



Open Door

MIGUEL DULICK

It is “Good Shepherd Sunday,” and the gospel quotes Jesus: “I am the gate for the sheep.” It seems the oddest of Jesus’ “I am” identities, until you realize that the shepherd himself was often the literal gate of the sheep’s pen, as he would lay his own body across the entrance to keep the sheep secure and safe from any predators. Actually, the predators that worry Jesus the most are other shepherds—“strangers” who came before him, all of whom Jesus flatly denounces as “thieves and robbers.”

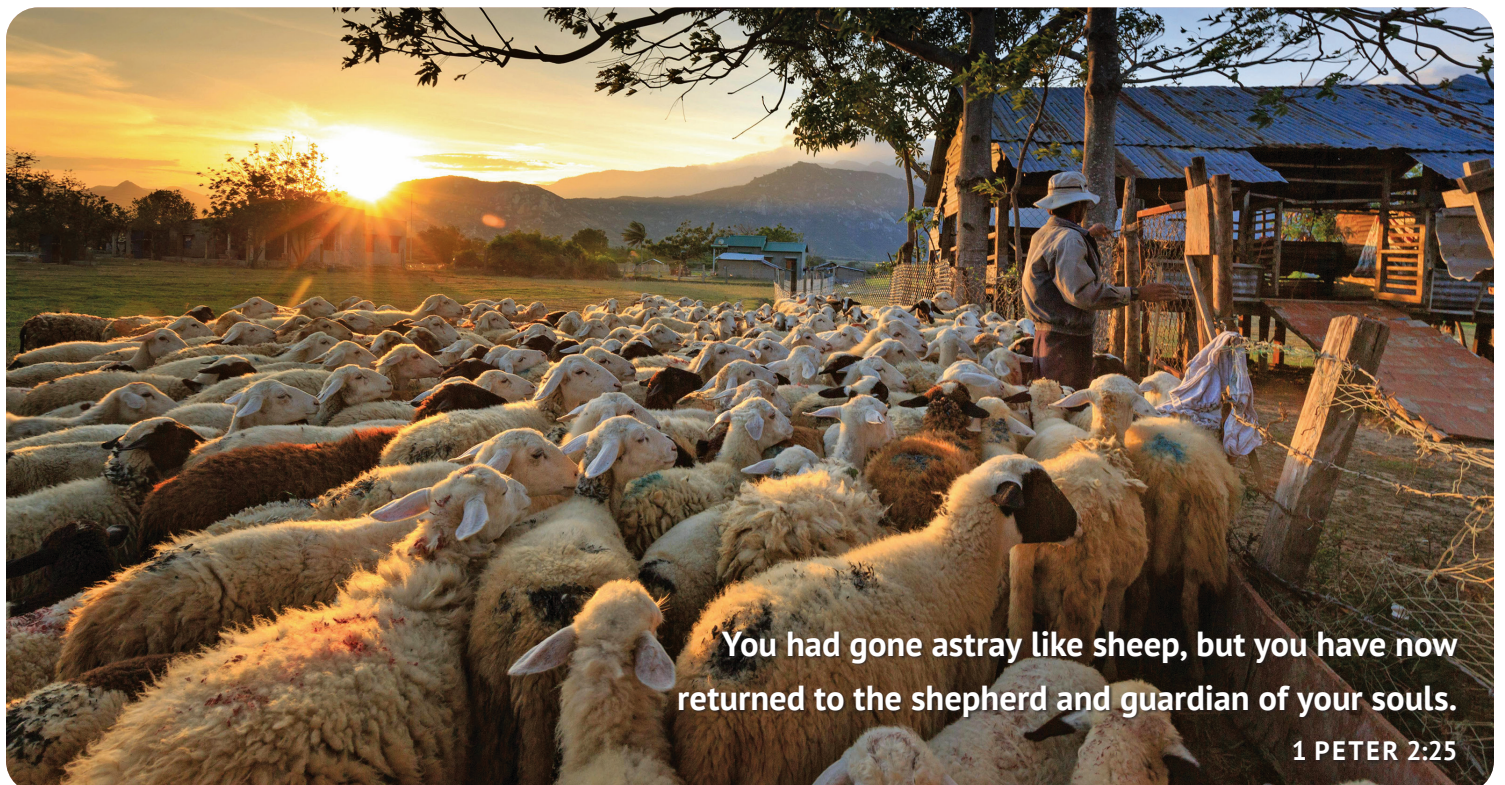
Does that scare us today? Are we vulnerable to attacks, even from those supposedly in charge of our care? When Jesus opens the gate, we go in and out through him, through Jesus, to find pasture. We follow

him because we recognize “his voice.” In the synodal Church that Pope Francis called us to, and to which we continue to be called by Pope Leo XIV, every voice is welcome and needed so that the Holy Spirit will fill the whole Church with truth.

Here in Honduras, where I live, folks with little education can offer profound witness to the love of God. It comes from their own intimacy with Jesus, recognizing his voice in their daily life. They are often the poor victims of widespread corruption, like “a thief [who] comes only to steal and slaughter and destroy.” Here in Honduras, we take refuge in Jesus, that we “might have life and have it more abundantly” (John 10:10). ●

Reflect

How can we recognize voices that speak the truth? How do we recognize Jesus’ voice?



