



Every Nation, Race, People, and Tongue

Today's readings tell us of the Church's universality.

The Church might have been born of the people of Israel, but from its beginning it was meant to spread throughout the world—and it has.

The first reading describes the success that Paul and Barnabas enjoyed in cities in what today is Turkey. Believing that Jesus was the fulfillment of Jewish expectation, these missionaries naturally went first to the synagogues, where they preached to the Jewish people and those who had recently converted to Judaism. The next week the entire city came to hear them. This angered many of the Jewish people. The text says that this was because they were jealous of Paul and Barnabas. Jealous of what?

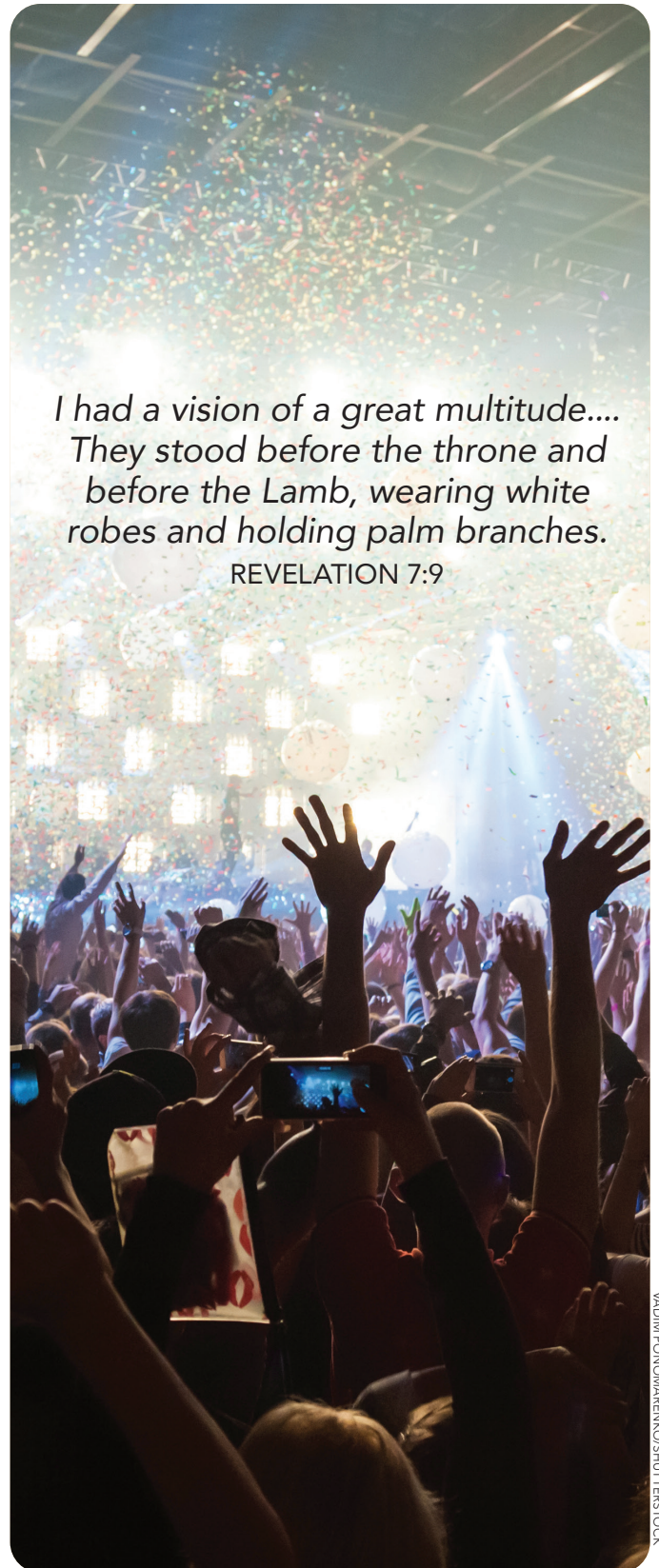
We know that many Jewish-Christians believed that converts had to accept the practices of Judaism before they were considered full members of the Jesus movement (see Acts 15:1). They maintained that everyone should be the same. Mention of converts in this story suggests this may have been the issue. Whatever the problem might have been, the movement spread, adapting itself as it did.

The vision reported in Revelation assures us that, in the end, the spread of the gospel will see completion. It will have been preached to and accepted by “every nation, race, people, and tongue” (7:9). This speaks of genuine universality rather than uniformity. This is unity among diversity. The distinctiveness of nation, race, people, and tongue will be respected because what really unites them is the “blood of the Lamb” (Revelation 7:14).

