



God of Justice, God of Mercy

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

Life is not fair. Even though we know this, we expect God to be fair, which may be what irks so many about the Parable of the Lost Son. There is a part of our skewed human nature that agrees with the older son in the story. It certainly seems that the younger son was able to have his cake and eat it too, while the older son could only sit by and watch, missing out on the devil-may-care part of life. It didn't seem fair, and the older son said so.

The point of the story does seem to be that God is both just and merciful, but if ever one of those virtues seems to give way to the other, then, from God's perspective, divine mercy always trumps worldly justice. We,

however, think that's not fair. We grow suspect of deathbed conversions, worried that the person is trying to have life both ways. But do we give thought to the suffering such a life without God might entail? The humiliation and near starvation of the younger son as he lived his self-indulgent life?

We think we want God to be fair, but do we really?

Reflect

Does my life seem unfair? More fair or less fair compared with others?

In C.S. Lewis' novel, *Till We Have Faces*, one character asks another if the gods are just, to which is replied, "Oh, child, pray that they are not!" Do we really want to be treated with justice, getting exactly what we deserve and no more?

Or do we want to let God be God and be treated with mercy? ●

"Now we must celebrate and rejoice, because your brother was dead and has come to life again; he was lost and has been found."

LUKE 15:32





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: stanthonycdd@yahoo.com

St. Vincent de Paul Rep: Pat Rodrigues

St. Vincent de Paul No. 525-1191

Mass Schedule at St. Anthony's

March 29	6:15 pm	Manuel Moura+
March 30	11:30 am	Thanksgiving Intention of Louise Vizion (Liv)
April 1	8:30 am	
April 2	8:30 am	
April 3	8:30 am	No Mass
April 4	8:30 am	No Mass
April 5	6:15 pm	Manuel & Maria Moura++
April 6	11:30 am	

Volunteers Needed

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

Stations of the Cross at St. Anthony's

Stations of the Cross at St. Anthony's will take place on Fridays during Lent at 7:00 pm in both English and Portuguese.

Change in the Masses for this Week

Please note that there will be no masses on Thursday and Friday of this week. Father Joe will be off the island for two weeks.

Bulletin for March 29-March 30, 2025

Weekly Collections at St. Anthony's

March 15/March 16 \$ 1,272.00

March 22/March 23 \$ 3,927.00

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 – next weekend

Counting Schedule:

This week: Annette and Jackie

Next week: Annette and Pat

Bishop's Corner

Dear Fellow Catholics,

When I came to know this incredible story, I knew that I wanted to share it with you as well.

In the city of Gulue, in northern Uganda, Sister Rosemary Nyirumbe and her fellow sisters of the Congregation of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, help women who have been assaulted by the rebels to “stitch their life together, like pieces of fabric”. Thanks to the “creativity of mercy” and sewing machines, they have already saved thousands of women who are rejected by local communities. Although Sr. Rosemary is known as “the Ugandan Mother Teresa” with *Time* magazine recognizing her years ago as one of the 100 most influential women in the world, she stresses that she owes her strength and courage to God, prayer and her fellow religious sisters.

She is convinced that God calls one “to what he knows we can do”. With her sister, she decided to care for young women who had been kidnapped by rebels, sexually abused by them and trained to kill, only to later be rejected by their own communities. “People were afraid of them, because many of them had their loved ones’ blood on their hands. So I opened the door and said, come to us,” recalled Sister Rosemary, as if she were inviting welcome guests. “I also sent a message to the local radio a risky move, as the rebels

might hear it, but it was worth it! Many women, especially young women came, often with their children, unloved and conceived as a result of rape."

Her idea was simple; to transform machine guns into sewing machines and show the formerly enslaved women that a life which has been torn apart can be reassembled into something beautiful and precious, like fragments of materials that are transformed into beautiful handbags.

"Oh, look, this is made of Coca-Cola caps," Sister Rosemary said, showing off a small, finely sewn bag she never parts with. I tell the women, "Look how beautiful these bags are. You made them by carefully stitching together what people have thrown away, and you too, can be this beautiful!"

