



Coming of Age, Coming of Faith

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

It is said we never become a believer before age thirty-five. I don't think there is anything magical about that age. Some in their seventies still have not yet come to be people of faith, and there are those who, at a very young age, seem to have entrusted their lives to God. What the age of thirty-five does say, however, is that most people need to have lived a while and experienced a few ups and downs to recognize there is a power in their lives greater than themselves.

This week's Gospel story of the man born blind encapsulates a lifelong journey of coming to see who Jesus is, compressed into a few days. When asked who cured him of blindness, the man first says the man Jesus did it. Brought to testify before the Pharisees, he says that Jesus must be a prophet. Confronted by the

Pharisees a second time, he testifies that Jesus must be of God. Finally, when he sees Jesus again, he calls him Lord, a name for God. The story is a parable of sorts about how we come to have faith, to see with new and different eyes.

Faith involves trusting, sometimes trusting an unseen Power who feels absent at times; about surrendering control over our lives to God, as we come to see in an entirely new way. It can take a lifetime to begin seeing in such a way. ●

Reflect

*Where am I on the journey of faith?
How open are my eyes?*

[The man who had been blind] replied, "...One thing I do know is that I was blind and now I see."

JOHN 9:25





St. Joseph's Church

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

Address: 45 Somerset Road, Sandys MA 03, Bermuda
or
P.O. Box MA 05, Mangrove Bay, Sandys MABX, Bermuda.
Telephone: (441) 234-2321
Email: stjosephbermuda@gmail.com

Pastor: Fr. Attilio Morelli



Mass Schedule
Saturday afternoon at 4:00 p.m.
Sunday morning at 9:00 a.m.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

St. Anthony's – Saturday at 5:00 p.m., or by appointment
St. Joseph's – Sunday morning 8:30 a.m. “ ”

St. Anthony's Mass times: Saturday evening at 6:00 p.m.
Sunday morning at 11:15 a.m.

BAPTISMS by appointment – one month in advance
WEDDINGS by appointment – one year in advance (approx.)
Religious education – 10:00- 11:00 a.m. As per the Schedule
Pastoral & Finance Council Meeting – TBA
Coffee Social after Mass – 26th March 2023 – Team 3

DIOCESE OF HAMILTON IN BERMUDA
Most Rev. Bishop, Wiesław (Wes) Śpiwak
www.romancahtolicbermuda.bm

Parish Team Leaders

Mrs. Elizabeth Card – Pastoral
Council Chairperson
Mrs. Annette Barclay
St. Vincent de Paul Society
Representative

Walette Cross
Stewardship Representative
Mrs. Sue Moench
Religious Education
Coordinator

Mrs. Mary Harvey - Parish
Administrator & Finance
Committee Team Leader
Mr. Tony Bari
Music Ministry

St. Vincent DePaul Society
(Contact - Annette)



Entrance:	Christ Be Our Light	#824
Offertory:	I Will Choose Christ	#736
Communion:	Here At this Table	#777
Recessional:	The Church Is One Foundation	#746

Leader of Song: Justin Tavares



Monday, 20th March 2023 – Feast of St.

Joseph

Proclaimer of God's Word

Carol DeSilva

Sunday – 26th March 2023

Proclaimer of God's Word
Opening/Closing of Church
Collection Counters
Altar Server
Music

Liam Stones
Kathie Ausenda
Annette Barclay
Seamus Stones
Tony Bari

MASS INTENTIONS:

Sunday, 19th March

***Carla DeSousa**

Prayers: Please keep our sick and shut-ins in your prayers, especially Mary Maybury, Ilene Bremar, Hugh & Sheelah Hassell, Eleanor Correia, and Bernie & Eileen Davies.

	Attendance	Collection
Saturday – 11 th March (Reg)	10	55.00
(Maint)		40.00
Sunday – 12 th March (Reg)	38	239.00
(Maint)		49.00
		<u>\$383.00</u>
St. Vincent de Paul Alms Box		<u>\$129.35</u>
		<u>\$512.35</u>

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

BIRTHDAYS

Dennis DeMello

25th March

May God, our loving heavenly Father, bless you all with many more special days

Religious Education Classes. As per the schedule, there is a class today!!



Stations of the Cross - Friday at 7:00 p.m. at St. Joseph's.



Children's Parish Fun Day – Saturday, 25th

March from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m., in the Parish Centre. We'll prepare palm crosses for Palm Sunday, watch a movie, have lunch, etc. Let children enjoy fellowship together. If some of our adults would like to come join us, please do, you would be most welcome.

