



## Coming of Age, Coming of Faith

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

**I**t is said we never become a believer before age thirty-five. I don't think there is anything magical about that age. Some in their seventies still have not yet come to be people of faith, and there are those who, at a very young age, seem to have entrusted their lives to God. What the age of thirty-five does say, however, is that most people need to have lived a while and experienced a few ups and downs to recognize there is a power in their lives greater than themselves.

This week's Gospel story of the man born blind encapsulates a lifelong journey of coming to see who Jesus is, compressed into a few days. When asked who cured him of blindness, the man first says the man Jesus did it. Brought to testify before the Pharisees, he says that Jesus must be a prophet. Confronted by the

Pharisees a second time, he testifies that Jesus must be of God. Finally, when he sees Jesus again, he calls him Lord, a name for God. The story is a parable of sorts about how we come to have faith, to see with new and different eyes.

Faith involves trusting, sometimes trusting an unseen Power who feels absent at times; about surrendering control over our lives to God, as we come to see in an entirely new way. It can take a lifetime to begin seeing in such a way. ●

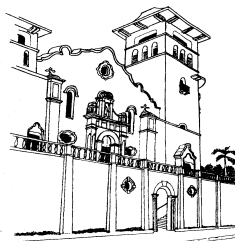
### Reflect

***Where am I on the journey of faith?  
How open are my eyes?***

[The man who had been blind] replied, "...One thing I do know is that I was blind and now I see."

JOHN 9:25





## St. Theresa's Cathedral

P.O. Box HM 1191, Hamilton, HM EX, Bermuda

Tel. 441-292-0607 – Fax 441-292-2477

Office Hours: 10:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Diocesan Website: [www.romancatholicbermuda.bm](http://www.romancatholicbermuda.bm)

Email: [sttheresas@northrock.bm](mailto:sttheresas@northrock.bm)



### Bishop Wes Spiewak, CR, Diocese of Hamilton in Bermuda

Chancery Office & Holy Calvary Cemetery Office: 232-4414 – [orcc@northrock.bm](mailto:orcc@northrock.bm)

IN RESIDENCE: Rev. Dandy Traje, CP., Rector – Tel: 292-0607 Ext. 3

St. Vincent de Paul Society Parish Rep: Joanne Judd & Tom Sinclair

Parish Catechetical Leader: (CCD) Beverly-Dawn Knights - [benik@northrock.bm](mailto:benik@northrock.bm)

St. Theresa's Gift Shop: 292-0416 – Shop Hours: Tuesdays & Saturdays from 10am – 2pm

**Confessions:** By appointment only

**Baptisms:** By appointment – 5 weeks in advance

**Weddings:** By appointment – 1 year in advance. Pre-Marriage Course is required for all weddings here or elsewhere

**Facebook:** Our Catholic Diocese is on Facebook. Visit our page & "LIKE" us and join our on-line community.

	DATES	TIMES	INTENTIONS FOR
Sat.	Mar. 18	6:30 pm	St. Theresa's Parish Family
Sun.	Mar. 19 (Portuguese)	8:30 am	+
		10:00 am	+
		11:30 am	+
		6:00 pm	+
Mon.	Mar. 20	7:30 am 12:10 pm	+
Tues.	Mar. 21	7:30 am 12:10 pm	
Wed.	Mar. 22	7:30 am 12:10 pm	Intentions of Arlene Ciasico
Thurs.	Mar. 23	7:30 am 12:10 pm	+
Fri.	Mar. 24	7:30 am 12:10 pm	In Honour of Our Lady of Medjugorje
Sat.	Mar. 25	6:30 pm	+
Sun.	Mar. 26 (Portuguese)	8:30 am	+
		10:00 am	+
		11:30 am	+
		6:00 pm	+

#### NEXT WEEK'S MINISTRY SCHEDULE: 25<sup>th</sup>/26<sup>th</sup> March, 2023

	6:30PM	8:30AM	11:30AM	6:00PM
<b>Proclaimer:</b>	Anna Machado	L. Scarth	A. Cannonier	B. Mandocdoc
<b>Communion</b>	J. Judd	B.D. Knights	N/A	N/A
<b>Ministers:</b>	T. Fletcher	G. Lovecchio		
<b>Song Leaders:</b>	K. JUDD	E. Maranzana	M. Gravito	

#### SUNDAY & SPECIAL OFFERINGS WITH ONLINE BANKING & PARISH ENVELOPES

Please make direct payments to St. Theresa's Cathedral at Bank of Butterfield A/C #20006060-482732100 and include "Sunday Offering" in the memo field. Also, the parish encourages the use of Sunday Offering Envelopes to promote the concept of stewardship of treasure. Thank you for your continued support in remembering the needs of the Cathedral.

