



Life Out of Focus

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

I found myself angry the other day, as we all do, I suppose, whenever we put our foot in our mouth, or forget about an important engagement, or scramble whatever it was we had hoped would be picture-perfect. What I had scrambled was a homily. For some reason, the image came out wrong, or the example did not fit, or it just did not come together the way I had hoped. And I was angry with myself to the point that it caught me off guard. It was an unexpected glimpse of what I didn't want to admit: the fact that the way people might perceive me as a preacher had taken on more importance than preaching God's word. Life had gotten out of focus. A perspective had been lost.

It happens to us all in the course of our lifetimes, and more than once. Grades become more important than learning,

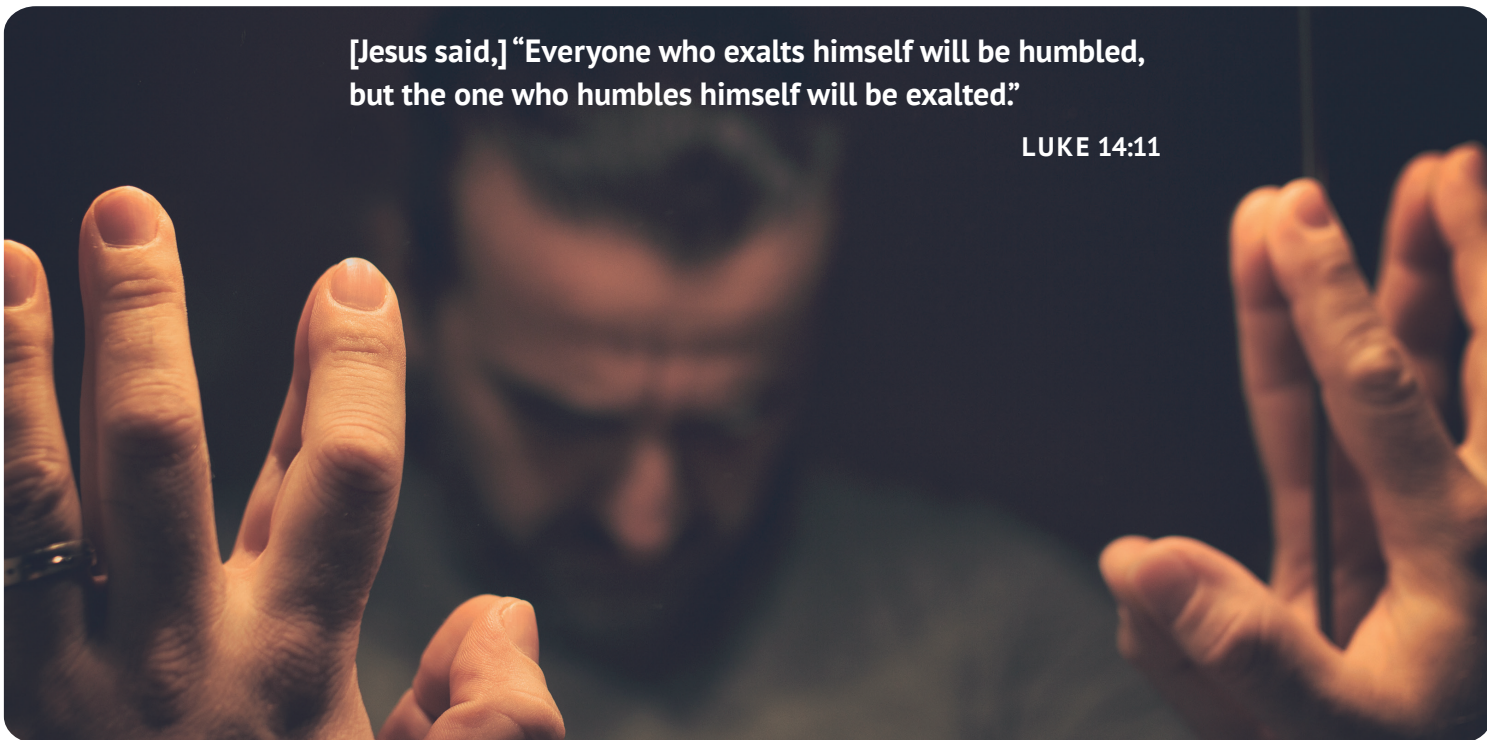
or being right more important than the relationship, or the address of where we live more important than the people living together. It happens between parent and child when a parent places greater significance on the son's or daughter's profession than on that son's or daughter's happiness. Like in the parable of Jesus, where we sit at table takes on greater meaning than the people who gather or the meal that is shared. That is what pride does. It distorts what is real and shifts the focus of life to ourselves. The antidote? A prayerful awareness of who we are and who God is. ●

Reflect

What is more important to me than it should be?

