

Kids Column

Mk.1:1-8



Christmas is almost here!



Christmas is almost here! Isn't it exciting? It's like when it's getting really close to your birthday, except that people all over the world are going to be celebrating Christmas! We should help make Jesus' birthday as special as we can!

I CAN WASH THE SINK FOR MOM!

If your family has an Advent wreath, today all four of the candles will be lit. This represents the light of Jesus coming closer and getting brighter.

HERE, I'LL HELP YOU PICK UP THE TOYS.



Jesus is the light of the world. If we want to make Christmas beautiful, then we should make our own lives shine with the love of Jesus.

HI DAD! I VACUUMED UNDER YOUR DESK!



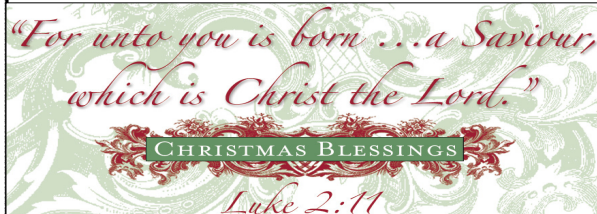
Does your family have a Christmas tree? Are there lights on it? Do you have Christmas lights on your house? All the little lights you see can represent all the people whose lives are lit up with the love of God. Or maybe they can represent all the good things you can do to brighten up other people's lives! Think of some things you can do to love God and bring His love to your family and your friends and neighbours this Christmas!

www.thekidsbulletin.com

WHAT'S HAPPENING

- ♦ Mass Times for the Season are as follows:
  - Sunday December 24th:**
    - Gros Islet – One Mass Only at 8:00 a.m.
    - Grande Riviere - 7:30 a.m.
    - Monchy - 10:00 a.m.
  - Christmas Vigil** - December 24th - 9:00 p.m.
  - Christmas Day** - December 25th:
    - Gros Islet - 7:30 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.
    - Grande Riviere - 7:30 a.m.
    - Monchy - 10:00 a.m.
  - Sunday December 31st:**
    - Gros Islet – One Mass Only at 8:00 a.m.
    - Grande Riviere - 7:30 a.m.
    - Monchy - 10:00 a.m.
  - New Year's Eve** - December 31st - 9:00 p.m.
  - New Year's Day** - January 1st:
    - Gros Islet - 7:30 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.
    - Grande Riviere - 7:30 a.m.
    - Monchy - 10:00 a.m.
- ♦ Saturday Masses remain as usual.

♦ After many years of service in the Lord's vineyard, the Clergy of the Archdiocese deserve a proper home for their retirement. The Archdiocese is in the process of refurbishing the St. Benedict's Presbytery at the Morne for that purpose. Beginning 2024, a Special Collection will be taken at all New Year's Masses in the Archdiocese, to go towards a Retirement Fund for the maintenance of the Home and the care of the residing Clergy. Special envelopes will be distributed for the collection. Parishioners can also pledge donations towards that fund by direct bank transfer or submissions at the parish in properly labeled envelopes. Information about the Retirement Home can be found on www.aocslu.org or the Archdiocesan Facebook Page: Archdiocese of Castries.



According to His Word.

What is announced to Mary in today's Gospel is the revelation of all that the prophets had spoken. It is, as Paul declares in the Epistle, the mystery kept secret since before the foundation of the world. Mary is the virgin prophesied to bear a son of the house of David, and nearly every word the angel speaks to her evokes and echoes the long history of salvation recorded in the Bible.

Mary is hailed as the "daughter Jerusalem," called to rejoice that her king, the Lord God, has come into her midst as a mighty saviour. The One whom Mary is to bear will be Son of "the Most High", an ancient divine title first used to describe the God of the priest-king Melchizedek who brought out bread and wine to bless Abraham at the dawn of salvation history. He will fulfill the covenant God makes with His chosen one, David, in the First Reading. As we sing in the Psalm, He will reign forever as highest of the kings of the earth, and He will call God "my Father." Just as Daniel saw the Most High grant everlasting dominion to the Son of Man, His kingdom will have no end. He is to rule over the house of Jacob, the title God used in making His covenant with Israel at Sinai and again used in promising that all nations would worship the God of Jacob.

Jesus has been made known, Paul says, to bring all nations to the obedience of faith. We are called with Mary today to marvel at all that the Lord has done throughout the ages for our salvation. We too must respond to this annunciation with humble obedience - that His will be done, that our lives be lived according to His word.

(excerpt: stpaulcenter.com)

SUNDAY READINGS

First Reading  
2Sam.7:1-5,8-12  
14,16  
Second Reading  
Rom.16:25-27  
Gospel  
Lk.1:26-38

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**  
6:00a 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**  
6:00 p.m.: **Monchy**  
✠  
**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  
✠

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

Parish Priests: Msgr. Michel Francis, Fr. Joseph X. Savarimuthu  
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@hotmail.com ✠ Website: www.grosisletchurch.org  
Facebook: facebook.com/stjosephtheworkerparish

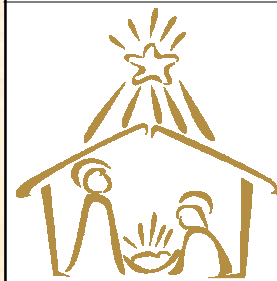
St. Joseph the Worker Parish  
Gros Islet, Grande Riviere & Monchy

**Behold the Handmaid of the Lord.**

The Fourth Sunday of Advent belongs to Mary. This is so because the celebration of the birth of Jesus of necessity involves the motherhood of Mary. Saluted as "full of grace" by the angel, she freely chooses to cooperate with God's plan, and our Savior was "conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit."