**Saturday Adoration in the Chapel of St. Theresa's Cathedral: 9am – Holy Mass in Portuguese followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Adoration - 10:00 am – Benediction.**

#### MEMORIAL FLOWERS FOR EASTER!



Forms are located at the doors of the Cathedral and on the communion rail for anyone who wishes to make an offering for **Easter Flowers "In Memory"** of their deceased loved ones.

The Easter Flower Memorials will be listed in a special pamphlet and the names will be remembered at all the Masses on Easter Sunday. Please submit your forms as soon as possible to meet early print deadlines!

**Deadline is NEXT Sunday,  
26<sup>th</sup> March, 2023.**

**Your anticipated support will be  
greatly appreciated!**

#### BAPTISM

We welcome with joy, **Maddox Christian Earl Lightbourne**, the son of Devonne Lightbourne and Alison Soares, who will receive the Sacrament of Baptism this Saturday, March 18<sup>th</sup>. May his parents, Godparents, family and friends continue to support his life-long journey in the Catholic faith.



### WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

The blind man was willing to let Jesus minister to him and willingly did all Jesus asked of him. The Pharisees were more resistant to His message, spending their time and energy to disprove the miracle. Which am I more like, the man born blind or the Pharisees?

### Steward's Sharing of Treasure

	<u>Date</u>	<u>Actual</u>
<b>Collection:</b>	11 <sup>th</sup> /12 <sup>th</sup> March, 2023 ..	\$ 3,481.00
	To Date: Week 11 ..	\$ 50,639.00
<b><i>Thank you for your generosity!</i></b>		

### ST. THERESA'S CHAPEL



19<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> March, 2023

**Donation Given for Two 7-Day Candles & Two Roses**  
***"Intentions of the Brackstone Family"***

### INTRODUCTION:

Sometimes doing God's will can seem strange, foolish, or even wrong to others. Jesse assumed his youngest son couldn't be the next king, so David was left to care for the sheep when Samuel came. The Pharisees thought Jesus sinned by healing on the sabbath. Are we preoccupied with what others will think, or are we focusing on doing God's will?

### ST. THERESA'S LENTEN SCHEDULE:

The holy mass will be celebrated at 12:10pm, Monday through Friday, during the Lenten Season until **March 31<sup>st</sup>**.

### STATIONS OF THE CROSS:

Will be held on the Fridays of Lent at 11:40am before the mid-day mass, at 6:00pm and on Sundays at 4:00pm in Portuguese. *Come Walk with Jesus!* All are encouraged to attend these devotions as part of your Lenten practice.



### DIOCESAN PENITENTIAL SERVICES -March 28<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup>

Parishioners from across the Island are invited to attend a Diocesan Penitential Service at **St. Anthony's Church, Warwick, on Tuesday, March 28, from 4pm - 6 pm. A second Penitential Service will take place at St. Theresa's Cathedral on Thursday, March 30 from 6pm – 8pm.** Make this devotional time a part of your Lenten experience.



### PRE-MARRIAGE PREPARATION FOR 2023:

All couples planning to marry in a Catholic church either in Bermuda or overseas within the next eighteen months, are required to make an appointment to meet with our Rector,

Fr. Dandy Traje. If you are a parishioner of St. Theresa's Cathedral, please call Fr. Dandy at 292-0607 Ext. 3 to arrange an appointment to discuss your wedding plans.

### BINGO LUNCH:

The Portuguese Pastoral Council invites you to a Bingo Lunch next **Sunday, 26<sup>th</sup> March, at 12:30pm in the MSA Auditorium.** It will be a fundraiser to help the Portuguese Pastoral Council to pay their share of the monthly maintenance for the Portuguese priest, which actually happens to be Bishop Wes. You do not have to be Portuguese to attend, and tickets are \$40 for adults and \$20 for children. Tickets are available from any member of the Portuguese Pastoral Council.



