

Saint Patrick's Church

23 South Road, Smith's FL05, Bermuda
Rectory/Office Tel: (441)236-9866



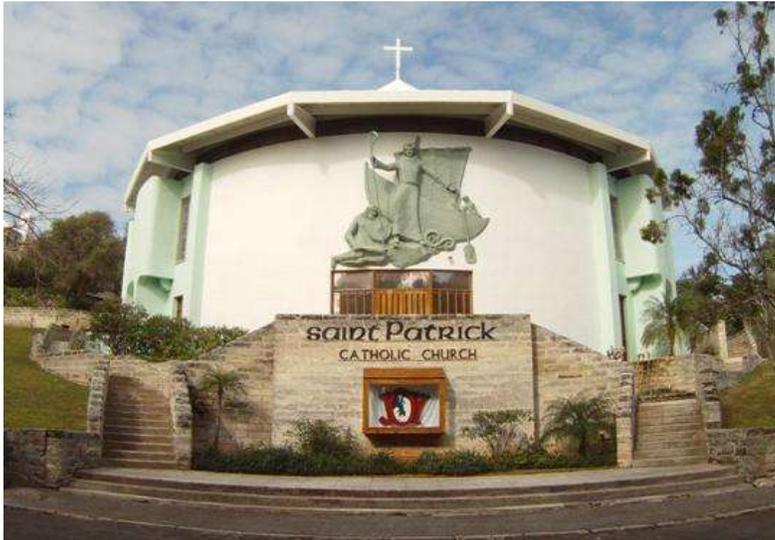
P.O. Box FL267, Flatts FLBX, Bermuda
Email: stpats@logic.bm

SCHEDULE OF MASSES

Monday to Friday: 8:00 a.m.

Saturday: 6:00 p.m.

Sunday: 9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.



SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturdays from 5:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.
or by appointment

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

By appointment one year in advance

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

By appointment five weeks in advance

PRAYING OF THE ROSARY

Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m.

PORTUGUESE MASS

Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m. preceded by the Rosary

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Thursdays at 7:00 p.m.

FILIPINO MASS

Second Friday of every month at 7:00 p.m.

CCD CLASSES

Saturdays during the school year from
9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. in the Church Hall
(*Grades 2, 5, 6, 7 & 8 only*)

CONFIRMATION CLASSES

Wednesdays during the school year from
6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. in the Church Hall

ACTIVELY AGING EXERCISE CLASS

Wednesdays from 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
in the Church Hall

MAMA PLAYGROUP

Fridays from 9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
in the Church Hall

DIOCESE OF HAMILTON IN BERMUDA
Most Reverend Bishop Wieslaw (Wes) Spiewak, CR DD
www.romancatholicbermuda.bm

PARISH PASTORAL TEAM

Rev. Fr. Vivien Nuera, CP
Parish Priest
292-0607 Ext 4

Nancy da Silva
Parish Council Chair
538-8424

David Mutch
Parish Finance Committee Chair
293-5506

Nelia Pimentel & Zilda Moniz
Parish CCD Mentors
ccdstpatsbda@gmail.com

Rev. Dr. Matthew Arnold
Parish Deacon
236-3171

Bruce Fox
Music Director & Organist
stpatriksbdamusic@gmail.com

Joe Amaral
St. Vincent de Paul Society Rep
535-0002

Nicole Renaud
Parish Office Administrator
236-9866 Ext 0#

Office Hours:
Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays
10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

22nd February 2026
1st Sunday of Lent
Year A



If you or someone you know is struggling with mental health illness or suicidal thoughts, please call:
236-3770 weekdays from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (MWI)
911 or 239-1111 (24/7 crisis hotline)

Introduction

Scripture uses metaphorical language throughout the Old Testament to speak of Israel as God's son. Like us today, the Israelites persist in disobedience, straying from their Father's will. God thus sends Jesus, who is tempted in the desert to disobey Him. Jesus' example of obedience reveals for us what true sonship requires.

Mass Intentions

Sat.	21st	6:00 p.m.	✠ Frank & Josephine Cabral
Sun.	22nd	9:00 a.m.	✠ Joseph Reis & Parents ✠ Gil & Maria Luisa Pereira Raposo & Daughter Suzann ✠ José & Maria Botelho
		11:00 a.m.	Parishioners of St. Patrick's
Mon.	23rd	8:00 a.m.	✠ Daniel Calouro
Tue.	24th	8:00 a.m.	✠ All Souls in Purgatory
Wed.	25th	8:00 a.m.	✠ Theresa MacDonald
Thu.	26th	8:00 a.m.	✠ Angelina Frias
Fri.	27th	8:00 a.m.	✠ Hilary Pacheco
Sat.	28th	6:00 p.m.	Parishioners of St. Patrick's
Sun.	1st	9:00 a.m.	✠ Mary DeSilva ✠ Manuel Lima ✠ Daniel DeFrias
		11:00 a.m.	✠ Edward Gouveia-DeSousa



Weekly Stewardship Thought

Tempted between the riches and power of this world and service to God, Jesus chose to serve His Father. If we wish to truly follow Jesus, then we must also decide to turn away from worldly power and riches and put God at the center of our lives. Lent is a time to prune ourselves of earthly things in order to develop and nurture heavenly things. It is a time for us to repent and to let go of other gods that we have put before the one true God.

