



Called from the Pits

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

When I feel sorry for myself or just down in the dumps, when I feel buried by life not going the way I think it should, sometimes I remember to stop thinking about myself and my problems, and I say to myself, *I need to go care about someone else*. It seems that doing so pulls me out of that tomb of darkness and back into the light. Then I ask myself, *Why didn't I do that sooner?* The truth is, I didn't remember. But the very fact that I eventually do remember is the spirit of God dwelling within me that pulls me back into life, just as Paul once wrote (Romans 8:9 and the verses afterward). It's like hearing a voice calling me out of a dreary tomb of death, just as sure as Lazarus heard Jesus calling him out.

Have you experienced times when your spirit feels deadlier than dead, but then someone or something calls

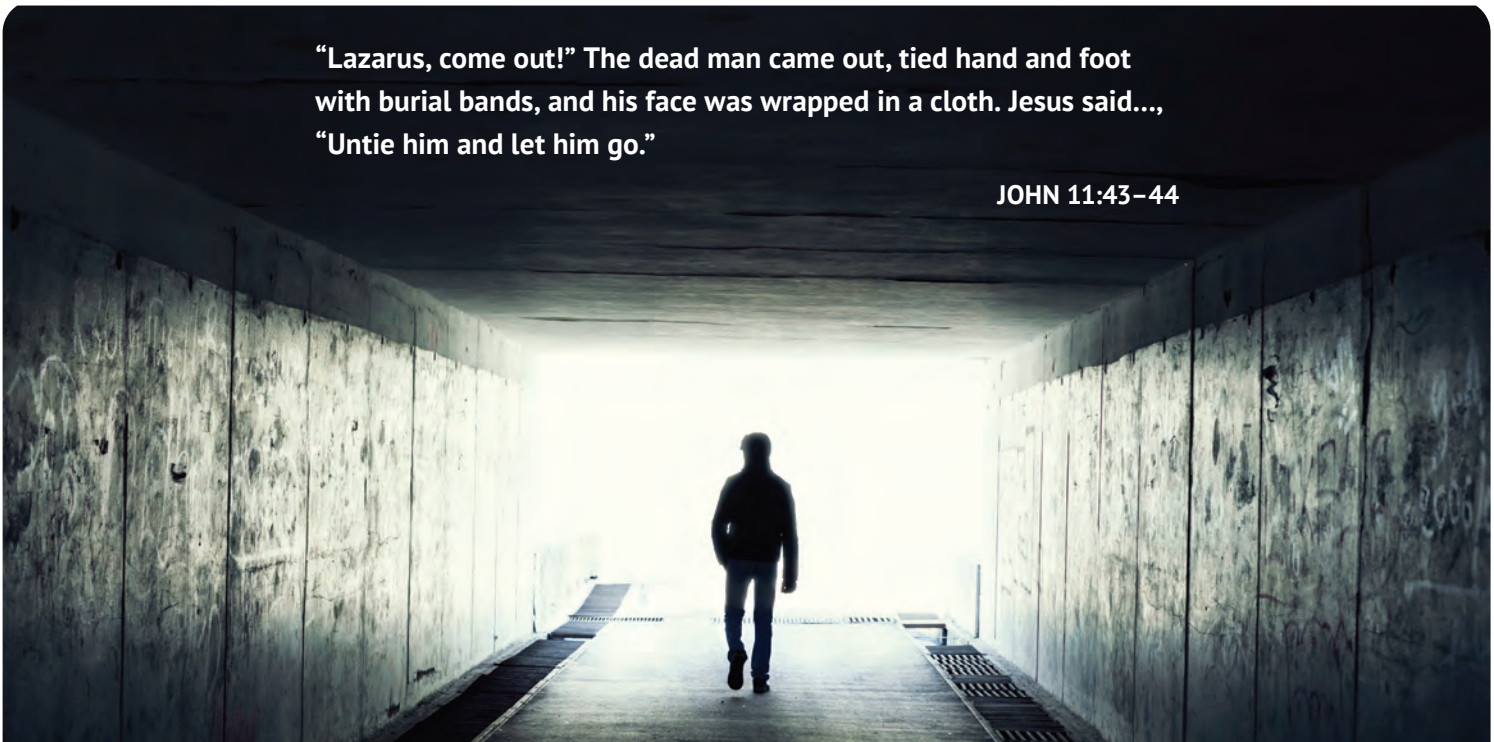
you back into life? I have. When that happens to us, I think we've been blessed with a hint of the resurrection. When I find myself wondering if there is really life beyond death, if resurrection really does happen to us, then I think about all the times that what I thought was a death turned out to be some unexpected doorway to new life. If that happens with such little deaths along the way, wouldn't it also happen on our last day on this earth? *

Reflect

Have you ever experienced something that seemed terrible at the time that turned out to be a blessing in disguise?

"Lazarus, come out!" The dead man came out, tied hand and foot with burial bands, and his face was wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said..., "Untie him and let him go."

