

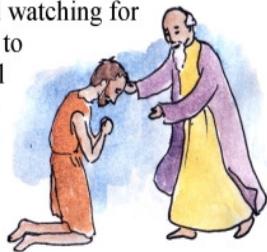
## God Wants Everyone to Come Back to Him



In today's Gospel we hear three parables. In the first Jesus tells about the shepherd who lost one of his hundred sheep. But even though he had so many, he still cared about the one that was lost and went out to find it. God is like that too: even though He has so many people to look after He still cares about you in particular.

The next parable is similar, with the woman searching all over her house when she loses one of her special coins. She rejoices when she finds it, just like the angels rejoice in Heaven when a sinner turns back to God.

The last parable that Jesus tells is the story of the prodigal son. We are like the son in that story when we run away from God by sinning. But like the father, God is waiting and watching for us to be sorry and come back to Him. All we have to do is tell Him we are sorry for our sins in Confession and He will be so happy to have us back!



[www.thekidsbulletin.com](http://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.

## WHAT'S HAPPENING

♦ Youth of the parish are invited to Youth Mass and activities on Sunday, Sept 25th at the Minor Basilica, Castries, from 10am, after which scheduled activities will be held. Come have fun, food and fellowship with other young persons like yourself. If you need transportation please give your name your youth leaders or catechists.

♦ The clergy of the diocese will be on Retreat this week from Monday Sep 12th to Friday Sep 16th. Therefore, no Masses will be held in Gros Islet parish for that week except on Monday Sep 12th at 6:00 a.m.

**DO NOT CAST ME FROM YOUR PRESENCE OR TAKE YOUR HOLY SPIRIT FROM ME.**

### PARISH OFFICE HOURS

**Monday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday: 9:00am to 2:00pm.  
Closed Tuesdays**

### 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.**



## 24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - 11TH SEPT 2022 - YEAR C

### *Seeking the lost.*

The episode in today's First Reading has been called "Israel's original sin." Freed from bondage, born as a people of God in the covenant at Sinai, Israel turned aside from His ways and fell to worshipping a golden calf. Moses implores God's mercy, just as Jesus will later intercede for the whole human race, just as He still pleads for sinners at God's right hand and through the ministry of the Church.

Israel's sin is the sin of the world. It is your sin and mine. Ransomed from death and made His children in Baptism, we fall prey to the idols of this world. We remain a "headstrong" people, resisting His will for us like an ox refuses the plowman's yoke. Like Israel, in our sin we push God away and reject our divine sonship. Once He called us "my people", but our sin makes us "no people," people He should, in justice, disown. Yet in His mercy, He is faithful to the covenant He swore by His own self in Jesus. In Jesus, God comes to Israel and to each of us, as a shepherd to seek the lost, to carry us back to the heavenly feast, the perpetual heritage promised long ago to Abraham's children.

"Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners," Paul cries in the Epistle. These are the happiest words the world has ever known. Because of Jesus, as Paul himself can testify, even the blasphemer and persecutor can seek His mercy. As the sinners do in the Gospel, we draw near to listen to Him.

In this Eucharist, we bring Him the acceptable sacrifice we sing of in the Psalm, our hearts, humbled and contrite. In the company of His angels and saints, we rejoice that He has wiped out our offense. We celebrate with Him that we have turned from the evil way that we might live.

(excerpt: stpaulcentre.com)

### SUNDAY READINGS

**First Reading**  
Ex.32:7-11,13-14

**Second Reading**  
1Tim.1:12-17

**Gospel**  
Lk.15:1-32

### MASS TIMES

#### **GROS ISLET**

Morning Prayers:  
5:45a.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.  
**Monchy:** 6:00 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.  
5:00-5:45 p.m.  
&  
by appointment

Parish Priest: Msgr. Michel Francis

Deacons: Rev. Winston Taylor, Rev. Gerard Calderon  
Rev. Anthony Louis, Rev. Madison Stanislaus.

Address: P.O. Box Choc 8192, Castries LC02 801, Saint Lucia

Tel: (758) 450-8325 / (758) 450-9390 ☎ Cell: (758) 285-8831

Email: [st.joseph\\_church@hotmail.com](mailto:st.joseph_church@hotmail.com) ☎ [st.joseph\\_church@candw.lc](mailto:st.joseph_church@candw.lc)

Website: [www.grosisletchurch.org](http://www.grosisletchurch.org) ☎ Facebook: [facebook.com/grosisletchurch](https://www.facebook.com/grosisletchurch)

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

## St. John Chrysostom - 349 to 407- Feast Day September 13

John was born in Antioch in 349 to Greek parents from Syria. His father was a high-ranking military officer who died soon after his birth, and he was raised by his mother, who brought him up as a Christian. John studied law under a distinguished pagan rhetorician, Libanius, from whom he acquired the skills for a career in rhetoric, a love of the Greek language and literature. As he grew older, John became more deeply committed to Christianity and went on to study theology. In about 375, he became a hermit-monk, but when his health gave way, he returned to Antioch, and was ordained a priest.

Over the course of 12 years in Antioch, he established himself as a great preacher. His straightforward understanding of the Scriptures meant that his talks were practical, explaining the Bible's application to everyday life. The zeal and clarity of his preaching appealed especially to the common people, and earned him the Greek name Chrysostom, meaning "golden-mouthed." Even today, his words strike the reader as forcefully as ever. He was concerned, above all, for the spiritual and temporal welfare of the needy and oppressed. He was not alone among the early Fathers in speaking out against the abuse of wealth, but none surpassed John in his eloquent, moving, and repeated insistence on almsgiving.

