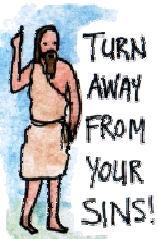


We Joyfully Wait for Jesus

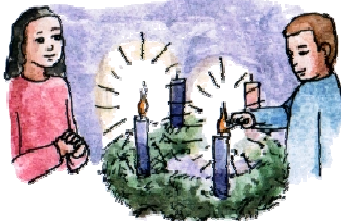


TURN AWAY FROM YOUR SINS!

Advent is a time of joy, when we happily look forward to the coming of Jesus. Today's Gospel reading tells about how Saint John the Baptist went around telling everyone to repent and prepare for the coming of the Messiah.

An Advent wreath is a symbol of the coming of Jesus, our Light, into the world. It has three purple candles and one pink candle. One candle is lit on the first week of Advent, and one more is added every week until Christmas. Every week it gets a bit brighter because we are getting closer to Jesus' coming at Christmas.

The purple candles stand for repentance- being sorry and making up for our sins. The pink candle represents joy. It is lit on the third week of Advent because we rejoice that the waiting is half over.



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.

PREPARE THE WAY OF THE LORD

MAKE STRAIGHT HIS PATHS *Luke 3:4*



A VOICE OF ONE CALLING IN THE WILDERNESS

PRAYER FOR THE NATION

God of Power and might,
We thank and praise You
For Your goodness and mercy.
Have mercy upon us, behold us
And show us the light of Your mercies.

Send Your fear upon our nation
That we may know that
There is no God besides You.
Lift up Your hands over St. Lucia
That we may see Your power.

Heal the hurts of our nation.
Sanctify and purify our actions
And way of life that
We may be a holy nation.

Give wisdom and fortitude to our leaders
that they may guide our nation in Your precepts.
Give love, patience and hope to our youth
And strengthen our families.

We make this prayer in the name
Of Your beloved Son Jesus Christ,

VISION 2020-DISCIPLES ON MISSION

2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YEAR C - 8TH DEC 2024



The Road Home.

Today's Psalm paints a dreamlike scene: a road filled with liberated captives heading home to Zion, mouths filled with laughter, tongues rejoicing. It's a glorious picture from Israel's past, a "new exodus," the deliverance from exile in Babylon. It's being recalled in a moment of obvious uncertainty and anxiety. But the psalmist isn't waxing nostalgic. Remembering "the marvels the Lord worked" in the past, he is making an act of faith and hope, that God will come to Israel in its present need, that He'll do even greater things in the future.

This is what the Advent readings are all about: we recall God's saving deeds in the history of Israel and in the coming of Jesus. Our remembrance is meant to stir our faith, to fill us with confidence that, as the Epistle puts it, "the One who began this good work in (us) will see that is finished." until He comes again in glory.

Each of us, the Liturgy teaches, is like Israel in her exile, led into captivity by our sinfulness, in need of restoration and conversion by the Word of the Holy One. The lessons of salvation history should teach us that, as God again and again delivered Israel, in His mercy He will free us from our attachments to sin if we turn to Him in repentance. That's the message of John, introduced in the Gospel as the last of the great prophets.

But John is greater than the prophets. He's preparing the way not only for a new redemption of Israel but for the salvation of "all flesh". John quotes Isaiah to tell us he's come to build a road home for us, a way out of the wilderness of sin and alienation from God. It's a road we'll follow Jesus down, a journey we'll make, as the First Reading puts it, "jubilant that God has remembered (us)."

(excerpt: stpaulcenter.com)

SUNDAY READINGS

First Reading

Bar.5:1-9

Second Reading

Phil.1:4-6,8-11

Gospel

Lk.3:1-6

MASS TIMES

Morning Prayers:
5:45a.m.



MONDAY: GROS ISLET

Mass: 6:00 a.m.
12:30 p.m.



TUESDAY: GROS ISLET

6:00 a.m.



WEDNESDAY

6:00 a.m./12:30 p.m.:
Gros Islet
6:00 p.m. **G/Riviere**



THURSDAY

6:00 a.m./12:30 p.m.:
Gros Islet



FRIDAY

6:00 a.m./12:30 p.m.:
Gros Islet



SATURDAY

6:30 a.m./6:00 p. m.
Gros Islet



SUNDAY

7:30 a.m.:

GROS ISLET/G. RIVIERE

10:00 a.m.:

Gros Islet/Monchy



HOLIDAY

Variable

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

CONFESSIONS

Every Saturday
9.00 - 10.00a.m
&
by appointment

Parish Priest: Fr. Athanase Joseph
Assistant Parish Priest: Msgr. Michel Francis
Deacons: Rev. Anthony Louis, Rev. David Popo
P.O Box Choc 8192, Castries LC02 801, Saint Lucia
Tel: (758) 450-8325 ☎ Fax: (758) 450-8794 ☎ Cell: (758) 285-8831
Email: st.joseph_church@candw.lc ☎ Website: www.grosisletchurch.org
Facebook: facebook.com/stjosephtheworkerparish

The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

According to the teaching of the Church, the conception of the Mary in her mother's womb was free from original sin. This means that Mary was conceived by normal biological means, but her soul was kept immaculate by God at the time of her conception.

