



## Believing Is Seeing

MIGUEL DULICK

**W**e celebrate Easter on the first Sunday after the first full moon of spring, which is also the first Sunday after Passover. The whole history of the world comes to this point, and today's gospel catches the eternal thrill of that day. A desperate Mary Magdalen cannot find her Lord in the tomb. Thinking that his body has been stolen, she alerts the apostles. Peter and John go running, and a moment of unforgettable suspense follows as first Peter and then John enter the tomb. The details are significant. They saw the burial cloths there and "the cloth that had covered his head, not with the burial cloths but rolled up in a separate place" (John 20:7). Thieves would not have taken the time to unwrap the body and fold the face cloth. These details are intended to point to the truth of the resurrection. They saw and believed!

The first reading from the Acts of the Apostles follows the story of the centurion Cornelius, the first prominent

**HOLY THURSDAY** Mass of the Lord's Supper 7:00pm  
(followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament)

**GOOD FRIDAY** Liturgy of the Lord's Passion 3:00pm

**HOLY SATURDAY** Easter Vigil Mass 8:00pm

**EASTER SUNDAY** Mass of the Resurrection 10:15am

pagan convert. (His story is fascinating—take time to read it this week.) Peter gives a speech including a kind of catechism that had been standardized in a formula repeated at least six times in Acts. This proclamation, or *kerygma*, incorporates the message and the motivation for a change of life. God anointed Jesus, raised him from the dead, and promised that all who believe in him will be forgiven their sins and rise with him. Happy Easter! ●

### Reflect

**Why do I believe in the resurrection, and how does my belief impact my life?**

Then the other disciple also went in,  
the one who had arrived at the tomb first,  
and he saw and believed.

JOHN 20:8



### ST. MICHAEL'S PARISH

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Pastor: Reverend Joseph F. H. Morley, Vicar General • Cell: 705 0236

Email: stmichaelsbermuda@gmail.com

Weekend Masses: Vigil: 5:00pm, Sunday: 10:15am

Saturday 7:00pm (Neo-Catechumenal Mass).

Baptisms: by appointment 3 weeks in advance

Weddings: by appointment 6 months in advance

[www.facebook.com/stmichaelpaget](https://www.facebook.com/stmichaelpaget) & "LIKE" us | Diocesan Webpage: [www.romancatholicbermuda.bm](http://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 ...

### APRIL 4/5th - EASTER SUNDAY

5:00PM Lector: Karen Marsh EM: Fred Anderson  
10:15AM Lector: Lucy Attride-Stirling EM: Willie Forbes  
Collection: Karen Marsh

### APRIL 11/12th - SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER (Sunday of Divine Mercy)

5:00PM Lector: Karen Marsh EM: Sara Peniston  
10:15AM Lector: Jesse Almeida EM: Joyce Lee  
Collection: Pat Robinson

## MASS INTENTIONS ...

### APRIL 4/5th - EASTER SUNDAY

ALL THOSE REMEMBERED IN OUR EASTER FLOWER MEMORIALS

### APRIL 11/12th - SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER (Sunday of Divine Mercy)

5:00PM For All Those Who Are In Most Need of Thy Mercy  
10:15AM St. Michael's Deceased Parishioners

Thank you for your generosity.



# Stewardship

sharing the gifts we have been given

**March 28/29th COLLECTION: \$909.00**  
**Votives: \$81.00 Poor Box (SVdP): \$125.00**  
**Easter Flower to date: \$520**

**Neo Catechumenal Way Special Collection**  
**Collection: \$8,020.00**

ELECTRONIC CONTRIBUTIONS CAN BE MADE ONLINE  
to St. Michael's Church's: BNTB Account # 2000 6060 081824 100.

WHEN MAKING YOUR ONLINE TRANSACTION, BE SURE TO INCLUDE YOUR NAME AND "COLLECTION" AS YOUR MEMO ON YOUR BANKING TRANSACTION.

## Pastor's Point ...

Dear Parishioners,

None of the Evangelists describes the actual resurrection itself, for it was witnessed by no one. The gospels and 1 Corinthians 15:4-7 witness to the fact of the resurrection, however, by the testimony to the empty tomb and the appearances of the Risen Christ to His disciples. It is fitting that on Easter morning we should hear an account of what happened on that first Easter morning as Mary Magdalene went to the tomb.

