



Life Is a Game of Golf

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

When the British colonized India, they brought with them the game of golf. A worse hazard than sand traps turned out to be monkeys. Wherever the ball landed, a monkey would run onto the fairway, pick it up, and drop it somewhere else—from the fairway into the rough, out of a sand trap onto the green, from the green back onto the fairway. The Brits tried everything to keep the monkeys off the course—fences, sirens, booming noises. Nothing worked. In the end, they ended up changing the rule book: play the ball where the monkey drops it.

The scriptures today tell of people who lived with an openness to wherever it was that God would take them. They played the ball wherever the monkey dropped it. It is the story of the Hebrews enslaved in Egypt when they were about to be led out into a God-knew-where desert. It is the story of aged Abraham and Sarah, called to travel to an alien land and then into parenthood in their old age. Faith is not trusting that God will always take us to where we want to be; it is trusting that wherever it is that God takes us will ultimately bring us into fuller life. So, watch and be ready to recognize the coming of God. It may be in times of darkness for you (as when the master comes late at night, says Luke's Gospel) or when you find yourself in an "alien land," a place in life you've never been before. ●

Reflect

What surprising places has God led me?

[Jesus said to his disciples,]
"For where your treasure is,
there also will your heart be."

LUKE 12:34



ST. MICHAEL'S PARISH

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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

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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 9/10th - THE NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

5:00PM Lector: Laura De Frias EM: Fred Anderson
10:15AM Lector: Willie Forbes EM: Madelena Almeida
Collection: Pat Robinson

AUGUST 16/17th - THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

5:00PM Lector: Joshua Blee EM: Carmen Olivierie
10:15AM Lector: Pat Robinson EM: Willie Forbe
Collection: Karen Marsh

MASS INTENTIONS ...

AUGUST 9/10th - THE NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

5:00PM Agostinho & Olivia Sardinha Furtado & Sons & Daughters
10:15AM Deolinda & Manuel Pacheco & Son, Victor

AUGUST 16/17th - THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

5:00PM Adelina & Jose DeFrias ++
Mary & Benjamin Botelho ++
Antonio de Frias + (89th B'day)
10:15AM For the Intentions of St. Michael's Parishioner



Stewardship

sharing the gifts we have been given

JULY 19/20th COLLECTION: \$599.00

Second Collection for Maintenance: \$264.00

Thank you for your generosity.

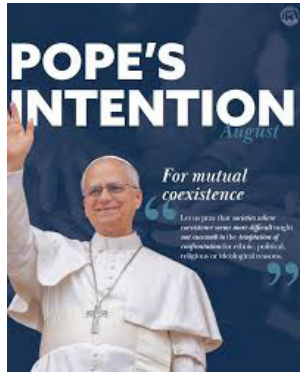
ELECTRONIC CONTRIBUTIONS CAN BE MADE ONLINE
to St. Michael's Church's: BNTB Account # 2000 6060 081824 100.

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,

In the Pope's Video for August, Pope Leo XIV requests our prayers for societies to avoid internal conflicts due to ethnic, political, religious or ideological reasons. Announcing his prayer intention, "For mutual coexistence", the Pope encourages us to "seek paths of dialogue" and "respond to conflict with gestures of fraternity". He asks the faithful to pray for societies where coexistence seems more difficult, that they might not succumb to the temptation of confrontation.



In the video produced this month in collaboration with Jesuit Communications Foundation (JesCom), Pope Leo XIV recites a prayer composed specifically for this August intention by his Worldwide Prayer Network. The images accompanying his words create a montage of the divisions present in the world: wars, confrontation and violence that cause destruction, force people to flee their own land and contribute to existential loneliness.

There is, however, a final message of hope entrusted to young people, who have just celebrated the Jubilee for Youth that coincided with the launch of this edition of the Pope's Video. In fact, hope for a better future depends on young people knowing how to build fraternal communities, are welcoming of one another and their differences, and who open their hearts and place themselves at the service of others.

For the official video: <https://tinyurl.com/m937wn29>

Have a restful weekend and a blessed week!

Bishop Wes

+ Wes Juenahce



A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

And at the end of our life, [the Lord] will call us to account for the goods he has entrusted to us.... We have received so much: life, faith, family, relationships, work, but also the places where we live, our city, creation....[Are we guardians of all that has been given to us?]

ANGELUS, ROME, AUGUST 7, 2022



Pastor's Point . . .

Will return in September, after Fr. Joe's pilgrimage to both Italy (4th time) and Germany (1st time) with a group from the USA who were in need of a priest to accompany them. This will be his first time doing this ministry with a group from the Neo-Catechumenial and vacation. We wish them safe travels.



Dear Padre,

Where did the Virgin Mary spend her last days on earth? Ephesus or Jerusalem?

Shortly before Jesus died on the cross, he entrusted his widowed mother to the protective care of John the Evangelist. (See John 19:26–27) Accordingly, when John lived his final years in Ephesus, it is believed that Mary also spent her last days nearby in a modest stone dwelling, before being assumed body and soul into heaven “to be preserved from the corruption of the tomb” (Pope Pius XII, *Munificentissimus Deus*, 1950). Moreover, it is likely in Ephesus (present day Turkey) where the tradition of Mary's Assumption started.

