

Kids Column

Mk.4:26-34

the kingdom of heaven

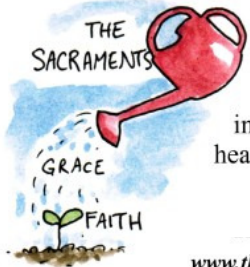


In today's Gospel reading Jesus tells us about the Kingdom of Heaven. Heaven isn't just where we will go when we die if we were good. Jesus was telling us that Heaven grows in our hearts when we choose to love God and each other.

Our Lord compares the Kingdom of Heaven to plants that grow up from little seeds. When we were baptized we received the gift of Faith. When we receive the other sacraments, especially Holy Communion, the Faith grows in us, like a plant that has water and sunshine. If we sin it's like little bugs or sickness that start to kill the plant. Confession will take those away so that our Faith can grow again.



How can you help the Kingdom of Heaven to grow in you? Going to Mass and receiving Holy Communion whenever you can, and going to Confession often are the best ways. Praying every day and learning about the Faith and about the saints will also help the Kingdom of Heaven to grow in your heart like a strong, healthy plant!



www.thekidsbulletin.com

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:

Baptisms are usually celebrated on the fourth Sunday of every month. Please contact the Parish Office at least **6 weeks** before the date.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE:

Couples must contact the Parish Office to arrange at least **6 months** before the desired date.

MASS INTENTIONS:

Intentions must be booked at least by the Wednesday, one week before the desired date.

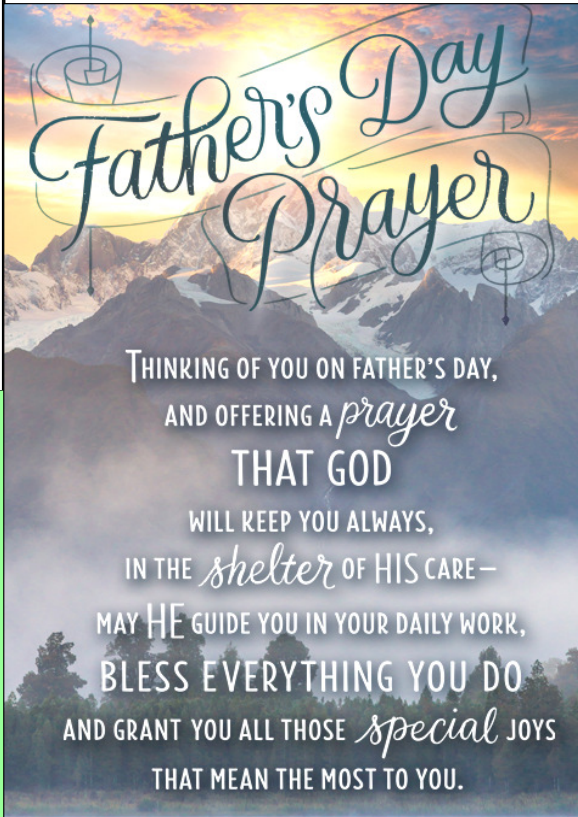
PRAYER DURING THE HURRICANE SEASON

O Lord, our God and Father, who gives rain and sunshine to your children, we ask you in this rainy season to uphold us and provide for our needs.

You try our patience and test our faith and reliance on you; forgive our sin of ingratitude. So often have we forgotten to thank you for your goodness and acts of mercy. Teach us to look up to you each day, appreciative of rain and sunshine, as you, in your wisdom, through any kind of weather do feed us all.

In your mercy, protect us against hurricanes and tropical storms. Pour out your blessings upon our nation and our people, and make us grateful for the weather we receive from your bountiful hand.

We make this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.



St. Joseph the Worker Parish
Gros Islet, Grande Riviere & Monchy

11TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - 16TH JUNE 2024 - YEAR B

The Tree of Righteousness.

