



From Anger to Peace

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

AT THIS POINT IN HISTORY, we are a nation filled with much anger. Given all that is taking place, one might conclude that it comes from a fear of losing control—fears due to the waves of immigrants seeking asylum, to a changing economy, to political alliances, to artificial intelligence, resulting in our inability to sort truth from untruth. Fears also due to strained relationships with non-Western nations, to urban violence and the abundance of guns, to the conflict between pro-life and pro-choice allegiances, and, for some, to what is perceived as conflicted thinking within the Catholic Church. There is no shortage of what may be fueling our anger. How can faith help us respond in a life-giving way?

Saint John writes that “whoever is begotten by God conquers the world. And the victory that conquers the world is our faith” (1 John 5:4). This is not to say that we can easily make the world respond in ways we want, but rather that the world has no power over the person who places all trust in God’s presence among us. It was the risen Lord who once brought peace to the disciples behind doors locked out of fear. Might not our faith help us who have locked ourselves behind doors of mistrust and anger? If only we allow ourselves to trust God. Yet, we should not simply shrug off all cares or involvement in life; on the contrary, with faith and trust, we recognize we are not the only players in shaping the events of the world. ●

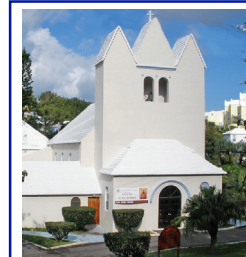
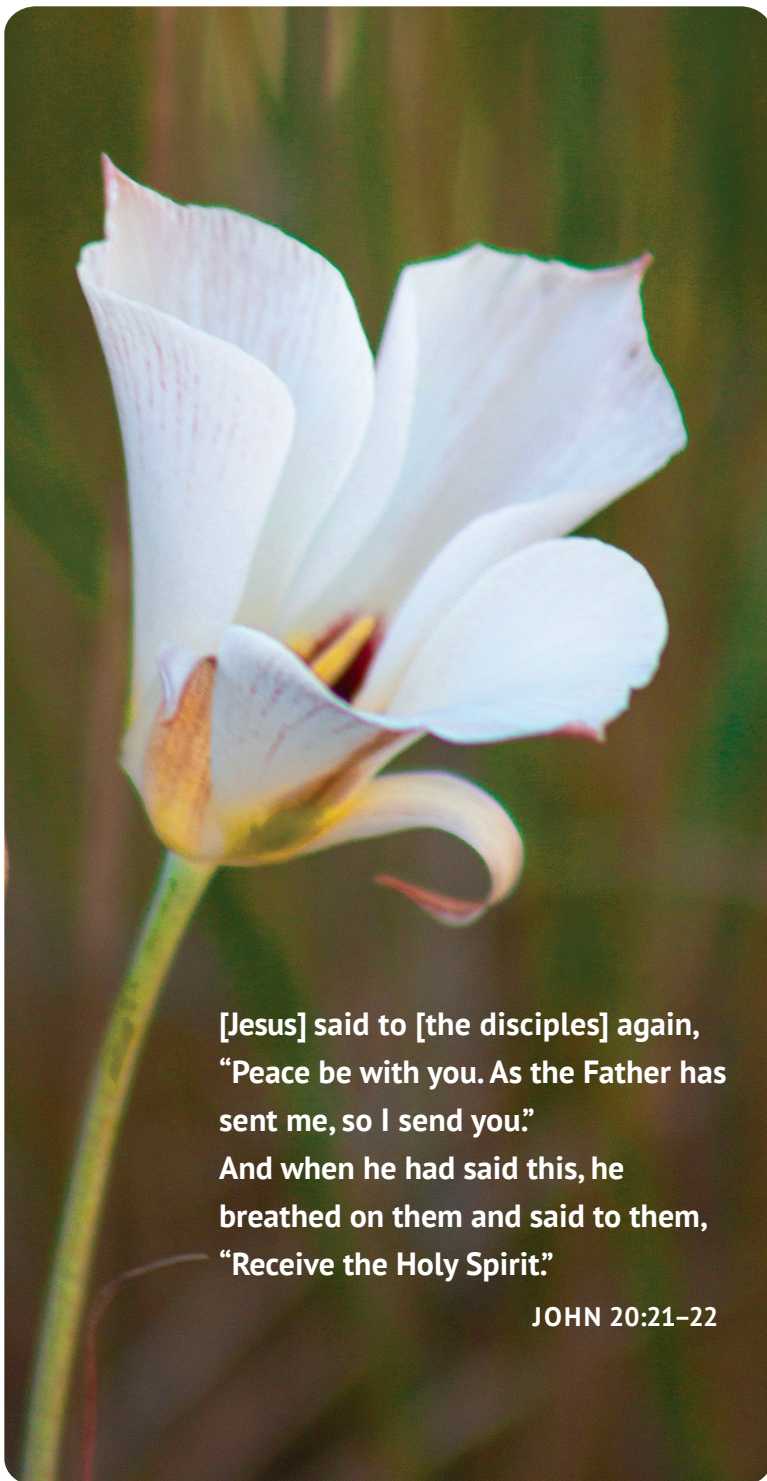
[Jesus] said to [the disciples] again,
“Peace be with you. As the Father has
sent me, so I send you.”