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

FOR *Reflection*

- ★ *How open are you to people of other nations, races, or tongues?*
- ★ *What might you learn from people with different backgrounds?*



*I had a vision of a great multitude....
They stood before the throne and
before the Lamb, wearing white
robes and holding palm branches.*

REVELATION 7:9

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
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
Snapchat: fr_attilio
LinkedIn & Instagram: Attilio Morelli
Skype: fattiliomorelli
Facebook: fattiliom

Parish Email: 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
CCD: Sundays at 9:45 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
Coordinator: Anna Daniel 441-236-2438
Email: stanthonyccd@yahoo.com
Organist: Tony Bari: tbari@northrock.bm 441-236-1314
St. Vincent de Paul Rep.: Pat Rodrigues
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	May 7	8:00 pm	Manuel Moura+
Sun	May 8	11:15 am	Albano Pacheco+
Mon	May 9	8:00 pm	Catechesis for Adults
Tues	May 10	8:15 am	
Wed	May 11	8:15 am	
		8:00 pm	NCW Liturgy of the Word (Hall)
Thu	May 12	8:15 am	
		8:00 pm	Catechesis for Adults
Fri.	May 13	8:15 am	
		6:00 pm	First Confessions for FHC
Sat.	May 14	6:00 pm	Christine Astwood+
Sun	May 15	11:15 am	Jacinta Pacheco+

Liturgical Ministries – Sign-up sheet for weekly Masses is in the back of the church. The books for the lectors for the new liturgical year are available and can be picked up at the sacristy anytime.

BULLETIN for May 7 and May 8, 2022

Weekly Collections at St. Anthony's

Apr 23/24 \$1,250.00
April 1/May 1 \$ 994.00

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.

Pastor's Note

Dear friends,
I just want to share a couple of things with you. First of all, we are beginning to make preparations for the celebration of the feast of our patron saint, St. Anthony of Lisbon (or of Padua.... pick up your choice). You will soon hear about it. It will not be as big this year as it used to be, but we are working to make it a very special day on June 12th. You will see in this weekend's bulletin an invitation to help and volunteer. Together we can make it a very special day. I wish to express my best wishes for all the mothers (and grandmothers). May you see your children's children in the Happy Jerusalem of Heaven!!!!!! Happy Mother's Day!

The season of Evangelization is a breath of fresh air in this post-covid time. We listened together to the announcement of the Good News and we celebrated it with a Feast of Reconciliation. Now in the coming two weeks we are in the next leg of this event that will focus on the Word of God. Through these events we will begin to offer you the keys to understanding the Word of God as a living reality that helps us to understand what is happening in our life, in the family, at work, all around us. You can attend these last meetings even if you have not listened to any of the previous ones. Take advantage of this opportunity. Allow a breath of fresh air to breathe in your life and a wind of novelty to fill your life! So come on Monday and Thursday at 8:00 PM in St. Anthony's Hall.

Finally, the last event of this season of Evangelization will be a Convivence-Retreat that will take place starting on the 20th of May in the evening (after dinner) and ending Sunday the 22nd of May in the evening with two overnight stays.

When was the last time we may have had an opportunity to live a full retreat? The Lord is making an appointment to talk to your heart! Do not miss it. If you want to know more detail, call me at 777-2166. (Please, again we are having issue with the office phone, so call me on my mobile or by email, or WhatsApp or Facebook Messenger).

This approach to the New Evangelization, called the Neocatechumenal Way, has been recognized officially by the Holy See as inspired by the Holy Spirit and the fruits in parish life have been witnessed everywhere in the world. I am just adding a link and quoting a letter from the official Vatican website where Pope Saint John Paul II made the first official acknowledgement of this reality in 1989. However, with a different level of formality, this approach has been recognized by all the popes starting from Paul the VI to Pope Francis.

https://www.vatican.va/content/john-paul-ii/en/letters/1990/documents/hf_jp-ii_let_19900830_ogni-qualvolta.html

Here is a quote from this document: "I recognize the Neocatechumenal Way as an effective means of Catholic formation for society and for the present time." (JP II letter "Ogniqualvolta")

So, nothing to fear about. God bless you all. Fr. Attilio

Bishop's Corner

Dear Fellow-Catholics,

The "Appeal to womanhood throughout the world" (later known as "Mother's Day Proclamation") by Julia Ward Howe, an abolitionist best remembered as the poet who wrote "Battle Hymn of the Republic", was an appeal for women to unite for peace in the world. Written in 1870, Howe's "Appeal to womanhood" was a pacifist reaction to the carnage of the American Civil War and the Franco-Prussian War. The appeal was tied to Howe's conviction that women had a responsibility to shape their societies at the political level.

In 1872, i.e. precisely 150 years ago, Howe asked for the celebration of a "Mother's Day for Peace" on June 2nd of every year, but she was unsuccessful. In 1907, Anna Jarvis, of Philadelphia, began the campaign to have Mother's Day officially recognized, and in 1914, President Woodrow Wilson did this, proclaiming it a national holiday and a "public expression of our love and reverence for all mothers."