THANK YOU to all who came out to the St. Patrick's Senior's Bingo on Friday afternoon, and to those who provided the prizes and goodies for the occasion. A good time was had by all.



Our monthly Coffee Social will be held next Sunday and will be hosted by Kathie's Team 3.



Malassadas Sale, Saturday, 1st April. Order forms are available at the back of the church.

PASTOR's NOTE:

Dear friends,

The Gospel of the man who was born blind is very relevant to us. This man was not looking for Jesus Christ. He had no idea of what it means to see. He knew that he was blind because they told him. He was begging for alms because he was convinced that it was the only way he could make a living. Jesus approached him and splashed mud on his eyes. So, when he told him to go and wash in the pool of Siloam, he went. He obeyed the word of Jesus; he was dirty. He felt the mud that was bothering him. He had to go to wash himself. But then his eyes were opened. A new life was opening up to him! We too may be blind, and we may not be aware of it. We think that we have all our lives figured out: job, family, professional fulfillment, health, entertainment, etc. However, we may be blind to the true meaning of life, the true purpose of our existence. If the Lord would pass by today to tell us that we needed to go and wash in the pool of Siloam to be able to see, we would not do it, even if we think with a bit of a religious attitude that we should do a little more to be close to the Lord. In the end, we do not manage. We are busy. However, at times the Lord tries to help us by putting mud on our eyes, putting us in an uncomfortable situation, messing up our lives so that we may feel the need to go and wash. In the church's tradition, the pool of Siloam is an image of Baptism. Today the Lord is passing among us. Some of us "blind from birth" are unable to believe that there is more in life than we think. He is passing among us at a random moment, not of our choice: BUT NOW. He is inviting us to go and wash in the pool of Siloam. Today we are announcing a series of meetings that are the start of a journey to rediscover Baptism and to learn how to live in a Baptismal dimension, as living coming from the dead. It is the experience of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ, who is Lord of any power that dominates us, puts us down, makes us feel depressed, unfulfilled, bored (existentially I mean). We may be super busy and feel at the same time inner boredom, oppressed, discriminated, ...(name it).... any power that gives us a foretaste of death. This experience is the fundamental source of the life of the baptized and it can become the foundation of a new life. We are invited to be courageous and waste some of our precious time, maybe take the trouble of making special

arrangements for babysitting, or rescheduling activities and commitments to allow the Lord to project our lives and the lives of our family in an incredible new direction! I am sure that to a few of us the Lord is putting some mud in our eyes through some family problems, sickness, work situation, financial trouble, to push us to come and listen. Let the Lord surprise you. It is amazing to see how through this Catechesis this Gospel of the Man born blind becomes more alive than ever! Don't be afraid of the Lord!!!

We will start this coming Thursday 23rd of March from 8 to 9 p.m., and continue for few weeks on Mondays and Thursdays at 8:00 p.m., at St. Anthony's Hall in Warwick. God Bless you. Father Attilio

BISHOP's CORNER

Dear Fellow-Catholics,

Pope Francis marked the 10th anniversary of his election on Monday, 13th of March by celebrating Mass with cardinals in the chapel of Casa Santa Marta where he lives. Vatican Media also released a podcast in which he reflects on the past ten years. "Time flies" he said "It's in a hurry. When you want to grasp today, it is already yesterday. To live like this is something new. These ten years have been like this; living in tension." Of the thousands of audiences, the hundreds of visits to dioceses and parishes, the forty apostolic journeys to every corner of the globe, the Pope has clear memories. He also said that, "the most beautiful moment" was the meeting in St. Peter's Square with the elderly - the audience with grandparents from all over the world 28th of September 2014. "Old people are wisdom, and they help me so much. I too am old, am I not? There have also been some very negative times. They are all related to the horror of war." Pope Francis mentioned his visits to the war cemeteries in Redipuglia and Anzio, the commemoration of the landing of the allies in Normandy, the vigil to stop the war in Syria, and now, "the barbarity" that has been going on for over a year in Ukraine. "Behind the wars, there is the arms industry, this is diabolical. It makes me suffer to see young men dying; be they Russian, or Ukrainian I don't care, they are not coming back. It is hard." Pope Francis has no doubts about what to ask of the world as a gift for this important anniversary; "Peace, we need peace." The Pope's "three dreams" for the Church, for the world, and for those who govern the world, for humanity are: "Fraternity, weeping, smiling."