JOHN 11:43-44



ST. MICHAEL'S PARISH

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Pastor: Rev. Joseph F. H. Morley • Cell: 705 0236

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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 25/26TH - THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

5:00PM Lector: Alberta Canonnier EM: Karen Marsh
10:00AM Lector: Pat Robinson EM: Christine DaCosta
Collection: The Almeidas

APRIL 1/2ND - PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

5:00PM Lector: **Volunteers Needed** EM: **Volunteers Needed**
10:00AM Lector: **Volunteers Needed** EM: **Volunteers Needed**
Collection: Pat Robinson, LaVerne Lau

MASS INTENTIONS ...

MARCH 25/26TH - THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

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

APRIL 1/2ND - PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

5:00PM Mary & Benjamin Botelho ++
Adelina & Jose DeFrias ++
10:00AM St. Michael's Parishioners

You are welcome to attend Morning Masses at

St. Theresa's - 7:30AM Mon.-Fri.

St. Anthony's - 8:00AM Tues.-Fri. | St. Patrick's - 8:00AM Mon.-Fri.

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



Collection: \$985.00 Votive: \$24.00 Poor Box (SVDP): 120.00

Easter Flower Memorials to date: \$540.00

\$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,

I would like to dedicate this Bishop's Corner to a few administrative matters.

First of all I want you to know that the present policy of our Diocese regarding both the RCIA and Pre-Marriage preparation programmes, is that they will be done in the parish of belonging/registration and led by the Pastor of the Parish.

I also want to inform you that, on the 22nd of March 2023, I formally appointed Fr. Dandy Traje, C.P. to be responsible for the Filipino ministry in our Diocese, and to be the chaplain for Couples for Christ and Family Ministry. Additionally, I have appointed Fr. Dandy to be the representative in our Diocese for the Pontifical Mission Societies. I wish him God's blessing, strength and wisdom in these ministries!



At the same time I would like to express my gratitude to Fr. Vladimir Sobolewski, C.R. for the many years of his ministry as the representative of the Pontifical Mission Societies, and to Rev. Joe Morley for the many years of his chaplaincy to the Couples for Christ and Family Ministry. Thank you very much!

Have a restful 5th Sunday of Lent and a blessed week!

+ *Wes Jurewalce*
Bishop Wes

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.



DEADLINE THIS SUNDAY

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 THIS Sunday, March 26th**. 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

Fifth Sunday of Lent (A)

Ezekiel 37:12-14 / Romans 8:8-11 / John 11:1-45

COLLECT

By your help, we beseech you, Lord our God, may we walk eagerly in that same charity with which, out of love for the world, your Son handed himself over to death. 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 – Ezekiel 37:12-14

Thus says the Lord God: O my people, I will open your graves and have you rise from them, and bring you back to the land of Israel. Then you shall know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves and have you rise from them, O my people! I will put my spirit in you that you may live, and I will settle you upon your land; thus you shall know that I am the Lord. I have promised, and I will do it, says the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM – Psalm 130:1-8

R. With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.

Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord; Lord, hear my voice! Let your ears be attentive to my voice in supplication. **(R)**

If you, O Lord, mark iniquities, Lord, who can stand? But with you is forgiveness, that you may be revered. **(R)**

I trust in the Lord; my soul trusts in his word. More than sentinels wait for the dawn, let Israel wait for the Lord. **(R)**

For with the Lord is kindness and with him is plenteous redemption; And he will redeem Israel from all their iniquities. **(R)**

SECOND READING – Romans 8:8-11

Brothers and sisters: Those who are in the flesh cannot please God. But you are not in the flesh; on the contrary, you are in the spirit, if only the Spirit of God dwells in you. Whoever does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the spirit is alive because of righteousness. If the Spirit of the one who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, the one who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also, through his Spirit dwelling in you.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Praise and honor to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live. *Jn 11:25a, 26*

Praise and honor to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

GOSPEL – John 11:1-45

Now a man was ill, Lazarus from Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. Mary was the one who had anointed the Lord with perfumed oil and dried his feet with her hair; it was her brother Lazarus who was ill. So the sisters sent word to him saying, "Master, the one you love is ill." When Jesus heard this he said, "This illness is not to end in death, but is for the glory of God, that the Son of God may be glorified through it." Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. So when he heard that he was ill, he remained for two days in the place where he was. Then after this he said to his disciples, "Let us go back to Judea." The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just trying to stone you, and you want to go back there?" Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours in a day? If one walks during the day, he does not stumble, because he sees the light of this world. But if one walks at night, he stumbles, because the light is not in him." He said this, and then told them, "Our friend Lazarus is asleep, but I am going to awaken him." So the disciples said to him, "Master, if he is asleep, he will be saved." But Jesus was talking about his death, while they thought that he meant ordinary sleep. So then

Jesus said to them clearly, "Lazarus has died. And I am glad for you that I was not there, that you may believe. Let us go to him." So Thomas, called Didymus, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go to die with him."