In the cryptic message of the prophet Ezekiel, long centuries before the Lord's coming, God gave His people reason to hope. Ezekiel glimpsed a day when the Lord would place a tree on a mountain in Israel, a tree that would "sprout branches and bear fruit." Who could have predicted that the tree would be a cross on the hill of Calvary, and that the fruit would be salvation?

Ezekiel foresees salvation coming to "every kind of bird", thus not just to the people of Israel, but also to the Gentiles, who will "take wing" through their new life in Christ. God indeed will "lift high the lowly tree," as He solemnly promises.

Such salvation surpasses humanity's most ambitious dreams. And so we express our gratitude in the Psalm: "It is good to give you thanks, O Lord." It is indeed good, and better still to give thanks with praise. The Psalmist speaks of those who are just upon the earth, but looks to God as the source and measure of justice, of righteousness. Like Ezekiel, he evokes the image of a flourishing tree to describe the lives of the just. The image, again, suggests the Cross as the measure of righteousness.

The Cross is a sign of contradiction to those who would rather "flourish" in worldly terms. As St. Paul emphasizes to the Corinthians, we need courage. Our faith makes us strong, and it is proved in our deeds. He reminds us that we will be judged by the ways our faith manifests itself in works so that "each of us will get what he deserves for the things he did in the body, good or bad." God Himself will empower the works He expects from us, though we freely choose to correspond to His grace.

In the prophetic oracles, He scattered the seed that sprang up and became the mustard tree, large enough to accommodate all the birds of the sky, just as Ezekiel had seen. He gave this doctrine to His disciples in terms they were able to understand, and He provided a full explanation. In the sacraments He provides still more: the grace of faith and the courage we need to live in the world as children of God.

(excerpt: stpaulcenter.com)

SUNDAY READINGS

First Reading
Ezek.17:22-24

Second Reading
2Cor.5:6-10

Gospel
Mk.4:26-34

MASS TIMES

Gros Islet
Morning Prayers:
Mon -Fri
5:45 a.m.

✠
MONDAY
6:00 a. m./12:30 p.m.

✠
TUESDAY
6:00 a.m.

✠
WEDNESDAY
6:00 a.m./12:30 p.m.
G/Riviere: 6:00 p.m.

✠
THURSDAY
6:00 a.m./12:30 p.m.

✠
FRIDAY
6:00 a. m./12:30 p.m.

✠
SATURDAY
6:30 a.m./6:00 p. m.

✠
SUNDAY
Gros Islet/G. Riviere
7:30 a.m.

Gros Islet/Monchy
10:00 a.m.

✠
HOLIDAY
Variable
✠

CONFESSIONS

Every Saturday
9.00 - 10.00 a.m.
&
by appointment

Parish Priest: Fr. Athanase Joseph
Assistant Parish Priest: Msgr. Michel Francis
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St. Aloysius de Gonzaga, S.J. - Feast Day June 21st

St. Aloysius was an Italian aristocrat who became a member of the Society of Jesus. His mother was a lady-in-waiting to Isabel, the wife of Philip II of Spain. As the first-born son, he was in line to inherit his father's title and status of Marquis, and was being groomed for the military by his father, who was in service to Philip II. But by the age of nine Aloysius had decided on a religious life, and made a vow of perpetual virginity.

After reading a book about Jesuit missionaries in India, Aloysius felt strongly that he wanted to become a missionary and started practicing by teaching catechism classes and adopting an ascetic lifestyle. A kidney disease prevented St. Aloysius from a full social life for a while, so he spent his time in prayer and reading the lives of the saints.

In 1585, Aloysius gave up all rights of inheritance from his family and went to Rome, and joined the Jesuits at the age of eighteen, after finally breaking down his father, who had refused his permission for entrance into the order. Aloysius' health continued to cause problems. In addition to the kidney disease, he also suffered from a skin disease, chronic headaches and insomnia. He went to Milan for studies, but was sent back to Rome because of his health. In 1587, he took religious vows of chastity, poverty and obedience. In 1588, he received minor orders and started studying theology to prepare for ordination.