And when he had said this, he
breathed on them and said to them,
“Receive the Holy Spirit.”

JOHN 20:21–22

Reflect

***Do I bring my faith to the news of the day;
do I pray for peace?***



ST. MICHAEL'S PARISH

53 South Road, Paget PG 03 | P.O. Box HM 727, Hamilton HM CX

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

Email: stmichaelsbermuda@gmail.com

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

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](https://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 26/27th - SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER / DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

5:00PM Lector: Kathy Anderson EM: Fred Anderson
10:15AM Lector: Jesse Almeida EM: Christine DaCosta
Collection: Carlos DeFrias

MAY 3/4th - THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

5:00PM Lector: Karen Marsh EM: Peter Marsh
10:15AM Lector: Pat Robinson EM: Madelena Almeida
Collection: The Almeidas

MASS INTENTIONS ...

APRIL 26/27th - SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER / DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

5:00PM Deolinda & Manuel Pacheco, and son Victor
10:15AM For our First Communion Candidates & their Families
For the Repose of the Soul of Pope Francis

MAY 3/4th - THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

5:00PM For the Repose of the Soul of Pope Francis
10:15 AM For the Intention of St. Michael's Parishioners



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

APRIL 19/20 COLLECTION: \$1,041.00

GOOD FRIDAY'S COLLECTION FOR THE HOLY SEE: \$372.00

EASTER FLOWER MEMORIALS: \$560.00

Thank you for your generosity.

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

Bishops Corner ...

Dear Fellow-Catholics,

It couldn't be any other way! I "must" dedicate this Bishop's Corner to Pope Francis. I am aware that each one of us has her/his own moments, words or images from Pope Francis' life and ministry that has touched us, inspired our minds or hopefully challenged our ways of being human, Christian and Catholic. What I am pointing out here are ten personal quotes from Francis' teaching without any specific order or importance.



1. *The Church is not a tribunal for judgment or a fortress. The Church is a field hospital where wounds are first dressed. People need to be given mercy and not control. The greater the sinner the greater right to God's mercy;*
2. *Theology of creation or integral ecology had been pushed to the margins by the Church or completely forgotten;*
3. *Go with the disciples of Emaus. Go even in the wrong direction as long as you are Christ like with them;*
4. *This is what I am asking you - be shepherds with the smell of your sheep on you;*
5. *Time is more important than space. It counts to start the process even if we do not see the end;*
6. *Let us be lights of hope. Let us maintain a positive outlook on reality;*
7. *Be brave and follow love. God is love. So everything that leads to love is a good path;*
8. *Gossip is a weapon and it threatens the human community every day; it sows envy, jealousy and power struggles.*
9. *Dialogue with those who think differently is not relativism but a deeper testimony of the Gospel;*
10. *Don't be too harsh to yourself but listen to God's voice in your heart and avoid harsh judgment of yourself.*

I am simply grateful to him for having sent me here, to Bermuda, to walk in faith, hope and love with you, my Dear People.

