

Our Parish COMMUNITY

January 16, 2022

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)

Is 62:1-5

1 Cor 12:4-11

Jn 2:1-11



Everyone serves good wine first, and then when people have drunk freely, an inferior one; but you have kept the good wine until now.

JOHN 2:10

What's New?

Few parties are more enjoyable than a wedding celebration. While the elegance of the flowers and the extravagance of the food and beverages captivate our senses, the real excitement is the love and promise of newness. New relationships are forged, a new family is created, and there's the possibility of new life. No wonder the relationship between God and the people is often described in marriage imagery, as we see in today's first reading.

This Old Testament passage is post-exilic. The alienation from God is over; the people and God are now reconciled. Much of the language suggests relationship: no longer *forsaken* or *desolate*, but now a *delight* and *espoused* (see Isaiah 62:4). Despite having been betrayed, God's mercy has transformed the nation back to its virginal state: "As a young man marries a virgin, your Builder shall marry you" (62:5). This newness is something to celebrate.

The messianic character of the Cana story has long been recognized. All the newness I mentioned earlier is there, but newness now pertains to the entire community of believers and not simply to the marriage couple, who have no idea what is happening. An important detail of this story is the nature of the wine. What was originally water for ceremonial cleansing was transformed into wine, the quality of which was outstanding. This imagery tells us that there is a messianic banquet awaiting us, one that celebrates our intimate union with God. The joy we experience then will be intoxicating.

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

FOR *Reflection*

- ✦ How might you describe your relationship with God?
- ✦ Do you feel alienated from God? Remember, God's mercy can change that.



ST. MICHAEL'S PARISH

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

Baptisms: by appointment 3 weeks in advance

Weddings: by appointment 6 months in advance

Vocations: Fr. Toby Collins www.vocationculture.ca



www.facebook.com/stmichaelpaget & "LIKE" us

Diocesan Webpage: www.romancatholicbermuda.bm

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.

MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS...

MINISTRIES:

JANUARY 15/16th - THE SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

5:00PM Lector: Alberta Cannonier EM: Karen Marsh
10:00AM Lector: Jesse Almeida EM: Maura Almeida
Collection: The DeFrias

JANUARY 22/23rd - THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

5:00PM Lector: Laura DeFrias EM: Alberta Cannonier
10:00AM Lector: Pat Robinson EM: Joe Mendonca
Collection: The Almeidas

INTENTIONS:

JANUARY 15/16th - THE SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

5:00PM Veronica & Herman Tucker ++
10:00AM Deolinda & Antonio Carvalho ++
Maria Rugeiro & Vito Lovecchio ++

JANUARY 22/23rd - THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

5:00PM For the Intentions of St. Michael's Parishioners
10:00AM Mark Luger +
Christine DaCosta (Living)

You are welcome to attend Morning Masses at
St. Theresa's - 7:30^{AM} Mon.—Fri. | St Anthony's - 8:00^{AM} Tues.—Fri.

ST. THERESA'S & ST. ANTHONY'S
Masses are live streamed via the Diocesan Website
and their Facebook Page



STEWARDSHIP

JANUARY 8/9TH
COLLECTION: \$853.00

DECEMBER CHRISTMAS GIFTS TOTAL: \$3650

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

ELECTRONIC CONTRIBUTIONS FOR YOUR WEEKLY COLLECTION

are welcomed. Consider making a weekly, monthly or quarterly transaction.

When making your online transaction, be sure to include your name and "collection" as your memo on your banking transaction."

ST. MICHAEL'S uses your regular collection contributions to support the day-to-day operations of our Parish.

Thank you to those parishioners who continue to answer our call for stewardship to St. Michael's.

Online donations can be made to St. Michael's Church's

BNTB Account # 2000 6060 081824 100.