In 1591, a plague broke out in Rome. The Jesuits opened a hospital for the stricken, and Aloysius volunteered to work there. He began working with the sick, carrying the dying from the streets to the hospital, where he washed and fed the plague victims, preparing them as best he could to receive the sacraments

In March 1591, just a few days before his 23rd birthday, he too became infected with the plague and died from it in June of that same year. Many people considered him to be a saint soon after his death, and he was beatified only fourteen years afterwards. The Carmelite mystic St. Maria Magdalena de Pazzi claimed to have had a vision of him in 1600. She described him as radiant in glory because of his "interior works," a hidden martyr for his great love of God.

In 1729, Pope Benedict XIII declared Aloysius de Gonzaga to be the patron saint of young students. In 1926, he was named patron of all Christian youth by Pope Pius XI. Because of the manner of his death, he is considered a patron saint of plague victims. For his compassion and courage in the face of an incurable disease, Aloysius Gonzaga has become the patron both of AIDS sufferers and their caregivers.

(excerpt: wikipedia.org)

PLEASE PRAY FOR

THE SICK

Patsy Crafton
Iris Macauldy
Martha Mason
Teresa Huntley
Marie Joseph

DECEASED

Edward Joseph
Angela Auguste
Ferlina Aurelien
Veronica Eugene
Mary John Baptiste

WEEKDAY READINGS



MONDAY

1Kgs.21:1-16
M5:38-42.



TUESDAY

1Kgs.21:17-29
Mt.5:43-48



WEDNESDAY

2Kgs.2:1,6-14
Mt.6:1-6,16-18



THURSDAY

Ecc1.48:1-15
Mt.6:7-15



FRIDAY

2Kgs.11:1-4,9-18,20
Mt.6:19-23



SATURDAY

2Chr.24:17-25
Mt.6:24-34



MASS INTENTIONS

GROS ISLET	CLERGY/RELIGIOUS	INTENTIONS
11TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR B		
Sat Jun 15- 6:00 p.m.		B'day: Kathy Soower Sp Int: The Glace family Dionysia Sealy-Compton
Sun Jun 16- 7:30 a.m. <i>Father's Day</i>		MISSA PRO POPULO
10:00 a.m.		Guid: Anita Iwueke
Grande Riviere - 7:30 a.m.		B'day: Joel Davidson
Monchy - 10:00 a.m.		Eucharistic Service
WEEKDAY MASS INTENTIONS		
Mon Jun 17 - 6:00 a.m.	Fr. Yvon Tremont	Int: Bernadette Pamphile
12:30 p.m.		Thks: Marylin Hyacinth & family
Tue Jun 18 - 6:00 a.m.	Fr. Gabriel Arockiasammy Sr. Bernadette Peter	Dc'd: Kevin Haywood Albert, Letitia & Raymond Laurent
Wed Jun 19- 6:00 a.m.	Fr. Lambert St. Rose	Dc'd: Thomas Louis, Lorna Augustin
12:30 p.m.		B'day: Paula Wilkie Thks: Anthony Jean 20th Wedd Ann: Jerome & Jenny Foster
Grande Riviere - 6:00 p.m.		Parishioners
Thu Jun 20 - 6:00 a.m.	Fr. Paul Vu	Int: Bernadette Pamphile & family
12:30 p.m.		Thks: The Chong family
Fri Jun 21 - 6:00 a.m. <i>St. Aloysius Gonzague, Religious</i>	Rev. Anthony Louis Rev. Robert Harvey Rev. John Douglas	B'day: Kaelan Haywood
12:30 p.m.		Holy Spirit: The Imbert family
Sat Jun 22 - 6:30 a.m. <i>BVM</i>	Fr. Cecil Goodman Rev. Thomas Alexander	Thks: Vernetta Brooks & family