Have a joyful "pink" Sunday and a blessed week!
Bishop Wes



If you would like to donate towards the **Easter Flowers**, the envelopes are at the back of the church; please remember to put the names of your loved ones on the envelopes. The **Special Memorial Mass will be offered on Sunday, 16th April**. Thank you.

HAPPY ST. JOSEPH's Day! The Parish Community of St. Joseph's in Somerset will celebrate their Patron Saint on Monday, 20th March, at 7:00 p.m., with a Solemn Mass and a nice social gathering afterwards in the Parish Centre.

Thursday 23rd of March and Monday 27th: Catechesis for Adults at St. Anthony's Hall

Friday 24th of March and 31st of March 7:00 p.m.: Stations of the Cross both at St. Anthony's (Bilingual (English & Portuguese) and, at St. Joseph's.

Tuesday 28th of March:

4:00 p.m.: Diocesan Reconciliation Service at St. Anthony's Church. Priests will be available for individual Confessions.

7:30 p.m. Ministerial Alliance Lenten Service, St. Mary's Anglican Church in Warwick (Fr. Attilio will be preaching).

Thursday 30th of March:

6:00 p.m.: Diocesan Reconciliation Service at St. Theresa's Cathedral Church. Priests will be available for individual Confessions.

8:00 p.m.: Catechesis for Adults at St. Anthony's Hall

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT:

Saturday, 1st of April, Vigil of Palm Sunday there will be a joint Vigil Mass for both churches at St. Joseph's Church. It will start with a procession at 5:00 p.m. with the blessing of the palms, walking through the Railway Trail down to St. Joseph's Church. The procession will be followed by a solemn Palm Sunday Mass in St. Joseph's Church for both parish churches. This event will replace the 4:00 p.m. Mass at St. Joseph's, and the 6:00 p.m., Mass at St. Anthony's.
Sunday morning masses will follow the customary schedule.

Dear Padre,

Why should I bother to be more religious? I'm a good person. Isn't that enough to get me into heaven?

When asked for advice about how people should decide on a vocation, St. Ignatius Loyola, the founder of the Jesuits, said they should do an imagination exercise. "Imagine that you are on your deathbed," he said. "From that point of view what would you wish you had done in your life?" That is still good advice.

Here's another exercise: Imagine you have a grandmother who is completely generous and caring toward you. Throughout your childhood, she was always there for you. But as a teen you belittled her and, in effect, told her that all she had offered is worthless to you. In a saner moment, won't you feel terrible about how you treated her?

Our life with God is much the same. God has given us absolutely everything, from our existence to every breath we take. God has also given us a way to know him through his Son, Jesus (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 73). And one way we know Jesus is through the Church and the celebration of the sacraments (CCC 1085). To refuse these gifts, to say, "I am already a good person. I don't need these gifts from God" is a bit presumptuous, don't you think?

To be "religious" is not just an outward show of piety. It's the way we have been given to learn God's language: the language of forgiveness, of faith, hope, and love. ●



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Bishop Bruce Lewandowski, CSSR / DearPadre.org

Do you have a question for the Padre?

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

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
March 20	March 21	March 22	March 23	March 24	March 25	March 26
<i>St. Joseph</i>	<i>Lenten Weekday</i>	<i>Lenten Weekday</i>	<i>Lenten Weekday</i>	<i>Lenten Weekday</i>	<i>Annunciation of the Lord</i>	<i>Fifth Sunday of Lent</i>
2 Sm 7:4–5a, 12–14a, 16	Ez 47:1–9, 12	Is 49:8–15	Ex 32:7–14	Wis 2:1a, 12–22	Is 7:10–14; 8:10	Ez 37:12–14
Rom 4:13, 16–18, 22 /	Jn 5:1–16	Jn 5:17–30	Jn 5:31–47	Jn 7:1–2, 10, 25–30	Heb 10:4–10	Rom 8:8–11
Mt 1:16, 18–21, 24a					Lk 1:26–38	Jn 11:1–45 or Jn 11:3–7, 17, 20–27, 33b–45



A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

We complain about things that are wrong in society, in the Church, in the world, without first questioning ourselves....Every fruitful, positive change must begin from ourselves. If we are blind, we cannot claim to be guides and teachers for others: indeed, a blind person cannot lead another blind person....

ANGELUS, FEBRUARY 27, 2022