experience the power of the Word of God it is important to make a habit to listen to it, to be familiar, to include it in the pattern of our activities on a weekly basis besides the mass on Sunday. At the time there are a couple of ways in the Catholic Church to do this in a systematic manner. The Bishop is still leading a Lectio Divina, a prayerful and meditative meeting with the Word of God on Monday evenings. I guess, but I am not sure, if there is still some kind of Bible meetings in St. Patrick's on Monday evenings. I know there used to be. I know that Fr. Joe Morley also is trying to do some activities based on the Word on Fire and Bishop Barron's approach that may have also a scriptural note. Here in St. Anthony's and St. Joseph's we have the Neocatechumenal Way that puts the Word of God really at the center of Adult Christian formation wanting to bring the spirit of the Council to parishes. This is definitively one of the most powerful ways to help people to have a living relationship with the Word of God. Many people have asked me if I do a Bible study or tell me that I should. Well, my answer is: Yes. I do and more. Do not let yourself be misled by the fact that I do not call it a Bible Study or a Bible class. In fact, it is a more comprehensive approach to the Word than a study or a class would be. However, next Saturday, as a sign and an encouragement on the side of the Bishop, there will be a Bible Marathon at the Cathedral and I invite all of you to participate and many of you to sign up to read a passage when you receive an email from the Diocese asking you to do so. But this is only a starting point, an encouragement to put the Word of God at the center of our lives.

God bless you all. Father Attilio

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### Note for St. Anthony's

Dear friends,

As I will be traveling to Italy from the 11<sup>th</sup> to the 22<sup>nd</sup> of January, the Mass Schedule for the Weekends of the 13-14 of January and 20-21 of January will be slightly modified as follows:

Saturday evening Mass: 6:15 PM

Sunday Morning Mass: 11:30 AM

Daily Masses will be at the usual time Tuesday to Friday at 8:15 AM

This will allow Fr. Joe Morley to cover for Masses at the three Churches of St. Michael's, St. Anthony's, and St. Joseph's

Thanks.

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### Bishop's Corner

Dear Fellow-Catholics,

In response to a new set of doubts on the Catholic Church's cremation practices, the Vatican's Dicastery for the Doctrine of the Faith released a document which reinforced the Catholic Church's traditional stance that ashes cannot be scattered, divided up or kept at home, but must be kept in a sacred place approved by the Church, such as a cemetery. Pastoral reasons for storing ashes in a sacred place, it says, are that it "prevents the faithful departed from being forgotten, or their remains from being shown a lack of respect, which eventually is possible, especially once the immediate subsequent generation has too passed away, and it also prevents any unfitting or superstitious practices."

As the document upholds the Church's position that ashes must be stored in a sacred place as long as they are clearly marked, it also states that "a defined and permanent sacred place can be set aside for the commingled accumulation and preservation of the ashes of deceased baptized persons, indicating the identity of each person so as not to lose the memory of their names."

The document also authorized local Church officials, in compliance with civil norms, to discern each request for keeping a small portion of ashes in another location of significance to the deceased on a case-by-case basis. It also says "Ecclesial authorities may consider and evaluate a request by a family to preserve in an appropriate way a minimal part of the ashes of their relative in a place of significance for the history of the deceased person." However, it also cautions that this can only be done "provided that every type of pantheistic, naturalistic, or nihilistic misunderstanding is ruled out and also provided that the ashes of the deceased are kept in a sacred place."

Enjoy your weekend and have a good and productive week!  
Bishop Wes

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### Christmas Memorials

Since Fr. Attilio will not be here for the scheduled Christmas Memorials weekend, it will be postponed to Sunday, January 28<sup>th</sup> at the 11:15 am mass.

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### Bible Marathon

On **Saturday, 20<sup>th</sup> of January 2024**, in St. Theresa's Cathedral, from 11:00am to 4:30pm there will be the next edition of the Bible Marathon. Every person who volunteers to join this initiative will be asked to read for 15 minutes, beginning at the point in which his/her predecessor in reading ends. The entire reading will also be live-streamed on our Facebook page.

You may sign up to be a part of this initiative by using the following link: <http://tinyurl.com/bdea4yps>



# Dear Padre,

***If St. Matthew was an apostle, why do we have Gospels from other writers who were not apostles of Jesus? Since he knew Jesus personally, wouldn't his Gospel be the definitive one?***

There are two assumptions that need to be addressed. One is that the Apostle Matthew is the same as the evangelist Matthew. The book's title, the Gospel According to Matthew, was added to the text in the second century. Whether it was written by the same Matthew or someone else, it still traces back to the experience of the apostles. The Scriptures are the inspired word of God, and Christians can rely on the truth of the Gospel message through the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

The other assumption is that one Gospel is somehow more "definitive." All four Gospels are the inspired word of God. A Gospel is not a history of the life of Christ. It is a collection of stories that each evangelist arranged in a specific way so that they would make sense to a particular audience. For the Gospel of Matthew, the audience was predominantly Jewish, but these Jewish Christians were being excluded from mainstream Judaism and perhaps were wondering among themselves if Jesus was really the Messiah for whom they had waited so long. Matthew's Gospel asserts repeatedly that Jesus is a true Israelite who fulfills Old Testament prophecies, while also reinterpreting the Law of Moses in a new direction that includes all nations. ●



FRESCO OF APOSTLE ST. MATTHEW THE EVANGELIST BY PIETRO GAGLIARDI / RENATA SEDMAKOVA

***The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org***

## A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS



***May the Virgin Mary help us make of our lives a hymn of praise to God in response to his call and in the humble and joyful fulfillment of his will. But let us remember this: there was a moment in each of our lives in which God made himself present more strongly, with a call.***

**ANGELUS, ROME,  
JANUARY 17, 2021**

### MONDAY

**January 15**

*Weekday*

1 Sm 15:16–23

Mk 2:18–22

### TUESDAY

**January 16**

*Weekday*

1 Sm 16:1–13

Mk 2:23–28

### WEDNESDAY

**January 17**

*St. Anthony, Abbot*

1 Sm 17:32–33, 37, 40–51

Mk 3:1–6

### THURSDAY

**January 18**

*Weekday*

1 Sm 18:6–9; 19:1–7

Mk 3:7–12

### FRIDAY

**January 19**

*Weekday*

1 Sm 24:3–21

Mk 3:13–19

### SATURDAY

**January 20**

*Weekday*

2 Sm 1:1–4, 11–12, 19, 23–27

Mk 3:20–21

### SUNDAY

**January 21**

*Third Sunday in Ordinary Time*

Jon 3:1–5, 10

1 Cor 7:29–31

Mk 1:14–20

**DAYbreaks** Leading Catholic voices inspire the faithful with daily reflections and prayers for Advent and Lent. Including: Fr. Ron Rolheiser, Dr. Mary Katharine Deeley, Sr. Dianne Bergant, Fr. Paul Turner, and more. Available from Liguori Publications.



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