



The Path to Faith

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

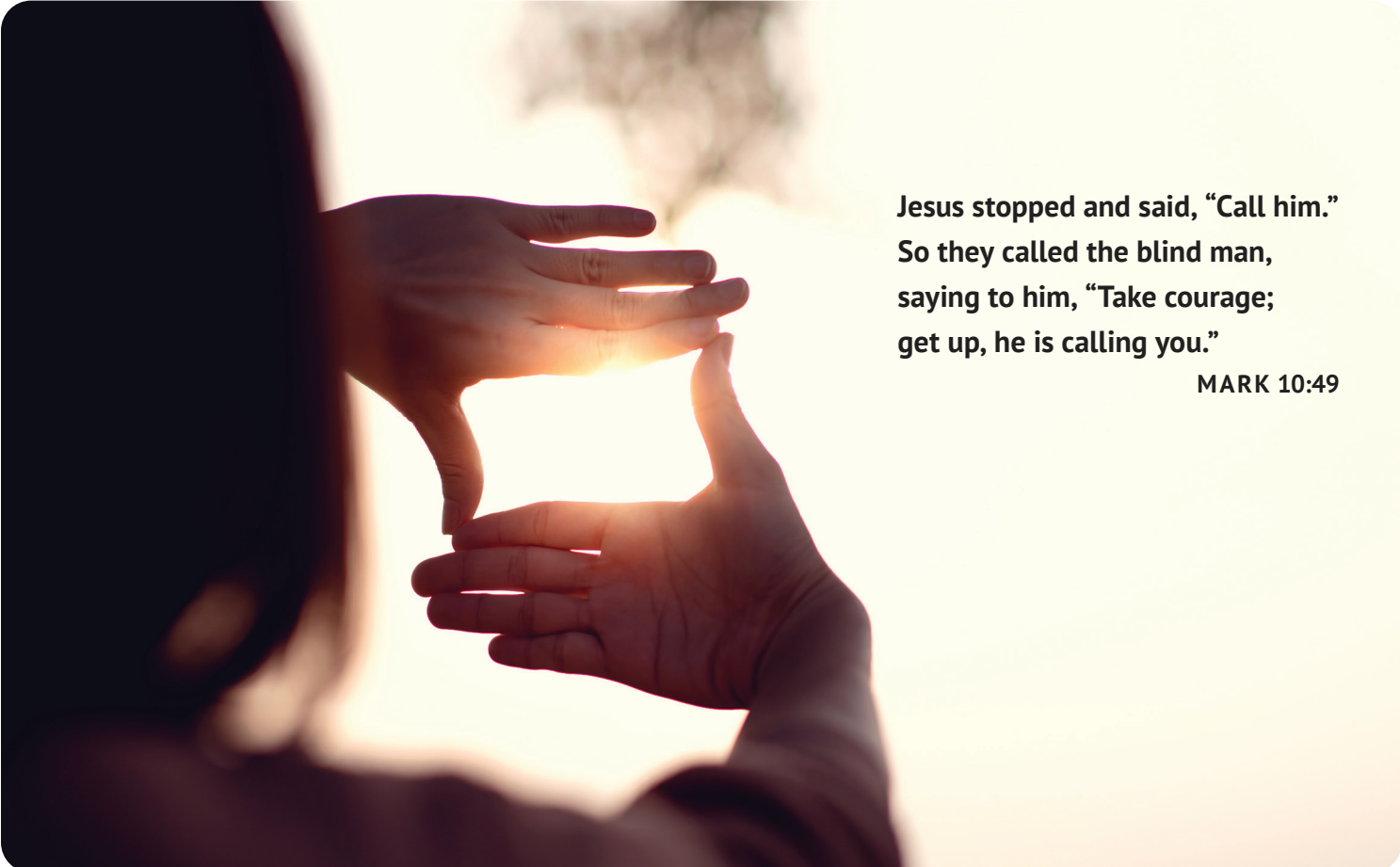
The story of blind Bartimaeus is an illustration of how we come to be people of faith. Like Bartimaeus, we may find ourselves helpless and on the side of life's road as we watch the world go by. And like him, we too then turn to God for help. Just as Jesus called Bartimaeus, we may sense that God is calling us to trust and surrender to his vision of life for us. Throwing aside the cloak that he would use to gather alms by the roadside, Bartimaeus comes to Jesus. That simple action displays his willingness to leave his old way of life behind in order to follow Jesus.

