

# Water...



In today's first reading, the Israelites in the desert are thirsty and ask Moses for water. So God tells him to strike a big rock with his staff and water comes out. In the Gospel reading, Jesus tells the Samaritan woman that He can give her living water so that she will never be thirsty.

Water is a symbol of life. In the first story the people in the desert would have died if they didn't get water. Now Jesus gives us His life, which is grace. We receive it especially in Holy Communion. This is the living water that He is talking about. Our souls need His grace to stay alive.



When you have a drink of water, think about how your body needs water to stay alive, and how your soul needs God's grace. Saying a prayer is kind of like giving your soul a little drink!



[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 should contact the Parish Office to make arrangements 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

♦ The parish Youth Lenten Retreat for ages 9 to 14 will be held on Saturday March 18th for one day only. A weekend retreat will be held for youth aged 15 to 25 from March 31st to April 2nd. Registration forms are available from youth leaders and Catechists.

♦ At the Archdiocesan Rally on December 4th, Archbishop Malzaire called for us to join in Prayerful war against crime & violence. He invited the entire nation to four Pontifical Masses at the Cardinal Points on the island. The fourth and final of these Pontifical Masses takes place here at the St. Joseph the Worker Church, Gros Islet, on Sunday, March 19<sup>th</sup>, from 4:00 p.m. Archbishop Malzaire, all the priests and deacons of the Archdiocese and parishioners from around the island will be in attendance. Following the Mass there will be a candlelight procession around the town of Gros Islet. Please come out in large numbers to lend your prayerful support.

♦ **The Family Lenten Retreats in the parish will be as follows:**

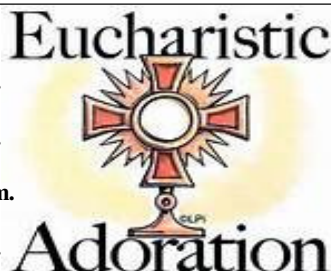
**Grande Riviere** – Monday, March 13th to Wednesday, March 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. each day

**Monchy** – Monday, March 20<sup>th</sup> to Wednesday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6:00 p.m. each day

**Gros Islet** - Monday, March 27<sup>th</sup> to Friday, March 31<sup>st</sup> at 6:00 p.m. each day.



**Weekdays:**  
6:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.  
**Saturdays:**  
6:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
**Sundays:**  
12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.  
**Holidays:**  
7:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.



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

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

## 3RD SUNDAY OF LENT - MARCH 12TH - YEAR A

### Living Water.

The Israelites' hearts were hardened by their trials in the desert. Though they saw His mighty deeds, in their thirst they grumble and put God to the test in today's First Reading, a crisis point recalled also in the Psalm.

Jesus is thirsty, too in the Gospel. He thirsts for souls. He longs to give the Samaritan woman the living waters that well up to eternal life. These waters couldn't be drawn from the well of Jacob, father of the Israelites and the Samaritans. But Jesus was something greater than Jacob. The Samaritans were Israelites who escaped exile when Assyria conquered the Northern Kingdom eight centuries before Christ. They were despised for intermarrying with non-Israelites and worshipping at Mount Gerazim, not Jerusalem. But Jesus tells the woman that the "hour" of true worship is coming, when all will worship God in Spirit and truth.

Jesus' "hour" is the "appointed time" that Paul speaks of in the Epistle. It is the hour when the Rock of our salvation was struck on the Cross. Struck by the soldier's lance, living waters flowed out from our Rock. These waters are the Holy Spirit, the gift of God. By the living waters the ancient enmities of Samaritans and Jews have been washed away, the dividing wall between Israel and the nations is broken down. Since His hour, all may drink of the Spirit in Baptism.

In the Eucharist, the Lord now is in our midst, as He was at the Rock of Horeb and at the well of Jacob. In the "today" of our Liturgy, He calls us to believe: "I am He," come to pour out the love of God into our hearts through the Holy Spirit. How can we continue to worship as if we don't understand? How can our hearts remain hardened?

(excerpt: stpaulcentre.com)

**First Reading**  
Ex.17:3-7  
**Second Reading**  
Rom.5:1-2,5-8  
**Gospel**  
Jn.4:5-42

### MASS TIMES

**GROS ISLET**  
Morning Prayers:  
5:45a.m.

**MONDAY:**  
6:00 a. m./12:30 p.m.

**TUESDAY:**  
6:00 a.m.

**WEDNESDAY**  
12:30 p.m./ 6:00 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

**Parish Priest:** Msgr. Michel Francis, Fr. Festus Iwuagwu  
**Deacons:** Rev. Anthony Louis, Rev. David Popo  
Rev. Winston Taylor, Rev. Madison Stanislaus.  
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**Website:** [www.grosisletchurch.org](http://www.grosisletchurch.org) † **Youtube:** Gros Islet Church  
**Facebook:** [stjosephtheworkerparish](https://www.facebook.com/stjosephtheworkerparish)

**Lenten Reflection: Family Conversion/Relationship Conversion.**

Lent can be a good time to reflect on the people who mean the most to us and the relationships we hold most dear. It can be jarring to realize that our time together as a family might amount to no more than a few minutes a day. Our lives are independent as we scatter in different directions each day for work, school or childcare.

