



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. Theresa's Cathedral

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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.



DATES	TIMES	INTENTIONS
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 + Gabriel Rego Pontes & Margarida Cabral Pereira, + Jose & Maria Andrade Tirano Jr., Laudalino Ventura + Manuel & Maria Amaral Barroso Personal Intentions of Juliette Alcantara St. Theresa's Parish Family
Mon. Mar. 31st	7:30am 12:10pm	
Tues. Apr. 1st	7:30am 12:10pm	+ Baby Chloe
Wed. Apr. 2nd	7:30am 12:10pm	
Thurs. Apr. 3rd	7:30am 12:10pm	+ John Ferreira DaCosta
Fri. Apr. 4th	7:30am 12:10pm	+ Ben DeSilva
Sat. Apr. 5th	6:30pm	Special Intentions of Darin Mosley
Sun. Apr. 6th (Portuguese)	8:30am 10:00am 11:30am 6:00pm	+ Mr. & Mrs. Albert Victor Soares Sr. + Margarida Andrade Canto + Eduarda & Benjamin Estrela and + Orgeto & Fernanda Vicente + Marshall A. Yokell & Special Intentions of Natalie Yokell

NEXT WEEK'S MINISTRY : April 5th & 6th, 2025

Time:	6:30pm	8:30am	11:30am	6:00pm
Proclaimer:	C. Powell	T. Sinclair A. Farrell	I. Aleria F. Maxwell	B. Mandocdoc E. Shahim
Communion Ministers:	C. Maiato T. Fletcher C. Johnson P. Whitecross	E. Cabral H. Cabral C. Scarth O. Scarth	C. Kieck J. Alcantara A. Cannonier	R. Ronquillo C. Sevilla D. Robiso
Song Leaders:	B. Barreto-Hogan	J. Pearman	D. Mutch	L. Consolacion

PLAN YOUR WEEKLY OFFERING: Donations & contributions are gratefully appreciated and can be made by Direct Deposit to **Butterfield Bank Acct #2000-6060-4827-32100** or use your **weekly Parish Envelopes**. Please commit to planned giving each week or monthly.

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE:

Palm Sunday Masses

April 13th - Sat. Vigil: 6:30pm

April 14th - Sun: 8:30am

10am (Portuguese)

11:30am & 6:00pm

(Palm Crosses will be blessed & distributed)

April 15th - Mon: 7:30am Mass

April 16th - Tues: 7:30am Mass

Mass of the Chrism: 7:30pm

April 17th - Wed: 7:30am Mass

NO 12:10pm Mass

April 18th - Holy Thursday

Morning Prayer: 7:30am

NO 12:10 noon Mass

Mass of the Lord's Supper: 7:30pm

(Followed by Rosary in English and then Sri-Lankan Holy Hour)

April 19th - Good Friday

Morning Prayer: 9:00am

Liturgy of the Lord's Passion

English: 3:00pm

Portuguese: 5:00pm

April 20th - Holy Saturday:

Morning Prayer: 9:00am


Easter Vigil Mass: 6:30pm

April 21st - Easter Sunday:

8:30am

10:00am (Portuguese), 11:30am

& 6:00pm Mass



Good Friday is a day of **Fast and Abstinence**. This Penitential practice consists of refraining from the consumption of meat.

Just a friendly reminder...



WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT :

Both In The stewardship message in the parable of the Prodigal Son is that it is never to late to become a good steward. Blessed is the elder brother who had been a good steward all along, but blessed, too, is the prodigal who had to lose all he had in order to understand the value of what he'd been given.

Steward's Sharing of Treasure		
	Date	Actual
Collection:	Mar. 22nd/23rd	\$4,600.00
Electronic offering:	Mar. 22nd/23rd	\$1,745.00
2025 Collection To Date:	Week 12	\$68,569.50

Many thanks for the **Couples for Christ Community** and their generous **donation of \$3,000.00!** These funds will go towards our important building maintenance and repairs. Thank you!



ST. THERESA'S CHAPEL

March 30th—April 5th, 2025

Donation Given for Two 7- day Candles

Intentions of the Brackstone Family



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)**



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!



AFTERNOON HERITAGE TEA PARTY:

St. Joseph's Church in Somerset will be hosting an **Afternoon Heritage Tea on Sunday, May18th, 2025, from 2– 5PM**, at the St. James Church Hall in Somerset – Tea, Entertainment, Raffles, Silent Auction:

Tickets: \$45 can be obtained by contacting Liz Card, at 234-0872 or Email: lizatstjosephs@gmail.com

THE 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

SPECIAL COLLECTION:

Please be advised that on this 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.



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