[Jesus said,] "Everyone who exalts himself will be humbled,
but the one who humbles himself will be exalted."

LUKE 14:11



ST. MICHAEL'S PARISH

53 South Road, Paget PG 03 | P.O. Box HM 727, Hamilton HM CX

Pastor: Reverend Joseph F. H. Morley, Vicar General • Cell: 705 0236

Email: stmichaelsbermuda@gmail.com

Weekend Masses: Vigil: 5:00pm, Sunday: 10:15am

Saturday 8:00pm (Neo-Catechumenal Mass).

Baptisms: by appointment 3 weeks in advance

Weddings: by appointment 6 months in advance

www.facebook.com/stmichaelpaget & "LIKE" us | Diocesan Webpage: www.romancatholicbermuda.bm

Parish Administrator:

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Mass Schedule & Intentions

*We welcome our parishioners and visitors who have come to St. Michael's to worship this weekend.
May you be blessed by your presence here today.*

MINISTRIES ...

AUGUST 30/31st - THE TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

5:00PM Lector: Joshua Blee EM: Carmen Olivierie
10:15AM Lector: Jesse Almeida EM: Christine Da Costa
 Collection: Jesse Almeida

SEPTEMBER 6/7th - TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

5:00PM Lector: Karen Marsh EM: Peter Marsh
10:15AM Lector: Cherry Ramdass EM: Joyce Lee
 Collection: Carlos De Frias

MASS INTENTIONS ...

AUGUST 30/31st - THE TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

5:00PM Josephine & Nyal Clinton ++
10:15AM For the Intentions of St. Michael's Parishioner

SEPTEMBER 6/7th - TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

5:00PM The intention of St. Michael's Parishions
10:15AM Deolinda & Victor Pacheco & Son, Vlctor ++
 Daniel & Cherry Ramdass, 20th Anniversary



Stewardship

sharing the gifts we have been given

AUGUST 23/24 - COLLECTION: \$590.00

VOTIVES: \$35.00

POOR BOX (SVDP): \$71.00

Thank you for your generosity.

ELECTRONIC CONTRIBUTIONS CAN BE MADE ONLINE
 to St. Michael's Church's: BNTB Account # 2000 6060 081824 100.

WHEN MAKING YOUR ONLINE TRANSACTION, BE SURE TO INCLUDE YOUR NAME AND "COLLECTION" AS YOUR MEMO ON YOUR BANKING TRANSACTION.

Bishops Corner ...

Dear Fellow-Catholics,

Alagad ni Maria, a Filipino religious order with priests in the Diocese of Orange, California, recently purchased a 1.4 acre property in Anaheim. On this property, they opened the first Filipino Catholic Center in the U.S., named the Poong

Nazareno Filipino Catholic Center. The center takes its name from a Black Nazarene image; Poong in this context is a Tagalog word for God or Master. Devotion to the Poong Nazareno is the second most practiced popular devotion in the Philippines, with a yearly procession attracting millions. The original image in the Philippines was brought from Mexico in 1606.

The Poong Nazareno Catholic Center isn't intended to be another parish. Instead, it provides programs of faith formation and cultural education to Filipinos in Southern California, especially youth, as supplements to the sacramental life in parishes. Still, a key component of these programs are Masses for Filipinos, celebrated in English, Tagalog, and other Filipino dialects.

The Poong Nazareno Center includes a 180-seat chapel, classrooms, a fellowship hall, a music room, offices, and a kitchen. There are also plans to build a rectory for visiting priests, adjacent to the present structure. The programs offered will prioritise the cultural and spiritual needs of the 90,000 Filipino

Catholics in Southern California. Nevertheless, the zeal enlivened by the center will likely inspire many to spread the joy of their culture and faith beyond California's borders.

