

## Kids Column

### Baby Jesus is Presented in the Temple

On February second we celebrate the feast of the Presentation of Jesus in the Temple. That is the day that Saint Joseph and Our Lady took the baby Jesus to the Temple in Jerusalem to consecrate Him to God. The Jews were supposed to dedicate their first-born sons to God, so Mary and Joseph were obedient to the law even though their Baby was God Himself!

This was a most amazing moment, even though almost nobody noticed it: here was the great Temple where the people came to worship God, and now God had actually come into it- as a little Baby! But only Mary and Joseph and the prophets Simeon and Anna knew what had happened.

Saint Paul tells us that our bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit. Every time you receive Holy Communion, it's like baby Jesus entering the Temple. When you go to Communion, remember that you know that amazing secret- that even though the rest of the world might not know, you have just received Jesus! What a special moment!



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.

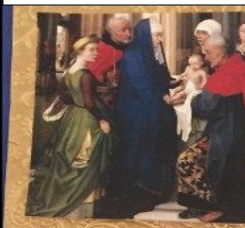
## WHAT'S HAPPENING

◆ A Mass in honour of Sr. Marie Therese Clement will be held at the Good Shepherd Church, Babonneau this Sunday, January 28<sup>th</sup>, from 4:00 p.m. Sister Marie Therese was appointed as the General Prioress/Superior of her Congregation, The Dominican Missionaries of our Lady of Delivrande in July 2023. All are invited to attend.

◆ This Friday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>, is the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord. Please remember to bring along your candles to church for blessing on that day.

◆ All Cursillo members are invited to Ultreya on Sunday, February 4<sup>th</sup>, at St. Benedict's Church from 3:00 p.m. Persons in the Castries Basin who need transportation are asked to contact Catherina.

◆ There will be a Bake Sale to raise funds for the Youth Lenten Retreat on Sunday, Feb. 4<sup>th</sup> after both morning Masses at Gros Islet. Please support the youth in this endeavour.



Canticle of Simeon  
(Nunc Dimittis)  
**LORD,**  
now you let your  
servant go in peace,

Your word has been fulfilled:  
my own eyes have seen Your salvation  
which You have prepared  
in the sight of every people:

⇒ a **LIGHT** ⇒  
to reveal You to the nations  
and the glory of Your people Israel.  
Luke 2: 29-32



# Synod 2021-2023: Communion/Participation/Mission

4TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - 28TH JAN 2024 - YEAR B

### Royal Authority.

Last week, Jesus announced the kingdom of God is at hand. This week, in mighty words and deeds, He exercises His dominion asserting royal authority over the ruler of this world, Satan.

Notice that today's events take place on the sabbath. The sabbath was to be an everlasting sign, both of God's covenant love for His creation, and His deliverance of His covenant people, Israel, from slavery.

On this sabbath, Jesus signals a new creation, that the Holy One has come to purify His people and deliver the world from evil. "With an unclean spirit" is biblical language for a man possessed by a demon, Satan being the prince of demons. The demons' question: "What have you to do with us?" is often used in Old Testament scenes of combat and judgment. And as God by His Word "rebuked" the forces of chaos in creating the world, and again rebuked the Red Sea so the Israelites could make their exodus, Mark uses the same word to describe Jesus rebuking the demons.

Jesus is the prophet foretold by Moses in the First Reading. Though He has authority over heaven and earth, He becomes one of our own kinsmen. He comes to rebuke the forces of evil and chaos, not only in the world, but in our lives. He wants to make us holy in body and spirit, as Paul says in the Epistle. In this liturgy, we hear His voice and "see" His works, as we sing in the Psalm. And as Moses tells us, we should listen to Him.

(excerpt: st.paulcenter.com)

### SUNDAY READINGS

**First Reading**  
Deut.18.15-20

**Second Reading**  
1Cor.7:32-35

**Gospel**  
Mk.1:21-28

### 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 Savarimuthu  
Deacons: Rev. Anthony Louis, Rev. David Popo  
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 ✠ Website: www.grosisletchurch.org  
Facebook: facebook.com/stjosephtheworkerparish

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

***The Presentation of the Lord - February 2nd.***

This feast marks the presentation of the Jesus in the Temple forty days after he was born. As the firstborn, he belonged to God, and according to the Law, his parents were required to take him to the Temple and “redeem” him by paying five shekels. The Law also required the mother to offer sacrifice in order to overcome the ritual impurity of childbirth.

The feast shows a curious turn of events: the Redeemer seems to be redeemed and she who is all pure presents herself to be purified. Such is the humility of our God; such is the humility of the Blessed Virgin; they submit to the law even though they are not bound by it.

The Gospel for the day nowhere mentions Jesus’ redemption, but seems to describe a religious consecration such as a priest might undergo. Luke tells us that Jesus is “presented” in the Temple, using the same verb that Paul uses to describe the offering of a sacrifice. Another parallel is the Old Testament dedication of Samuel to the Temple as a priest.

