

If you want to be forgiven...

In today's Gospel reading Jesus tells the story of a king whose servant owed him a lot of money. The king was going to punish the servant, but when the man knelt down and begged for mercy, the king forgave him. Then that same man went and punished a servant who owed him money. When the king found out about this he was very angry.



SORRY. I RIPPED YOUR BOOK A BIT.



In this story Jesus is telling us that if we want God to forgive us our sins then we have to forgive the people who have hurt us.

Has anyone ever done something mean to you? How do you feel when that happens? Do you feel loving toward that person? Jesus tells us that we must forgive those people, even when they really hurt us, because we want God to forgive us too. Every time we sin we offend God, and He will still forgive us if we are sorry. If we want God to forgive us, then it's only fair for us to forgive others.



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

♦Catechism classes will resume as follows:

First Communion:

- Gros Islet - Sat. Oct 7th - 10:00 a.m.
- G/Riviere - Sat. Oct 7th - 9:00 a.m.
- Monchy - Sun. Oct 15th - After Mass

Confirmation:

- Gros Islet - Sun. Oct 15th - After 10 am Mass
- G/Riviere - Sat. Oct 7th - 9:00 a.m.
- Monchy - Sun. Oct 15th - After Mass

♦**YOUTH 2000** takes place in St. Lucia from September 29th to October 1st at the St. Mary's College. Register now! For details, contact your catechist or youth leader

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 - 17TH SEPT 2023 - YEAR A

A Debt Owed.

Mercy and forgiveness should be at the heart of the Christian life. Yet, as the First Reading wisely reminds us, often we cherish our wrath, nourish our anger, and refuse mercy to those who have done us wrong.

Jesus, too, strikes close to home in today's Gospel with His realistic portrayal of the wicked servant who won't forgive a fellow servant's debt, even though his own slate has just been wiped clean by their master. It can't be this way in the kingdom, the Church.

In the Old Testament, seven is frequently a number associated with mercy and the forgiveness of sins. The just man sins seven times daily; there is a sevenfold sprinkling of blood for atonement of sin. But Jesus tells Peter that we must forgive not seven times, but seventy times seven times. That means: every time. We are to be merciful as our Father in heaven is merciful.

But why? Why does Jesus repeatedly warn that we can't expect forgiveness for our trespasses unless we're willing to forgive others their trespasses against us? Because, as Paul reminds us in the Epistle, we are the Lord's. Each of us has been purchased by the blood of Christ shed for us on the Cross. As we sing in the Psalm, though we deserved to die for our sins, He doesn't deal with us according to our crimes. The mercy and forgiveness we show to others should be the heartfelt expression of our gratitude for the mercy and forgiveness shown to us.

This is why we should remember our last days, set our enmities aside, and stop judging others. We know that one day we will stand before the judgment seat and give account for what we've done with the new life given to us by Christ. So we forgive each other from the heart, overlook each other's faults, and await the crown of His kindness and compassion.

(excerpt: stpaulcentre.com)

SUNDAY READINGS

- First Reading**
Sir.27:30--28:7
- Second Reading**
Rom.14:7-9
- Gospel**
Mt.18:21-35

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.
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.

&
by appointment

Parish Priests: Msgr. Michel Francis, Fr. Joseph Xavier
Deacons: Rev. Anthony Louis, Rev. David Popo
Rev. Madison Stanislaus, Rev. Winston Taylor.

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Facebook: facebook.com/stjosephtheworkerparish

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

Catechetical Sunday: Come to me all you who labor and are burdened.

Each Catechetical Sunday, we celebrate catechists. The word *catechesis* comes from a Greek word meaning “to echo”. All those who teach the Catholic faith and share the Church’s teachings are catechists. Those who teach in the Church’s name and about Jesus by the way they live are catechists. Parents and guardians are catechists; they are the first and primary teachers of the faith for their children. Catechetical Sunday offers an opportunity to recall that all the Baptized have roles in handing on the faith in their daily lives, families and work.

This year's theme is all about invitation: “*Come to me all you who labor and are burdened.*” (Matthew 11:28). Jesus personally invites us to follow him, and he promises that he will not add to our burdens. Rather, he will lighten them. This invitation is life-changing.