May your Sunday be restful and your week blessed!

+ *Wes J. ...*
 Bishop Wes



A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

To follow [Jesus]...means "carrying one's cross": shouldering, like him, one's own burdens and those of others, making one's life a gift, not a possession, spending it in imitation of his own generous and merciful love for us. These are decisions that engage the totality of our lives.

HOMILY, ROME, SEPTEMBER 4, 2022



Dear Padre,

Is it sacrilegious to throw away a sacramental?

"Sacramentals do not confer the grace of the Holy Spirit in the way that the sacraments do, but by the Church's prayer, they prepare us to receive and dispose us to cooperate with it" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 1670). Therefore, sacramentals confer grace through the Church's power of prayer and, if blessed, should not be thrown away but burned and/or buried. If the object has not been blessed, it can be discarded; however, it could also be donated to a Catholic ministry (school, prison, hospital, etc.) that would benefit from its distribution. (If a religious object was included in an unsolicited appeal letter from a charitable organization, it is safe to assume that it was not blessed.)

If the object is worn or broken, it should be substantially altered so that it loses its form as a sacramental and then returned to the earthly elements. For example, a worn scapular should be burned and the ashes buried; a damaged statue should be further broken into smaller fragments and buried. A European tradition on the Vigil of the Nativity of Saint John the Baptist (June 23) is to burn old sacramentals in bonfires and bury the ashes. Burning and/or burial respects the sacred nature once held by these items and prevents their adaptation for trivial use. Reverence and discretion are proper for whatever method of disposal. ●



TACIO PHILIP SANSONOVSKI / SHUTTERSTOCK

Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR / DearPadre.org

The Catholic Company presents

GET FED™
Bite-Sized Faith

Prayers to St. Monica for Wayward Children.

Today is the feast of St. Monica!



St. Monica is the patron saint of wives, difficult marriages, widows, mothers, disappointing or wayward children, and victims of adultery and abuse.

Most of what is known about this devout and patient saint is from her much-loved son, St. Augustine of Hippo. In his book *Confessions*, he relays much detail of Monica's life.

Monica was married to a pagan man of violent temper and her son, Augustine, was in the heretical Manichaeism sect along with leading a very immoral life. This caused Monica great anguish and pain.

Through her great patience and constant prayers along with her examples of kindness, Monica was blessed with the conversion to Christianity of both her husband and son.

In today's world of instant gratification, Monica is a powerful example of patience and intercessory prayer. Her many years of prayer and her unflinching trust in God's will were richly rewarded.

Below are prayers to this great saint, asking her assistance in obtaining the grace of conversion for wayward children.

3 PRAYERS TO ST. MONICA

Exemplary Mother of the Great Augustine, you perseveringly pursued your wayward son, not with wild threats but with prayerful cries to heaven. Intercede for all mothers in our day so that they may learn to draw their children to God. Teach them how to remain close to their children, even the prodigal sons and daughters who have sadly gone astray. Amen.

Dear St. Monica, troubled wife and mother,

Many sorrows pierced your heart during your lifetime.
Yet you never despaired or lost faith.

With confidence, persistence
and profound faith,
you prayed daily for the
conversion
of your beloved husband,
Patricius,
and your beloved son, Augustine.
Grant me that same fortitude, patience and trust in the Lord.

Intercede for me, dear St. Monica, for *(mention your petition here)*
and grant me the grace to accept his will in all things,
through Jesus Christ, our Lord,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God forever and ever. Amen.

Blessed Monica, mother of St. Augustine,
we give thanks to our Father in Heaven
Who looked with mercy upon your tears
over your wayward son.
His conversion and heroic sanctification
were the fruit of your prayers.

Dear St. Monica,
we now ask you to pray with us
for all those sons and daughters
that have wandered away from God,
and to add your prayers to those of all mothers
who are worried over their children.
Pray also for us that,
following your example, we may,
in the company of our children,
one day enjoy the eternal vision of our Father in Heaven. Amen

Pastor's Point . . .

