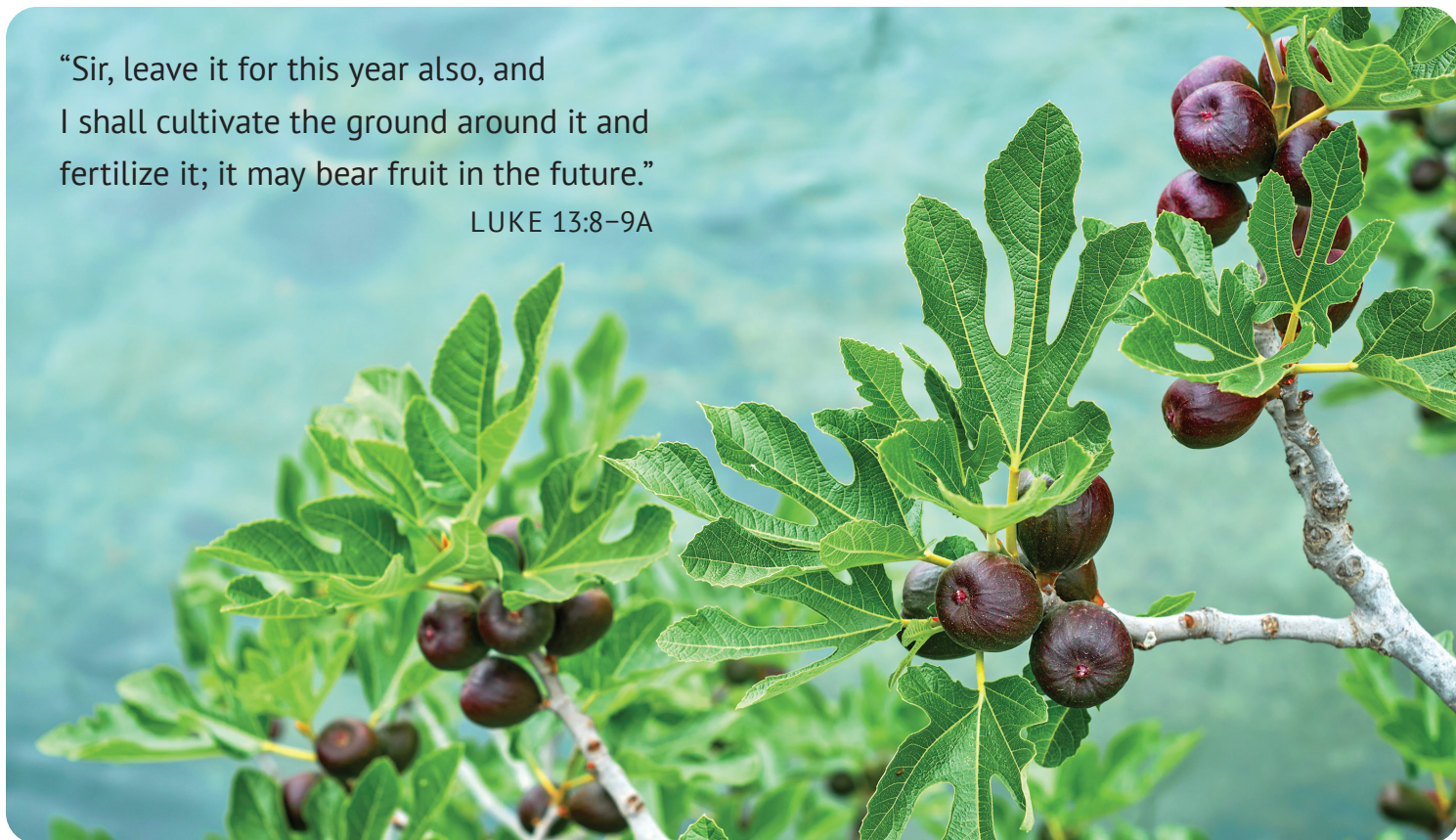




“Sir, leave it for this year also, and I shall cultivate the ground around it and fertilize it; it may bear fruit in the future.”

