

# VISION 2020-DISCIPLES ON MISSION

4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YEAR C – 22ND DEC 2024



*Mary's Child.*

On this last Sunday before Christmas, the Church's Liturgy reveals the true identity of our Redeemer: He is, as the First Reading says, the "the one who is to rule . . . his origin goes back to the distant past." He will come from Bethlehem, where David was born of Jesse the Ephrathite and anointed king.

God promised that an heir of David would reign on his throne forever. Jesus is that heir, the One the prophets promised would restore the scattered tribes of Israel into a new kingdom. He is the "shepherd of Israel" sung of in today's Psalm. From His throne in heaven, He has come to save us. He is both the Son of David and the only begotten Son of God, come in the flesh. He is also our high priest, from the mold of the mysterious Melchizedek, priest of God Most High, who blessed Abraham at the dawn of salvation history.

All this is recognized by John when he leaps for joy in his mother's womb. Elizabeth, too, is filled with joy and the Holy Spirit. She recognizes that in Mary "the mother of my Lord" has come to her. Elizabeth blesses Mary for her faith that God's Word would be fulfilled in her.

Mary marks the fulfillment not only of the angel's promise to her, but of all God's promises down through history. Mary is the one they await in the First Reading: "she who is to give birth." She will give birth this week, at Christmas. And the fruit of her womb should bring us joy. She is the mother of our Lord.

(excerpt: stpaulcentre.com)

## SUNDAY READINGS

**First Reading**  
Mi.5:1-4

**Second Reading**  
Heb.10:5-10

**Gospel**  
Lk.1:39-44



### 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**  
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### CHRISTMAS MESSAGE 2024

As we awake to carol singing, music, dancing, sharing of gifts and Christmas goodies, we ask: *Where has the year 2024 gone?* This indicates that we must be vigilant, and focus on doing what God desires of our life.

The year had its fair share of joy, pain, suffering and success. As a Parish Community we endeavored on a **Synodal journey of Communion, Participation and Mission**. We also incorporated the Archdiocesan theme of *Mami Bondye, Annou Bati L'Eglise Nou Ansanm – People Of God, Let Us Build Our Church Together*. This provided the opportunity to:

- (1) Encourage greater participation in Liturgy and parish life.
- (2) Greater awareness of training for various ministries
- (3) Examine ways we can be more effective in ministering to the neediest in the Church and society.

Society is impacted by the upsurge in crime, violence, disrespect shown at various levels, and selfishness. How do we develop a positive outlook on life when there are so many forces trying to capture our attention?

Jesus was the bearer of the Good News of **Hope** and **Renewal** to a waiting world that longed for His coming for centuries. Can we do the same today? Jesus has empowered us with His gifts of Love and Peace through His Incarnation. He came to live among us, to identify with our trials, pains, and sorrows. Christmas calls us to be beacons of life and hope to others. It is challenging, but we can do our part. Our experience of *sharing gifts* and socialization among friends, family and co-workers calls us to an extended dimension of the sharing of **Time** with others, to understand their unique concerns and difficulties. Yes, we can all contribute to lessening the tension of opposition to peace and unity among us. **Love, Peace and Joy** are God's gifts to us this Christmas; let us illumine our lives, family, neighbourhood, groups, Church and community with these gifts this Christmas.