Will return in September, after Fr. Joe's pilgrimage to Italy and Germany with a group from the USA who were in need of a priest to accompany them. Fr. Joe has returned and is vacationing at home, hopefully enjoying his summer break.



What is Happening in Our Diocese?

St. MICHAEL'S

- EMMAUS Bible Study will restart on Tuesday, September 9th at 3pm in the Pastor's Office
- Neocatechumenal Way - "The Word" is on Wednesdays at 8:00pm
The celebration of the Neocatechumenal Way Eucharist - each Saturday at 8:00pm.

St. THERESA'S

- Daily Mass is celebrated at 7:30am.
There will be no **12:10 Mass** celebrated during the summer months, they will resume in September.
Due to Bishop Wes' trip to Rome, the Portuguese Mass and Adoration on Saturdays at St. Theresa's will resume on Saturday, 13th of September at 9:00am

St. ANTHONY'S

- Daily Mass is celebrated Tuesday - Friday at 8:30am

St. PATRICK'S

- Daily Mass is celebrated at 8:00am
- The Rosary is recited every, WEDNESDAY at 10:00am
- The Portuguese Mass on Wednesdays at St. Patrick's will resume on Wednesday, 17th of September at 7:00pm.
- Adoration at St. Patrick's will resume in September.
- A mass in Tagalog takes place on, THE SECOND FRIDAY of the month at 7:00pm.

St. JOSEPH'S

- A Filipino mass is celebrated every, THIRD SATURDAY OF THE MONTH at 11:00am

STELLA MARIS

- A Filipino mass is celebrated on the LAST Wednesday OF THE MONTH at 7:00pm

ST. THERESA'S GIFT SHOP Summer hours: **Open Saturdays only**, 30th August and September 9th, 10:00am-2:00pm

NEW AIR-CONDITIONING IN THE CHURCH

YES!!! We are happy to report, thanks to your continued support of the Monthly Maintenance Fund we now have two new 36,000 BTU Air Conditioners in our Church. Next, we will address the Hall AC's and then work through the windows and other projects. Thank you everyone who has generously contributed to the maintenance fund, every little bit has helped. We ask you to continue making contributions, as every little bit helps, as we have still much to do in, and around our house of worship.

CatholicVote

Dear Parishioners

The first week of classes should be among the most joyful moments of the school year.

On Wednesday morning, it was instead a moment of unspeakable trauma for the Annunciation Catholic Church in Minneapolis and a moment of heartbreak for the rest of America.

Gunfire pierced the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. Two children were killed. Seventeen more were wounded. Fourteen of them children. The entire Catholic family across America and the world is shaken. We weep. We grieve. And we turn to Christ, who alone can bring peace where evil has left devastation.

CatholicVote stands in deep solidarity with Archbishop Bernard Hebda, the priests, the families of this community, and the faithful of the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis. Their suffering is our suffering. Their wounds are the wounds of the Body of Christ.

From Rome, Pope Leo XIV sent a message of profound sorrow and fatherly closeness:

"His Holiness Pope Leo XIV was profoundly saddened to learn of the loss of life and injuries following the shooting that took place at Annunciation Church in Minneapolis, and he sends his heartfelt condolences and the assurance of spiritual closeness to all those affected by this terrible tragedy, especially the families now grieving the loss of a child."

We join the Holy Father in commending the souls of these little ones to the embrace of Almighty God. We pray fervently for the wounded, for their parents, for first responders, and for the medical teams fighting to heal bodies and hearts.


But we cannot stop at grief. This tragedy must stir us. Violence has no place in churches.

At this time of anguish, we invite every person of faith to rally in prayer, storming heaven for the children, their families, and the Catholic community of Minneapolis.

May the Apostolic Blessing of the Holy Father bring "peace, fortitude, and consolation in the Lord Jesus" to Minneapolis and to all who mourn.

And may the light of Christ overcome the darkness that struck at innocence this week.

Go forward bravely,


Kelsey Reinhardt
President, CatholicVote

CatholicVote Civic Action In, USA

CHANCERY OFFICE - CHANGE OF EMAIL ADDRESS

The Chancery Office will be migrating to a new Email address. The new address is orcc.bermuda@gmail.com