You had gone astray like sheep, but you have now returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

1 PETER 2:25



St. Joseph's Church

was consecrated on the 29th of January 1928.
It is the oldest standing Roman Catholic Church on the island.

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PASTOR: FR. JACOB SWAPAN GOMES

(441) 292-0607 Ext. 5 or (441) 704-1874 (cell)



Mass Schedule

Sunday morning at 9:00 a.m.

Baptism	By appointment: one month in advance
Weddings	By date: one year in advance (approx.)
Sacrament of Reconciliation	Sunday morning: 8:30 a.m.
Filipino Mass – Saturday	16 th May 2026: 11:00 a.m.
Kids & Youth Ministry	3 rd May 2026
Youth/Family Mass	31 st May 2026
Pastoral & Finance Council	18 th May – 6:30 p.m.
Coffee Social	31 st May 2026
Second Collection	10 th May 2026

DIOCESE OF HAMILTON IN BERMUDA

Most Rev. Bishop, Wiesław (Wes) Śpiewak

www.romancatholicbermuda.bm

Parish Team Leaders

Mrs. Elizabeth Card – Pastoral Council Chairperson	Mrs. Annette Barclay St. Vincent de Paul Society Representative
Walette Cross Stewardship Representative	Natalia Walker & Justin Tavares Religious Education - Kids & Youth Ministry
Mrs. Mary Harvey - Parish Administrator & Finance Committee Team Leader	Mrs. Jane Farge - Music Ministry



Today's Hymns

Entrance: Like A Shepherd #622
Offertory: I Have Decided to Follow Jesus (kids)
Communion: Into My Heart (kids)
Recessional: Go Make a Difference #730

Leader of Song: Aidan Stones



We, The St. Joseph's Parish family, take this opportunity to thank you for coming to worship with us today. May our loving Lord always be with you, and with your families.



Sunday – 3rd May 2026

Proclaimer of God's Word
Sacristan
Eucharistic Minister
Collection Counters
Altar Server
Music

Stefano Ausenda
Stephen Card
Elizabeth Card
Mary & Simon Stones
Liam/Seamus Stones
Jane Farge

Prayers: Please keep our sick and shut-ins in your prayers, especially Ilene Bremar, Andrew Card, Eleanor Correia and Mary Maybury.

ATTENDANCE & COLLECTION

MASS	Attendees	Collection
Saturday, 18 th April 11:00 a.m. Filipino Mass	19	95.00
Sunday, 19 th April 2026	42	476.00
(Flowers)		100.00
(Holy See)		50.00
TOTAL:	61	\$721.00

Thank you for your kindness and generosity, it is appreciated. Banking information: St. Joseph's Parish – Account Number: 20006060757062100 –

MASS INTENTION: †Roland and †Dolores DeJesus

The 4:00 p.m. Saturday Mass will resume on the 23rd May and end on 31st October 2026. However, there will be no Mass on Saturday, 13th June, the Feast of St. Anthony.

BIRTHDAYS:

Livio Ferigo 25th April
Alessia Vianello 25th April
Saturnina (Jackie) DeMello 27th April

Today, during the Mass, our First Holy Communion candidate, Maria Pombeiro, will observe her Belonging Celebration.



Please join us in the Parish Centre after the Mass for our COFFEE SOCIAL. All are welcome.

2026 Confirmed Events - St. Josephs

Sunday, 14th June Fun Afternoon of Music 2:30 p.m.
Sunday, 21st June Classical Music Concert 5:00 p.m.
Sunday, 28th June Classical Music Concert 5:00 p.m.
Featuring:

Steve Crawford (Guitar)
Jane Farge (Classical Contralto Opera Singer)
Johanna Pino Gonzales (Viola & Violin)
Andrea Hodson Patton (Piano)

Tickets: Adults \$30 – Seniors/Students/Children (5-18) \$15
Available from Sunday, 3rd May 2026. Contact: Liz Card at 234-0872/WhatsApp 335-2077, or Jane Farge at 747-4060

BISHOP's CORNER

Dear Fellow-Catholics,

Greetings from Rome, precisely 350 ft. from St. Peter's Square!

I am here to attend the Annual Plenary Meeting of our Bishop's Conference and also for so called ad limina visit.

An ad limina visit, is the required visit of Catholic residential diocesan bishops and certain prelates with territorial jurisdiction (such as territorial abbots) to the thresholds of the (tombs of the) Apostles Peter and Paul, and to meet the Pope to report on the state of their dioceses or prelatures. It is designed to foster unity, allow bishops to report on their dioceses, and receive counsel from the Pope and Roman Curia officials.

It is a formal trip usually made together by all bishops from a single region (an episcopal conference) to discuss with the Pope issues specific to their regions. It is separate from other trips a bishop might make to the Vatican, such as to attend a synod.

Bishops visit the four major basilicas (St. Peter's, St. Paul Outside the Walls, St. John Lateran, and St. Mary Major). They also meet with various departments of the Roman Curia to discuss challenges and opportunities. The ad limina visit currently happens every eight years.