- 1 On the first day of the week, Mary of Magdala came to the tomb early in the morning, while it was still dark, and saw the stone removed from the tomb.** All the Gospel accounts are in substantial agreement concerning the time when the tomb was first found to be empty, before dawn on Sunday morning. Mary Magdalene is named also by Matthew and Mark along with companions; Luke gives no names but speaks of "women" in the plural. In this verse John seems to make it appear that Mary Magdalene was alone but this is not necessarily the case as we will see in the next verse.
- 2 So she ran and went to Simon Peter and to the other disciple whom Jesus loved,** Mark 16:7 relates that the women were told to announce the resurrection to Peter and the other disciples; John is the only evangelist to single out the beloved disciple (himself) and told them, **"They have taken the Lord from the tomb, and we don't know where they put him."** The fact that she say "we don't" would make it appear that She wasn't alone at the tomb, but was in fact accompanied by other women.
- 3 So Peter and the other disciple went out and came to the tomb. 4 They both ran, but the other disciple ran faster than Peter and arrived at the tomb first; 5 He bent down and saw the burial cloths there, but did not go in.** No reason is given for John's remaining outside the tomb; given the amazing/distressing news that he and Peter had come to investigate. It is assumed that he did not enter because Peter was the leader of the apostles and as such it was his responsibility to lead the investigation.
- 6 When Simon Peter arrived after him, he went into the tomb and saw the burial cloths there,** The Greek participle translated here seems to indicate that the wrappings were flattened, deflated, as if they were emptied when the body of Jesus rose and disappeared – as if it had come out of the wrappings without their being undone, passing right through them (just as He later entered the Upper Room when the doors were shut). One can readily understand how this would amaze a witness, how unforgettable the scene would be.
- 7 And the cloth that had covered his head, not with the burial cloths but rolled up in a separate place.** This head cloth would have been tied, rolled like a triangular bandage, under the chin and over the top of the head to secure the mouth in a closed position. The first point to note is that it was not with the other wrappings, but placed to one side. The second, even more surprising thing is that, unlike the clothes, it still has a certain volume, like a container, possibly due to the stiffness given it by the ointments: this is what the Greek participle, here translated as "rolled", seems to indicate. From these details concerning the empty tomb one deduces that Jesus' body must have risen in a heavenly manner, that is, in a way which transcended the laws of nature. It was not only a matter of the body being reanimated as happened, for example, in the case of Lazarus, who had to be unbound before he could walk (see John 11:44).
- 8 Then the other disciple also went in, the one who had arrived at the tomb first, and he saw and believed. 9 For they did not yet understand the scripture that he had to rise from the dead.**

HAPPY EASTER to all of you and may these next 50 days be full of the presence of the Resurrected Lord and Saviour of the world, Jesus Christ who is risen, He is truly risen indeed.

Fr. Joe, Pastor & Vicar General



# He is Risen

Dear Fellow-Catholics,

**Christ is risen, Alleluia! Alleluia, He is truly risen!**

As Jesus greeted his disciples with the words, “Peace be with you,” may that same divine peace dwell richly in your home, your family, and all your relationships. May it guide your thoughts, soften your heart, and inspire you to be an instrument of peace in the world.

May the light of the Risen Lord fill your heart with his perfect peace. In this holy season of Easter, may the victory of Christ over sin and death renew your spirit, calm every fear, and bring reconciliation where there is division.

Through the grace of the Resurrection, may you find hope in every trial, serenity in every storm, and joy that no darkness can overcome.

Let us carry the peace of Christ to others, especially those who are suffering, forgotten, or burdened, so that his love may shine through us.

Praying for a blessed and peaceful Easter for you and for our troubled world!

Bishop Wes



## Dear Padre,

***I'm marrying my girlfriend! Although she grew up Catholic, she doesn't practice the faith. Is it still OK to marry her?***

Will you enter marriage with your fiancée because of a mutual love for each other? Do you both understand that this love will be strengthened by the sacramental grace of your matrimonial union, a grace you will receive because of baptism, not practice? Will you both try to create a loving family and, together as a family, try to be open each day to the grace of God already at work in your lives? Do you both realize that this grace calls you to create, in the name of Jesus, a witness to the truth of the gospel, which is even more powerful than the love you share?