Think of the invitations that you have received in your lifetime - invitations that have made a difference and perhaps even changed your life. It’s possible that an invitation led to a friendship, a new hobby, your present job or career, your significant other, or choosing to live in the part of the world you do. As a catechist, you are most likely serving because of the invitation of another, whether the catechetical leader, the pastor, or another catechist. God tends to invite or call us through other people. As catechists, it is our responsibility to pass along God’s call to those we teach.

Catechetical Sunday is an opportunity for all Catholics to rededicate themselves to the mission of handing on the faith and being a witness to the Gospel as a community of faith. The day provides an opportunity to celebrate those who do the important work of handing on the faith, and an opportunity for all of us Catholics to consider ways we ourselves are witnesses for Jesus Christ. We come together as both a parish and Church community to acknowledge the dedication of those who serve as catechists in our parish family. We also honor parents and guardians on this day, since they are the true first catechists, sharing the Catholic faith with their families.

This year’s theme reminds us that the object of all catechesis is Jesus himself. The role of the catechist is, first of all, to be a disciple - one who draws close and rests in Jesus - and then to be a witness to others and a companion as they too come to know Jesus.

(excerpt: formationreimagined.org)
(excerpt: sadlier.com)
(excerpt: loyolapress.com)

PLEASE PRAY FOR

THE SICK

Patsy Crafton
Iris Macauldy
Martha Mason
Theresa Huntley

DECEASED

Edwin A. King
Florence Philip
Florina Frederic
Patrick Charles
Leyland Alcindor
Gertrude C. Charles
Jean Baptiste Eleodore

WEEKDAY READINGS



MONDAY

1Tim.2:1-8
Lk.7:1-10



TUESDAY

1Tim.3:1-13
Lk.7:11-17



WEDNESDAY

1Tim.3:14-16
Lk.7:31-35



THURSDAY.

Eph.4:1-7,11-13
Mt.9:9-13



FRIDAY

1Tim.6:2-12
Lk.8:1-3



SATURDAY

1Tim.6:13-16
Lk.8:4-15



MASS INTENTIONS		
GROS ISLET	CLERGY/RELIGIOUS	INTENTIONS
24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A		
Sat Sept 16 - 6:00 p.m.	"BLESS THE LORD, O MY SOUL, & forget not all His benefits." - Psalm 103:2	Thks: The Destang family Sp. Int: Ike Blanchard & family
Sun Sept 17 - 7:30 a.m. <i>Catechetical Sunday</i>		MISSA PRO POPULO
10:00 a.m.		Thks: Charms Gaspard B'day: Renetta Joseph-Bruce 50th Wedd Ann: Joseph & Victoria Auguste
Grande Riviere - 7:30 a.m.		Parishioners
Monchy - 10:00 a.m.		B'day: Antoinese Gaspard Francis Phillips, Lilian Mathurin
WEEKDAY MASS INTENTIONS		
Mon Sept 18 - 6:00 a.m.	Fr. Gabriel Arockiasammy Sr. Bernadette Peter	B'day: Leeann Boxill
12:30 p.m.		Thks: Emsco Remy & family
Tue Sept 19 - 6:00 a.m.	Fr. Lambert St. Rose	Thks: Althea & Ellen Regis
Wed Sept 20 - 6:00 a.m. <i>St. Andrew Kim Taegon, Priest St. Paul Chong Hasang & Companions, Martyrs</i>	Fr. Paul Vu	B'day: Norma Boxill, Claudia Roach Guid: Ignatius Lewis & family
12:30 p.m.		90th B'day: Muriel Gill
Thu Sept 21- 6:00 a.m. <i>St. Matthew Evangelist & Apostle</i>	Rev. Anthony Louis Rev. John Douglas Rev. Robert Harvey	Dc'd: Egbert Lionel
12:30 p.m.		B'day: Maura Bernard, Ike Blanchard
Fri Sept 22 - 6:00 a.m.	Fr. Cecil Goodman Rev. Thomas Alexander	Dc'd: Thomas Louis
12:30 p.m.		B'day: Roystan Nicholas Thks: Catherine Alexis & family
Sat Sept 23- 6:30 a.m. <i>St. Pius of Pietrelcina, Priest</i>	Msgr. Theophilus Joseph Fr. Linus Clovis Sr. Adinase Mumba	B'day: Calvin George Thks: Joan Norville