



The Waiting Time

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

Advent is a time of hope but also a time of waiting. Different than wishing, hope is the belief that, one day, all will be well. Teenagers eagerly wait to be out on their own, believing then all will be well. Students are eager to graduate and get away from papers to write, books to read, and exams to take—then all will be well. Some singles long to find a partner, marry, and settle down, believing—then—all will be well. Always there is the faith that, although life may not now be what we wish, the future will bring a time when all will be well. We are inveterate people of hope.

Yet life is a process that cannot be rushed. Author Annie Dillard once watched a butterfly hatch from a cocoon. A bit impatient, she decided to gently warm

the cocoon and so hasten the process. It worked, except by rushing the process the butterfly's wings were undeveloped, too weak to fly. All that we hope and long for in life must happen at its own pace, faithful to the process.

How, then, do we negotiate the waiting? The Gospel's encouragement is to pray, but not for what we want. Rather, we are to pray for the strength to stand with hope before the Son of Man, trusting that God will bring forth the goodness we need. Though it may be different than what we seek, it will be what we need. ●

Reflect

How can you better enjoy times of waiting?

May the Lord make you
increase and abound in love
for one another and for all...
to be blameless in holiness
before our God and Father at
the coming of our Lord Jesus
with all his holy ones.

1 THESSALONIANS 3:12–13





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 No. 525-1191

Bulletin for November 30/December 1, 2024

Weekly Collections at St. Anthony's

November 16/ Nov 17 \$ 1,513.00

November 23/Nov 24 \$ 653.00

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.

Mass Schedule at St. Anthony's

Nov 30	6:15 pm	Emilia Moura+ & family
Dec 1	11:30 am	Maria De Lourdes Medeiros+
Dec 3	8:30 am	Pamela Pimenta+
Dec 4	8:30 am	
Dec 5	8:30 am	
Dec 6	8:30 am	
Dec 7	6:15 pm	Manuel & Connie Reis++
Dec 8	11:30 am	

Maintenance Collection – this weekend

Counters this week: Annette and Pat

Next week: Annette and Denis

Pastor's Point

Dear Parishioners,

In time of suffering for the people of Judah, Jeremiah looks forward with hope to God's fulfilling of the promise of the Davidic covenant. The time is coming, says he, for God to raise up His Anointed One from the line of David to redeem Israel and return justice to the land and its people. The psalmist follows, developing the essence of this covenantal relationship of petitioning God to continue teaching His ways and remember His fidelity, righteousness, and mercy. The hope is for an abiding, life-giving relationship, made manifest in the coming gift of the Christ.

The New Testament readings spring from the lived reality of this relationship in history. Paul pleads for help for God's people to abound in love, manifesting that of God the Father in the gift of Jesus the Son through loving care for creation and one another. How we choose to act and interact with one another should reflect this relationship. The hope now is for the time to come, as Jesus expounds in Luke's Gospel. Jesus calls disciples of all time to stand strong in the face of fear and distraction. Life in covenant relationship with the One who created us and the One who redeemed us in the longer, possibly harder road, but the journey is worth the effort in hope for a destination in union.

Apocalyptic signs abound in the world today, and can leave us fearful, anxious, and looking for escape. Let us lift our eyes toward God and trust that He will lead the way, but it is up to me to follow Him.

Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are needed to serve as lectors, Eucharistic ministers, ushers, collection counters, etc. if you can assist, kindly let Father Joe know. A sign-up sheet is in the back of the church for the Christmas and New Year's masses.

Mass Schedule for St. Anthony's

Weekday masses will be held at 8:30 am going forward.

Please be aware that St. Anthony's Church will be open prior and closed after each Mass.

Christmas and New Year's Mass Schedule

Dec. 24	Family Mass at 6:30 pm
Dec 25	Midnight Mass with carols at 11:30 pm
Dec 25	11:30 am
Jan 1	11:30 am

God bless,
Fr. Joe (Acting) Pastor,
Vicar General of DOHB

Bishop's Corner

Dear Fellow-Catholics,
The Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament are a religious community of blind women. They cannot see, but they are still actively involved in the glory of God and the good of humanity. Sister Mary Veronica always wanted to become a nun, but had difficulty finding an order that would accept her because of her visual impairment. "This congregation of blind sisters is unique and one of a kind in Kenya," says Sister Mary Veronica. "Our founder, Fr. Luigi Orione, was a person full of mercy and asked us to be mothers and sisters of the poor. We offer our lack of sight to God for our brothers and sisters who do not know the Truth, so that they may experience God, the light of the world."

Although the blind Sacramental Sisters are a contemplative congregation, they are also very active. They teach catechism in their parish, visit people in the neighbouring village, and offer their help online. "In our charism as the Sacramental Sisters", Sister Mary states, "we adore Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament and talk to Jesus about humanity. We meet with people and talk to them about God's love. We bring souls to Jesus and Jesus to souls."

The sisters alternate between attending the Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and other community activities, such as farming, poultry farming, making rosaries and knitting. These are activities that help them earn a living. Sister Mary comments that, "We come to the congregation to give and receive; we don't come to be helped. We try to be autonomous in everything we do. We need opportunities, not pity." The sisters admit, however, that the challenges make them complete. Sister Mary Rachael also comments that, "We face our challenges with joy; being blind does not take away our talents and abilities."