In 398 Chrysostom was made archbishop of Constantinople, and his tenure as archbishop was stormy. He gained a large following among the people, but he spoke against the misuse of riches, angering the wealthy and influential. An alliance against John was made by the wife of the Eastern Roman emperor Arcadius, who thought that John's denunciations of extravagance in feminine dress were aimed at her, and Theophilus, the archbishop of the See of Alexandria, who, wanting to bring Constantinople under his sway, had opposed John's appointment there.

In 403 Theophilus convened a synod of disaffected or subservient bishops which indicted John on a number of charges, many of which were purely frivolous. Chrysostom refused to appear before the synod, whereupon it condemned him and deposed him from his See. The emperor then banished Chrysostom and exiled him to Armenia where he was kept in confinement. Chrysostom appealed his banishment to Pope Innocent I, who together with the Western emperor Honorius, attempted to intervene, but his efforts were in vain. In exile, however, John was still able to write letters influencing affairs in Constantinople. As a result, in 407, he was further exiled to an even more remote location at the eastern end of the Black Sea. He did not survive the journey.

John came to be venerated as a saint by the people soon after his death, but his official rehabilitation came about 31 years later, when his relics were brought to Constantinople. He was later declared a Doctor of the Church, and is honoured as a saint in the Oriental and Eastern Orthodox, Catholic, Anglican, and Lutheran churches. His works consist of some treatises and letters, a large number of homilies and sermons including some on the first and fourth Gospels, and on eight of St. Paul's letters. John Chrysostom's last words are said to have been: "Glory be to God for all things"

(excerpt: britannica.com/ wikipedia.com)

### PLEASE PRAY FOR

#### THE SICK

Carmen Lord  
Coleta Henry  
Martha Mason  
Iris Macauldy  
Patsy Crafton  
Theresa Huntley  
Mary Alexander

#### DECEASED

Mona Joseph  
Calixte Eugene  
Cuthbert Philip  
Mary Christophe  
Anne Marie Louisien

### WEEKDAY READINGS



#### MONDAY

1Cor.11:17-26,33  
Lk.7:1-10



#### TUESDAY

1Cor.12:12-14,27-31  
Lk.7:11-17



#### WEDNESDAY

Num.21:4-9  
Jn.3:13-17



#### THURSDAY

1Cor.15:1-11  
Jn.19:25-27



#### FRIDAY

1Cor.15:12-20  
Lk.8:1-3



#### SATURDAY

1Cor.15:35-37,42-49  
Lk.8:4-15



### MASS INTENTIONS

#### GROS ISLET

#### CLERGY/RELIGIOUS

#### INTENTIONS

### 24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR C

Sat Sept 10 - 6:00 p.m.

Create in me a clean  
heart, O God;  
and renew a right spirit  
within me.

Psalm 51:10

**B'day:** Zaeda Hinkson, Suzette Dussiel  
Omega John, Claude & Mary Severin  
**Thks:** Bonne Terre Preparatory School

Sun Sept 11- 7:30 a.m.

#### MISSA PRO POPULO

**Thks:** Monica Richard & family  
**B'day:** Philomene Lord, Sharon Pancham

10:00 a.m.

Grande Riviere - 7:30 a.m.

**Thks:** Linda Palmer  
Sharon, Kimberly & Byron Geoffrey  
**B'day:** Shurma Felix, Ginerva Davidson

Monchy - 10:00 a.m.

**B'day:** Mandy Boxill  
Sheila Joseph, Mekuey Henry

### WEEKDAY MASS INTENTIONS

Mon Sept 12 - 6:00 a.m.

Rev. Arnold Clouden  
Rev. Marcellus Serieux

**Dc'd:** Charmaine Blanchard-Johnson  
Janine Moulton, Sonia George

Sat Sept 17 - 6:30 a.m.  
*BVM*

Fr. Yvon Tremont

**Dc'd:** James Prudent  
Joseph Ludovic, Lincoln Lemorin

### The Exaltation of the Holy Cross - September 14th

This Feast celebrates three historical events: the finding of the True Cross by St. Helena, the dedication of churches built by Constantine on the site of the Holy Sepulchre and Mount Calvary, and the restoration of the True Cross to Jerusalem by the Emperor Heraclius II. But in a deeper sense, the feast also celebrates the Holy Cross as the instrument of our salvation.

Early in the fourth century Helena went to Jerusalem in search of the holy places of Christ's life. She razed the Temple of Aphrodite, which tradition held was built over the Savior's tomb, and her son, Emperor Constantine, built the Basilica of the Holy Sepulchre over the tomb. During the excavation, workers found three crosses. Legend has it that the one on which Jesus died was identified when its touch healed a dying woman. The Cross immediately became an object of veneration.

The feast entered the Western calendar in the seventh century after Emperor Heraclius II recovered the cross from the Persians, who had carried it off in 614, fifteen years earlier. According to the story, the emperor intended to carry the cross back into Jerusalem himself, but was unable to move forward until he took off his imperial garb and became a barefoot pilgrim.

The cross is today the universal image of Christian belief. This instrument of torture, designed to degrade the worst of criminals, became the life-giving tree that reversed Adam's Original Sin when he ate from the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil in the Garden of Eden.

*"How splendid the cross of Christ! It brings life, not death; light, not darkness; Paradise, not its loss. It is the wood on which the Lord, like a great warrior, was wounded in hands and feet and side, but healed thereby our wounds. A tree has destroyed us, a tree now brought us life". (Theodore of Studios).*

(excerpt: americancatholic.org)