



Many of the Samaritans...began to believe in him because of the word of the woman who testified, "He told me everything I have done."

JOHN 4:39

A Fountain of Life

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

The lovelorn column in the local newspaper shared a letter from someone who felt adrift. She had everything she needed or wanted—a marriage, a job, a home. Yet she felt there had to be more to life, but she didn't know what it was or where to go. She wondered, *Could anyone help me?*

Like the woman from Samaria who happened upon Jesus when she came looking for water at the local well, she and the letter writer were both eager for "living water." The woman at the well would then no longer need to come each day for her household needs, and the letter writer would have her deeper thirsts quenched. Both wanted something more out of life, not unlike most people at one time or another.

Reflect

When and where have you found grace in an "unexpected place"?

Long before Jesus encountered the woman at the well, the people who were led by Moses through the desert grumbled to him about their thirst, which triggered Moses to grumble to God about the people. The result

was finding water in the desert, the most unlikely of places. As a result, they realized that God was taking care of them, that God was ultimately their source of life.

We may decide what will bring new life—a new relationship, a new job, a new home. Yet just as often the answer comes from totally unexpected sources: the deserts of our lives. Also just as often, we somehow miss the answer. When we do recognize it, however, we say, "Thanks be to God."✱



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

www.facebook.com/stmichaelpaget & "LIKE" us | **Diocesan Webpage:** www.romancatholicbermuda.bm

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Mass Schedule & Intentions

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

MINISTRIES...

MARCH 11/12TH - THE THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

5:00PM Lector: Karen Marsh EM: Alberta Canonneir
10:00AM Lector: LaVerne Lau EM: Maura Almeida
Collection: Karen Marsh

MARCH 18/19TH - THE FORTH SUNDAY OF LENT

5:00PM Lector: Joshua Blee EM: Karen Marsh
10:00AM Lector: Jesse Almeida EM: Madelena Almeida
Collection: The DeFrias

MASS INTENTIONS...

MARCH 11/12TH - THE THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

5:00PM Josephine & Nyal Clinton ++
10:00AM St. Michael's Parishioners

MARCH 18/19TH - THE FORTH SUNDAY OF LENT

5:00PM Manuel & Maria Soares Sousa & Sons ++
10:00AM St. Michael's Parishioners

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. Patrick's - 8:00^{AM} Mon.-Fri.

ST. THERESA'S 7:30am Masses are live streamed via the Diocesan Website and their Facebook Page

Stewardship talent
commitment growing vision support PLEDGE time
blessing sharing vision LOVE treasure faith caring
community

Collection: \$960.00

\$2300/week or \$9200/month in the collection is needed to break even each month.

ELECTRONIC CONTRIBUTIONS CAN BE MADE to St. Michael's Church's BNTB Account # 2000 6060 081824 100. YOUR Weekly, monthly or quarterly transaction is appreciated.

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

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

Bishop's Corner...



Dear Fellow-Catholics,

Pope Francis met with priests, deacons, seminarians and staff from Saint Mary's Seminary in Cleveland, Ohio as they are celebrating the 175th anniversary of the seminary's founding. The Pope highlighted how the mission of the formation to priesthood takes on "ever greater importance" as the Church continues in its synodal journey by underscoring three key elements: listening to the Lord, walking together, and giving witness.

Pope Francis pointed out that "Listening to the Lord is an essential characteristic, as by ourselves we can do nothing." This awareness calls us to meditate on the Lord's word every day, to spend time in prayer, silence before the Tabernacle, and to have the help of spiritual accompaniment. He then focused on the importance of deepening the spirit of fraternal communion. He stated, "We should recognize that we are part of one great people which has received God's promises as a gift, not as a privilege. In the same way, your vocation is a gift to be placed at the service of building up the body of Christ."

The Pontiff recalled that "Listening to God and walking together helps us become living signs of Jesus present in the world, giving yourselves completely to God and to his holy people. The Church needs your enthusiasm, generosity and zeal in order to show everyone that God is always with us, in every circumstance of life. I pray that you will always be signs of a Church that goes forth, bearing witness to and sharing the merciful love of Jesus with all in the human family."

Enjoy your weekend and have a blessed week!

+ Wes Michael

Bishop Wes



EASTER FLOWER MEMORIALS



If you would like to contribute to the Easter flowers with a memorial donation for a loved one(s), envelopes are on the Altar rail. All contributions with the names you wish to remember must be **received no later than Sunday March 26th** to allow us to prepare the Memorial Flower list with all names. These funds will be used to decorate the sanctuary and Church for Easter.

Thank you in advance for your support in beautifying our Church.