Pope Benedict XIV (1740–1758) declared Ephesus was “where the Blessed Mother...proceeded from this life into heaven.” More recent popes, such as Paul VI in 1967 and John Paul II in 1979, prayed in this venerable home, known as Mother Mary's House.

However, close to Gethsemane in Jerusalem is the Basilica of the Tomb of Mary from the fifth century. It is built around an ancient crypt where Mary's body was believed to have been laid before it was assumed into heaven.

While both Ephesus and Jerusalem claim to be the location where the Virgin Mary spent her last years on earth, experts contend the latter is the older tradition and the more credible place. Even if Mary temporarily left Jerusalem, it is probable she returned to the land of her birth and resided there at the end of her earthly life. ●

Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR / DearPadre.org



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Why do white petals fall from the ceiling of St. Mary Major every year?

A beautiful legend surrounds the founding of one of the most important churches in the world.

St. Mary Major, or, in Italian, Santa Maria Maggiore, is one of the four major, or papal, basilicas. These are all found in Rome and include St. Peter's, St. John Lateran, and St. Paul Outside the Walls.

St. Mary Major is sometimes called St. Mary of the Snows or Our Lady of the Snows. Its alternate titles trace their origin to the incredible legend of its founding in the 4th century, which tells of the Roman patrician John and his wife who were without heirs. They prayed to Our Lady to show them how they might use their riches for her honor. Our Lady then designated the place of the Basilica through a snowfall on the crest of the Esquiline Hill—a miraculous occurrence, since it was summer!



Both John and Pope Liberius received visions informing them of the event and, upon finding the snowfall, the Holy Father marked out the place of the future church.

Hence another of its titles: the Liberian Basilica.

The current structure was dedicated by Sixtus III on the 5th of August, 434. Built during the time directly after the Council of Ephesus, which confirmed Our Lady's title as Theotokos, the God-bearer, the Basilica stands as a monument to the Church's ancient and undying devotion to the Mother of God. Every year on the feast of its dedication, a “snow-fall” of white petals is released from the ceiling of the Basilica during Mass to commemorate its founding.

In addition to its magnificent 5th century mosaics, the Basilica also houses a far greater treasure. A relic of Our Lord's crib is kept under the high altar: several slats of wood in which He rested the night of His Nativity. This crypt is also the final resting place of the great St. Jerome, who translated the Bible into Latin and spent his last days in Bethlehem.

St. Mary Major also contains the miraculous Marian icon *Salus Populi Romani* which, according to legend, was painted from life by St. Luke, using wood from the table of the Holy Family. Its title translates to “Health (or Salvation) of the Roman People,” and it has been venerated by popes and pilgrims for centuries.

Does this astounding miracle sound difficult to believe? In a way, that is the point of miracles—to both challenge and aid our belief. Read more about the miraculous, and what science has to say about it, in the powerful book *Science and the Miraculous*.

This fascinating read explores how the Church investigates supernatural claims—and what happens when science and faith meet. An essential read for all Catholics!

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

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.

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
- There will be no evening PORTUGUESE Mass during the Summer months, they will resume in September
- 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**, 16th/23rd/30th August . **September 9th.** TUESDAYS and SATURDAYS 10:00am-2:00pm



A MESSAGE FROM BISHOP WES:

AS WE ARE OBSERVING ON OUR ISLAND A SERIOUS INCREASE OF COVID INFECTIONS, AS WELL AS A NUMBER OF OTHER RESPIRATORY DISEASES, I STRONGLY RECOMMEND THAT ALL THOSE WHO WILL BE DISTRIBUTING HOLY COMMUNION IN THE COMING WEEKENDS SANITISE THEIR HANDS AND WEAR FACE MASKS.

IT IS BETTER TO PREVENT THAN TO CURE!

FR. JOE'S VACATION NOTICE

Fr. Joe is on vacation for the month of AUGUST. Visiting priests will be taking his place and during part of this time he will be on a pilgrimage to both Italy (4th time) and Germany (1st time) with a group from the USA who were in need of a priest to accompany them. This will be his first time doing this ministry with a group from the Neo-Catechumenal Way as their spiritual guide. He returns on Tues., Aug. 12. Upon his return, for the rest of the month, he will however be taking a break from church activities.

WELCOME FR. JED SUMAMPONG

Please welcome Fr. Jed Sumampong, a Filipino Passionist who has been ministering in the USA for many years. Fr. Jed will be filling in at St. Michael's while Fr. Joe is on his vacation.

Fr. Jed will celebrate the 41st Anniversary of his ordination to the Priesthood next Friday, August 15th, The Feast of the Assumption.

Fr. Jed, may the Blessed Mother continue to bless you and your ministry. *Thank you Fr. Jed.*



"The meaning of life is to find your gift. The purpose of life is to give it away."
-Pablo Picasso



*There is a place of blessing
where LAUGHTER comes easy
and hard times are SHARED;
where KINDNESS is valued,
and LOVE never spared;
a sweet place of COMFORT
that's caring and true;
A place to THANK GOD for -
My time spent with
YOU*