This is how we come to faith—we are given a glimpse of life from God's perspective and must trust

enough to cooperate with whatever God may bring our way. Such pivotal moments in life may come with the death of a loved one, the end of a relationship, or the loss of a job, when we need to trust that there is more to life in what lies ahead. Or it may come in those times when we need to learn how to cope with a lifelong illness, a failed dream, or growing old. It's all about how we come to faith—by trusting that God will bring us to new life, even though we may be blind to the ways he will bring it about. ●

Reflect

Have you ever experienced a hard ending that turned into a good beginning?



Jesus stopped and said, "Call him."
So they called the blind man,
saying to him, "Take courage;
get up, he is calling you."

MARK 10:49



St. Joseph's Church

was consecrated on the 29th of 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

Acting Pastor: Fr. Joseph Morley - Cell: 705-0236



Tentative Mass Schedule

Saturday afternoon at 4:00 p.m.

Sunday morning at 8:45 a.m.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

St. Joseph's – by appointment

BAPTISMS by appointment – one month in advance

WEDDINGS by appointment – one year in advance (approx.)

FILIPINO MASS – Saturday, 16th November – 11:00 a.m.

KIDS & YOUTH MINISTRY – Sunday 9:45 – 10:45 a.m.

Children's Mass – 24th November

Pastoral & Finance Council – Monday, 18th November

Monthly Coffee Social – 27th October

DIOCESE HAMILTON IN BERMUDA

Most Rev. Bishop, Wiesław (Wes) Śpiewak

www.romancaholicbermuda.bm

Parish Team Leaders

Mrs. Elizabeth Card – Pastoral
Council Chairperson

Mrs. Annette Barclay
St. Vincent de Paul
Society Representative

Walette Cross
Stewardship Representative

Natalia Walker
Religious Education
Kids & Youth Ministry

Mrs. Mary Harvey - Parish
Administrator & Finance
Committee Team Leader

Mrs. Jane Farge
Music Ministry

Today's Hymns

Entrance: Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee #575

Offertory: I Heard the Voice of Jesus #692

Communion: The Supper of the Lord #774

Recessional: Now Thank We All Our God #603

Leader of Song: Justin Tavares

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

The St. Joseph's Parish family takes this opportunity to thank you for coming to worship with us today. May the loving Lord always be with you, and with your families.



Sunday – 3rd November 2024

Proclaimer of God's Word
Opening/Closing of the Church
Eucharistic Minister
Collection Counters
Altar Servers
Music

Stefano Ausenda
Elizabeth Card
Joanne Smith
Annette Barclay
Alessia Vianello
Jane Farge

Prayers: Please keep our **sick and shut-ins** in your prayers, especially Ilene Bremar, Eleanor Correia, Bernie & Eileen Davies, Jenny Woods; Jose Garcia, Evelyn Pinlac, and Mary Maybury, and for Petra Caesar who is still in the hospital.

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, 26th October *Brigido & *Francisca Domondon

Sunday, 27th October *Jose Miguel Arruda

ATTENDANCE & COLLECTION

MASS	Attendees	Collection
Sat. 19 th October 4:00 p.m. (Reg)	14	95.00
(Mission)		50.00
Sun. 20 th October 8:45 a.m. (Reg)	41	295.00
(Mission)		240.00
Filipino Mass 19 th October 11:00 a.m.	20	125.00
TOTAL:	75	\$805.00

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

BIRTHDAYS

Stephen Card 28th October
Ana Frois (Pereira) 2nd November
Olga Garcia 3rd November

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



THANK YOU to all who contributed towards World Mission Sunday, your kindness and generosity is most gratefully appreciated.



Our "Kids & Youth Ministry" is just getting under way, including the First Holy Communion classes. It's not too late to join in.



Please joins us in the Parish Centre after Mass for our monthly Coffee Social.

PASTOR'S POINT

Dear Parishioners,

The readings this week show life with God as a journey along "the way." In the Old Testament readings, "the way" is a journey home from exile in Babylon. God gathers his displaced people and brings them back to the land of Israel. It's a familiar road. The Jews first walked it weeping

after Israel's defeat by Babylon. Now it is a path of joy and laughter as they set their hearts toward home.