Before the visit, each bishop submits a detailed report on the spiritual, pastoral, and administrative health of their diocese.

Be assured of my prayers for our Diocese and I dare to ask your prayers for me and the bishops of our Episcopal Conference.

Have a serene weekend and a blessed last week of April!

Bishop Wes

Bishop Wes and Fr. Dandy are planning to have a "Summer Lunch & Movie Thursdays" in St. Theresa's Hall.

The event will take place on Thursdays in July and August, starting with the 2nd of July and ending on the 27th of August. This event will include lunch (soup + sandwiches/bread + ice-cream + coffee/tea) at 12:00 p.m., with the movie starting at 12:30 p.m. We are looking for volunteers to assist with organisation of the lunch. If you want to commit for the entire program time, or just for a part of it, please send an email to sttheresas@northrock.bm or orcc.bermuda@gmail.com

Why do we still celebrate Easter after Easter Sunday?

Easter has come and gone — at least for most of the world. Stores have ditched their eggs, bunnies, and pastel party gear for summer swag. But for Catholics, the Easter party is still in full swing!

We celebrate Easter for 50 days. Here's why you shouldn't cut the celebration short.

1. Christ was on earth for weeks after His resurrection.

Jesus didn't rise from the dead and immediately return to heaven. He spent 40 days on earth in His glorified body, revealing Himself to His apostles and many other followers. This time is an extension of the events of Easter Sunday. He ascended into heaven after 40 days, but His work on earth wasn't complete. He had promised to send the Holy Spirit to His apostles, which He accomplished on Pentecost, 10 days after His ascension. Pentecost marks the end of the Easter season.

2. Easter is the most important time of the liturgical year.

It's an even bigger deal than Christmas, although you wouldn't know that from the holiday aisles in stores.

Christ destroyed sin and death and reopened heaven to us through His passion, death, and resurrection. Christmas is great, but Christ's incarnation and birth in Bethlehem happened because He wanted to suffer, die and rise for our sakes.

If there were no resurrection, death would still have the last word. The earliest Christians considered the resurrection to be the core of the Good News. As St. Paul said, "If Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain" (1 Cor 15:14).

3. The eighth day.

The Book of Genesis portrays the universe being created in seven days, the number often representing completion in the Bible.

Christ's resurrection took place on a Sunday, which became known as the "eighth day." That's because the resurrection represents a new creation. Heaven is now open to us, and we're guaranteed to be reunited with our glorified bodies at the end of the world.

The 50th day of Easter is like the eighth day because it follows the 49th day — seven times seven. These numbers may not mean much to people today, but they're a powerful symbol in our Christian tradition.

We still have several days of Easter before us. Catholics, keep celebrating!

Source: Everything Catholic: By Jared Silvey April 2024

Dear Padre,

Should Christians avoid practicing qi gong or tai chi? Or even meditation in which you empty your mind? Thank you.

This is one of those questions that has been debated for a long time. Social media offers many so-called experts with vastly different opinions. It can be very confusing, particularly if you are looking for a black-and-white answer, a yes or a no.

The pope who provides us with the most helpful direction to answer this question is Pope Benedict XVI. He did not forbid Eastern spiritual practices entirely but warned against their integration into Christian life without proper discernment. His perspective was rooted in a theological understanding that Christian spirituality is a unique path focused on a relationship with Christ. He emphasized that our Catholic spiritual tradition is distinct from the goals and methods of non-Christian traditions. He believed the practice of such non-Christian traditions, without preparation and without awareness of the challenge they present, could lead to spiritual error if not approached with caution and discernment.

So, the answer is nuanced. If you are using the practice as a spiritual practice, you should proceed with the utmost caution. If, on the other hand, you are using these practices for the more common physical or psychological—not spiritual—reasons, then it is permissible. ●

Fr. Thomas M. Santa, CSsR / DearPadre.org



VLADA KARPOVICH / PEXELS

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
April 27	April 28	April 29	April 30	May 1	May 2	May 3
<i>Easter Weekday</i>	<i>Easter Weekday</i>	<i>St. Catherine of Siena, Virgin and Doctor of the Church</i>	<i>Easter Weekday</i>	<i>Easter Weekday</i>	<i>St. Athanasius, Bishop and Doctor of the Church</i>	<i>Fifth Sunday of Easter</i>
Acts 11:1–18 Jn 10:11–18	Acts 11:19–26 Jn 10:22–30	Acts 12:24–13:5a Jn 12:44–50	Acts 13:13–25 Jn 13:16–20	Acts 13:26–33 Jn 14:1–6	Acts 13:44–52 Jn 14:7–14	Acts 6:1–7 1 Pt 2:4–9 Jn 14:1–12



MARCO IACOBUCCI EPP / SHUTTERSTOCK

A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

Our faith is authentic when it embraces our whole life, when it becomes a criterion for our decisions, when it makes us women and men committed to doing what is right and who take risks out of love, even as Jesus did.... Jesus is the true measure of our faith; he is the gate through which we must pass in order to be saved.

ANGELUS, ROME, AUGUST 24, 2025