This season of reflection and renewal might be an appropriate time to pray about our family lives and how we can be more thoughtful and prayerful about Lent as a family. Perhaps we could hold a family meeting over dinner or some other relaxed place. We could discuss Lent and the symbols of the season. We might want to talk about how our faith life is not a journey we make alone, but one we are in as a community, as a family.

One Lenten family practice might include a daily act of love for our family. Can we look around and see some small thing that needs to be done to make our lives together better? Is there laundry to sort or dishes to be washed? Is there a floor that needs sweeping or a room that needs dusting? Just one effort by each of us each day can make a dramatic difference in sharing the workload in the family. The grace we are reaching for goes beyond getting the garbage taken out, for example.

We know it is a grace when the experience of taking the garbage out feels like an act of love, an act of solidarity as a family. Perhaps the simplest way to prepare for this grace is to pray:

*“Dear Lord, may this simple, ordinary sacrifice of my time for the sake of those I love, draw us closer together as a family whose hearts you are drawing to yourself in the togetherness of our family love.”*

One of the real graces of Lent has to do with forgiveness and reconciliation – mercy and healing. This is never simply a matter between Jesus and me. It always has something to do with my family and with my relationships – how we are with each other. What in us needs mercy and healing? What patterns that we have need our reflections and common family choices and actions this Lent?

(onlineministries.creighton.edu)

**PLEASE PRAY FOR**

**THE SICK**

Patsy Crafton  
Iris Macauldy  
Martha Mason  
Henry Kappel  
Theresa Huntley

**DECEASED**

Eric Joseph  
Teresa Felix  
Lucius Delice  
Carmen Lorde  
Frances James  
Francis Charles  
Christiana Pierre  
Mr. & Mrs. Jules Wilson

**WEEKDAY READINGS**

✠  
**MONDAY**  
2Kgs.5:1-15  
Lk.4:24-30

✠  
**TUESDAY**  
Dan.3:25,34-43  
Mt.18:21-35

✠  
**WEDNESDAY**  
Deut.4:1,5-9  
Mt.5:17-19

✠  
**THURSDAY**  
Jer.7:23-28  
Lk.11:14-23

✠  
**FRIDAY**  
Hos.14:2-10  
Mk.12:28-34

✠  
**SATURDAY**  
Hos.5:15--6:6  
Lk.18:9-14

✠

**MASS INTENTIONS**

**GROS ISLET**

**CLERGY /RELIGIOUS**

**INTENTIONS**

**3RD SUNDAY OF LENT - YEAR A**

**Sat Mar 11 - 6:00 p.m.**

*“If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.”  
Psalm 95*

**B'day:** Alaia Defreitas, Leilani Glace  
Anthony Bousquet, Florence Lastic

**Sun Mar 12 - 7:30 a.m.**

**MISSA PRO POPULO**

**10:00 a.m.**

**B'day:** Aaron Bent, Gianna Blanchard  
Monica Richard, Melea Bosso

**Grande Riviere - 7:30 a.m.**

**Thks:** Juliet Joseph & family

**Monchy - 10:00 a.m.**

**Guid & Protec:**  
Andre, Ross & Melanie Downes

**WEEKDAY MASS INTENTIONS**

**Mon Mar 13 - 6:00 a.m.**

Rev. Madison Stanislaus  
Rev. Vincent Norbert  
Rev. Anthony Pierre

**Dc'd:** Kevin Haywood  
Charmaine Blanchard-Johnson

**12:30 p.m.**

**St. Raphael:** Veronica Innocent  
**Guid & Protec:** Armani Modeste

**Tues Mar 14 - 6:00 a.m.**

Msgr. Justin Barthelmy

**B'day:** Bernez Pamphile

**Wed Mar 15 - 6:00 a.m.**

Rev. Jeremy Joseph  
Fr. Festus Iwuagwu  
Sr. Marie Joseph

**Dc'd:** Dorista Annius  
James Prudent, Paulina Prudent

**12:30 p.m.**

**B'day:** Angela Auguste, Miguel Louisy  
**St. Expeditus:** Veronica Innocent  
**Thks:**  
Mgmt. & Staff- First Stop Auto Parts

**Thu Mar 16 - 6:00 a.m.**

Rev. Errol Frederick  
Sr. Rosemarie Minj

**Dc'd:** Catherine Hinkson  
Alexander & Irvine Blanchard

**12:30 p.m.**

**Dc'd:** Rosa & Antoine Glace  
Irene & Joseph Destang

**Fri Mar 17 - 6:00 a.m.**

Fr. Yvon Tremont  
Sr. Bernadette Peter

**B'day:** Cyralia Palton  
**Sp. Int:** Dilly Severin  
**Thks:** Severin family

**12:30 p.m.**

**Deliv:** Gulbert Michel & family  
**BVM:** Ange Barachiel  
Saint Jean Baptiste

**Sat Mar 18 - 6:30 a.m.**

Fr. Gabriel Arockiasammy

**Dc'd:** Kenneth & Mona James  
Lucy Regobert, Francis Cadette

WEEK 3 GIVE

When we give of ourselves by using the gifts God has given us to serve others, we are able to uniquely worship God. This week challenges you to explore your gifts and talents and then creatively use those to serve those around you.