LUKE 13:8–9A



A Gardener God

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

Charles Baudelaire was a French poet and essayist in the mid-1800s. He once observed that life is like a hospital in which each patient is possessed by the desire to change beds. In other words, he thought everyone seemed to think life would be so much better if only they had a different set of circumstances, a different job, a different marriage, a different place in life. Like trees, however, not everyone grows and matures at the same pace. There are forty-year-olds who still act and think like teenagers, and there are ten-year-olds who have an attitude toward life like that of an elder. Over time, we all grow into the lives we're given.

In this week's Parable of the Barren Fig Tree, some think God is like the owner who planted the tree, as

if God is impatient with us to begin bearing fruit and quick to uproot us if we fail. A case could be made, however, for God to be the gardener who patiently fertilizes and nurtures. In the beginning, it was God who had a garden called Eden, filled with all kinds of trees and plants among which God walked with Adam and Eve in the cool of the evening. After the resurrection, it was Mary Magdalene who went looking for the body of Jesus and mistook him for the gardener. It is God who hovers over us, watering and nudging and nurturing, waiting until in God's good time, we begin to bear fruit. ●

Reflect

***What needs nurturing in my life,
and what needs weeding out?***



St. Theresa's Cathedral

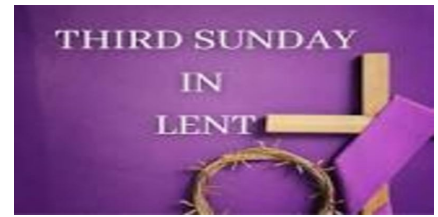
P.O. Box HM 1191, Hamilton, HM EX, Bermuda
 Tel. 441-292-0607
 Email: sttheresas@northrock.bm

Bishop Wes Spiewak, C.R., Diocese of Hamilton Bermuda

Chancery & Cemetery Office: Tell:232-4414: orcc@northrock.bm
IN RESIDENCE: Rev. Dandy Traje, C.P., Rector Tel: 292-0607 Ext. 3
Mrs. Karen Scarth, Cathedral Administrator Tel: 292-0607 Ext. 2
 Monday's – Friday's from 10:00am –4:00pm

St. Vincent de Paul Society Parish Rep: Joanne Judd & Tommy Sinclair
St. Theresa's Gift Shop: 292-0416 **Shop Hours:** Tuesday's & Saturday's from 10:00am–2:00pm

- Confessions:** By appointment only, at this time
Baptisms: By appointment – 5 weeks in advance
Weddings: By appointment – 1 year in advance. Pre-Marriage Course is required for all weddings here or overseas
Website: www.romancatholicbermuda.bm – Where you can find information about our Diocese.
Facebook: www.facebook.com/CatholicDioceseBermuda – Visit our page & "LIKE" us to join our on-line community.



PORTUGUESE MASS INTENTIONS:

Manuel Medeiros, Maria de Jesus Andrade, José Soares Oliveira, Maria de Lourdes Lima, Ilda Faria, Irene Faria Maria de Jesus Cunha, Miguel Franco, Vergílio Mendonça, Honorina Frias, Maria José Mendonca, Marcelino Aguiar, Evelina Leite, Luís Pimentel, Frederick George Eatherley, Augusto Mota, Fr. Júlio Blazejewski

SUNDAY & SPECIAL OFFERINGS ONLINE BANKING & PARISH ENVELOPES:

Please make direct payments to St. Theresa's Cathedral at Bank of Butterfield **A/C #2000 6060 4827 32100** Also, the parish encourages the use of **Sunday Offering Envelopes** to promote the concept of stewardship of treasure.
Thank you for your continued support!

ONLINE TRANSFER PAYMENTS:

Please be aware when coordinating any online transfers to our Butterfield Bank A/C #2000 6060 4827 32100, **please send an email** to the Rectory office to **advise** of the incoming funds and **how** they should be **allocated**. Unfortunately, even when senders include a memo on their end, the transfer details do not always appear on our end. *Thank you!*

FILIPINO MASS SCHEDULE:

- St. Theresa's Cathedral**
 7PM 1st Friday of the month (usually)
St. Patrick's Church
 7PM 2nd Friday of the month
St. Joseph's Church
 11AM 3rd Saturday of the month
Stella Maris Church
 7PM Last Wednesday of the month

ADORATION: Saturday Adoration in the Chapel of St. Theresa's Cathedral: **9:00am** – Holy Mass in Portuguese followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Adoration – **10:15am** - Benediction

