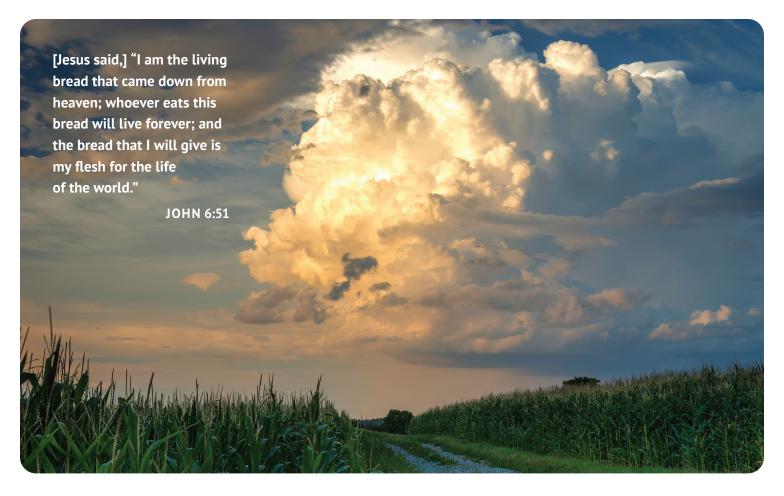
Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)

1 Kings 19:4-8 / Ephesians 4:30-5:2 / John 6:41-51





The Wisdom Journey

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

n the journey of life, how does one know when to keep struggling to make the dream come true, to continue pushing and refusing to surrender, or when to pull back, to recognize it was not meant to be and accept that? One thinks, perhaps one more effort will bring success. But our insistence may be our ego striving for something which, in the end, would be to our detriment. How does one know?

Though one can never be sure, there may be a moment when life calls us to surrender. When Elijah found himself rushing to escape the fearsome revenge of Queen Jezebel, whose 450 prophets of Baal he had bested and consigned to the netherworld, he fled into the desert, sat down beneath a broom tree, and prayed for death (1 Kings 18:22–19:4). Life as a

prophet of God had become too much to bear. He had surrendered, yet it was at this point that he was fed by God to continue the journey.

The Gospel's message is that we shall all be taught by God. There comes a time to recognize that God's wisdom is greater than our own and we must be open to a different path of life than what we had anticipated. It is one of God's ways of teaching us, of feeding us with wisdom to seek another course. •

Reflect

Do you find it difficult to change your mind, to accept that someone else may be correct, to believe and apply the challenging message of the Gospel?



St. Anthony's Church

26 Middle Road -Warwick WK03, Bermuda Phone: (Office Direct Line) 441-238-1784

Parish Email: stanthonybermuda@gmail.com

Fr. Joe Morley 441-705-0236

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 441-236-2438 Email: stanthonyccd@yahoo.com

St. Vincent de Paul Rep: Pat Rodrigues

St. Vincent de Paul – 525-1191

Neocatechumenal Community (NCW):

Wednesdays & Saturdays 8:00 PM in the Cottage

Mass Schedule at St. Anthony's

| Sat | Aug | 10 | 6:15 pm | Tony & Ermelinda Freitas++ |
|--------------|-----|----|----------|-----------------------------|
| Sun | Aug | 11 | 11:30 am | Parishioners of St. Anthony |
| Tues | Aug | 13 | 8:15 am | |
| Wed | Aug | 14 | 8:15 am | |
| Thurs Aug 15 | | | 8:15 am | |
| Fri | Aug | 16 | 8:15 am | |
| Sat | Aug | 17 | 6:15 pm | Special Intention |
| Sun | Aug | 18 | 11:30 am | Parishioners of St. Anthony |

Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are needed to serve as lectors, Eucharistic ministers, ushers, collection counters, etc. if you can assist, kindly let Father Joe know.

Mass Schedule for St. Anthony's

Until the end of summer, the weekend masses will continue to be at 6:15 pm on Saturdays and 11:30 am on Sundays. The weekday mass will be at 8:15 am. Please be aware that St. Anthony's Church will be open prior and closed after each Mass.

BULLETIN for August 3-August 4, 2024

Weekly Collections at St. Anthony's

July 27/July 28 \$ 2,754.00 Aug 1 / Aug 8 \$ 893.00

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 i.e., Gen collection; Maintenance; Mission Sunday, etc. Multiple payments can be made for those times that 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 or British currency in the collection baskets.

Maintenance Collection – first weekend of the month

Counters this week: Annette and Anna Next week: Annette and Steve

Pastor's Point

Dear Parishioners,

Just prior to today's readings from the First Book of Kings, Elijah killed the prophets of Baal, and Queen Jezebel swore to kill him in retaliation. He flees to the desert and is so disheartened that he prays for death. The prophet Jonah also sat down under a tree in the desert and wished to die. Jonah struggled with God's extravagant mercy; Elijah with the depths of Israel's idolatry. Elijah's forty-day journey to the mountain of God foreshadows other long walks in the wilderness: Israel's forty years of wandering in the desert, and Jesus' forty days of fasting before facing the devil's temptations. This should remind us of the times when we have forty days during the Lenten Season. Elijah, like Jesus, receives help from an angel, who strengthens him: "The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear Him and delivers them" (Psalm 34:8).

In the Gospel, Jesus' encounter with the Jews recalls Moses' interaction with the Hebrews he led out of Egypt. Here, the Jews are "murmuring" or complaining about Jesus just as the Israelites murmured about Moses and ultimately God. The same is true here and now on planet earth with us; therefore, not much has changed. Human nature is human nature regardless of era. Understandably, they are unsettled by Jesus' words. Jesus claims not only to have descended from heaven but also that whoever eats His living bread will never die and

that the bread He offers the world is His flesh. To Jesus' fellow Jews, these claims must have seemed shocking, even blasphemous. After all, they know His parents; He is from Nazareth, not heaven! The rest of the Gospel unfolds the bold claim that Jesus has seen the Father, despite Scripture's insistence that nobody can see God and live (Exodus 33:20). This sounds contradictory, but it is not.

