



Feeling Our Way

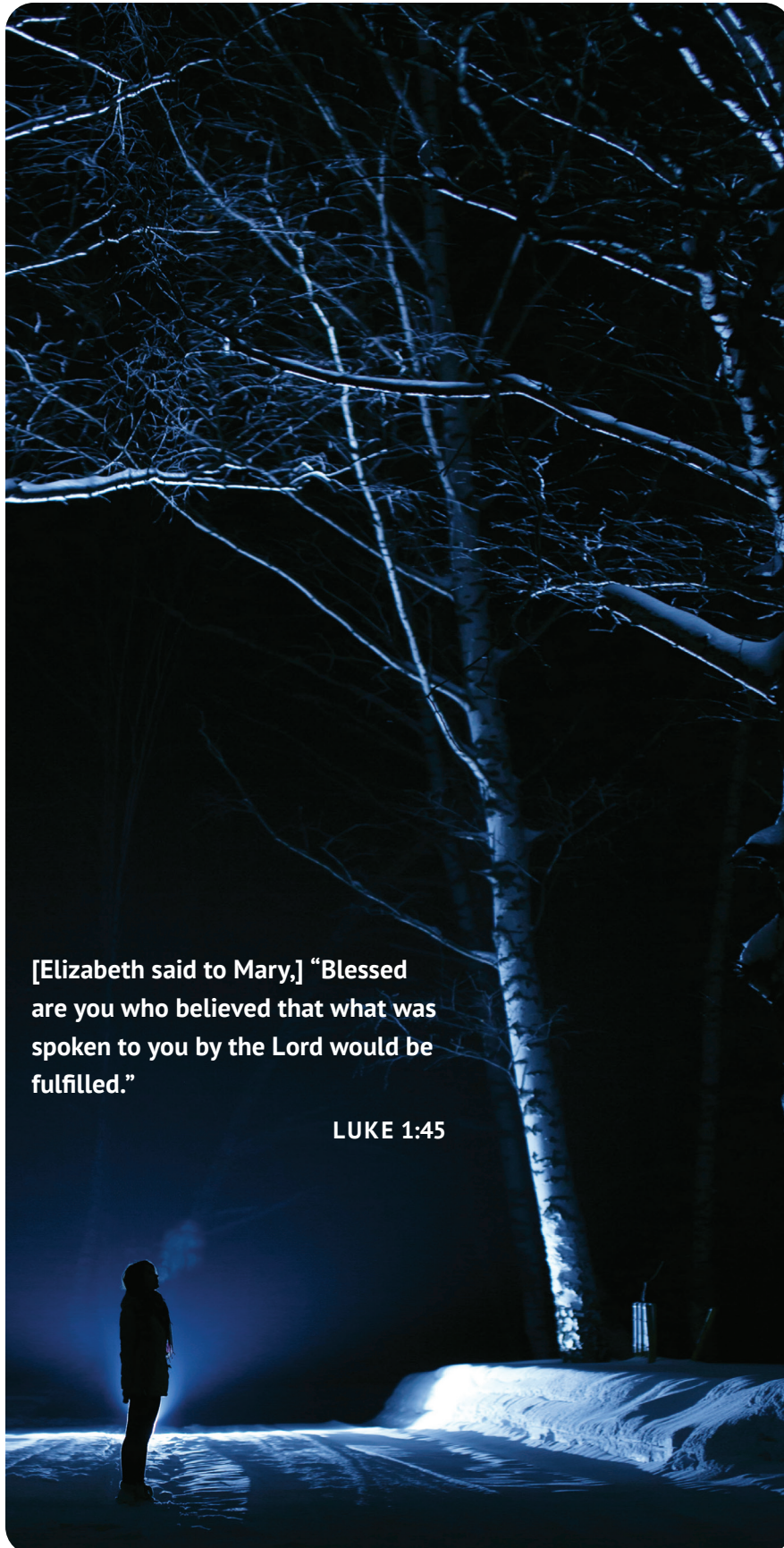
FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

Most of the time we find ourselves backing our way into the will of God, or maybe even feeling our way into it. There are times when the will of God is quite clear: Should I lie or tell the truth? Should I steal or not? Most often, however, the will of God is not so clear. Too often it becomes a question of how to negotiate an aspect of life that's been handed to us, often a reality we cannot escape. It may be an unwanted divorce, or a son or daughter in a questionable relationship, or an illness that dismantles one's life plans. On the one hand, it is not as if God hands out scripts that we are expected to live by. On the other hand, God is part of all that unfolds. Somewhere in the midst of that is the will of God, which is another way of saying somehow you and I need to negotiate what we never chose, but is now served up by life. Or is it served up by God? Or by our own doing? Or all of that? That's what I mean when I say we feel our way into the will of God.