As the Gospel reading indicates, early Christians sometimes referred to the lifelong journey of following Jesus as "the way." After the blind beggar Bartimaeus receives his sight again he follows Jesus "on the way."

When Jesus asks, "What do you want me to do for you?" Bartimaeus has a simple answer: "I want to see." In Scripture, sight often has a double meaning. It means to see with one's physical eyes, but it also means to see with the heart and the mind - to perceive or understand. Bartimaeus receives both kinds of sight. He is no longer physically blind and does not need to beg on the side of the road anymore. But he also sees correctly that Jesus is the Son of God.

Just before Jesus heals Bartimaeus, he tells him, "Go your way: your faith has saved you." The same Greek word is used for "heal" and "save," and Jesus has done both: healed Bartimaeus and saved him. Instead of following Jesus' instructions to "Go your way," Bartimaeus does the right thing - he goes Jesus' way instead, taking up the role of the disciple by following Him.

This is a great example of "faith in action." Are you doing the same thing in your life by following Jesus the way Bartimaeus chose to do?

God bless and have courage in practicing your faith daily,

Fr. Joe (Acting) Pastor and Vicar General

WORDS OF LIFE – USCCB - October 27

"The witness of our Blessed Mother [in the Gospel account of her visit to her pregnant cousin, Elizabeth,] invites us to become more aware of the needs of pregnant and parenting moms in our own parishes and communities.....Mary's witness is an invitation to step out in love and compassion. It is a summons to *make haste* to help vulnerable women who may be isolated and alone."

USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities Respect Life

Reflection: Called to Serve Moms in

Need respectlife.org/called-to-serve-reflection

BISHOP'S CORNER

Dear Fellow-Catholics,

I missed this topic when it was published in May. I have learned about it now and want to share it with you, as I find it is very important.

Better collaboration between schools and mental health providers, an emotional skills programme tailored for Bermuda, and the promotion of healthy behaviours are among priority areas being explored to address high levels of depression and anxiety symptoms among Bermuda's young people.

Daniel Cavanagh, a PhD student at the University of Melbourne, and Shawnee Basden, a Psychologist, conducted a survey in the [last academic year](#) involving seventy six per cent of middle and high school students. The study of students aged ten to nineteen showed that thirty-one per cent of those surveyed had "moderate

to severe" symptoms of depression or anxiety. This figure is about five to six per cent higher than global averages during the Pandemic. The study also identified an urgent need to remove the stigma attached to mental health as seventy-three per cent of those who reported symptoms said they would try to deal with depression or social anxiety on their own. Of those, sixty-two per cent cited being too embarrassed to get help as the main reason.

Mr. Cavanagh told The Royal Gazette: "A big recommendation for us is that we have to improve the social and emotional skills of young people to deal with modern-day stresses. We need a culturally adapted programme to the Bermuda context that teaches adolescents, and also educates parents, about mental health and how to develop certain social and emotional skills. The biggest thing was prevention efforts; we need to target the cause as opposed to targeting the symptoms. That's why a culturally adapted programme is a good idea as well as targeting healthy behaviours. It requires a whole community effort to really tackle the problem. Schools need to be working out how to promote healthy behaviours, service providers need to develop anti-stigma campaigns, the working group needs to assist in promoting healthy behaviours, and the research team needs to continue working in this context and help with the next phase."

Have a restful weekend and a blessed week!

Bishop Wes

ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH BINGO

St. Patrick's Church will be holding a Soup (Red Bean) and Sandwiches Bingo on **Sunday, November 3, 2024, from 3:00 – 5:00 p.m.**, in their Church Hall, in recognition of National Sandwich Day! Tickets are \$10 which includes one bingo card. MC for the bingo will be Ronnie Lopes. Tickets will be on sale after weekend Masses from Parish Council Members.

REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR FOOD DRIVE

During the 2024 Advent season, parishes throughout our Diocese are asked to support a "Reverse Advent Calendar Food Drive". How does it work? Each day of Advent, add one item, from a list, to be provided at a later date, to your collection box. By Christmas, you will have a food basket that will be donated to those in need in the New Year. This is a great way to get the whole family involved in the Advent season and demonstrate the true spirit of Christmas! Watch this space for more details in the coming weeks. Any questions can be forwarded to Elaine Kelly at ekelly@ibl.bm

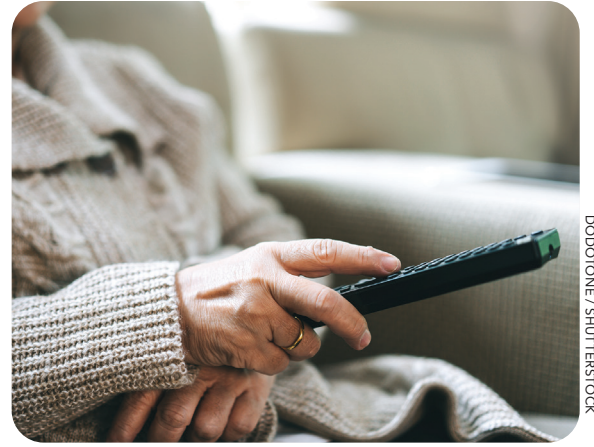
Due to the 11:00am All Souls Mass on Saturday, 2nd of November, 2024 at St. Theresa's Cathedral, the 9:00 a.m. Mass with the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will NOT take place.

Dear Padre,

I am an eighty-year-old with painful knee replacements. Am I allowed to remain seated during Mass? Also, at what age am I free to watch a televised Mass at home instead of going to Mass?

Your health condition permits you to remain seated while others in the congregation kneel or stand. Of primary importance is your valued presence, and your full, active participation with fellow members of your Catholic faith community. At Mass, “the faithful form a holy people...so that they may give thanks to God and offer the unblemished sacrificial Victim not only by means of the hands of the Priest but also together with him...” (*General Instruction of the Roman Missal*, 95).

However, if someone is incapable of attending Mass, then the obligation is abrogated, regardless of age. The Church allows a televised Mass primarily for people who are homebound, in hospitals, nursing homes, and prisons. “The televised Mass is never a substitute for the Church’s pastoral care for the sick in the form of visits by parish ministers who share the Scriptures and bring Communion, nor is it ever a substitute for the Sunday Mass celebrated within a parish faith community each week” (*Guidelines for Televising the Liturgy*, USCCB, 2014). If you are unable to be present at Mass, you have an opportunity to identify with a worshiping community, hear the word of God, be moved to expressions of praise and thanksgiving, and unite with Christ in spiritual communion. ●



DODOTONE / SHUTTERSTOCK

Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR / DearPadre.org

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
October 28	October 29	October 30	October 31	November 1	November 2	November 3
<i>Sts. Simon and Jude, Apostles</i>	<i>Weekday</i>	<i>Weekday</i>	<i>Weekday</i>	<i>All Saints</i>	<i>Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Souls)</i>	<i>Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>
Eph 2:19–22 Lk 6:12–16	Eph 5:21–33 Lk 13:18–21	Eph 6:1–9 Lk 13:22–30	Eph 6:10–20 Lk 13:31–35	Rv 7:2–4, 9–14 1 Jn 3:1–3 Mt 5:1–12a	Wis 3:1–9 Rom 6:3–9 Jn 6:37–40	Dt 6:2–6 Heb 7:23–28 Mk 12:28b–34



FIZKES / SHUTTERSTOCK

A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

Jesus hears [Bartimaeus’] plea. When he goes to him... he takes time to listen. This is the first step in helping the journey of faith: listening. It is the apostolate of the ear.... For Jesus, the cry of those pleading for help is not a nuisance but a challenge. How important it is for us to listen to life!

HOMILY, ROME, OCTOBER 28, 2018

Our Sunday Readings



The Lord Leads

JEREMIAH 31:7-9

Reading closely

1. To whom is the prophet speaking?
2. What is a *remnant*?
3. Who is part of this gathering?
4. What should the people do?
5. What all will God do for the people?
6. What do you think it would be like to be part of this group?
7. How might people have felt when they heard this prophesy?
8. How might people have reacted to this prophecy?

Living the word

9. How did a time you felt lonely or neglected affect your relationship with God?
10. Where do you think God is leading you?
11. How do you discern where God is leading you?
12. Who is with you on your spiritual journey?