If you hesitate to answer any of these questions with a wholehearted “yes,” then consider exploring these questions together with your pastor or another person helping to prepare you for marriage. Perfect faith is not required for a good, sacramental marriage. Openness to faith is believing that the Lord who has brought you together is not yet finished with either of you. You both have more to learn, and, with God’s grace, you will respond to his love. Jesus will work through both of you in ways that you may not even be able to imagine. In that spirit, marry her, build a life together, and know that God’s plan for you will always be there. ●



FUNDA DEMIRKAYA / SHUTTERSTOCK

## What is Happening in Our Diocese?

### EASTER CEMETERY MASS

Saturday, 11th April 2026 at 11:00am Holy Calvary Cemetery, Devonshire  
*\*There will be NO 9:00am Portuguese Mass on this day*

### THE FEAST OF DIVINE MERCY

Sunday, 12th April 2026 at 3:00pm – St. Patrick's Church, Smith's

#### St. MICHAEL'S

- **SYNODAL BIBLE STUDY** - each **Wednesday at 3:00pm** in the Pastor's office, is inspired by the method of **Spiritual conversation** used during the Synod on Synodality. It is leading a small group using the texts from the Sacred Scriptures in a structured format emphasising: listening, discernment, and community, fostering a deeper connection with scripture and with each other and make sure to bring your **Catholic Bible**. Any questions contact Fr. Joe at 705-0236.
- EMMAUS Bible Study: Each Tuesday at 3pm
- Neocatechumenal Way Eucharist celebration - Saturdays at 7:00pm

#### St. THERESA'S

- During the winter season St. Theresa's Cathedral will be locked at 4:00pm from Monday to Friday.
- Daily Mass is celebrated at 7:30am.
- Noon Day Mass in St. Theresa's Cathedral: The 12:10pm Mass is celebrated each Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday

#### St. ANTHONY'S

- Daily Mass is celebrated Tuesday - Friday at 8:30am

#### St. PATRICK'S

- Daily Mass is celebrated at 8:00am
- A weekly Portuguese Mass is celebrated each Wednesday at 7:00pm.
- Adoration each Thursday evenings at 7:00 pm
- A mass in Tagalog takes place on, THE SECOND FRIDAY of the month at 7:00pm.

#### St. JOSEPH'S

- A Filipino mass is celebrated every, THIRD SATURDAY OF THE MONTH at 11:00am

#### STELLA MARIS

- A Filipino mass is celebrated on the LAST Wednesday OF THE MONTH at 7:00pm

#### ST. THERESA'S GIFT SHOP

- *Opening hours* - 10:00am-2:00pm. Tuesdays and Saturdays. Come and see what we have.



Dear brothers and Sisters in Christ, members of the Neo Catechumenal Way (NCW).

On behalf of the St. Michael's Parish Pastoral Council (PPC), we extend our sincere gratitude for your most generous donation (\$8,028.00) to the St. Michael's Parish in our hour of financial need. It is with a humble heart that we accept these much needed funds to help St. Michaels. We pray that the Lord continues to bless you, as we all travel His Path.

Blessings during Our Holy Tridium.”

Lucy Attride-Stirling, Chairperson, Parish Pastoral Council



**COUPLES FOR CHRIST** has offered to assist with the Music Ministry at St. Michael's starting next week April 12 and then April 19th as part of their extended stewardship throughout our Diocese. St. Michael's will be blessed with their time and talents each second Sunday of the month going forward.

#### A Little about Couples for Christ (CFC)

**HOLD** is just our acronym for the Handmaids of the Lord, a ministry within the broader CFC Family Ministries (CFCFM). This ministry is geared towards mature women (whether single, married, divorced, or widowed, aging 40 years and above). They are part of our family ministries within CFC, from womb to tomb, namely:

**Kids for Christ** – kids ages 4-12

**Youth for Christ** – teens up to 21 years old

**Singles for Christ** – Single men and women above 21 years old

**Handmaids of the Lord (HOLD)** – as described above

**Servants of the Lord (SOLD)** – counterpart for HOLD, consist of mature men above 40 years old who are serving without a spouse (single, married but the spouse not part of the community, widowed/divorced men)

And of course, our flagship ministry **Couples for Christ** for couples married in the Catholic Church.