It is what Jesus sorted out in the desert when he was tempted, "I come to do your will, O God." It is Elizabeth's story of an unexpected pregnancy in her old age. It is Mary saying "Yes" to an uncharted path. Living God's will seems mostly to be a sorting process. ●

Reflect

Have you responded with a whole-hearted "Yes" to God's will for you?



[Elizabeth said to Mary,] "Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled."

LUKE 1:45



St. Theresa's Cathedral

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

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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.



ST. THERESA'S CHRISTMAS &

NEW YEAR'S MASS SCHEDULE



Tuesday, December 24th, 2024

7:30am—Morning Mass
 6:30pm – Christmas Eve Family Mass
 9:00pm - Portuguese Christmas Night Mass
 12:00am – Christmas Midnight Mass

Wednesday, December 25th, 2024

8:30am – Christmas Day Mass
 11:30am – Christmas Day Mass
NO Portuguese Mass
 nor 6:00pm English Mass

Thursday, December 26th and Friday, December, 27th, 2024

7:30am— Morning Mass
NO 12:10PM Mass
 Weekend Masses Normal

Tuesday, December 31st, 2024

7:30am—Morning Mass
 7:00pm—Filipino Mass

Wednesday, January 1st, 2024

9:00am—Morning Mass
 12:10—Midday Mass

DATES	TIMES	INTENTIONS
Sat. Dec. 21st	6:30pm	+ Jeffrey Mark Medeiros & Maria Estrela Veloso
Sun. Dec. 22nd (Portuguese)	8:30am 10:00am 11:30am 6:0pm	+ Antonio & Ernestina Rebello + João Carlos Frias, Maria de Jesus Andrade, + Manuel Medeiros, José Soares Oliveira, + Maria de Lurdes Lima Intentions of Anna Spiewak St Theresa's Parish Family
Mon. Dec. 23rd	7:30am	Intentions of Bishop Robert Kurtz, C. R.
Tues. Dec. 24th	7:30am 6:30pm 9:00pm Midnight	In Honor of Our Lady of Medjugorje + Christmas Flower Memorial Intentions + Christmas Flower Memorial Intentions + Christmas Flower Memorial Intentions
Wed. Dec. 25th	8:30am 11:30am	+ Christmas Flower Memorial Intentions + Christmas Flower Memorial Intentions
Thurs. Dec. 26th	7:30am	+ Heavenly Birthday, Audrey Horseman
Fri. Dec. 27th	7:30am	+ Roy Thomas
Sat. Dec. 28th	6:30pm	+ Ben DeSilva and Intentions of Daphne DeSilva & Tribe
Sun. Dec. 29th (Portuguese)	8:30am 10:00am 11:30am 6:00pm	+ Mr. & Mrs. Charles Soares & James Soares Intentions of Kiara Pia St. Theresa's Parish Family

NEXT WEEK'S MINISTRY SCHEDULE: December 28th & 29th, 2024

Time:	6:30pm	8:30am	11:30am	6:00pm
Proclaimer:	C. Powell	K. Scarth	A. Cannonier	B. Mandocdoc
Communion	P. Whitecross	H. Cabral	A. Tan	C. Sevilla
Ministers:	D. DeSilva C. Carreiro A. Machado	E. Cabral C. Scarth O. Scarth	M. Tan C. Kieck	D. Robiso E. Dangl
Song Leaders:	G. Medeiros	J. Pearman	D. Mutch	J. Amper J. Madio



WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT :

The Gospel today tells of the Virgin Mary, pregnant herself, hurrying off to help her cousin Elizabeth. The model of good stewardship, she who had given herself to bear the Savior gave her time and love to others as well.

Steward's Sharing of Treasure

	Date	Actual
Collection:	Dec 14th/15th	\$4,011.50
Electronic offering:	Dec 14th/15th	\$2,347.00
To Date:	Week 51	\$309,805.00

Thank you for your support!



ST. THERESA'S CHAPEL

December 22nd—28th, 2024

Donation Given for Two 7-day Candles

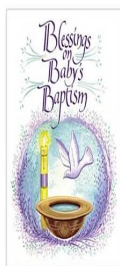
In Loving Memory of Maria de Jesus Pacheco

CHRISTMAS GIFT:



There are **extra envelopes** for "Christmas Gifts" to St. Theresa's Cathedral at the back of the church

We thank you in advance for your generosity!



BAPTISM:

We welcome **Eloisa Gem Corbeta Villahermosa**, daughter of Louie Villahermosa and Gemmalyn Corbeta, who will receive the Sacrament of Baptism this weekend on, **Sunday, December 22nd, 2024**.

