Our Parish COMMUNITY

November 8, 2026

*Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)*

Wisdom 6:12–16 / 1 Thessalonians 4:13–18 or 4:13–14 / Matthew 25:1–13

# Keep Your Light Burning Bright

ANN M. GARRIDO

We have entered that time of year when the readings turn our attention toward the "end of time"—that moment we await in which all of God's dreams for us will be realized. The "kingdom of God come." Jesus, like prophets before him, compared this moment to a wedding feast. In Jesus' time, marriage was the most decisive event of one's life, and the wedding feast was the greatest feast families ever celebrated. There was nothing better than a good wedding party—and nothing more embarrassing than a bad one. So much at stake!

In the parable in today's gospel, Jesus focuses on the role of the bridesmaids in making the wedding feast a spectacular event—or not. They are trusted to provide a parade of light to greet the groom as he arrives at his family's home with the bride, but it turns out that not all have prepared adequately.

The parable forces us to consider our own commitment to the Christian life. In baptism, we, too, were given a special role to serve the coming kingdom of God. We, too, were entrusted with a light and told to "keep it burning bright" until that time in which we "come out to greet him." At the beginning of our faith journey, we often embrace this role with much fervor. But we forget that the Christian life takes a good bit of endurance and involves a lot of waiting. We will need oil to keep that light burning bright—the oil of prayer, participation in the sacraments, time spent in study and renewal. No one else can nourish your relationship with God for you. It is something you will need to do yourself. ●

LEARN ABOUT THE AUTHORS OF *OUR PARISH COMMUNITY*



**Resplendent and unfading is Wisdom, and she is readily perceived by those who love her, and found by those who seek her.**

**WISDOM 6:12**

## Reflect

***What are you doing to keep your light of faith burning bright right now?***

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# St. Anthony's Church

**26 Middle Road -Warwick WK03, Bermuda**
**Phone: (Office Direct Line) 441-238-1784**
**Parish Email:**
**stanthonybermuda@gmail.com**

## Father Jacob Swapan Gomes

Telephone Number – 292-0607 Ext. 5
Cell Number -- 704-1874

**Reconciliation:** By appointment
**Baptisms:** By Appointment – One month in advance
**Weddings:** By Appointment –A year in advance
**Organist:** Jane Farge
**St. Anthony's Club (CCD):** Fridays 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm
Coordinator: Anna Daniel 236-2438
Email: **stanthonyccd@yahoo.com**
**Hall Rentals:** Anna Daniels 236-2438
**St. Vincent de Paul Rep**: Pat Rodrigues
**St. Vincent de Paul No.** 525-1191

## Mass Schedule at St. Anthony's

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Nov | 7 | 6:15 pm | Ernest Marshall+ |
| Nov | 8 | 11:30 am | Parishioners of St. Anthony |
| Nov | 10 | 8:30 am | |
| Nov | 11 | 8:30 am | |
| Nov | 12 | 8:30 am | |
| Nov | 13 | 8:30 am | |
| Nov | 14 | 6:15 pm | Manuel & Maria Reis++ |
| Nov | 15 | 11:30 am | Parishioners of St. Anthony |

## Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are needed to serve as Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, Ushers, Collection Counters, Parish Council members, etc. If you can assist kindly let a member of the Parish Council know or call Pat Rodrigues at 524-1026

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## St Vincent de Paul Poor Box Donations

Please use: BDA # 2000 6060 4767 11100 or
US # 8400 7847 30010
**Cash donation** - please use the SVDP envelopes and place them in the collection baskets at the weekend Masses. Any amount goes a long way to support those in need.

