



Like the Rings of a Tree

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

For some, going to confession can bring a sense of relief—as if the slate has now been wiped clean; as if we have gotten a do-over with life or the past has been left behind as though it never happened. Our past, however, is always with us—the good and the bad, the joys and the sadness, the grace and the sin. There are no do-overs. We carry with us the marks of our lives simply because every experience, every kindness and cruelty, every moment of generosity and selfishness, all have made us into who are. We are much like a tree that adds a ring to its trunk each year. The ring always bears the marks of that year, whether it has been a year of rain or drought, whether insects have attacked, or whether Mother Nature has been kind. The tree always remembers and carries with it forever the rings of what life has been.

Our lives are the same. The story of the Pharisee and the tax collector tells this tale. Like the Pharisee, we have much good in our lives. We too have prayed and have been generous. We have been kind and honest and cared for the poor. We have tried to be faithful. The Pharisee's downfall was that he forgot about his sinfulness; he forgot he needed God's mercy. The tax collector, on the other hand, remembered his failings. Both were in need of God's love. Only the tax collector seemed to realize it. ●

Reflect

***How has my life been a mixture
of sin and grace?***

[Jesus said,] “Everyone who
exalts himself will be humbled,
and the one who humbles himself
will be exalted.”

LUKE 18:14





St. Anthony's Church

26 Middle Road -Warwick WK03, Bermuda
Phone: (Office Direct Line) 441-238-1784

Parish Email: stanthonybermuda@gmail.com

Father Jacob Swapan Gomes-Pastor

Telephone Number – 292-0607 Ext. 5

Cell Number -- 704-1874

Email: frjsg@gmail.com

Reconciliation: By appointment

Baptisms: By Appointment – One month in advance

Weddings: By Appointment –A year in advance

Organist: Jane Farge

St. Anthony's Club (CCD): Fridays 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm

Coordinator: Anna Daniel 441-236-2438

Email: stanthonycdd@yahoo.com

St. Vincent de Paul Rep: Pat Rodrigues

St. Vincent de Paul No. 525-1191

Mass Schedule at St. Anthony's

Oct 25	6:15 pm	Ernest Marshall+
Oct 26	11:30 am	Parishioners of St. Anthony
Oct 28	8:30 am	
Oct 29	8:30 am	
Oct 30	8:30 am	
Oct 31	8:30 am	
Nov 1	6:15 pm	Manuel & Ana Reis++
Nov 2	11:30 am	Herminio Soares Furtado+

Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are needed to serve as lectors, Eucharistic ministers, ushers, collection counters, etc. If you can assist, kindly let a member of the Parish Council know or Pat Rodrigues at 524-1026.

Bulletin for October 18 / October 19, 2025

Weekly Collections at St. Anthony's

Oct 11/Oct 12 \$ 2,315.00

Oct 18/Oct 19 \$ 1,447.00

Online payments can be made directly into the Bank account of St. Anthony's – Butterfield Bank –
BD \$ Current A/c – 20006060061567100 and
US \$ Current A/c - 20006840061567100.

Please make sure to indicate what the donation is for in the memo field when making the payment online – i.e., General collection; Maintenance; Mission Sunday, etc. Multiple payments can be made for those times when you are away or on vacation. Please note that we are charged \$20 for US checks drawn on a US Bank. Kindly do not place Canadian or British currency or any old Bermuda currency in the collection baskets.

Maintenance Collection –next weekend

Counting Schedule:

This week: Annette and Denis

Next week: Annette and Pat

Bishop's Corner

Dear Fellow-Catholics,

The conversation that is moving so many this week: Pope Leo XIV answering a 21-year-old Roman medical student who asked, "What does the future hold for us?" belongs to a very deliberate pastoral experiment. The reply appears in *Piazza San Pietro*, the monthly magazine of St. Peter's Basilica, a project launched in late 2024 under Pope Francis, with a standing feature where the pope answers readers' letters. Under Leo XIV, the practice continues, giving the faithful a simple way to be heard.

Veronica, who dreams of becoming a doctor, wrote about wars, injustice, and whether peace is even possible. Leo's answer was candid and fatherly: Yes, times are hard, but do not surrender hope. He echoed St. Augustine, "We are the times" and urged her to serve "the weakest and most unfortunate" placing her hope in Jesus who stirs great desires and strengthens us to do good.

The tone direct, close, and practical is exactly what the magazine set out to cultivate. When *Piazza San Pietro* was announced, Vatican officials highlighted its role as a bridge

between the Basilica and everyday readers, with a monthly space for the pope's mail.

