

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 6:00 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 1, 2, 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 (Wesley) Spiewak, CR DD
www.romancatholicbermuda.bm

PARISH PASTORAL TEAM

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

Mrs. Nancy da Silva
Parish Council Chair
538-8424

Mr. David Mutch
Parish Finance Committee Chair
293-5506

Mrs. Nelia Pimentel
Parish Catechetical Leader
236-9481

Rev. Dr. Matthew Arnold
Parish Deacon
236-3171

Mr. Bruce Fox
Music Director & Organist
236-8196

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

Mrs. Nicole Renaud
Parish Office Administrator
236-9866 Ext 0#

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

1st December 2024
1st Sunday of Advent
Year C



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

The readings today reflect the overall mood of the Advent season as a time “in the gap.” We recognize this as a time when we know that things are not what they once were, nor yet what they will be. And we wait, somewhat fearfully and somewhat hopefully, for the coming of Jesus. Are we truly an expectant people? If so, what are we waiting for? As we look to the future, what gives us hope?

Mass Intentions

Sat.	30th	6:00 p.m.	Parishioners of St. Patrick's
Sun.	1st	9:00 a.m.	✠ Deceased Members of the Tatem & Leseur Families ✠ Mary DeSilva ✠ Deodato Rego ✠ Patricia Correia 11:00 a.m. ✠ Maria Faria
Mon.	2nd	8:00 a.m.	✠ Manuel Simas
Tue.	3rd	8:00 a.m.	✠ Manuel Simas
Wed.	4th	8:00 a.m.	✠ Virginia Rombeiro
Thu.	5th	8:00 a.m.	Parishioners of St. Patrick's
Fri.	6th	8:00 a.m.	✠ Christopher Aaron Madeiros
Sat.	7th	6:00 p.m.	✠ Mary & Manuel DeMello ✠ Eddy DeMello ✠ John & Connie Correia ✠ William DeMello
Sun.	8th	9:00 a.m.	✠ Manuel & Maria José Pacheco ✠ Leonor Pacheco ✠ José da Conceição Melo ✠ Daniel Calouro ✠ Joseph, Theresa & Fatima R. Madeiros ✠ Laureano & Jeffrey Castro 11:00 a.m. ✠ Manuel Couto Medeiros ✠ Maria Faria



Weekly Stewardship Thought

What will you do differently this Advent season to grow in friendship and love with Jesus? How will you inspire others to do the same? You can start by sharing your God story with others, and then inviting and accompanying them on their faith journey.

Stewardship of Treasure

Offerings Last Weekend:	\$4,179.00
Offerings to Date:	\$180,072.75
Target Offerings (Week 47):	\$164,500.00
Poor Box Last Weekend:	\$61.00

Online Giving

Tis the season of giving! We appreciate your donations in support of our Church. For those who prefer to give online, payments can be made to St. Patrick's at **Butterfield Bank Account #20006060102074100**. Please remember to include a memo such as “Christmas Offering” so it can be allocated appropriately. Thank you!

Pastoral Reflection

“Advent: A Time of Waiting and Preparation”

Today, we begin Advent – a time of waiting, and the beginning of a new ecclesiastical and liturgical year. Advent is from the Latin word “*adventus*” which means *coming*. We are preparing for the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ, our Savior and Redeemer. There are two parts to this season of Advent. From now until December 16, we prepare for the Second Coming of the Lord Jesus at the end of time. From December 17 to December 24, we focus on preparing for the celebration of Christmas, the First Coming of Jesus when He was born of Mary in Bethlehem. It is fitting for us as Christians to prepare and celebrate both of the comings of Jesus. Here are three points of reflection we need this Advent:

First, Anticipation and Being Vigilant: Just as we anticipate the coming of the birth of Jesus during Advent, we are called to be vigilant and attentive to the signs of God's presence in our lives. As Jesus urges us in the Gospel of Luke to “*be on guard*”, we should stay vigilant and attentive for the coming of the Lord, at both the celebration of Christmas and in our daily lives. It is also a period of waiting and reflecting on the significance of this event in our Christian life and faith.