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# Bulletin – November 7 /November 8, 2026

## Weekly Collections at St. Anthony's

| | |
|---|---|
| Oct 24/25 | $ 902.00 |
| Oct 31/Nov 1 | $ 1,258.00 |
| **Maintenance Collection**: | $465.00 |

**Online payments can be made directly into the Bank account of St. Anthony's – Butterfield Bank –**
**BD $ Current A/c – 20006060061567100 and**
**US $ Current A/c - 20006840061567100.**
Please make sure to indicate what the donation is for in the memo field when making the payment online – i.e., General collection; Maintenance; Mission Sunday, etc. Multiple payments can be made for those times when you are away or on vacation. Please note that we are charged $20 for US checks drawn on a US Bank. Kindly **do not** place Canadian, British or any old Bermuda currency in the collection baskets.

**Maintenance Collection – first weekend of the month**

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## St. Anthony's Ministry Schedules

**Counting Ministry Nov 8: Annette and Anna**
**Nov 15: Annette and Gabby**

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### Saturday November 7

**Lector: Jackie Tailford**
**Eucharistic Minister: Delia Mendonca**
**Collection: Alice Astwood-Smith & Pat Rodrigues**
**Hospitality: Jackie Tailford**

### Sunday Nobember 8

**Lector: Mrs. Bean**
**Eucharistic Ministers: Annabelle Saunders, Julita Looby & Louise Vizien**
**Collection: Kenrick Shillingford & Sylvester Augustine**
**Hospitality: Denis Thornhill**

### Saturday November 14

**Lector: Alice Astwood-Smith**
**Eucharistic Minister: Raynae Fleming**
**Collection: Alice Astwood-Smith & Pat Rodrigues**
**Hospitality: Jackie Tailford**

### Sunday November 15

**Lector: Vernaisi Lualala**
**Eucharistic Ministers: Annabelle Saunders, Julita Looby & Louise Vizien**
**Collection: Kenrick Shillingford & Sylvester Augustine**
**Hospitality: Denis Thornhill**

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## Bishop's Corner

Dear Fellow-Catholics,

In 2025, the world spent a record US$2.9 trillion on military purposes, while development and humanitarian aid continued to decline. According to a new report by the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI), the funding gap between needs and available resources could reach at least US$179 billion by 2028. Researchers warn that these cuts could threaten the security and well-being of millions of people.

Military expenditure reached 2.5% of global GDP last year. Researchers point out that core funding for official development assistance had already stopped growing in 2021. The decline was less apparent because of increased support for Ukraine and spending on hosting refugees in donor countries. Healthcare and economic infrastructure have been particularly affected.

"We are witnessing a prolonged withdrawal of essential humanitarian and development assistance at precisely the time when the need for it is increasing," warns Nan Tian, Director of SIPRI's Military Expenditure and Arms Production Programme. He points out that closing this funding gap would require only a fraction of the additional resources being allocated to defence.

Xiao Liang, co-author of the report emphasises that, "Military capabilities alone do not guarantee security." In his view, development assistance addresses the underlying, long-term causes of instability and should therefore complement defence spending rather than compete with it.

Have a peaceful weekend and a blessed week of the Remembrance Day!

Bishop Wes

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## DIOCESAN LITURGICAL WORKSHOP

St. Theresa's Cathedral Hall, Pembroke

**Tuesday, 17th - Thursday, 19th November**
2:00pm & 6:00pm 2-hour sessions

**The Liturgy of the Holy Mass: Spirituality, Meaning & Organisation** with **Ms. Christina Ronzio**

***** Each day covers a different part of the main topic. The daily 2:00pm - 4:00pm & 6:00pm - 8:00pm sessions are identical.

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## CHRISTMAS FAIR & CAR BOOT

**The Annual Christmas Fair & Car Boot is on Saturday, November 28th, 9am-4pm.** Please put this date in your diary & come out and support this Church Fundraiser! Any help before, during or after will be gratefully accepted!