THE FIRST READING

The prophet Jeremiah

The prophet Jeremiah was born around 650 BC. He began to prophesy during the reign of King Josiah, who did many things to help Israel follow God's law. The Israelite kings who reigned after

Josiah, however, were far less faithful to God. During their reigns Jeremiah warned that God would punish the nation for its sins.

From punishment to promise

Like Isaiah, Jeremiah prophesied that the Babylonian invasion of Jerusalem was God's punishment upon the Israelites. Jeremiah also prophesied that after this terrible event, God would bring his scattered people safely back to their land.

- God will gather all the Israelites who became refugees or prisoners during the invasion (v.8a)
- God is so powerful he will gather even the most vulnerable people (v.8b,c)
- God will provide his people water and a smooth path for their journey home (v.9)

Another Exodus

Jeremiah's description of the people's return to their homeland alludes to the Exodus, in which God leads his enslaved people out of Egypt, through the desert, and into prosperity. The Exodus is the story of the creation of Israel. Jeremiah's prophecy is a promise that God will gather and establish his people once again.

MARK 10:46-52

Reading closely

1. What might life be like for Bartimaeus?
2. What all might Bartimaeus want or expect from Jesus?
3. Why do you think the crowd tries to silence Bartimaeus?
4. Why do you think Bartimaeus keeps calling out for Jesus?
5. How does Bartimaeus respond when Jesus invites him forward?
6. Why does Jesus ask what Bartimaeus wants?
7. Why does Jesus tell Bartimaeus to *go your way*?
8. What all does *saved* mean?
9. How do you think Jesus reacts when Bartimaeus decides to follow him?
10. What is the significance of Jesus' destination?

Living the word

11. How is Bartimaeus a model of faith for you?
12. How is your faith saving you?
13. How do you respond when good things happen to you?
14. How readily do you call out to Jesus?

THE GOSPEL READING

Son of David

Bartimaeus calls Jesus *Son of David*. This title, used here for the first time in Mark's Gospel, is another way to express faith in Jesus as messiah and king. Jesus accepts the title Bartimaeus gives him. However, he will not fulfill the role of messiah/king/Son of David in the way that people expect.

Many Jews longed for someone to lead them into victory over their Roman conquerors. Passages in what is now our Old Testament indicate that a descendant of King David would free Israel and restore the nation to greatness. This person would be God's *anointed* or *chosen one* just as David was (2 Samuel 7:12-16, Isaiah 11). The Hebrew word for *anointed one* is *messiah*. The Greek word is *christ*.

Although Jesus accepts messianic titles, he doesn't pursue military victories but acts instead with compassion and mercy. He also repeatedly urges his followers to act with this same self-giving love.

Life-saving faith

In most of the stories in Mark's Gospel Jesus can only heal those who have faith. Bartimaeus' faith is strong: he calls out in spite of the crowd's attempt to silence him, and when Jesus summons him, he rushes forward. He even throws aside his cloak, which he probably placed in front of him to collect money while begging. Though blind, Bartimaeus sees that his life is about to change.

What people see

The healing of Bartimaeus is the last thing that happens during Jesus' journey to Jerusalem. Jesus will next enter the city in which he will be killed. During his journey Jesus repeatedly told his disciples that he would suffer and die.

The disciples don't understand or can't accept that Jesus will suffer. They don't yet see who Jesus is. Despite his physical blindness, Bartimaeus sees Jesus more clearly than they do. He even chooses to follow Jesus to the place of suffering and death.

The Way

Jesus tells Bartimaeus to *go your way*. Although *the way* can refer simply to a path or road, among the early Christians it also meant believing in and following Jesus.

Instead of going his own way, Bartimaeus chooses the way of Jesus. Having asked for healing, he now accepts the demands of discipleship. Bartimaeus is thus a model of both faith and discipleship. True faith commits a follower to Jesus' dangerous way.

PRAYER

*from Healing Prayers
by the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate*

My Lord,
I turn to you with childlike faith and trust in your love for me.
I ask that you look upon me with mercy whenever I suffer or am in fear or anguish.
Help me to find the way to a happy and purposeful life so that I might show your kind and loving way to others. Amen.