DATES	TIMES	INTENTIONS
Sat. Mar. 22nd	6:30pm	+ Margaret Elliot
Sun. Mar. 23rd (Portuguese)	8:30am 10:00am 11:30am 6:0pm	+ Antonio & Ernestina Rebello + **See top, right post + Ethan Arruda + Kirby Brackstone
Mon. Mar. 24th	7:30am 12:10pm	In Honor of Our Lady of Medjugorge Personal Intentions of Kevin Alcantara
Tues. Mar. 25th	7:30am 12:10pm	Herscheo Minks, Birthday Wishes Personal Intentions of Arlene Ciasico
Wed. Mar. 26th	7:30am 12:10pm	+ John C. Johnson Protect the Sacred Life of the Unborn Replace Abortion for Adoption
Thurs Mar. 27th	7:30am 12:10pm	+ Roy Thomas + Betty Slater, Birthday in Heaven
Fri. Mar. 28th	7:30am 12:10pm	Intentions of Gabrielle Brackstone Anthony Bertrand, Healing Prayers & Happy Birthday
Sat. Mar. 29th	6:30pm	Spiritual Baptism & Protection of the Sacred Life of the Unborn
Sun. Mar. 30th (Portuguese)	8:30am 10:00am 11:30am 6:00pm	Peggy Barrett, Wishing Good Health Personal Intentions of Juliette Alcantara St. Theresa's Parish Family

NEXT WEEK'S MINISTRY : March 29th & 30th, 2025

Time:	6:30pm	8:30am	11:30am	6:00pm
Proclaimer:	J. Judd	K. Scarth	A. Cannonier	C. Duqueza
Communion Ministers:	T. Fletcher D. DeSilva S. Booth A. Machado	G. Lovecchio C. Scarth O. Scarth I. Brackstone	G. Edwards M. Tan A. Tan	C. Sevilla E. Mosley R. Ronquillo
Song Leaders:	N/A	F. Wohlmuth	D. Mutch	Kids Choir

LECTIO DIVINA: Mondays at 7:30pm via Zoom. Please contact Franz Wohlmuth on, fgwohlmuth@logic.bm to join. Meetings are led by Bishop Wes.



WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT :

Jesus, The parable in today's Gospel clearly warns that we, like the fig tree, will be judged by our fruit. While God mercifully provides us with time and opportunity, let us give witness to our faith with deeds of kindness and generosity!

Steward's Sharing of Treasure

	Date	Actual
Collection:	Mar. 15th/16th	\$4,050.00
Electronic offering:	Mar. 15th/16th	\$4,715.00
Filipino Mass	Mar. 7th	\$601.00
2025 Collection To Date:	Week 11	\$62,224.50

Thank you for your support!



ST. THERESA'S CHAPEL

Mar 23rd—29th, 2025

Donation Given for Two 7- day Candles

Intentions of Maria Angelina & Jose Augusto Rego



MEMORIAL FLOWERS FOR EASTER:

Forms are located at the doors of the Cathedral and on the communion rail for anyone who wishes to make an offering for Easter Flowers "In Memory" of their deceased loved ones. The Easter Flower Memorials will be listed in a special pamphlet and the names will be remembered at all the Masses on Easter Sunday. **Deadline is Sunday, 13th April, 2025.**

Please be advised that during the season of Lent:



7:30AM and 12:10PM Masses:

celebrated from **Monday to Friday.**

STATIONS OF THE CROSS:

Fridays during Lent 11:40AM & 6PM

Sunday during Lent 4PM(Portuguese)



Please be advised that there will be two Lenten Reconciliation Services this week:

Wednesday, March 26th, St. Patrick's Church from 4:00pm to 6:00pm.

Thursday, March 27th, St. Theresa's Cathedral from 6:00pm to 8:00pm.

There will be two additional priests from Canada to minister the Sacrament together with our priests.



KNOW YOUR BIBLE:

Come and join Fr. Dandy, for an afternoon of deepening our knowledge and understanding of our Bible, on **Saturday, April 5th from 2-4PM**, in the St. Theresa's Cathedral Hall.

All are welcome!