Welcome to the Church Family, Eloisa!

REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR FOOD DRIVE:

Just a reminder that food drive boxes should be dropped off at any of our Catholic churches over the next two weekends, **December 28/29 or January 4/5**, before or after Mass. Alternatively, boxes can be dropped off at St. Patrick's Church Hall on Saturday, December 28 between 10:00am and 11:00am. Please contact Elaine Kelly at 236-4613 or ekelly@ibl.bm if you have any questions.



Please be advised that there will be **NO** 6:00pm Portuguese Mass at St. Patrick's on the following **Wednesdays; December 25th and January 1st**. The Mass resumes on **Wednesday, January 8th**.



We here at St. Theresa's Cathedral wish all of you and your family and friends a wonderful and joyful Christmas season!!!

May God continue to bless you throughout 2025!!!

THE BISHOP'S CORNER



Dear Fellow-Catholics,

For my Christmas greeting this year I would like to express it using the words in a contemporary Polish carol "A Carol for those Absent" which also appeared in English on a Cliff Richard album. To date, it is the only Polish carol to have been sung on an album by a foreign performer.

If you're still and close your eyes
You can see beyond the shadows
If the light within your guise
Try to believe and hope this Christmas
As one soul disappears
The laughter fades into the distance
Please help us bury our tears
And forget that fate is burning

I will not give into the fear
That you're gone and lost forever
Give me strength to know that you're near
And to feel your love surround me
Give me the faith to know
That I can reach beyond the shadows
As the seeds begin to grow
I will believe in love this Christmas

Come to us, give us hope through our sorrow
Fill our lives and our dreams
With believe in tomorrow
Let us live and forget all our emptiness
Let us laugh like children
Who believe in life this Christmas

A hopeful, blessed and loving Christmas to all of you, to all of us...

Bishop Wes



DINNER/BINGO NIGHT:

Pizza, Salad and Ice-cream Bingo Dinner, served by Bella Vista Restaurant, will take place at St. Theresa's Hall, on **Friday, 10th of January 2025, at 6:00pm**.

Tickets (\$25 - Adults, \$15 - children under 12) will be available from 1st of January in the Parish Office and in the sacristy.

ST. THERESA'S GIFT SHOP:

CLOSED:

From Saturday, 21st December 2024, throughout the Month of January, 2025

REOPENING: Tuesday, 5th February 2025



ST. VINCENT de PAUL SOCIETY:

If you would like to donate— Direct Deposit: SVDP Society **BNTB 2000 6060 4767 11100** or SVDP envelopes are available.

Dear Padre,

Where does the Hail Mary prayer come from?

The Hail Mary owes its origin to the rosary. The traditional story of the rosary was that Mary herself appeared to St. Dominic in the twelfth century and gave him the rosary with the promise that if he spread devotion to the rosary, his religious order would flourish. In the twelfth century, religious orders recited together the 150 psalms as a way to mark the hours of the day and the days of the week. In order to pray the psalms, though, people had to know how to read. People who didn't know how to read wanted to share in the practice, so the rosary, or praying on beads, began as a parallel prayer practice. It was a way that illiterate people could remember the Lord and his Mother throughout the day.

The first rosaries consisted of a string of 150 beads, and, much as we do now, a person would pass over each bead after saying a prayer, usually the Our Father. Later, people added the Archangel Gabriel's greeting—"Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee"—and later still, Elizabeth's prayer we hear in today's Gospel—"Blessed art thou among women." Finally this prayer was added in the sixteenth century: "Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death." ●



IMMACULATE / SHUTTERSTOCK

The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
December 23 <i>Advent Weekday</i> Mal 3:1-4, 23-24 Lk 1:57-66	December 24 <i>Advent Weekday</i> 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16 Lk 1:67-79	December 25 <i>Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)</i> Is 52:7-10 Heb 1:1-6 Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14	December 26 <i>St. Stephen, First Martyr</i> Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59 Mt 10:17-22	December 27 <i>St. John, Apostle and Evangelist</i> 1 Jn 1:1-4 Jn 20:1a, 2-8	December 28 <i>Holy Innocents, Martyrs</i> 1 Jn 1:5-2:2 Mt 2:13-18	December 29 <i>Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph</i> Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28 Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17 or 1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24 Lk 2:41-52

Do you have a question for the Padre?

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



YARA NARDI / CNS

A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

Do I move forward with hope...? We can also ask for...the grace of a healthy sense of humor: it does so much good.... The first act of charity we can do for our neighbors is to offer them a serene and smiling face. It is bringing the joy of Jesus to them, as Mary did with Elizabeth.

ANGELUS, ROME, DECEMBER 19, 2021