The drama surrounding Jesus’ conception and birth began in the Temple when the Archangel visited Zechariah the priest, and now the story of Jesus’ infancy comes to a fitting conclusion, again in the Temple. The readings of the day concern Jerusalem, the Temple, and the sacrificial rites. The first reading comes from the Prophet Malachi, who called the priests to return to faithful service and foretold a day when a Messiah would arrive to purify the priesthood. The Psalm announces to Jerusalem that it is about to receive a great visitor: “The Lord of armies . . . the king of glory.” Christ now arrives as the long awaited priest and redeemer. He is also the sacrifice. Indeed, as His life will show, He is the Temple itself .

This feast has been chosen by the Church for the solemn blessing of candles. In AD 638, Sophronius, Patriarch of Jerusalem, proclaimed the importance of the celebration in his sermon: "Our bright shining candles are a sign of divine splendor of the One who comes to expel the dark shadows of evil and to make the whole universe radiant with the brilliance of His eternal light. Our candles also show how bright our souls should be when we go to meet Christ."

(excerpt: stpaulcenter.com/sharefaith.com)

**PLEASE PRAY FOR**

**THE SICK**

Patsy Crafton  
Iris Macauldy  
Martha Mason  
Teresa Huntley  
Marie Joseph

**DECEASED**

Andrew Inglis  
Frances Girard  
Kirby Gaspard  
Canice Felicien  
Dorothy Daniel  
Clement Casimir

**WEEKDAY READINGS**



**MONDAY**

2Sam.15:13-14,30;  
16:5-13  
Mk.5:1-20



**TUESDAY**

2Sam.18:9-10,14.  
24-25,30-19:3  
Mk.5:21-43



**WEDNESDAY**

2Sam.24:2,8-17  
Mk.6:1-6



**THURSDAY.**

1Kgs.2:1-4,10-12  
Mk.6:7-13



**FRIDAY**

Mal.3:1-4  
Heb.2:14-18  
Lk.2:22-40



**SATURDAY**

1Kgs.3:4-13  
Mk.6:30-34

**MASS INTENTIONS**

**GROS ISLET**

**CLERGY/RELIGIOUS**

**INTENTIONS**

**4TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR B**

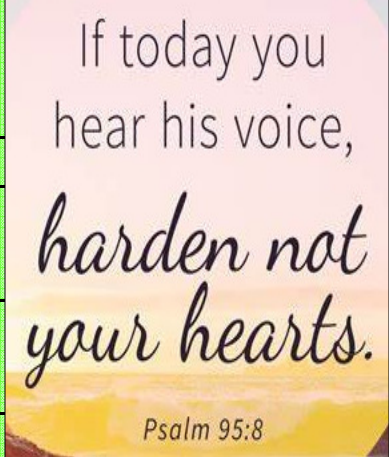
**Sat Jan 27 - 6:00 p.m.**

**Sun Jan 28 - 7:30 a.m.**

**10:00 a.m.**

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

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



**B'day:** Jan Charlemagne  
**Thks:** Olive & Cherish Mesmin  
**Int:** The George family  
Girard Glace & family

**MISSA PRO POPULO**

**Thks:** Theresa Louis  
**B'day:** Whilhelmina Auguste  
**Wedd Ann:** William & Denise Edward

**Thks:** Laurencia Cadette  
Zoey Hinkson, Sashla St. Omer  
Catherine Augustin & family

**Wedd Ann:** Vaughn & Frances Edwin

**WEEKDAY MASS INTENTIONS**

**Mon Jan 29 - 6:00 a.m.**

**12:30 p.m.**

**Tue Jan 30 - 6:00 a.m.**

**Wed Jan 31 - 6:00 a.m.**

*St. John Bosco, Priest*

**12:30 p.m.**

**Grande Riviere - 6:00 p.m.**

**Thu Feb 1- 6:00 a.m.**

**12:30 p.m.**

**Fri Feb 2 - 6:00 a.m.**

*Presentation of the Lord*

**12:30 p.m.**

**Sat Feb 3 - 6:30 a.m.**

*Mass at the Shrine*

Rev. David Popo  
Rev. Gerard Calderon  
Rev. Herald Wilson

Rev. Peter Fevrier  
Sr. Margaret Maynard

Fr. Athanase Joseph  
Sr. Mary Mumba

Fr. Ignatius Cetoute  
Fr. Cleophus Joseph  
Sr. Marie Therese Clement

Fr. Joseph Akande  
Fr. Celestine Nwakwuo  
Fr. Philomin Zacharias

Msgr. Michel Francis  
Fr. Stephen Quinlan

**Dc'd:**  
Frances Valasse, Mathurine Charles

**Dc'd:** Johnson Phillip

**B'day:** Jacinta Belrose  
**IHO St. Anthony:** Alex Alexis  
**Thks:** Marie-Georges Arnaud

**B'day:** Nakayla Williams  
**Int:** Bernadette Pamphile

**B'day:** Delia Charles  
**Thks:** Tommy & Tamicka Adolphe

**B'day:** Quacey Esnard

**Healing:** Glen St. Prix  
Eldon & Marie Joseph

**B'day:** Bernise Springer

**Dc'd:** Davidson & Ann Marie Moise  
Frances Auguste, Hazel Louis

**Thks:** Jennifer Remy  
**Int:** Perlin Verdant & family  
**B'day:** Shirley Ann Lubin

**Dc'd:** Ursule Mason  
Holy Souls in Purgatory