Stewardship of Treasure

Offerings Last Weekend:	\$4,246.00
Offerings to Date:	\$28,434.00
Target Offerings (Week 7):	\$26,600.00
Poor Box Last Weekend:	\$360.00



Notification of Online Transfers

Please be reminded whenever coordinating any online transfers to our **Butterfield Bank Account #20006060102074100**, we would be grateful if you could please **send an email to the Rectory office to advise of the incoming funds and how they should be allocated.** Thank you for your kind cooperation!

Pastoral Reflection

“Is Lent for ‘Serious Catholics’ Only?”

Many think that Lent is for the spiritually strong, but it is actually designed for the spiritually weak. There is an assumption that Lent belongs to daily Mass attendees, prayer warriors, and “very committed” Catholics – those who are disciplined, consistent, and who appear to be serious about their faith – but that assumption reveals a common misunderstanding of what the season of Lent really is meant for.

Lent is not a badge for the advanced. It is a hospital for the wounded. When the Church calls us into forty days of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, she is not gathering the elite. She is summoning sinners. Look at the Gospel: Jesus did not reserve the desert for the righteous; He entered it on behalf of all humanity. He fasted not because He was weak, but because we are. The Church invites every baptized person to walk behind Him, not because we are strong, but because we are not. Some say, *“I’m not holy enough to take Lent seriously,”* and that is precisely why you should.

Lent is not for those who have mastered discipline; it is for those mastered by distraction. It is not for those who pray perfectly; it is for those who barely pray at all. It is not for those already detached from sin; it is for those still fighting it. To think that Lent is for “serious Catholics” is like thinking that medicine is for healthy people.

The truth is harder: if you are lukewarm, Lent is for you. If you are inconsistent, Lent is for you. If you have fallen many times, Lent is especially for you. The Church does not propose Lent as optional spirituality for a few enthusiasts. She binds fasting and abstinence (with legitimate exceptions) because conversion cannot survive on feelings alone. Structure forms the soul, and here is what many fear: Lent exposes comfort. It confronts excuses. It reveals attachments. It disturbs spiritual laziness. That is why some avoid it. Not because they are unworthy, but because they are unwilling.

But understand this clearly: ignoring Lent does not make you freer. It leaves you unchanged, and stagnation is more dangerous than struggle. The desert is not a punishment. It is purification. It is where illusions die and clarity is born. It is where you learn that you cannot serve both God and your appetites. It is where Christ becomes either central, or optional.

Thus, Lent is not only for “serious Catholics.” Lent is how Catholics become serious. And the question is not whether you qualify, but whether you are willing to be transformed.

Blessings,

Fr. Vivien L. Nuera, CP
Parish Priest



Have YOU Renewed for the 100 Club?

Subscriptions are being accepted for the 2026 St. Patrick's 100 Club. The \$100 annual fee entitles you to a chance to win cash prizes during the monthly draws. You can pay your membership fee in cash or cheque by depositing it into one of the

specially marked envelopes and dropping it into the collections basket, or you can pay online to St. Patrick's at **Butterfield Bank Account #2000606010207410** with a follow-up email to the Rectory office for allocation purposes. If you are interested in joining for the first time, please speak with David Mutch for more information. The first cash prize draw will take place at the end of April, and YOU could be a lucky winner! Renew (or sign-up!) today for a great way to give back to the Church and WIN 😊



Call for Soup Run Volunteers

As some of you may know, members of our Diocese assist with the Salvation Army Soup Run to feed Bermuda's homeless on Monday, Tuesday, and Saturday nights. Several of our volunteers have retired after many years of service, and we are looking for new volunteers to replace them. If you are interested in helping out or would like more information, please speak with Joe Kelly, or email: joekelly@logic.bm.

Lenten Stations of the Cross

Join Fr. Vivien throughout Lent on Thursday evenings to pray the Stations of the Cross at **6:30 p.m.** followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

Portuguese Lenten Retreat – March 15

On the 4th Sunday of Lent, the Diocese will have a special Lenten Retreat Day for our Portuguese community. We will be hosting Fr. Vando Marques Gomes, Parish Priest of St. Helen's in "Little Portugal" in Toronto, Canada. On Sunday, March 15, Fr. Vando will preside at the 10:00 a.m. Mass in St. Theresa's, and will be available for confessions later that day in St. Theresa's from 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Lent Mid-day Masses

Please be advised that the 12:10 p.m. Mass at St. Theresa's Cathedral will be celebrated every weekday (Monday through Friday) during the season of Lent. On Fridays, it will be preceded by the Stations of the Cross.

Cathedral Winter Hours

Please be reminded that St. Theresa's Cathedral is locked at 4:00 p.m. Monday to Friday during the winter months.