Sunday Readings

Third Sunday of Lent (A)

Exodus 17:3-7 / Romans 5:1-2, 5-8 / John 4:5-42

COLLECT

O God, author of every mercy and of all goodness, who in fasting, prayer and almsgiving have shown us a remedy for sin, look graciously on this confession of our lowliness, that we, who are bowed down by our conscience, may always be lifted up by your mercy.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, One God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING – Exodus 17:3-7

In those days, in their thirst for water, the people grumbled against Moses, saying, “Why did you ever make us leave Egypt? Was it just to have us die here of thirst with our children and our livestock?” So Moses cried out to the Lord, “What shall I do with this people? A little more and they will stone me!” The Lord answered Moses, “Go over there in front of the people, along with some of the elders of Israel, holding in your hand, as you go, the staff with which you struck the river. I will be standing there in front of you on the rock in Horeb. Strike the rock, and the water will flow from it for the people to drink.” This Moses did, in the presence of the elders of Israel. The place was called Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled there and tested the Lord, saying, “Is the Lord in our midst or not?”

RESPONSORIAL PSALM – Psalm 95:1-2, 6-9

R. If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Come, let us sing joyfully to the Lord; let us acclaim the Rock of our salvation. Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us joyfully sing psalms to him. **(R)**

Come, let us bow down in worship; let us kneel before the Lord who made us. For he is our God, and we are the people he shepherds, the flock he guides. **(R)**

Oh, that today you would hear his voice: “Harden not your hearts as at Meribah, as in the day of Massah in the desert, Where your fathers tested me; they tested me though they had seen my works.” **(R)**

SECOND READING – Romans 5:1-2, 5-8

Brothers and sisters: Since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith to this grace in which we stand, and we boast in hope of the glory of God.

And hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us. For Christ, while we were still helpless, died at the appointed time for the ungodly. Indeed, only with difficulty does one die for a just person, though perhaps for a good person one might even find courage to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we were still sinners Christ died for us.



40 DAYS FOR LIFE:

40 Day for Life is an internationally coordinated 40-day campaign that aims to end abortion locally through prayer and fasting, community outreach, and a peaceful all-day vigil in front of abortion businesses. Help save lives during Lent, from **February 22nd - April 2nd, 2023**, in focused prayer to end abortion. To date, 22,829 lives have been saved and 132 abortions centres have closed. Learn more about this worldwide movement of over 1,000,000 volunteers by visiting: www.40daysforlife.com.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Lord, you are truly the Savior of the world; give me living water, that I may never thirst again. *Cf. Jn 4:42, 15*

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

GOSPEL – John 4:5-42

Jesus came to a town of Samaria called Sychar, near the plot of land that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there. Jesus, tired from his journey, sat down there at the well. It was about noon.

A woman of Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her, “Give me a drink.” His disciples had gone into the town to buy food. The Samaritan woman said to him, “How can you, a Jew, ask me, a Samaritan woman, for a drink?” —For Jews use nothing in common with Samaritans.— Jesus answered and said to her, “If you knew the gift of God and who is saying to you, ‘Give me a drink,’ you would have asked him and he would have given you living water.” The woman said to him, “Sir, you do not even have a bucket and the cistern is deep; where then can you get this living water? Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us this cistern and drank from it himself with his children and his flocks?” Jesus answered and said to her, “Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again; but whoever drinks the water I shall give will never thirst; the water I shall give will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life.” The woman said to him, “Sir, give me this water, so that I may not be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water.”

Jesus said to her, “Go call your husband and come back.” The woman answered and said to him, “I do not have a husband.” Jesus answered her, “You are right in saying, ‘I do not have a husband.’ For you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true.” The woman said to him, “Sir, I can see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain; but you people say that the place to worship is in Jerusalem.” Jesus said to her, “Believe me, woman, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You people worship what you do not understand; we worship what we understand, because salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when true worshipers will worship the Father in Spirit and truth; and indeed the Father seeks such people to worship him. God is Spirit, and those who worship him must worship in Spirit and truth.” The woman said to him, “I know that the Messiah is coming, the one called the Christ; when he comes, he will tell us everything.” Jesus said to her, “I am he, the one speaking with you.”

At that moment his disciples returned, and were amazed that he was talking with a woman, but still no one said, “What are you looking for?” or “Why are you talking with her?” The woman left her water jar and went into the town and said to the people, “Come see a man who told me everything I have done. Could he possibly be the Christ?” They went out of the town and came to him. Meanwhile, the disciples urged him, “Rabbi, eat.” But he said to them, “I have food to eat of which you do not know.” So the disciples said to one another, “Could someone have brought him something to eat?” Jesus said to them, “My food is to do the will of the one who sent me and to finish his work. Do you not say, ‘In four months the harvest will be here?’ I tell you, look up and see the fields ripe for the harvest. The reaper is already receiving payment and gathering crops for eternal life, so that the sower and reaper can rejoice together. For here the saying is verified that ‘One sows and another reaps.’ I sent you to reap what you have not worked for; others have done the work, and you are sharing the fruits of their work.”