Today's commercialized celebration of candy, flowers, gift certificates, and lavish meals at restaurants bears little resemblance to Howe's original idea. Here, for the record's sake, are the fragments of the proclamation, which

explains, in her impassioned words, the goals of the original Mother's Day holiday, especially as it still re-sounds very real.

"Arise, all women who have hearts, whether your baptism be that of water or of tears! Say firmly: We will not have great questions decided by irrelevant agencies; our husbands shall not come to us, reeking with carnage, for caresses and applause. Our sons shall not be taken from us to unlearn all that we have been able to teach them of charity, mercy and patience. We women of one country will be too tender of those of another country to allow our sons to be trained to injure theirs. From the bosom of the devastated earth a voice goes up with our own. It says, Disarm, disarm! The sword is not the balance of justice. Blood does not wipe out dishonor nor violence indicate possession. As men have often forsaken the plow and the anvil at the summons of war, let women now leave all that may be left of home for a great and earnest day of counsel. Let them meet first, as women, to bewail and commemorate the dead. Let them then solemnly take counsel with each other as to the means whereby the great human family can live in peace, each yearning after her own time, the sacred impress, not of Caesar, but of God. In the name of womanhood and of humanity, I earnestly ask that a general congress of women without limit of nationality may be appointed and held at some place deemed most convenient and at the earliest period consistent with its objects, to promote the alliance of the different nationalities, the amicable settlement of international questions, the great and general interests of peace."

Happy Mother's Day! And a productive but serene week!
Bishop Wes

Feast of St Anthony: June 12, 2022: Attached to this bulletin is the sign-up sheet for the upcoming feast of St. Anthony. Kindly fill in the form and indicate where you may be able to give assistance to make this feast a special occasion. Drop the form into the collection baskets at mass on Saturday or Sunday.

Come and Listen! On Monday and Thursday at 8:00 pm there will be a Catechesis meeting in the church hall. No sign-up required. Free babysitting available. Come and be refreshed in your connection with the Lord.

Senior Bingo: We will be holding a bingo for seniors (those who are 50+) in St. Anthony's church hall on **June 18th**. A list of possible prize items to be donated for the bingo is now located in the back of the church. Kindly indicate what item you would like to donate and drop off your donations in the box provided at the back of the church. Thank you for your generosity.

Dear Padre,

Because it's not in the Bible, our Protestant friends don't believe in purgatory. When did the Catholic Church adopt this belief?

"All who die in God's grace and friendship, but [who are] still imperfectly purified, are indeed assured of their eternal salvation; but after death they [must] undergo purification, so as to achieve the holiness necessary to enter

the joy of heaven" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 1030). This process of purification is purgatory.

The word *purgatory* may not appear in the Bible, but it does capture a truth found there. Scriptural imagery of figuratively passing through fire for spiritual refinement helped formulate the doctrine of purgatory in the patristic period (see 1 Corinthians 3:15). Forgiveness of sins after death is also suggested in Matthew 12:32 and 2 Timothy 1:18.

By the Middle Ages, purgatory had been defined at the Second Council of Lyons (1274), the Council of Florence (1439), and in the Decree on Purgatory at the Council of Trent (1563). The doctrine of purgatory

is part of our Tradition and deposit of faith. At one of his weekly general audiences in 2011, Pope Benedict XVI said, "Purgatory is like a purifying fire burning inside a person, a painful experience of regret for one's sins. A soul stained by sin cannot present itself to God" (see Revelation 21:27).

Fr. Byron Miller, CSSR
Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org



RENATA SEDMAKOVA/SHUTTERSTOCK



A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

It is vitally important for the Church today to go forth and preach the gospel to all: to all places, on all occasions, without hesitation, reluctance, or fear...The Book of Revelation speaks of "an eternal gospel to proclaim to those who dwell on earth, to every nation and tongue and tribe and people."

EVANGELII GAUDIUM, NOVEMBER 24, 2013

Calendar

Monday

MAY 9

Easter Weekday

Acts 11:1–18

Jn 10:1–10

Tuesday

MAY 10

Easter Weekday

Acts 11:19–26

Jn 10:22–30

Wednesday

MAY 11

Easter Weekday

Acts 12:24–13:5a

Jn 12:44–50

Thursday

MAY 12

Easter Weekday

Acts 13:13–25

Jn 13:16–20

Friday

MAY 13

Easter Weekday

Acts 13:26–33

Jn 14:1–6

Saturday

MAY 14

St. Matthias, Apostle

Acts 1:15–17, 20–26

Jn 15:9–17

Sunday

MAY 15

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Acts 14:21–27

Rv 21:1–5a

Jn 13:31–33a, 34–35

Know Someone Overly Anxious About Sin?

Since 1964, the Redemptorists' *Scrupulous Anonymous* free monthly newsletter has ministered compassionately to those struggling with scrupulosity. To subscribe, visit ScrupulousAnonymous.org.