Prayer List

Almighty God, giver of life and health, we ask you to send forth your blessings of comfort and strength to those who are sick and suffering, and their caregivers, in particular:



- | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| Joe Pacheco | Dylan Peart |
| Manuel Gonçalves | Christine Eldridge |
| Denise Somerville | Trish Walsh |
| Debbie Sampson | Maria de Lima |
| Mickey Johnson | Carole Scraders |
| Jo Frith | Shirley Love |
| Carol Melanson | Carol Maitland |
| Liz Weaver | Jackie Jordan |
| Bill Tatem | Gary Ascento |
| Andrew Card | |

St. Patrick's Fish Fry

This is the final weekend to purchase your tickets for our Lenten Fish Fry! Enjoy a delicious mahi-mahi takeout dinner from Bella Vista for only \$25 per meal. Collection will be from the Hall this coming **Friday, February 27** between **6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.** Tickets are available from any Parish Council or Social Committee members. Remember to bring along a reusable bag when collecting your meals for transportation back home. Please note that tickets will not be on sale at the door so get yours today!



Birthday Wishes

If you see Anthony "Uncle Tony" Correia this weekend, be sure to wish him a Happy 96th Birthday as he celebrates on February 21! May your day be filled with many blessings and much joy surrounded by family and friends!



Smile for the Day!



A WORD FROM THE LATE POPE FRANCIS

Above all, I urge the members of the Church to take up the Lenten journey with enthusiasm, sustained by almsgiving, fasting and prayer. If, at times, the flame of charity seems to die in our own hearts, know that this is never the case in the heart of God! He constantly gives us a chance to begin loving anew.

The Bishop's Corner – Pope's Message for Lent 2026

Dear Fellow-Catholics,

"I would like to invite you to a very practical and frequently unappreciated form of abstinence: that of refraining from words that offend and hurt our neighbour." Pope Leo XIV made that invitation at the heart of his message for Lent 2026. The Pope sees this liturgical season as an opportunity to place the mystery of God back at the centre of our lives. Every journey of conversion, he said, begins by letting God's word touch our hearts, so that we may renew our commitment to follow Christ in the mystery of his saving passion, death, and resurrection. Christians can cultivate inner openness to listening, as God does, by growing in awareness that the poor challenge our lives and economic systems, as well as the Church.

The Pope then turned to how fasting helps open us to the deep desire for justice, which he said frees us from complacency. Then he pointed to an under-appreciated form of abstinence, which is refraining from hurtful words. He said, *"Let us begin by disarming our language, avoiding harsh words and rash judgement, refraining from slander and speaking ill of those who are not present and cannot defend themselves. Instead, let us strive to measure our words and cultivate kindness and respect in our families, among our friends, at work, on social media, in political debates, in the media and in Christian communities. If we do so, we will let words of hatred give way to words of hope and peace."*

The Pope concluded his 2026 Lenten Message with a call for Christian communities to become places where those who suffer find welcome. *"Let us ask for the strength that comes from the type of fasting that also extends to our use of language, so that hurtful words may diminish and give way to a greater space for the voice of others."*

For the official text of the Pope's message for Lent go to: <https://tinyurl.com/59ja82k6>

Have a restful weekend and a blessed first week of Lent!

Bishop Wes



Portuguese Lyrics for Sunday Masses at 9:00 a.m.

Santo, Santo, Santo (Holy, Holy, Holy)

Santo, Santo, Santo é o Senhor, Deus do Universo.
Cheios estão os céus e a terra,
Da Tua glória, Hossana!
Hossana, Hossana, Hossana nos céus. (2x)

Bendito o que vem em nome do Senhor.
Hossana nas alturas, Hossana!
Hossana, Hossana, Hossana nos céus. (2x)

Mystery of Faith (sung in English during Lent only)

Save us, save us, Saviour of the world, for by your cross and resurrection, you have set us free.

Cordeiro de Deus (Lamb of God)

Cordeiro de Deus, que tirais o pecado do mundo.
Tende piedade de nós!

Cordeiro de Deus, que tirais o pecado do mundo.
Tende piedade de nós!

Cordeiro de Deus, que tirais o pecado do mundo.
Dai-nos a paz, dai-nos a paz, dai-nos a vossa paz!

Next Weekend's Ministry Schedule

28th February & 1st March 2026

2nd Sunday of Lent

	<u>6:00 p.m.</u>	<u>9:00 a.m.</u>	<u>11:00 a.m.</u>
Communion Ministers	M. DaCosta & G. Zanol	M. Suschak-Matvey & L. DeFrias	L. Amaral & L. Arnold
Lector(s)	A. Lutkin	J. Blee & F. Medeiros	K. Garcia
Song Leader	J. Roberts	R. Lopes	J. Cassidy
Mass Server(s)	A. Lutkin	H. Furtado	C. Sta Maria & C. Sta Maria
Hospitality Ministers	D. & S. Mutch	J. Furtado & C. Moss	N. Pedro & A. Tomaz
Gift Bearers	Berlo Family	T. Botelho & Family	Arnold/Pedro Family
Flowers Ministry:	Connie Frias		