There's also something beautifully ordinary about the medium itself. A letter is not some text message. A letter deliberately slows us down. It makes room for communication beyond information honesty, gratitude, sorrow, and it reminds all that their questions matter not as headlines or "content," but as names and stories. That's why Veronica's note ends with a personal request from the Pope: Keep him updated on her studies and "inner journey". The mailbox is open; the conversation continues.

May your weekend be restful and your week be blessed!
Bishop Wes

St. Anthony's Christmas Fair & Car Boot Sale

Please help! The fair is only a few weeks away!
Saturday, November 15th 🌲 🌲 🌲 **9am-4pm**

* Do you have any prizes for RAFFLES, BINGO or items for SILENT AUCTION ?

* Can you volunteer an hour or two to help at a stall on the fair day ?

* Can you bake for the baked goods table ?

* Call **Pat 5241026** regarding the Car Boot Sale ...\$20 if you have your own table \$25 if you need to rent a church table .

* The White Elephant is now accepting items you no longer need or use but they must be in **nice condition** please ...items may be dropped off at church on Saturday evening before or after the 6:15 mass or Sunday morning before or after the 11:30 mass, or dropped off at the children's Friday Night Club on Friday, October 24th or left outside the hall doors (close to the doors safe from the rain).

Please reach out to **Debbie 7370107** or Trish **5050702** if you can help or have any questions 🌲 🌲 🌲

Important Upcoming Events

All Souls' Mass: A Mass for all the faithfully departed in the past year, will be celebrated on Saturday, November 1st at 11:00 am in St. Theresa's Cathedral. There will be no Portuguese Mass on this day at 9:00 am nor Eucharistic Adoration that usually follows the Mass.

MSA: MSA will be holding a Middle School Information Session on Wednesday, November 5th at 5:30 pm. To sign up please see the flyer with the QR Code located at the back of the church.

Prayer For The Faithful Departed

"Dear Father, I'm praying today to ask for Your mercy.
Grant [loved one's name] peace and mercy as his/her soul
is leaving our world and those who love him/her to meet
You.

May his/her sins be forgiven and left in this living world.
In You, I trust to guide his/her on the right path to join
You.

May You protect this kind soul and grant [loved one's
name] eternal peace.

May his/her soul find peace, joy and rest before You and
Your guardian angels. In Jesus' name, I pray, Amen."

*From
The Angels*

Dear Padre,

Is it wrong for children to dress up as zombies and devils and other evil creatures for Halloween?

No. It is perfectly acceptable to choose these kinds of costumes and to participate in the festivities of Halloween. Halloween is primarily a secular celebration. Although it is true that the original celebration is deeply rooted in the Christian tradition, that tradition is more properly celebrated during the great feast days of the Church that follow Halloween: All Saints' Day and All Souls' Day.

Mythological representations, and the costumes that remind us of these kind of characters, are to be understood with a sense of fun and mischief. There is no difference between a ghost, a goblin, a zombie, Captain America, Superman, or one of the Mario Brothers. They are all fictional characters in the very human stories we share with each other. The meaning we assign to them must be proportional to what they represent. On Halloween, they represent nothing more than a person in costume. It could be an entirely different story under different circumstances in which there might be the possibility of a misunderstanding about the meaning of such a costume. Halloween pretty much blurs that distinction and takes away the misunderstanding. It is meant to be entertaining and fun. That is all. ●

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



FAMWELD / SHUTTERSTOCK

Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to **DearPadre.org** to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.

A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

My own story is that of a citizen, the descendant of immigrants, who in turn chose to emigrate. All of us, in the course of our lives, can find ourselves healthy or sick, employed or unemployed, living in our native land or in a foreign country, yet our dignity always remains unchanged: it is the dignity of a creature willed and loved by God.

AUDIENCE OF THE HOLY FATHER, ROME, MAY 16, 2025



STEFANO SPAZIANI

Monday

October 27

Weekday

Rom 8:12–17

Lk 13:10–17

Tuesday

October 28

Sts. Simon and Jude,

Apostles

Eph 2:19–22

Lk 6:12–16

Wednesday

October 29

Weekday

Rom 8:26–30

Lk 13:22–30

Thursday

October 30

Weekday

Rom 8:31b–39

Lk 13:31–35

Friday

October 31

Weekday

Rom 9:1–5

Lk 14:1–6

Saturday

November 1

All Saints

Rv 7:2–4, 9–14

1 Jn 3:1–3

Mt 5:1–12a

Sunday

November 2

The Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Souls' Day)

Wis 3:1–9

Rom 5:5–11 or Rom 6:3–9

Jn 6:37–40

(These readings or any from no. 668 or from the Masses for the Dead)