**PLEASE HELP!!!!!**

- **CAN YOU BRING IN WHITE ELEPHANT ITEMS?**
- **CAN YOU SIGN UP TO HELP ON THE DAY?**
- **CAN YOU DONATE BINGO PRIZES?**
- **CAN YOU DONATE RAFFLE PRIZES?**
- **CAN YOU OFFER TO BAKE FOR BAKE STALL?**

We are now accepting, with thanks, any raffle or Bingo prizes as well as names of helpers Thank you.
**Please contact Trish 5050702 or Debbie 7370107**

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## PEACE AND SOCIAL JUSTICE MINISTRY

**Dinner and a Movie**
Saturday, 14th November 2026

**Dinner** - 7:30pm
**Movie** - 8:15pm - 10:15pm

**ZOOM Discussion Session**
Tuesday, 17th November - 8:30pm - 10:00pm

All three events $20 - Proceeds will be donated to St. Vincent de Paul Society - To register please email - peaceandsocialjusticeorcc@logic.bm

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## ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY
## Christmas Food Voucher Programme – 2026

The St. Vincent de Paul Society is providing Christmas Food Vouchers again this year for those less fortunate and would like your help in registering people of your parish needing assistance.

Please provide the person's name and telephone number, along with your name and telephone number in case we need to follow up with you.

You can call 525-1191 and leave a message on the SVdP voicemail or speak to your SVdP parish representative, whose name is listed in your bulletin.

**Deadline to receive names: November 28, 2026**

Many thanks and God bless.
**SVdP Society Committee**

# Dear Padre,



LUIS SANTOS / SHUTTERSTOCK

### *What happens to the sacred treasures in a deconsecrated Catholic church?*

When a diocesan bishop deconsecrates a church, he issues a decree that removes a church's dedication and relegates it to "profane but not sordid use" when it "cannot be used in any way for divine worship and there is no possibility of repairing it" (*Code of Canon Law*, 1222). The impossibility of repairing a badly damaged church doesn't mean only an architectural impossibility. Inadequate finances to maintain the church properly, an insufficient number of parishioners to foster ecclesiastical vitality, and a shortage of priests are also grave causes for a church's closure. Decorative appointments and sacred treasures in these relegated churches often find new homes in other churches and religious institutions.

This traditional custom of dissemination is a sign of solidarity with the broader Church and in continuity with its rich heritage. It honors the faith and sacrifices of the charter members when the church was built and the generations that followed. Remaining religious items in a relegated church, such as an unmovable altar, "lose their dedication or blessing if they have been destroyed in large part, or have been turned over permanently to profane use by decree of the competent ordinary or in fact" (*CCL* 1238). Stained glass windows, mosaics, and other sacred art that remain in a repurposed church don't lose their aesthetic beauty and evocative power, however. "A thing of beauty is a joy for ever," wrote the poet John Keats. ●

***Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR / DearPadre.org***

**Monday**
November 9
*The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica*
Ez 47:1–2, 8–9, 12
1 Cor 3:9c–11, 16–17
Jn 2:13–22

**Tuesday**
November 10
*St. Leo the Great, Pope and Doctor of the Church*
Ti 2:1–8, 11–14
Lk 17:7–10

**Wednesday**
November 11
*St. Martin of Tours, Bishop*
Ti 3:1–7
Lk 17:11–19

**Thursday**
November 12
*St. Josaphat, Bishop and Martyr*
Phlm 7–20
Lk 17:20–25

**Friday**
November 13
*St. Frances Xavier Cabrini, Virgin*
2 Jn 4–9
Lk 17:26–37

**Saturday**
November 14
*Weekday*
3 Jn 5–8
Lk 18:1–8

**Sunday**
November 15
*Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time*
Prv 31:10–13, 19–20, 30–31
1 Thes 5:1–6
Mt 25:14–30
or 25:14–15, 19–21

## Do you have a question for the Padre?

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



FABRIZIO MAFFEI

## A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

***Brothers and sisters support each other in hardship; they do not turn their back on those who are in need; and they weep and rejoice together in the active pursuit of unity, trust, and mutual reliance. The dynamic is that which Jesus himself gives to us: "Love one another as I have loved you."***

**GENERAL AUDIENCE, ROME, NOVEMBER 12, 2025**

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*A Redemptorist Ministry*

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