Have a restful weekend and a blessed week!

+ Wes
Bishop Wes



A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

Let us ask ourselves: at home, in my family, at work, in my community, do I foster fellowship, am I a weaver of reconciliation? Do I commit myself to defusing conflict, to bringing forgiveness in place of hatred, and peace in place of resentment? Do I avoid hurting others by not gossiping, which always kills?

HOMILY, ROME, APRIL 24, 2022

What happens when a pope dies?

From the papal ring to three distinct coffins, there are a lot of details to cover.

As we mourn the passing of Pope Francis, let us honor his legacy of humility and compassion by offering prayers for his soul and the Church he so lovingly shepherded. May the Lord grant him eternal rest and guide the faithful during this time of transition.

You might think the world's smallest country would go quiet after a papal death—but oh no! Vatican City springs into action with a sacred blend of ancient ritual and precise logistics. Here's what actually happens when a pope dies:

1. First to Act: The Camerlengo

Ever heard of the **Camerlengo**? Think of him as the temporary steward of the Vatican. When the pope dies, the Camerlengo confirms the death—once traditionally done by calling the pope's baptismal name three times! Today it's a bit more clinical, but the symbolism remains rich.

The Camerlengo then smashes the pope's Fisherman's Ring with a silver hammer. Why? To prevent forgery of official documents during the time between popes.

2. Nine Days of Mourning

After a pope dies, the Church enters a special nine-day mourning period called the **novendiales**—Latin for “nine days.”

Each of the nine days features a special funeral Mass celebrated in honor of the deceased pope. These Masses are offered in St. Peter's Basilica and are often led by different cardinals, with intentions for the

repose of the pope's soul, the needs of the Church, and the faithful worldwide.

3. Lying in State

The pope's body is displayed in St. Peter's Basilica, allowing faithful pilgrims to pay their respects.

The passing of a pope is truly a historical event, and a time when the whole world pays attention to the Church. When Pope John Paul II passed away, over **4 million people** flooded into Rome to honor him. Rome experienced a city-wide traffic jam that lasted nearly four days!

4. The Papal Coffins (Yes, more than one!)

The pope is traditionally buried in three coffins: one made of cypress wood (symbol of humility), one of zinc (for preservation), and one of elm or oak (for dignity). They are all stacked within each other, with the pope being laid directly into the humble one made of simple cypress wood.

5. The Conclave Begins

Once mourning ends, it's time for the **conclave**, the sacred and secretive process of electing the new pope. Every Cardinal that is eligible to vote (all those under the age of 80) gather in the Sistine Chapel and vote in silence.

The cardinals are literally locked in—*con clave* means “with a key” in Latin.

6. The Pope is Chosen

During the conclave, the world watches a tiny chimney atop the Sistine Chapel like hawks. Why? Because they use an old-fashioned stove to send up smoke signals: black for no decision, white for *Habemus Papam!* (*We have a pope!*)

So, yes, the Vatican will be busy for the next few weeks. However, in these immediate nine days after the passing of our beloved Pontiff, let us follow the direction of the Church and spend time prayerfully mourning Pope Francis.

Dear Padre,

How do we maintain our faith in a world that shames religion and creates doubt in our beliefs?

I would respond to your question with one of my own: “When has it ever been different?” In what place has there been universal praise and acceptance of the practices of faith and belief? When has there been a time when there is no doubt? This is a good question for this Sunday, when we hear about St. Thomas, the doubting disciple.

Many years ago, unanimity might have been understood as the norm in a tight-knit neighborhood community of people with the same experience and belief. However, in the wide world today that is so connected and disconnected at the same time, sameness and uniformity cannot be assumed. It may cause unease, or even fear, to learn that someone disagrees with you, perhaps even someone you love, but it should no longer be a surprise or considered out of the ordinary.

Doubt can help a person grow in faith and belief. Even though doubt is challenging, it is often a necessary experience in order to be strengthened and to persevere. Doubt is not something that should cause us to quiver in fear, but rather to rejoice in hope, in the confidence that what we believe is worth living and has something to teach us. ●



AARON BURDEN / UNSPLASH

What is Happening in Our Diocese?