When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, only about two miles away. And many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to comfort them about their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went to meet him; but Mary sat at home. Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that whatever you ask of God, God will give you." Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise." Martha said to him, "I know he will rise, in the resurrection on the last day." Jesus told her, "I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" She said to him, "Yes, Lord. I have come to believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, the one who is coming into the world."

When she had said this, she went and called her sister Mary secretly, saying, "The teacher is here and is asking for you." As soon as she heard this, she rose quickly and went to him. For Jesus had not yet come into the village, but was still where Martha had met him. So when the Jews who were with her in the house comforting her saw Mary get up quickly and go out, they followed her, presuming that she was going to the tomb to weep there. When Mary came to where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet and said to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." When Jesus saw her weeping and the Jews who had come with her weeping, he became perturbed and deeply troubled, and said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Sir, come and see." And Jesus wept. So the Jews said, "See how he loved him." But some of them said, "Could not the one who opened the eyes of the blind man have done something so that this man would not have died?"

So Jesus, perturbed again, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay across it. Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the dead man's sister, said to him, "Lord, by now there will be a stench; he has been dead for four days." Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believe you will see the glory of God?" So they took away the stone. And Jesus raised his eyes and said, "Father, I thank you for hearing me. I know that you always hear me; but because of the crowd here I have said this, that they may believe that you sent me." And when he had said this, He cried out in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" The dead man came out, tied hand and foot with burial bands, and his face was wrapped in a cloth. So Jesus said to them, "Untie him and let him go."

Now many of the Jews who had come to Mary and seen what he had done began to believe in him.

THE EASTER MASS FOR THE DECEASED

will be held on

Saturday, April 15th at Holy Calvary Cemetery at 11am.

Please support this Diocesan initiative.

A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS



Take away the stone from your heart! Let the Word of God restore life where there is death. Jesus repeats to us: "Take away the stone." God did not create us for the tomb.... He created us for life, [which is] beautiful, good, joyful.

ANGELUS, MARCH 20, 2020

Around our Parish . . .

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

There will be no Communion Classes on Easter Sunday. Classes resume the following weekend.

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

UPDATE ON MAINTENANCE FUNDS USED

We are very grateful for the continued support of the 3rd Sunday of the month, Maintenance Collection. To date, those funds have been very helpful in the following projects:

- The update to LED security lighting around the perimeter of the Church
- The update to LED lighting of the Sanctuary and the Church
- The repair and replacement of the kitchen door, and all windows and screens for the Church Hall.

The stripping and refinishing of the Cedar work of the Church has been started by a volunteer who has offered his expertise, with our grateful appreciation. Supplies for this massive project will come from the Maintenance fund. **Thank you**

The Statues and Stations of the Cross being refreshed and repainted. **Thank you to the volunteer.**

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.



Holy Week

PALM SUNDAY – April 1/2nd

- 5:00pm** **Blessing of the Palms and Procession**
from the upper parking area - *if raining,*
it will be held in the font alcove at the main entrance.
- 10:00am** **Blessing of the Palms and Procession**
from the upper parking area - *if raining,*
it will be held in the font alcove at the main entrance.

MASS OF THE CHRISM – Tuesday, April 4th

7:30pm **St. Theresa's Cathedral**

HOLY THURSDAY – MASS OF THE LAST SUPPER

April 6th

- 5:00pm** **Prayer Service & Confession**
7:00pm **Mass of the Lord's Supper**
Rosary, (Sorrowful Mysteries) Adoration
of the Blessed Sacrament until 8:00pm

GOOD FRIDAY – Friday, April 7th

- 2:00pm** **Stations of the Cross**
3:00pm **Liturgy of the Lord's Passion**
4:00pm **Prayer Service & Confessions** until 5:00pm

HOLY SATURDAY – EASTER VIGIL Saturday, April 8th

- 6:00pm** **Prayer Service & Confessions**
8:00pm **Easter Vigil**
Lighting of the Paschal Candle will take place
in the front entrance/alcove of the Church

EASTER SUNDAY – Sunday, April 9th

10:00am **MASS OF THE RESURRECTION**

Dear Padre,

Are Catholic religious orders dying?

Yes...and no.

In Africa and Asia, some religious orders are vibrant, with orders of men and women religious increasing in number. In the United States, Europe, and Oceania, it's a different story. As many as 300 of the 420 institutes of women religious in the US are in their final decades of existence (*Leadership Conference of Women Religious*, 2019). One-third of all women's congregations in the US have fewer than fifty members. In the US, sisters over age ninety far outnumber those under sixty. Consequently, many communities fall short of the number of active ministers needed to replace their elderly and retiring members. The story is similar for many orders of religious men.

As those in religious orders struggle to remain effective in their mission and ministry for God and humanity, they are reimagining styles of leadership, levels of administration, and, in short, ways of getting the job done. This includes, for example, creative partnerships with laypeople to share in the charism, community life, and ministry of the religious order.

People are still drawn to Jesus and the work of building the kingdom. Only God knows how this "building process" will look in the future. As in all challenging times, the Church remains hopeful. From crisis comes resurrection! *



Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR / DearPadre.org