Asked if she talks about God with the people she serves, she said no. "Do you know why I don't talk about him?" she asked with a smile. "Because my presence is enough to tell them that I am with them, because I believe in God. I proclaim Him with my presence. To accompany them day and night, seven days a week, you need to have God in your heart."

Have a joyous "Laetare Sunday" and a blessed week!
Bishop Wes

Important Announcements

Please be advised that during the season of Lent the 12:10 pm Mass at St. Theresa's Cathedral will be celebrated from Monday to Friday. On Fridays it will be preceded by the Stations of the Cross at 11:40 am.

Please be advised that there will be two Lenten Reconciliation Services on Wednesday of Holy Week, April 16th, both at St. Theresa's Cathedral, in two sessions; 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm; and from 7:30 pm to 8:30 pm. There will be one additional priest from Canada to help with this Sacrament.

Special Collection

Please be advised that on the weekend of **29th/30th of March 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. More information will be provided in the Bulletins next Sunday.

Lenten Reconciliation Services

The Diocesan schedule for the Lenten Reconciliation Services is listed at the back of the church on the bulletin board.

Jubilee Children's Function

On Saturday, 21 June, 2025 at St Anthony's there will be a special event for our diocesan children. More details to follow.

Easter Flowers

Additional forms for the Easter flowers offerings are available at the back of the church. Kindly have them ready by April 13th.

Registration Forms

Additional registration forms are available at the back of the church. Kindly fill them in and place either in the collection baskets or return to Father Joe upon his return.

St. Joseph's Afternoon Tea

St. Joseph's will be hosting an afternoon tea on Sunday May 18th at St. James Church hall in Somerset from 2 pm to 5 pm. Tickets are \$45. To reserve tickets call Elizabeth Card at 234-0872 or email lizatstjosephs@gmail.com. More details on the bulletin board at the back of the church.

Dinner Bingo at St. Anthony's

On Saturday April 26 there will be a dinner bingo in the church hall at 7:30 pm. Tickets are \$30 for adults and \$15 for children under 12 years of age. Tickets can be purchased from Pat Rodrigues, Anna Daniel or any parish council member.

Dear Padre,

***Is it OK if I receive holy Communion more than once a day?
Part of my routine is to go to early morning Mass in my parish,
even on days I know I'm going to another Mass, like a wedding
or funeral, or sometimes another Mass for that day.***

The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches that by the very nature of what the Eucharist intends and celebrates, those who participate in the great mystery of our faith should “receive the Lord’s Body” (1388). In other words, reception of holy Communion is strongly recommended and is understood as the ordinary practice for all who participate in the Mass. Proper preparation and disposition are presumed as both necessary and important.

In response to a specific “dubium” or question about this practice and expectation, in 1984 the Pontifical Commission on the Code of Canon Law issued an authentic interpretation of the Church’s understanding of this practice. It mandated that “the faithful may receive the Holy Eucharist only a second time on the same day” (CCC, 1388, footnote 222). This directive is intended to establish the general norm and practice for the reception of holy Communion. Your practice, as a result of this norm, is directly representative of the understanding of the Church. ●

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 31	April 1	April 2	April 3	April 4	April 5	April 6
<i>Lenten Weekday</i>	<i>Lenten Weekday</i>	<i>Lenten Weekday</i>	<i>Lenten Weekday</i>	<i>Lenten Weekday</i>	<i>Lenten Weekday</i>	<i>Fifth Sunday of Lent</i>
Is 65:17–21	Ez 47:1–9, 12	Is 49:8–15	Ex 32:7–14	Wis 2:1a, 12–22	Jer 11:18–20	Is 43:16–21
Jn 4:43–54	Jn 5:1–16	Jn 5:17–30	Jn 5:31–47	Jn 7:1–2, 10, 25–30	Jn 7:40–53	Phil 3:8–14
						Jn 8:1–11



THE PRODIGAL SON, PETER PAUL RUBENS / WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

There was a pop theatre production...about the prodigal son.... [The son writes a letter]: “Father, I have repented, I want to come back home.... If you want to welcome me, please put a white handkerchief in the window.” And when he was near home...what did he see? Not one handkerchief: it was full of white handkerchiefs, the windows, everywhere!

ANGELUS, ROME, MARCH 27, 2022