St. MICHAEL'S

- FIRST HOLY COMMUNION
 - Felt Presentation** - Sunday, April 27th, at the 10:15 Mass
 - First Penance** - Saturday, June 14th, at 2pm
 - First Holy Communion** - Sunday, June 22nd, time to be determined (after 12pm)

St. THERESA'S

- Daily Mass is celebrated at 7:30am.
12:10 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
- The Rosary is recited every, WEDNESDAY at 10:00am
- A 6pm PORTUGUESE Mass followed by the Rosary each Wednesday at 7:00pm
- 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 is open, TUESDAYS and SATURDAYS
10:00am-2:00pm

Due to the Mass of Thanksgiving for Pope Francis the Cemetery Mass originally scheduled for Saturday morning has been postponed to Saturday, 31st of May at 11:00am.

ST. MICHAEL'S UPCOMING EVENTS

MAY 4TH

Sunday, May 4th following the 10:15 am Mass we will hold our Coffee Social. Please plan now to support the final Social prior to the summer break. Your assistance in bringing a sweet or savoury item will be very much appreciated. See you there.

JUNE 14TH

Our first **Dinner Bingo in many years will be held on Saturday, June 14th** following the 5pm Mass. We're keeping it simple and making it a Pizza Dinner.

Tickets will be \$20 each and include ONE (1) Bingo Card, additional cards will be \$5 each. Volunteers to help are encouraged, please email Stmichaelsbermuda@gmail.com.

If you can donate a prize, THANK YOU in advance. Included will be a Kids Bingo, a Father's Bingo and much more as we will celebrate our Father's Day. Tickets sales start the first week of May.

DELICIOUS DINNER & BINGO

ST. ANTHONY'S CHURCH is holding a Dinner & Bingo on Saturday, April 26. at 7:30pm **Tickets: \$30 & \$15 (children up to 12 years)**

Tickets can be purchased from:
Pat Rodrigues: 524-1026 | Anna Daniels: 236-2438
and St. Anthony's Parish Council members

Happiness is yelling 'BINGO' – experience the fun with family and friends!!

AFTERNOON HERITAGE TEA

ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH in Somerset will be hosting an Afternoon Heritage Tea on Sunday, 18th May, 2025, from 2:00 – 5:00 p.m., at the St. James Church Hall in Somerset – Tea, Entertainment, Raffles, Silent Auction:

Tickets: \$45 can be obtained by contacting **Liz Card, at 234-0872 or Email: lizatstjosephs@gmail.com**



Prayer to Pope Francis and the Election of a New Pope

Heavenly Father, we come before you with hearts both sorrowful and grateful. We mourn the passing of your servant Pope Francis, who shepherded your Church with humility and compassion. We thank you for his witness to the Gospel, for his care for the poor and marginalized, for his call to protect your creation, and for his tireless work for peace and unity among all peoples. Receive him now into the light of your presence, where sorrows end and joy begins eternal.

May he rest in your peace and rise in glory. Lord, as the Church enters this time of transition, we ask for the guidance of your Holy Spirit. Pour forth your wisdom upon the College of Cardinals as they gather to discern your will for the successor to the Chair of St. Peter

Grant them clarity of mind, purity of heart, and courage of spirit, that they may choose a shepherd after your own heart, one who will lead your flock with wisdom, holiness, and love. May the new pope be a faithful witness to your truth, a compassionate minister to all in need, and a unifying presence in our divided world. We ask this through Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

Amen.

Our Sunday Readings

ACTS OF THE APOSTLES 5:12-16
 PSALM 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24
 REVELATION 1:9-11a, 12-13, 17-19
 JOHN 20:19-31

What They Saw

REVELATION 1:9-11a, 12-13, 17-19

Reading closely

1. How does John connect with his listeners?
2. What do you think life was like for the first Christians?
3. What could be the significance of the timing of John's vision?
4. What all might John have felt when he was *caught up in spirit*?

Living the word

5. If Jesus appeared to you, what form would he take to strengthen your faith?
6. How might you respond to such a vision?