Many of the Samaritans of that town began to believe in him because of the word of the woman who testified, “He told me everything I have done.” When the Samaritans came to him, they invited him to stay with them; and he stayed there two days. Many more began to believe in him because of his word, and they said to the woman, “We no longer believe because of your word; for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the savior of the world.”

Around the Diocese . . .

➤ **ST. PATRICK'S** welcomes everyone each Wednesday morning at 10:00am to recite the Holy Rosary.

Bishop Wes celebrates a **Portuguese Mass each Wednesday at 7:00pm**, preceded by a devotion; the Rosary or Via Sacra (during Lent), followed by Holy Mass.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS Thursday evenings at 7:00pm. Please join us.

➤ **LECTIO DIVINA** takes place every Monday evening at 7pm via zoom. Franz Wohlmuth is the contact person, gwohlmuth@logic.bm. You will receive a Zoom link contact number along with the following Sunday readings. Monday evening meetings are led by Bishop Wes.

➤ **12:10PM MASS** is celebrated at the Cathedral each weekday during Lent. On Fridays, the **Stations of the Cross will take place at 11:40am and repeated at 6pm**. Come Join us.

➤ **ST. THERESA'S GIFT SHOP** OPEN: SATURDAYS from 10 am to 2 pm.

➤ **ST. JOSEPH'S "fun" SENIORS BINGO** NEXT Friday, 17 March in the Parish Centre from 1:30 – 4:00 p.m. There will be soup (maybe some Irish stew!!) and sandwiches for lunch. Wear something green (smile)! Admission by donation. **If you plan to attend, give Liz Card a call at 234-0872** so they have an idea of how many to cater for!

➤ **PORTUGUESE PASTORAL COUNCIL** will hold a **Bingo Lunch on Sunday, March 26th at 12:30pm in the MSA Auditorium**.



It's 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 the Bishop. All are welcome. **Tickets are \$40.00 for adults and \$20.00 for children.**

Tickets will be available soon.

➤ **ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY – WINTER JACKET COLLECTION.**

It was an amazing success – thanks to everyone who answered our call for donations.



More than 100 jackets were distributed during the Loaves & Fishes Programme on Sunday, 5th March. Each guest who came for a hot meal was invited into the hall to try on and select a warm jacket. They were orderly, very grateful and now warm, because of this unexpected gift. We have some left over which we will be giving to a thrift shop. **Thank you, everyone, and God bless you! It was an amazing success – thanks to everyone who answered our call for donations.**

Around our Parish . . .

➤ **FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CLASSES** Sundays, at 11:15am

➤ **STATIONS OF THE CROSS** on Fridays at 7:30pm followed by the Eucharist.

➤ **OUR PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL** will be re-starting **COFFEE SOCIAL on Sunday, March 12th** immediately following the 10am Mass.

Please plan now to join in some good coffee, food and fellowship. If anyone has a specialty they'd like to share, we welcome your contribution. We hope to see you there.



BIBLE STUDIES EACH TUESDAY



- RCIA at 10:30am
 - Emmaus Bible Study a 4:00pm
- All to take place in the Pastor's office.

Email Fr. Joe at stmichaelsbermuda@gmail.com if you are interested in attending any of these classes.

All are welcome.



A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS



We all have the right to be forgiven. All of us....Forgiveness is a "right" in the sense that God, in the Paschal Mystery of Christ, has given it in a total and irreversible way to every person willing to accept it with a humble and repentant heart.

ADDRESS AT A COURSE ORGANIZED BY APOSTOLIC PENITENTIARY,
MARCH 25, 2022

Dear Padre,

I have done some really terrible things in my life. When I did them, I didn't think anything about them, but now I feel very guilty. Can God really forgive me?

As we Redemptorists like to say, "With God there is plentiful redemption." God's mercy is everlasting and overflowing in its abundance. As we continue in Lent, let's remember that Easter is the sign that God forgave even the great sin of the crucifixion of his only Son. Time and time again throughout the Scriptures, Jesus demonstrates this bountiful mercy. He forgave Zacchaeus, the tax collector. He forgave the woman caught in adultery. He was tender with the Samaritan woman we hear about in today's Gospel. He spent his days living among and forgiving all manner of sinners. He even forgave Peter's great denial. The Church has named a multitude of saints, but note that in 2,000 years it has never declared anyone to be definitively condemned to eternal punishment. There is hope and mercy for all.

No matter how great the sin, God will forgive it. All you have to do is ask for mercy sincerely. All that takes is a repentant heart. From the tone of your message, you are truly sorry. Find a priest with whom you are comfortable and ask him to celebrate with you the sacrament of reconciliation. If you don't know how to go to confession, just ask. The priest will help you. Be at peace. ✨



Fr. Rick Potts, CSsR / DearPadre.org