And yes indeed, whilst our roots are in Manila, we have grown into an international community and everyone is welcome in CFC!

#### WORDS OF LIFE

“Like us, Christ entered the world through the womb of a woman. He willingly experienced the fullness of human suffering. He breathed his last on the Cross at Calvary in order that He might save us. Therefore, ‘God is the foundation of hope: not any god, but the God who has a human face and who has loved us to the end’(Spe salvi 31).”

USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities

#### A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

*Holy Saturday...is the day in which heaven visits earth most deeply. It is the time in which every corner of human history is touched by the light of Easter.... Nothing can be excluded from [Christ's] redemption. Not even our nights, not even our oldest faults, not even our broken bonds. There is no*

*past so ruined, no history so compromised that it cannot be touched by mercy.*

MARCO IACOBUCCI EPP / SHUTTERSTOCK



GENERAL AUDIENCE, ROME, SEPTEMBER 24, 2025

# Our Sunday Readings

ACTS OF THE APOSTLES  
10:34a,37-43  
PSALM 118:1-2,16-17,22-23  
COLOSSIANS 3:1-4 or  
I CORINTHIANS 5:6b-8  
JOHN 20:1-9 (or MATTHEW 28:1-10)

## He is Risen

### ACTS 10:34a,37-43

#### Reading closely

1. What are the main aspects of Jesus' story that Peter highlights?
2. If people were hearing about Jesus for the first time, what questions might they have asked?
3. How might people have reacted differently to the various aspects of Jesus' story?

#### Living the word

4. What parts of Jesus' story would you highlight?
5. What part of Jesus' story is the most important to you at this moment in your life?

### THE FIRST READING

#### In the home of Cornelius

Peter is speaking to the friends and family members of Cornelius. Though a Gentile, Cornelius is *devout and God-fearing* (10:2). Cornelius had a vision in which God told him to invite Peter into his home. Peter is a devout Jew who would not have entered the home of a Gentile had he not been instructed to do so by the holy Spirit.

#### For everyone

Peter and the other apostles didn't know that God planned to offer salvation to everyone. They were Jewish just as Jesus was Jewish, and so for generations their faith and practices had set them apart from non-Jews.

Jesus' followers thus struggled to believe that through their Jewish messiah God was offering salvation to everyone, both Jews and Gentiles. The meeting between Peter and Cornelius becomes the pivotal moment in which God's salvation is formally extended to the Gentiles.

#### A pivotal speech

Peter's words in this passage are his last major speech in the Acts of the Apostles. This passage is especially suitable for Easter Sunday because it captures the main elements of Christian belief and emphasizes that God offers salvation to all.

Peter's speech also transitions us from hearing about Jesus' ministry and death to hearing how his followers spread the gospel from Jerusalem to the wider world.

**JOHN 20:1-9**

**Reading closely**

1. Why do you think Mary goes to Jesus’ tomb?
2. Why is it noteworthy that these events occur *while it is still dark*?
3. What all might Mary be thinking and feeling as she runs to tell the male disciples?
4. Why do you think Peter and the other disciple rush to the tomb themselves?
5. What exactly do the two male disciples find?
6. What are all the explanations Peter might have for what he sees in the tomb?
7. What might the three disciples say to each other after they see that Jesus’ tomb is empty?
8. Do you think either of the two men tell anyone about what happened?

**Living the word**

9. What are some reasons people find it difficult to believe that Jesus rose from the dead?
10. Why do you think some people find it easier than other people to believe in Jesus?
11. How do you think you would have reacted if you had been at the empty tomb?

**THE GOSPEL READING**

**Stories of the empty tomb**

The author of this Gospel reshaped earlier versions of this story. He notes that a woman is the first to find the tomb empty, but he doesn’t explain why she’s there. She can’t have come to anoint Jesus’ body because in this Gospel Jesus’ body was already anointed (19:39-40). Also, Mary tells the disciples that “we don’t know where they put him,” implying she had been joined by other women.