**A JOYOUS CHRISTMAS TO YOU!**

Fr. Athanase Joseph  
Parish Priest

### PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK

Marie Joseph  
Patsy Crafton  
Martha Mason  
Iris Macauldy

### DECEASED

Vera Xavier  
Teresa Huntley  
Gregor Richelieu

### WEEKDAY READINGS



#### MONDAY

Mal.3:1-4,23-24  
Lk.1:57-66



#### TUESDAY

2Sam.7:1-5,  
8-12, 14,16  
Lk.1:67-79

#### Vigil

Is.9:1-7  
Ti.2:11-14  
Lk.2:1-14



#### WEDNESDAY

Is.52:7-10  
Heb.1:1-6  
Jn.1:1-8



#### THURSDAY

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



#### FRIDAY

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



#### SATURDAY

1Jn.1:5-22  
Mt.2:13-18



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MASS INTENTIONS		
GROS ISLET	CLERGY / RELIGIOUS	INTENTIONS
<b>4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT -YEAR C</b>		
Sat Dec 21 - 6:00 p.m.		<b>Thks:</b> Sandra Aimable & family Well wishers of Rachel Myers & family <b>Wedd Ann:</b> William & Suzette Dussiel
Sun Dec 22 - 7:30 a.m.		<b>MISSA PRO POPULO</b>
10:00 a.m.		<b>Healing:</b> Frances Duval <b>Thks:</b> Emmanuel Alexander <b>Wedd Ann:</b> Neil & Marie-Ange Williams
Grande Riviere - 7:30 a.m.		<b>Int:</b> Parish Youth
Monchy - 10:00 a.m.		<b>Holy Spirit:</b> Sharon & Cuthbert Elizee
<b>WEEKDAY MASS INTENTIONS</b>		
Mon Dec 23 – 6:00 a.m.	Fr. Linus Clovis Fr. Kenneth Haakyav Sr. Adinase Mumba	<b>Dc'd:</b> Daphne Marulaz Leon & Luvisca Francis
12:30 p.m.		<b>Thks:</b> Jeremiah Hyacinth Catherine Alexis & family
Tue Dec 24 – 6:00 a.m.	Fr. Vincent Arulanandam Rev. Girard Glace Sr. Mary Muskosa	<b>B'day:</b> Darnell Boxill <b>Thks:</b> Christine Glace-Fevrier <b>Padre Pio for Health:</b> Solomon Alexis
9:00 p.m. <i>Christmas Vigil</i>		<b>MISSA PRO POPULO</b>
Wed Dec 25 – 8:00 a.m. <i>The Nativity of the Lord</i>		<b>B'day:</b> Lucy Goodman Jeremiah Hyacinth
Grande Riviere - 7:30 a.m.		<b>B'day:</b> Anne Mirville, Christella Louisy <b>Thks:</b> Catherine Augustin & family
Monchy - 10:00 a.m.		<b>Thks:</b> Margerie Philip & family
Thu Dec 26 -6:00 a.m. <i>St. Stephen, First Martyr</i>	Fr. Konrad Mair Rev. Nathalbert Husbands Sr. Stephaniana Banda	<b>Thks:</b> Bernadette Pamphile & family
Fri Dec 27 – 6:00 a.m. <i>St. John Apostle &amp; Evangelist</i>	Fr. Kevin Murray Rev. Gabriel Geoffrey	<b>Dc'd:</b> Felicite Clery Mary Carasco
Sat Dec 28 – 6.30 a.m. <i>Holy Innocents, Martyrs</i>	Fr. Henry Nmor Fr. John Milton	<b>100th B'day:</b> Mary Anne Stephen <b>B'day:</b> Leah and Eric Giblan Gaspard <b>Thks:</b> Catherine Alexis & family

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## Kids Column

# Christmas is Almost Here!



Now it's only a week until Jesus' birthday! Are you all ready for it? If you have an Advent wreath then this is the week that all the candles will be lit. Jesus is coming soon, so the light should be getting very bright!

Do you have a Christmas tree? Do you know what it represents? A long time ago people used to have plays at Christmas time about how Adam and Eve sinned when they ate the fruit from the tree, and how Jesus was born to save us from that sin. So a Christmas tree is there to remind us of why Jesus came.



Does your family have a nativity scene? It should be all ready for Christmas, but the Baby Jesus doesn't get put in the manger until Christmas Eve.



[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 must contact the Parish Office to arrange at least **6 months** before the desired date.

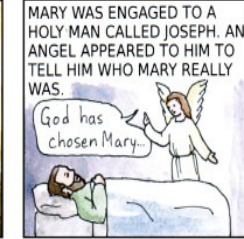
### MASS INTENTIONS:

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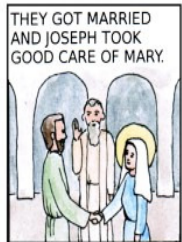
# The Christmas Story



LONG AGO GOD SENT AN ANGEL TO MARY, WHO WAS A YOUNG WOMAN OF HIS CHOSEN PEOPLE. HE TOLD HER SHE WOULD BE THE MOTHER OF THE MESSIAH.



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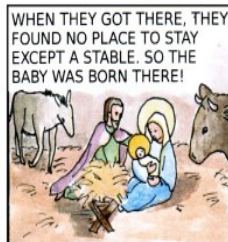
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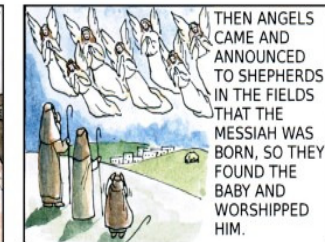
THEN THE EMPEROR SENT EVERYONE TO THEIR HOME TOWNS TO BE REGISTERED.



SO JOSEPH AND MARY HAD TO TRAVEL ALL THE WAY TO BETHLEHEM.



WHEN THEY GOT THERE, THEY FOUND NO PLACE TO STAY EXCEPT A STABLE. SO THE BABY WAS BORN THERE!



THEN ANGELS CAME AND ANNOUNCED TO SHEPHERDS IN THE FIELDS THAT THE MESSIAH WAS BORN. SO THEY FOUND THE BABY AND WORSHIPPED HIM.

FOR HUNDREDS OF YEARS THE PEOPLE HAD BEEN WAITING FOR GOD TO SEND THEM A MESSIAH WHO WOULD SAVE THEM FROM THEIR SINS. FINALLY HE CAME, A POOR BABY BORN ON A COLD NIGHT. SEE HOW MUCH GOD LOVES US, THAT HE WOULD COME TO US AS A TINY, INNOCENT BABY! HAPPY BIRTHDAY, JESUS!

[thekidsbulletin@gmail.com](mailto:thekidsbulletin@gmail.com)

Christmas day is a day of joy and charity. May God make you very rich in both.

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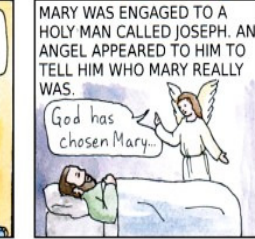
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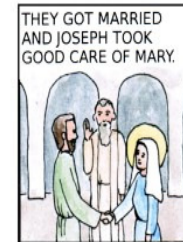
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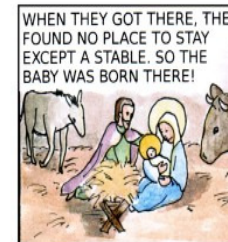
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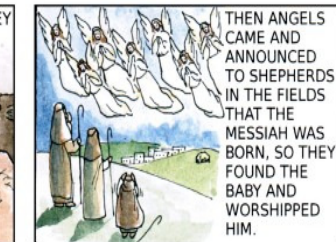
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