Second, Stay Focused on Spiritual Readiness: In the Gospel, Jesus advises us to be ready and pray for the grace of strength to stand before the coming of the Son of Man. During Advent, we are encouraged to focus more on our spiritual growth and prepare our hearts to receive Christ Jesus. Let us not be consumed by the distractions and weighed down by the worries of this world, but instead, prioritize our relationship with God and one another. May we seek always His grace, guidance and protection in all that we do as we await his coming.

Third, Preparation and Prayer: Advent invites us to prepare our hearts and minds for the arrival of Christ Jesus by engaging in deep prayer and reflection. Truly, it is a time for us as individuals to reflect on our own lives and make room in our hearts for the message of love, peace, joy and mercy that Christmas represents. It is really a season to slow down, seek forgiveness, and cultivate a sense of gratitude and acts of kindness.

Thus, as we await the fulfillment of God's promise, let us hold on to the hope and trust in HIM, knowing we take comfort in that God's redemption is near. Despite the challenges and uncertainties that we may face, may we find solace in the great promise of salvation through Jesus Christ. For now, let us wait for HIS coming and prepare our whole being to welcome HIM with peace and joy in our hearts.

Blessings,

Fr. Vivien L. Nuera, CP
Parish Priest

Portuguese Mass

Bishop Wes will be traveling to Canada next week to preach at the Advent retreat and administer the Sacrament of Confirmation in Kitchener, Ontario. Therefore, there will be NO Portuguese Mass on Wednesday, December 4 at St. Patrick's, nor Saturday, December 7 at St. Theresa's.



Angel Tree

Gifts for the Prison Fellowship Angel Tree program are **due by this week Thursday, December 5**. Please deliver them to the Rectory during office hours, or leave them at the entrance to the Church, and remember they need to be wrapped with the angel tag attached to the outside. We have a few angels left on the bulletin board if anyone else would still like to take part. If you took a tag already and are unable to return the gift before the deadline, please advise the Rectory office ASAP.



Reverse Advent Calendar Food Drive

Please help to support our local needy by participating in a "Reverse Advent Calendar Food Drive" starting this weekend. Simply add one item per day to your collection box, and by Christmas you will have a fully stocked box to donate to The Eliza DoLittle Society's food bank! Collection and delivery of all boxes will be organized by the St. Vincent de Paul Society. Please see the flyer at the entrance to the Church for the list of requested items and drop-off details, and contact Elaine Kelly for any questions at ekelly@ibl.bm.

Volunteers for Christmas Decorating & Masses

Thank you to all of our parishioners who helped to make the Christmas Masses joyful celebrations last year! We would be most grateful for your time and talents again this year! Volunteers are needed for all ministries, as well as to decorate the Church in advance. If you would like to help, please write your name on the sign-up sheets at the entrance to the Church. Thank you for your stewardship!



Christmas Flower Donations

Envelopes are available in each pew and at the entrance to the Church for Christmas flower donations in memory of your loved ones whose names will be included in the Christmas bulletin. The final date for the Rectory office to receive flower donations and names will be **Monday, December 16**.

No Advent Reconciliation

Please be advised that there will be no Diocesan Advent Reconciliation Services this year. You are welcome to attend confession on Saturdays before the 6:00 p.m. Mass, or contact Fr. Vivien to schedule an appointment.



Welcome, Nina!

We are pleased to welcome **Nina Natalia Lee**, daughter of Andrew & Brittany Lee, in the Sacrament of Baptism this weekend. We pray she will grow in faith with the love and support of her family and this Catholic community.

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:



Kelsie Simas
Genevieve DeSouza
Paula Madeiros
Joe Pacheco
Charlie Ray
Manuel Gonçalves
Dorothy Gonsalves
Karen Fleisher

Dina Simas
Mark Every
Pat Rego
Denise Somerville
Carlos Faria
Laurida Souza Bulhões
Patricia Gibbons
Debbie Sampson

St. Theresa's Gift Shop

The Cathedral Gift Shop has a variety of items for Advent including calendars, candles and wreaths. They also have Christmas nativity sets and cards. Their opening hours are **10:00am – 2:00 p.m. on Tuesdays & Saturdays**, and they will be closed for Christmas as of December 21, reopening on February 4, 2025.