David sought to build a dwelling place, a temple for the Lord. Instead, it is the Lord who promises to establish a house, a legacy for him. It is Mary's yes that brings that legacy to its culmination, the birth of the Savior from the House of David. It is she who gives a home to the Son of God in her womb. God chooses to occupy the womb of the Blessed Virgin Mary in order to achieve His purposes, namely our salvation. Jesus has been made known, Paul says, to bring all nations to the obedience of faith. We are called with Mary to marvel at all that the Lord has done throughout the ages for our salvation. And we too must respond to this annunciation with humble obedience that His will be done, that our lives be lived according to His word.

(excerpt: alicetx.com/frsebastianvettath)  
(excerpt: catholicwealdstone.org)



**"Christmas Spoken Here."**

Is there a better slogan for the church, at this season or any time of year, than this one? What could say better why we are here? God has entered human history to change its course forever. He has come as a Word, as something said, articulated, put in a message: "**The Word became flesh and dwelt among us**" (John 1:14).

We remember the event each year in prayer, song, pageant and decoration - "Christmas spoken here." It has to be spoken here, for it is the basis of all we do.

"Christmas Spoken Here" is an appropriate motto for us. The church ought always to speak Christmas. We ought always to be reminded of the Word God has spoken: the intelligible, important, and loving Word of His concern for us. And Christmas is the best time of all the year for remembering it. "The Word became flesh and dwelt among us full of grace and truth." That is Christmas, and Christmas is spoken here. It will always be spoken here.

*"Lord, You have spoken to us in the birth and life and death of Jesus, and Your Word is plain. Help us to hear it and respond with all our hearts. For there is no other word as intelligible, or important, or loving as this one." Amen.*

John Killinger

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK**

Iris Macauldy  
Patsy Crafton  
Martha Mason  
Teresa Huntley

**DECEASED**

Cecil Graham  
Dorothy Daniel  
Marie M. Charles  
Ferdinand Gomez  
Msgr. Theo Joseph  
Elizabeth Clerville

**WEEKDAY READINGS**



**MONDAY**

Is.52:7-10  
Heb.1:1-6  
Jn.1:1-18



**TUESDAY**

Acts.6:8-10; 7:54-59  
Mt. 10:17-22



**WEDNESDAY**

1Jn.1:1-4  
Jn.20:2-8



**THURSDAY**

1Jn.1:5-2:2  
Mt.2:13-18



**FRIDAY**

1Jn.2:3-11  
Lk.2:22-35



**SATURDAY**

1Jn.2:12-17  
Lk.2:36-40

**MASS INTENTIONS**

**GROS ISLET**

**CLERGY / RELIGIOUS**

**INTENTIONS**

**4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YEAR B**

**Sat. Dec 23 -6:00 p.m.**

I will sing of the  
LORD'S great LOVE forever,

**Int:** Dionysha Sealy-Compton & family  
**Thks:** Sonia & Vernon Alexander & family

**Sun. Dec 24 -8:00 a.m.**

with my mouth I will make your  
faithfulness known through all generations.

**B'day:** Darnell Boxill  
**Thks:** Christine Glace-Fevrier

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

**B'day:** Christella Louisy

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

I will declare that your  
LOVE stands firm forever,  
that you have established your  
faithfulness in heaven itself.

**B'day:** Johnathan Eben Daniel  
**Health & Grace:** Teresa Huntley

**Sun. Dec 24 - 9:00 p.m.**

*Vigil Mass  
Nativity of the Lord*

Psalm 89:1-2

**MISSA PRO POPULO**

**WEEKDAY MASS INTENTIONS**

**Mon Dec 25 -7:30 a.m.**

*Nativity of the Lord*



**Holy Spirit:** Catherine Alexis & family  
Theresa Hyacinth Joseph & family

**10:00 a.m.**

**Thks:** Huntley & Wells families

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

**Consolation:**

Ann Thelma Merville & family

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

**Thks:** Margerie Philip & family

**Tues Dec 26 - 7:00 a.m.**

*St. Stephen, First Martyr*

Rev. Nathalbert Husbands  
Sr. Stephania Banda

**IHO St. Anthony:**  
Catherine Alexis & family

**Wed Dec 27 - 6:00 a.m.**

*St. John, Apostle & Evangelist*

Fr. Kevin Murray  
Rev. Gabriel Geoffrey

**Thks:** Bernitha Clery  
**IHO St. Joseph:**  
Catherine Alexis & family

**12:30 p.m.**

**Dc'd:** Marie Madeleine Charles  
Samuel Brookes, Carissa Etienne

**Thu Dec 28 - 6:00 a.m.**

*Holy Innocents, Martyrs*

Fr. John Milton

**B'day:** Leah & Giblan Gaspard  
**IHO Precious Blood:**  
Catherine Alexis & family

**Fri Dec 29 - 6:00 a.m.**

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

**Dc'd:** Felicite Clery, Holy Souls  
**Sacred Heart:**  
Catherine Alexis & family  
**Guid:** Marva Wellington  
**Thks:** Mary Wellington & family

**12:30 p.m.**

**Sat Dec 30 - 6.30 a.m.**

Rev. Peter Fevrier  
Sr. Margaret Maynard

**Thks:** Claude & Mary Severin & family  
**IHO BVM:** Catherine Alexis & family