Have a restful weekend and a blessed Advent!

Bishop Wes

Word of Life – December 1

"The Gospel of Life recognizes the full range of threats against human life, from poverty and malnutrition to murder and war. Particular emphasis, however, is placed on threats to life at its beginning and end—precisely when it is most in need of protection. In modern times, children in their mothers' wombs and those approaching the end of their lives are certainly among the 'least of these' in our world's estimation."

USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities

Catholic Faith and Life 2025 Calendars

The Catholic Faith and Life 2025 calendars are now available at the St. Theresa's gift shop for \$10 each.

REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR FOOD DRIVE

During the 2024 Advent season, parishes throughout our Diocese are asked to support a "Reverse Advent Calendar Food Drive". Each day of Advent, add one item to your collection box. By Christmas, you will have a food basket which will be donated to those in need. See the flyer for details of items to be collected. Drop off details are also included in the flyer. Collection of the food baskets in each parish will be coordinated by the parish St. Vincent de Paul representative. Our representative is Pat Rodrigues. If you have any questions, please contact Elaine Kelly at 236-4613 or ekelly@ibl.bm.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

Christmas Food Voucher Programme – 2024

The St. Vincent de Paul Society is providing Christmas Food Vouchers again this year for those less fortunate and would like your help in registering people of your parish needing assistance. Please provide the person's name and telephone number, along with your name and telephone number in case we need to follow up with you. You can call 525-1191 and leave a message on the SVDP voicemail or speak to your SVDP parish representative, whose name is listed in your bulletin.

Deadline to receive names is 1st Dec 2024. Distribution takes place Saturday, December 7, 2024.

Many thanks and God bless. **SVdP Society Committee**

Apartment Needed

A parishioner requires an apartment (1 or 2 bedrooms) preferably furnished. Call Chris on 519-7322.

Christmas Flowers Memorials

The Christmas flowers memorial forms are available in the back of the church. Kindly submit them by December 21st by placing them in the collection baskets. Thank you.

St. Joseph's Dinner Bingo

St. Joseph's Church in Somerset will be holding its Annual Christmas Bingo on Friday, 6th December in the Parish Centre.

Menu: Sandwiches, assorted hors d'oeuvres and desserts. Tickets: \$20 Adults - \$10 children + 2 bingo cards. Time: 6:30 p.m. **Tickets are available from Liz Card. email: lizatstjosephs@gmail.com or call 234-0872.**

Dear Padre,

I've been Catholic all my life, but I don't understand Advent. It's too much like Lent and seems an odd way to prepare for the birth of a baby.

In a society that is primarily secular, one skill of the believing Christian is the ability to balance competing realities. From a secular perspective, Christmas is part of the period identified as the “holidays,” beginning with Thanksgiving until New Year’s Day, when it abruptly ends and stores begin advertising Valentine’s Day.

For Christians, Christmas is the day we celebrate the birth of Jesus, the great promise fulfilled after centuries of waiting and expectation. The creative energy of the Father is displayed in wonder and awe as the angels sing and people of good faith gather to celebrate. We join our ancestors in anticipation of this event through the liturgical season of Advent, a time of waiting and preparation.

The Christian holy day is a singular day, the feast of the Nativity of the Lord—Christmas—but the Church continues the celebration of God’s life and love through the days that follow, culminating in the Baptism of the Lord, the beginning of the public ministry of Jesus.

We are invited to hold the secular and the liturgical experiences in an integrated balance. We can celebrate the secular holidays and we can enter the liturgical season that helps us contemplate something much grander and more spectacular. ●



KIPGODI / SHUTTERSTOCK

Fr. Thomas M. Santa, CSsR / DearPadre.org

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
December 2 <i>Advent Weekday</i> Is 2:1–5 Mt 8:5–11	December 3 <i>St. Francis</i> <i>Xavier, Priest</i> Is 11:1–10 Lk 10:21–24	December 4 <i>Advent Weekday</i> Is 25:6–10a Mt 15:29–37	December 5 <i>Advent Weekday</i> Is 26:1–6 Mt 7:21, 24–27	December 6 <i>Advent Weekday</i> Is 29:17–24 Mt 9:27–31	December 7 <i>St. Ambrose,</i> <i>Bishop and</i> <i>Doctor of the</i> <i>Church</i> Is 30:19–21, 23–26 Mt 9:35–10:1, 5a, 6–8	December 8 <i>Second Sunday</i> <i>of Advent</i> Bar 5:1–9 Phil 1:4–6, 8–11 Lk 3:1–6



STEFANO DAL POLOZZO / CNS

A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

Vigilance means this: not to allow our hearts to become lazy or our spiritual life to soften into mediocrity. Be careful because we can become “sleepy Christians”—and we know there are many Christians who are asleep, who are anesthetized by spiritual worldliness....

This is a sad life going forward this way since there is no happiness.

ANGELUS, ROME, NOVEMBER 28, 2021