St. Joseph's Christmas BINGO

The annual Christmas BINGO hosted by St. Joseph's will take place this coming **Friday, December 6 at 6:30 p.m.** in their Parish Centre. Tickets include sandwiches, hors d'oeuvres, dessert and two BINGO cards for \$20 per adult and \$10 per child, and can be purchased by calling Liz Card at 234-0872, or emailing lizatstjosephs@gmail.com.



St. Patrick's Christmas Market

We are excited for our first Christmas Market which will be held on **Saturday, December 14 in the Church Hall from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**, and there are a number of ways you can become involved to make it a great success! Volunteer sign-up sheets are located on the counters at the entrance to the Church. You will also find a letter there from the Parish Council with further details, and a flyer to share with your family, friends and colleagues. The flyer is also available electronically on the St. Patrick's Facebook page. We greatly appreciate any assistance you can offer with this event, and look forward to seeing you all there!

December Celebrations

This weekend, Fr. Vivien would like to recognize all of our parishioners who celebrate milestones during the month of December. If you have a birthday, anniversary or any other special occasion this month, you are invited to come forward after Mass to receive a blessing. Two noteworthy upcoming celebrations this week are **Deacon Matthew's 71st Birthday** on Tuesday, December 3, and **Fr. Vivien's 12th Anniversary of Ordination** on Wednesday, December 4! Congrats! 🎉



Smile for the Day!

Q: What is Santa's favorite candy?

A: Jolly Ranchers



The Bishop's Corner – Blessed Sacrament Sisters

Dear Fellow-Catholics,

The Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament are a religious community of blind women. They cannot see, but they are still actively involved in the glory of God and the good of humanity. Sister Mary Veronica always wanted to become a nun, but had difficulty finding an order that would accept her because of her visual impairment. "This congregation of blind sisters is unique and one of a kind in Kenya," says Sister Mary Veronica. "Our founder, Fr. Luigi Orione, was a person full of mercy and asked us to be mothers and sisters of the poor. We offer our lack of sight to God for our brothers and sisters who do not know the Truth, so that they may experience God, the light of the world."

Although the blind Sacramental Sisters are a contemplative congregation, they are also very active. They teach catechism in their parish, visit people in the neighbouring village, and offer their help online. "In our charism as the Sacramental Sisters", Sister Mary states, "we adore Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament and talk to Jesus about humanity. We meet with people and talk to them about God's love. We bring souls to Jesus and Jesus to souls."

The sisters alternate between attending the Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and other community activities, such as farming, poultry farming, making rosaries, and knitting. These are activities that help them earn a living. Sister Mary Veronica comments that, "We come to the congregation to give and receive; we don't come to be helped. We try to be autonomous in everything we do. We need opportunities, not pity." The sisters admit, however, that the challenges make them complete. Sister Mary Rachael also comments that, "We face our challenges with joy; being blind does not take away our talents and abilities."

Have a restful weekend and a blessed Advent!

Bishop Wes



Responsorial Psalm – 1st Sunday of Advent



Santo, Santo, Santo (Holy, Holy, Holy) – 9:00 a.m. Mass only

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)

Cordeiro de Deus (Lamb of God) – 9:00 a.m. Mass only

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

7th & 8th December 2024

2nd Sunday of Advent

	6:00 p.m.	9:00 a.m.	11:00 a.m.
Communion Min(s)			
Lector(s)	K. Wicks	Noah da Silva & L. Frias	N. Pedro
Song Leader	J. Mathias	R. Lopes	J. Cassidy
Mass Server(s)	A. Lutkin	VOLUNTEER	C. Sta Maria & C. Sta Maria
Hospitality Min(s)	R. & M. Simas	T. Botelho & T. Medeiros	G. Michel & C. Faria
Gift Bearers	D. & K. Raymond	C. Frias & Family	K. Garcia & A. Tomaz
Flowers Ministry:	N/A		