**Two male witnesses**

According to Jewish law at least two witnesses were required for legal testimony to be valid (Deuteronomy 19:15). These witnesses had to be men, however, which meant that the testimony of Jesus’ female disciples would have been ignored. This Gospel-writer is thus careful to show that two men verify Mary’s report. Ironically, the fact that all four Gospels note the embarrassing detail that women were the first to find the tomb empty strengthens the story’s credibility.

**The burial cloths**

The details about Jesus’ burial cloths serve two purposes. First, they show that Jesus’ body was not stolen by grave-robbers. Thieves would not take the time to tidy up.

Second, and more importantly, this Gospel-writer again highlights Jesus’ power over life and death. In John 11, after bringing his friend Lazarus back to life, Jesus orders people to unwrap the burial cloths that bind Lazarus (v.44). Jesus himself needs no such help. In John 10:17-18 Jesus declares that he freely gives his life and takes up his life again. Jesus doesn’t need anyone to help him out of burial cloths or out of the tomb.

**The disciple whom Jesus loved**

Although scholars have speculated about the identity of *the disciple whom Jesus loved*, also called the Beloved Disciple, we will never know who he was. He has deliberately concealed his identity. He might be someone who founded or helped form the community from which this Gospel emerged.

This disciple is first mentioned in John 13:23, right before the story of Jesus’ Passion and death. His appearances in the narrative enhance the story’s credibility while his anonymity keeps the focus on Jesus. This disciple’s anonymity also enables him to appear as a model of faith for later generations: he believes without seeing the risen Jesus.

**PRAYER**

*Opening Prayer for Easter Sunday*

O God, who on this day  
 through your only begotten Son  
 have conquered death  
 and unlocked for us the path to eternity,  
 grant, we pray,  
 that we who keep the solemnity of the Lord’s  
 resurrection may,  
 through the renewal brought by your Spirit,  
 rise up in the light of life.  
 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.

# Easter Flower Memorials

Maria do carmo Almeida  
Joao Pereira Almeida  
Mary & John Amaral  
Laetitia & Walter Anderson  
Deceased members of the Barnard &  
Cusack Families  
Tony Bari  
Matt Becker  
The Bergen Family  
Amaro Bizzaro  
Diolinda Bizzaro  
Francisco Bizzaro  
Jose Bizarro  
Mary & Benjamin Botelho  
Deodata & Andre Branco  
Jorge Branco  
Maxine Briere  
Serge Briere  
Gloria & Manuel Correia  
The Crainey Family  
Adelina & Jose DeFrias  
Mary Dowling  
Marie & Bill Forbes  
Paula Forbes

Evelina Furtado  
Manuel Furtado  
Jean Hannant  
Robert Hedges  
Winifred & Jack Hedges  
Catlina Hernandez  
Ella & Henry Johnson  
Florence Johnson  
Deceased Members of the  
Johnson Family  
LaVerne Lau  
Deceased Lovell and Boland  
Family Members  
Diana & Patrick Mahoney  
Amelia & Anthony Marirea  
Aimee & Bertram Marsh  
Thelma McMillan  
Brian Morris  
Jennifer Lynn Pedro  
Dorothy & Frank Peniston  
Gretta Petty  
Maria Jesus Pimentel  
Annette Ramdass-Jones  
Joseph Ramdass

Lloyd Ramdass  
Michelle Ramdass  
Theresa Ramdass  
Deceased Pastors of St. Michael's  
Iduino Rodrigues  
Jose Rodrigues  
Normonda Rodrigues  
Sr. Judith Marie Rollo  
Paddy Simons  
Betty & Frank Slater  
David Soares  
Evadne Soares  
Mary R. Soares  
Charles Spanswick  
Fernanda Vicente  
Manuel Vicente  
Orgeto Vicente  
Rudy Volk  
For the People of War Torn Countries  
For the Souls in Purgatory

OUR APOLOGIES FOR  
ANY NAMES OMITTED  
DUE TO PRINT  
DEADLINES