WORD FROM *Pope Francis*



We go to Mass because we are sinners and we want to receive God's pardon, to participate in the redemption of Jesus, in his forgiveness. The confession which we make at the beginning is not pro forma. It is a real act of repentance! I am a sinner and I confess it—this is how the Mass begins!

GENERAL AUDIENCE, FEBRUARY 12, 2014

The Bishop's Corner



Dear Fellow-Catholics,

There are currently 183 countries that maintain diplomatic relations with the Holy See, as well as the European Union and the Sovereign Military Order of Malta. There are 87 Embassy Chancelleries based in Rome, including those of the European Union and the Sovereign Military Order of Malta. The offices of the League of Arab States, the International Organization for Migration and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees are also based in Rome.

In his "state of the world" address to diplomats, the Members of the Diplomatic Corps accredited to the Holy See, gathered at the Vatican for their yearly audience last Sunday. Pope Francis highlighted critical issues of human and geopolitical concern around the world, and repeatedly stressed that we are one human family, inhabiting a common home. In order to be able to tackle the urgent problems of our time, we need to recover a sense of the profound unity of all reality.

The Pope highlighted the ongoing pandemic, and its direct and collateral effects on humanity, saying, "The health crisis still calls for a significant effort on the part of everyone." He lamented how the fight against the virus has been undermined in many cases by strong ideological divides that have "severed the bond of human reason with the objective reality of things." Francis also said that, "A comprehensive commitment on the part of the international community is necessary so that the entire world population can have equal access to essential medical care and vaccines."

The Pope expressed concern for the fact that too often, important resolutions, declarations and decisions are made without a genuine process of negotiation in which all countries have a say. He said, "This has led to an imbalance that has generated disaffection towards international agencies and weakened the multilateral system as a whole, with the result that it becomes less and less effective in confronting global challenges. Once humanity's fundamental values are adopted through dialogue and consensus, we realize that they rise above consensus: Here I wish to mention in particular the right to life, from conception to its natural end, and the right to religious freedom."

Pope Francis concluded: "Greater cooperation is needed among all actors on the local, national, regional and global levels." He expressed his hope that the coming years will be a time of

opportunity to consolidate the fraternal ties of our one human family in the awareness that no one is saved alone.

Have a restful weekend and a productive week!

+ *Wes Jurek*
Bishop Wes



SUNDAY READINGS – SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

COLLECT

Almighty ever-living God, who govern all things, both in heaven and on earth, mercifully hear the pleading of your people and bestow your peace on our times. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

FIRST READING – Isaiah 62:1-5

For Zion’s sake I will not be silent, for Jerusalem’s sake I will not be quiet, until her vindication shines forth like the dawn and her victory like a burning torch.

Nations shall behold your vindication, and all the kings your glory; you shall be called by a new name pronounced by the mouth of the Lord. You shall be a glorious crown in the hand of the Lord, a royal diadem held by your God. No more shall people call you “Forsaken,” or your land “Desolate,” but you shall be called “My Delight,” and your land “Espoused.” For the Lord delights in you and makes your land his spouse. As a young man marries a virgin, your Builder shall marry you; and as a bridegroom rejoices in his bride so shall your God rejoice in you.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM – Psalm 96:1-3, 7-10

R. Proclaim his marvelous deeds to all the nations.

Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all you lands. Sing to the Lord; bless his name. **(R)**

Announce his salvation, day after day. Tell his glory among the nations; among all peoples, his wondrous deeds. **(R)**

Give to the Lord, you families of nations, give to the Lord glory and praise; give to the Lord the glory due his name! **(R)**

Worship the Lord in holy attire. Tremble before him, all the earth; say among the nations: The Lord is king. He governs the peoples with equity. **(R)**

SECOND READING – 1 Corinthians 12:4-11

Brothers and sisters: There are different kinds of spiritual gifts but the same Spirit; there are different forms of service but the same Lord; there are different workings but the same God who produces all of them in everyone. To each individual the manifestation of the Spirit is given for some benefit. To one is given through the Spirit the expression of wisdom; to another, the expression of knowledge according to the same Spirit; to another, faith by the same Spirit; to another, gifts of healing by the one Spirit; to another, mighty deeds; to another, prophecy; to another, discernment of spirits; to another, varieties of tongues; to another, interpretation of tongues. But one and the same Spirit produces all of these, distributing them individually to each person as he wishes.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia.