### BISHOP'S CORNER



Dear Fellow-Catholics,

Pope Francis marked the 10th anniversary of his election on Monday, 13<sup>th</sup> of March by celebrating Mass with cardinals in the chapel of Casa Santa Marta where he lives. Vatican Media also released a podcast in which he reflects on the past ten years.

"Time flies" he said "It's in a hurry. When you want to grasp today, it is already yesterday. To live like this is something new. These ten years have been like this; living in tension." Of the thousands of audiences, the hundreds of visits to dioceses and parishes, the forty apostolic journeys to every corner of the globe, the Pope has clear memories.

He also said that, "the most beautiful moment" was the meeting in St Peter's Square with the elderly - the audience with grandparents from all over the world on 28<sup>th</sup> of September 2014. "Old people are wisdom and they help me so much. I too am old, am I not? There have also been some very negative times. They are all related to the horror of war." Pope Francis mentioned his visits to the war cemeteries in Redipuglia and Anzio, the commemoration of the landing of the allies in Normandy, the vigil to stop the war in Syria, and now, "the barbarity" that has been going on for over a year in Ukraine. "Behind the wars, there is the arms industry, this is diabolical. It makes me suffer to see young men dying; be they Russian or Ukrainian I don't care, they are not coming back. It is hard." Pope Francis has no doubts about what to ask of the world as a gift for this important anniversary; "Peace, we need peace".

The Pope's "three dreams" for the Church, for the world and for those who govern the world, for humanity are: "Fraternity, weeping, smiling."

Have a joyful "pink" Sunday and a blessed week!

*Bishop Wes*



# Dear Padre,

***Why should I bother to be more religious? I'm a good person. Isn't that enough to get me into heaven?***

When asked for advice about how people should decide on a vocation, St. Ignatius Loyola, the founder of the Jesuits, said they should do an imagination exercise. "Imagine that you are on your deathbed," he said. "From that point of view what would you wish you had done in your life?" That is still good advice.

Here's another exercise: Imagine you have a grandmother who is completely generous and caring toward you. Throughout your childhood, she was always there for you. But as a teen you belittled her and, in effect, told her that all she had offered is worthless to you. In a saner moment, won't you feel terrible about how you treated her?

Our life with God is much the same. God has given us absolutely everything, from our existence to every breath we take. God has also given us a way to know him through his Son, Jesus (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 73). And one way we know Jesus is through the Church and the celebration of the sacraments (CCC 1085). To refuse these gifts, to say, "I am already a good person. I don't need these gifts from God" is a bit presumptuous, don't you think?

To be "religious" is not just an outward show of piety. It's the way we have been given to learn God's language: the language of forgiveness, of faith, hope, and love. ●



CNS PHOTO/GREGORY A. SHEMITZ

**Bishop Bruce Lewandowski, CSSR / DearPadre.org**

## Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to [DearPadre.org](http://DearPadre.org) to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
March 20 <i>St. Joseph</i> 2 Sm 7:4–5a, 12–14a, 16 Rom 4:13, 16–18, 22 / Mt 1:16, 18–21, 24a	March 21 <i>Lenten Weekday</i> Ez 47:1–9, 12 Jn 5:1–16	March 22 <i>Lenten Weekday</i> Is 49:8–15 Jn 5:17–30	March 23 <i>Lenten Weekday</i> Ex 32:7–14 Jn 5:31–47	March 24 <i>Lenten Weekday</i> Wis 2:1a, 12–22 Jn 7:1–2, 10, 25–30	March 25 <i>Annunciation of the Lord</i> Is 7:10–14; 8:10 Heb 10:4–10 Lk 1:26–38	March 26 <i>Fifth Sunday of Lent</i> Ez 37:12–14 Rom 8:8–11 Jn 11:1–45 or Jn 11:3–7, 17, 20–27, 33b–45



## A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

***We complain about things that are wrong in society, in the Church, in the world, without first questioning ourselves....Every fruitful, positive change must begin from ourselves. If we are blind, we cannot claim to be guides and teachers for others: indeed, a blind person cannot lead another blind person....***

**ANGELUS, FEBRUARY 27, 2022**