As we have seen in the news, combating anti-Semitism begins with us. When we hear these readings that mention "the Jews," choose words carefully, so as not to create an "us" and "them" mantra. If we do not take an active role in addressing these abusive interpretations of ancient Scripture, we are part of the problem that leads to increased violence against Jewish people today. Dwelling in the murmurs of confusing or belittling rhetoric keeps us from the very flesh (Jesus) that is eternal life since Jesus is the way, the truth and the life. Remember, Jesus was Jewish and the Jewish people were chosen by God.

As you read from OUR SUNDAY READINGS (2 pages), choose a question or two and reflect upon it this coming week. What is the Lord saying to you today or even how do you perhaps relate to the people in the Scriptures?

God Fr. Joe, Acting Pastor bless,

Bishop's Corner

Dear Fellow-Catholics,

Pope Francis urged artificial intelligence leaders to "protect human dignity in this new era of machines." In a message to an AI Ethics Conference in Hiroshima, Japan, with leaders from Microsoft, IBM, Cisco, the United Nations, representatives from all major world religions, and more than 150 participants from 13 countries, the Pope underlined that artificial intelligence has implications for the future of war and peace in our world. He called for a ban on lethal autonomous weapon systems, a class of weapons that use computer algorithms to independently target and employ weapons without manual human control of the system. Francis said, "No machine should ever choose to take the life of a human being." He underscored the symbolic importance of discussing AI ethics at the atomic bombing site in Hiroshima, a place that serves as a reminder of the consequences that can arise from advancing technology without considering the full implications.

He added, "It is crucial that, united as brothers and sisters, we remind the world that in light of the tragedy that is

armed conflict, it is urgent to reconsider the development and use of devices like the so-called 'lethal autonomous weapons' and ultimately ban their use. This starts from an effective and concrete commitment to introduce ever greater and proper human control."

The Vatican has been heavily involved in the conversation on artificial intelligence ethics, hosting high-level discussions with scientists and tech executives on the ethics of artificial intelligence since 2016.

Have a restful weekend and a blessed week! Bishop Wes

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Important Notices

Please be advised that there will be NO Wednesday evening Portuguese Mass at St. Patrick's during the Summer. This Mass will resume on the 2nd of October, 2024.

Please be advised that the 9:00am Mass at St. Theresa's on Saturdays will be suspended for the summer, due to very low attendance. The Mass will resume on Saturday, September 14, 2024

Message from Bishop Wes

Dear Friends,

Please be reminded that in our Diocese the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary that falls on the 15th of August is to be celebrated on the weekend that follows the liturgical occurrence. This year it will be the weekend of the 17th/18th of August. It means that the Mass of the Solemnity with its prayers, readings and music should replace the texts of the 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time. I suggest you use the readings and prayers of the Mass during the day both on Saturday evening Mass and on Sunday Masses.

I would also suggest on Thursday, the 15th of August, to use the texts of the Vigil Mass of the Assumption, with one reading only and Gloria but no Profession of Faith (Credo). All the best,

Bishop Wes

Dear Padre,

I miss the use of incense. Is it forbidden or out of style?

Incense is not out of style, nor is it forbidden. It is still burned to signify that Christ's sacrifice ascends to God as an odor of sweetness and as a sign of people's prayers rising to the throne of God. In the Book of Revelation, we read: "Another angel came and stood at the altar, holding a gold censer. He was given a great quantity of incense to offer, along with the prayers of all the holy ones, on the gold altar that was before the throne. The smoke of the incense along with the prayers of the holy ones went up before God from the hand of the angel" (Revelation 8:3–4).



Incense is a resinous substance obtained by cutting into the bark of a fir or pine tree. The original meaning of the Hebrew word for incense was "fragrant smoke." Ancient Jews burned incense as an act of worship in the tabernacle and temple. Scripture mentions incense often (Ephesians 5:2 and Philippians 4:18, for instance).

Today, incense is often used at the benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, at funerals, and during other special liturgical celebrations to highlight the festivity of a particular occasion. Celebrants may also use incense in any liturgy to bless the congregation, the altar, the book of the Gospels, and the gifts of bread and wine. •

The Redemptorists / 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 August 12 Weekday Ez 1:2–5, 24–28c Mt 17:22–27 | Tuesday August 13 Weekday Ez 2:8-3:4 Mt 18:1-5, 10, 12-14 | Wednesday August 14 St. Maximilian Kolbe, Priest and Martyr Ez 9:1–7; 10:18–22 Mt 18:15–20 | Thursday August 15 Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Rv 11:19a; 12:1– 6a, 10ab | Friday August 16 Weekday Ez 16:1–15, 60, 63 or 16:59–63 Mt 19:3–12 | Saturday August 17 Weekday Ez 18:1–10, 13b, 30–32 Mt 19:13–15 | Sunday August 18 Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time Prv 9:1-6 Eph 5:15-20 Jn 6:51-58 |
|---|---|--|--|--|---|---|
| | | Mt 18:15-20 | 1 Cor 15:20-27 Lk 1:39-56 | | | JII 0.31–36 |



A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

Without [Jesus], rather than living, we get by: because he alone nourishes the soul; he alone forgives us from that evil that we cannot overcome on our own; he alone makes us feel loved even if everyone else disappoints us; he alone gives us the strength to love and, he alone gives us the strength to forgive. ANGELUS, ROME, AUGUST 8, 2021