God has called us through the Gospel to possess the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. Cf. 2 Thes 2:14

Alleluia, alleluia.

GOSPEL – John 2:1-11

There was a wedding at Cana in Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples were also invited to the wedding. When the wine ran short, the mother of Jesus said to him, “They have no wine.” And Jesus said to her, “Woman, how does your concern affect me? My hour has not yet come.” His mother said to the servers, “Do whatever he tells you.”

Now there were six stone water jars there for Jewish ceremonial washings, each holding twenty to thirty gallons. Jesus told them, “Fill the jars with water.” So they filled them to the brim. Then he told them, “Draw some out now and take it to the headwaiter.” So they took it. And when the headwaiter tasted the water that had become wine, without knowing where it came from—although the servers who had drawn the water knew—, the headwaiter called the bridegroom and said to him, “Everyone serves good wine first, and then when people have drunk freely, an inferior one; but you have kept the good wine until now.” Jesus did this as the beginning of his signs at Cana in Galilee and so revealed his glory, and his disciples began to believe in him.

Dear Padre,

I work hard all week and look forward to sleeping in on Sundays. Why should I get out of bed and go to Mass?

I imagine that your parish provides suitable Mass times, even for late sleepers. But there are overpowering reasons for attending Mass. First, I’ll discuss how the Mass is our present-day connection with the Last Supper, the Passover meal Jesus celebrated with his apostles. As observant Jews, they commemorated their ancestors’ escape from slavery in Egypt. Jesus used his final Passover meal to teach us how to escape a bondage crueler than the Jews experienced in Egypt—the enslavement of sin.

The next day, Good Friday, Jesus would die on the cross. Think of it: Jesus, the second person of the Trinity, became human to teach us about God’s love for us. The people’s reaction to this goodness was to kill Jesus in an inhuman way.

In response, God would have been justified in destroying the world, as he did in reaction to the people’s depravities during Noah’s time. Instead, God gave us further evidence of his patience and forgiveness. There is nothing our Father would not forgive, including the sin of killing Jesus. At the Last Supper, Jesus said: “This is my blood..., which will be shed on behalf of many for the forgiveness of sins” (Matthew 26:28).

Jesus’ death, which we remember during the Mass, liberates us from sin. It also liberates us from death itself. Because Jesus in his mortal body was willing to die, he shows us the plan God the Father has for each of us—a resurrection like Jesus’. The Eucharist is our thanksgiving for these gifts from God.



Fr. Gary Lauenstein, CSSR / Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org

LOOK WHAT'S HAPPENING IN OUR PARISH

RCIA AND BIBLE STUDY WILL NOT BE STARTING THIS MONTH ,DUE TO THE UPTAKE IN COVID TRANSMISSION. WE WILL PROVIDE UPDATES WHEN IT IS DEEMED SAFE

Special Collection for the Holy See – January 29/30

As a bond of unity and charity with churches throughout the world, Canon Law 1271 annually requires bishops in dioceses worldwide to help financially support the apostolic and administrative works of the Holy See through a special collection. In Bermuda, this collection will take place on the weekend of January 29 and 30. Special envelopes will be provided for your donation or make a contribution online and be sure to include "Holy See" in the memo field. *Thank you for your stewardship.*



It is not too late to make a financial contribution/or financial gift, to St Michael's Parish, your Parish for the upcoming New Year!

St Michael's needs the help of all of our parishioners, to maintain our day-to-day financial obligations. That would include expenses related to, but not limited to: Utility bills, cleaning chemicals, church cleaning, communion hosts, communion wines, missal orders and administration services to name but a few.