THE SECOND READING

Write down what you see

The Book of Revelation is apocalyptic literature, a genre in which the author has a heavenly vision that he shares with others who are persecuted for their beliefs. John's book urges the persecuted to hold fast to their faith in Jesus.

John counts himself among those being persecuted by Roman officials. He's imprisoned on Patmos because he spread the gospel, but this forced exile clearly failed to silence him.

Biblical allusions

- The bold sound of the **trumpet** signals God's presence, as it did when the Israelites received the Law (Exodus 19:16).
- The **lampstands** represent both seven particular churches and the one unified church. The risen Christ stands *in the midst* of his church. A lampstand (menorah) stood inside the Jerusalem temple; now light goes forth from Christ and his church.
- **One like a son of man** recalls the one who received power and dominion from God (Daniel 7:13-14); here he's dressed as both a priest and a king.

He hold the keys to death

John faints when he sees the awe-inspiring risen Christ, just as others did in the presence of divine glory (compare Isaiah 6:5). Christ reassures and then commissions him.

Because Jesus rose from the dead, he is now master of death and victor in the struggle against sin and evil. No one who believes in him should fear that anything or anyone else will prevail. John is told to share this good news with others so that they won't yield to persecution or evil.

JOHN 20:19-31

Entering the word

Imagine that you are one of the disciples.

1. Why are you hiding?
2. What all are you feeling?
3. What have you been doing since Jesus was crucified?
4. What are the other disciples saying and/or doing?
5. What are you doing when Jesus appears?
6. How do you react when Jesus appears?
7. Do Jesus' words of peace surprise you?
8. How do you feel when Jesus shares the Spirit with you?
9. Where is Thomas during all of this?
10. How do you try to convince Thomas of what has happened?
11. Why doesn't Thomas believe you?
12. How does Thomas react when Jesus appears again?
13. Do you think you will ever fear or doubt again?
14. What do you think Jesus and the Father expect of you now?
15. What does this time of reflection leave you thinking about?

THE GOSPEL READING

Peace & reconciliation

The disciples are afraid and withdrawn. Jesus walks through the locked door and gives them peace. The great hope of God's people was for *shalom*, a lasting peace that would encompass all creation.

Jesus tells his disciples to walk through the doors of other locked hearts in order to dispel fear and bring peace and reconciliation into the world. One way the Church fulfills this mission is the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

The Holy Spirit

Before he was killed, Jesus promised to send the Holy Spirit to help the disciples carry out their mission (14:16f). John reminds us that although the earthly Jesus is gone, he remains within and among us in the person of the Spirit (19:30).

Doubt & faith

Thomas is mostly remembered for not believing that Jesus rose from the dead. What people forget is what he said when Jesus appeared to him: *My Lord and my God!* This is the boldest statement of faith in John's Gospel.

Thomas' words of faith sum up the main theme of this Gospel: Jesus is one with the Father, just as Jesus had been telling people all along. To see Jesus is to see the Father. Those who believe that Jesus is from God receive his Spirit of eternal and empowering life.

Seeing & believing

The first half of this Gospel is often called *The Book of Signs*. Here Jesus does and says things so that people will see that he is the one whom God has sent to give eternal life to all who believe. Verses 30-31 thus sum up the reason John wrote. (John's Gospel probably ended with v.31, and soon after someone added an epilogue.)

Because we ourselves haven't seen the earthly Jesus nor the signs he worked, John wrote his Gospel in order to help us believe. Both the words of this Gospel and the guidance of the Holy Spirit enable us to believe and profess that Jesus is *our Lord and our God*.

PRAYER

*adapted from a collection of first century hymns
quoted in Days of the Lord, v. 3*

Christ Jesus, Risen One,
As the sun is the joy of those who seek the day,
so our joy is you, our Lord,
for you are our sun.
Your rays resurrect us,
and your light drives all darkness from our eyes.
Thanks to you we have acquired eyes and seen
your holy day;
we have been given ears
and heard your truth;
we have been given knowledge
and trembled with joy.
We thank you, and we praise you. Amen.