THE BISHOP'S CORNER



Dear Fellow-Catholics,

We all know that the three main works of mercy and penitence that we are invited to undertake in the Lenten season are prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Also, I am sure that this Lent everyone has resolved himself/herself to observe these Lenten practices on a personal level. It came to my mind, however, that perhaps we should try to do something as a Diocese to assist a poorer church in a missionary country. I have given this project the title of "Diocesan Lenten Almsgiving". It would be beautiful if each year we were willing, as a community of faith, to show this kind of solidarity, support and mercy towards our sisters and brothers who are less fortunate than we are.

This year I would like to direct our Diocesan Lenten Almsgiving to assist Our Lady of the Assumption Parish in Dhaka, Bangladesh. In September 2023, Fr. Jacob Swapan Gomes spent some time in our Diocese promoting the construction of this Parish Church. You, my dear people, showed an amazing generosity with almost \$20,000.00 being collected for this purpose. Thanks to your generosity the church has been constructed and dedicated by the Archbishop of Dhaka in January 2025. You are able to view photos on the information boards in our churches.

Fr. Jacob is now trying to raise further funds to build the Rectory and the Parish Centre as well as a Parish playing ground to create a decent space for gathering mainly children and youth at the Parish. He will not be continuing with this project as he will hopefully come to minister in our Diocese, but he wants to leave a financial cushion to his successor.

On the weekend of March 29th/30th, there will be a Special Collection in our churches as our Diocesan Lenten Almsgiving. You can also donate online to our diocesan account with Butterfield Bank; Account Name ORCC Special Account 20006060021098100, with the memo BANGLADESH. Thank you for your generosity!

Have a restful weekend and a blessed third week of Lent!

Bishop Wes

SPECIAL COLLECTION:



Please be advised that on the weekend of **March 29th/30th, 2025** there will be a Special Collection in all our parish churches as a "Diocesan Lenten Almsgiving". It will be sent to support the construction of the Parish Centre and the Parish Playing Ground near Dhaka, Bangladesh.

SHORT TERM RENTAL NEEDED:



A parishioner is bringing his wife and child to Bermuda from April 11th to May 31st. He is looking for a short term rental of a small studio, or 1 bedroom apartment. Hoping to be close or around Hamilton. If you can assist, please contact via email, simplydelicious189@gmail.com or contact via WhatsApp at 519-6688.

Dear Padre,

May I receive Communion if I'm divorced and haven't gotten an annulment?

Yes, you may. Divorce, in itself, is not an impediment to the reception of Communion. Divorce, although regrettable because of the many ramifications that may be part of the experience, is not in itself a sin. There are situations when divorce may be the most loving choice and make it possible for all parties involved to live the lives God is calling them to live.

Remarriage, when a person is not free to marry because of the presence of a previous bond, is an impediment to the reception of holy Communion. Although this situation is more and more common, it does not mean that the law of the Church, representative of the teaching of Jesus, can be set aside. As part of the process of healing from your divorce and moving on with your life, you may want to seek an annulment, particularly if you think you might want to marry again. The annulment process can often be healing and a source of great blessing. It also provides a rare opportunity to reflect on what was lost as a result of the original divorce and what can be learned as a way of moving forward and building a second marriage that is strong and life-giving. ●



STEVE LOVERGROVE / SHUTTERSTOCK

Fr. Thomas M. Santa, CSsR / 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	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
March 24	March 25	March 26	March 27	March 28	March 29	March 30
<i>Lenten Weekday</i>	<i>The Annunciation of the Lord</i>	<i>Lenten Weekday</i>	<i>Lenten Weekday</i>	<i>Lenten Weekday</i>	<i>Lenten Weekday</i>	<i>Fourth Sunday of Lent</i>
2 Kgs 5:1–15b Lk 4:24–30	Is 7:10–14; 8:10 Heb 10:4–10 Lk 1:26–38	Dt 4:1, 5–9 Mt 5:17–19	Jer 7:23–28 Lk 11:14–23	Hos 14:2–10 Mk 12:28–34	Hos 6:1–6 Lk 18:9–14	Jos 5:9a, 10–12 2 Cor 5:17–21 Lk 15:1–3, 11–32



VATICAN MEDIA

A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

I like to think that a nice name for God could be “the God of another possibility”.... [God] does not look at the achievements you have not yet reached, but the fruits you can still bear. He does not keep track of your shortcomings but encourages your potential. He does not dwell on your past, but confidently bets on your future.

ANGELUS, ROME, MARCH 20, 2022