Contributions can be made in a variety of ways, either directly to the priest, directly into the collection or deposited directly into our BNTB account # 2000 6060 081824 100. You may then email Stmichaelsbermuda@gmail.com with the amount of your donation.

Pastor Joseph Morley is extremely grateful for any and all donations for the day - to - day running of our Parish.

Thanks very much for your ongoing support of our Parish community.

AROUND THE DIOCESE

ST. THERESA'S GIFT SHOP: is closed and will reopen at 10:00am on Tuesday, February 1st, 2022. *Thank you for your support.*

12:10PM MASS at the Cathedral. This mass is celebrated by Bishop Wes on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. Join Us!

LECTIO DIVINA: Mondays at 7pm via Zoom. If you want to join, contact Franz Wohlmut at Fgwohlmut@logic.bm. Franz will send you the link to join zoom.

Dear Friends,

On Sunday, January 23rd, the Catholic Church will celebrate the *Word of God Sunday*, an event that was established by Pope Francis two years ago. Following our Bible Marathon last year, we will be having a continuation of Bible reading again this year. This will take place on Saturday, January 22nd at St. Theresa's Cathedral, starting at 10:30am and ending at 4:00pm. We will continue with the New Testament books, beginning with the Gospel of John.

Each reader will be asked to read for fifteen minutes. The "Marathon" will be live streamed. **Here is the link to sign up:** <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D44AFAE2AA7FFC07-thebible>

Be well, cautious and safe! Bishop Wes



[Jesus' mother said to the servers,]
"Do whatever he tells you."

JOHN 2:5

BROKEN SILENCE

"For Pete's sake will you kids be quiet?" This question, no doubt, has passed the lips of numerous parents through the years. It's tempting to speculate as to who, exactly, was instructing Isaiah to be quiet. Neighbors? Fellow prophets? Family? No matter. Isaiah says firmly that for the sake of Jerusalem and Zion he will not be silent. Conversely, in the familiar passage in today's Gospel reading, Mary chides her son to break his silence, to save the wedding soon to run out of wine. Jesus responds with a prophetic action, one that signals the miraculous, bountiful joy flowing at the heavenly wedding feast. Prophetic words, prophetic deeds— both flow from a broken silence.

PROBLEM CHILDREN

The Corinthians seem to have been Paul's problem children. His two letters to them are much longer than any of his other letters—two, three, or four times as long as some. It seems that if the early Christians at Corinth could misunderstand or do something wrong, they would. Fortunately for us, the two letters to the Corinthians, though they contain much didactic or instructional material, also provide some of Paul's most

well-crafted and grace-filled writing. This is certainly true today, with Paul's litany of gifts that the Spirit bestows on the faithful, even to this day. Paul seeks to calm the squabbling that seems to have been going on, as the Corinthians tried to claim one gift or another as more important. All gifts come from the same Spirit, Paul reminds them; and the various gifts are given for the benefit of the community. When jealousy arises in our midst today, we can still turn to Paul's insights so we might stop being prideful, problem children.

WONDROUS CHILD

In the Gospel scene at Cana, we see Mary turning to her own child, Jesus. Perhaps she recalled the power of the Spirit that had flowed in her womb at his Incarnation, leading her to discern that surely he must have Spirit-given gifts that could help with the impending crisis at the wedding. As at her Annunciation, she may not have been completely certain, at first, exactly how this would come about, but in faith at Cana she turned to Jesus. In faith, her words, "do whatever he tells you," echoed her reply to Gabriel: "Let it be done to me as you say." In faith, she knows whatever words the Word will speak are bound to bring another inbreaking of the Spirit, another manifestation of God's reign. And she is right. Her wondrous child, John the Evangelist tells us, performed his first wonder there, and signaled the presence of the divine in the everyday.