The doctrine of the Immaculate Conception (Mary being conceived free from original sin) is not to be confused with the virginal conception of her son Jesus. Roman Catholic dogma states "that the most Blessed Virgin Mary, in the first instance of her conception, by a singular grace and privilege granted by Almighty God, in view of the merits of Jesus Christ, the Saviour of the human race, was preserved free from all stain of original sin."

Being always free from original sin, from her conception Mary received the sanctifying grace that would normally come with baptism after birth. The Church holds that Mary was also sinless personally - "free from all sin, original or personal". But her immaculate conception did not remove her need for redemption by Christ; rather it was the result of a more perfect redemption granted her because of her special role in salvation history. Indeed, Mary herself proclaims in Luke 1:47: "My spirit has rejoiced in God my Saviour." The Immaculate Conception represents Christ's saving grace operating in Mary in anticipation of His redemption of man and in God's foreknowledge of Mary's acceptance of His Will for her. In other words, the Immaculate Conception was not a precondition for Christ's act of redemption but the result of it. It is the concrete expression of God's love for Mary, who gave herself fully, completely, and without hesitation to His service. This is referred to as Mary's pre-redemption by Christ.

The belief that Mary was sinless and conceived immaculate has been widely held since Late Antiquity, and the doctrine was dogmatically defined in 1854 by Pope Pius IX in his Papal Bull "Ineffabilis Deus".

(excerpt: catholicismabout.com)

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

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

**PLEASE PRAY
FOR THE SICK**

Marie Joseph
Patsy Crafton
Martha Mason
Iris Macauldy

DECEASED

Muriel Farley
Marie Joseph
Teresa Huntley
Sydney Charles
Thomas Richelieu



WEEKDAY READINGS



MONDAY
Gen.3:9-15,20
Eph.1:3-6,11-12
Lk.1:26-38

TUESDAY
Is. 40:1-11
Mt.18:12-14



WEDNESDAY
Is.40:25-31
Mt.11:28-30



THURSDAY
Is. 41:13-20
Mt.11:11-15



FRIDAY
Is.48:17-19
Mt.11;16-19



SATURDAY
Eccl.48:1-4,9-12
Mt.17:10-13



MASS INTENTIONS

GROS ISLET

CLERGY / RELIGIOUS

INTENTIONS

2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YEAR C

Sat Dec 07- 6:00 p.m.



B'day: Anaiah Bousquet
Thks: Augusta Toussaint
Perlin Verdant & family

Sun Dec 08- 7:30 a.m.

MISSA PRO POPULO

10:00 a.m.

Holy Spirit: Thomas Louis & family
Int: Staff & Students of SJC

Grande Riviere - 7:30 a.m.

B'day: Monica Celine Phillip
84th B'day: Winston Francois
Thks: The Albertine family
Dianne & John Mzondo

Monchy - 10:00 a.m.

Eucharistic Service

WEEKDAY MASS INTENTIONS

Mon Dec 09 - 6:00 a.m.
*Immaculate Conception
of the BVM*

Fr. Cezar Herrera
Rev. Andrew Edward
Sr. Ramona George

B'day: Cletus Springer
Thks: Tyrone & Stella Chong & family

12:30 p.m.

Holy Spirit: Thomas Louis & family
B'day: Louise-Ann Albert, Trevor George

Tue Dec 10 - 6:00 a.m.

Fr. Joseph Xavier
Sr. Benedicta Chanda

Dc'd: Lionel James
Dorothy Daniel, Vivian Grell

Wed Dec 11- 6:00 a.m.

Rev. Anthony Pierre
Sr. Scholastica Felician

B'day: Xachery Felix
Holy Spirit: Marylene Gaston
Thks: Cyrillia & Althea Palton

Grande Riviere - 6:00 p.m

Dc'd: David Hinds

Thu Dec 12 - 6:00 a.m.

Fr. Festus Iwuagwu
Rev. Wilfred Harris
Rev. Marcellus Serieux

B'day: Adeline Jean
Guid: Kateri & Kate Haywood
Wedd Ann: Cletus & Bernadette Springer

12:30 p.m.

Dc'd: Claude Bodley,
Horace & Ann Margaret Gallion

Fri Dec 13 - 6:00 a.m.
St. Lucy, Virgin & Martyr

Rev. Vincent Norbert
Rev. Madison Stanislaus

Thks: All St. Lucians

Sat Dec 14 - 6.30 a.m.

Sr. Mary Dungdung
Sr. Mercy Masaka

Dc'd: Mathurin Erilien
Ila Henry, Joseph Alexander