Kids Column Saint Joseph

This Monday, March 20th, is the feast day of Saint Joseph. He is one of the greatest saints in the Church. The Bible doesn't tell us very much about him, but we know that he was very obedient and trusted God, and that he must have been a very holy man- God chose him to look after His own Son, Jesus!

Saint Joseph was just a poor Jewish carpenter, but God saw that he was a very good man so He chose him to be the husband and protector of Mary, who would be the Mother of Jesus. Saint Joseph provided for Mary by his hard work.



When Jesus was born Saint Joseph protected Him from the evil King Herod, who wanted to kill Him. He spent his days working to support Jesus and Mary and taught Jesus how to be a carpenter. Saint Joseph was Jesus' teacher, but he also learned from Jesus how to be holy.

Saint Joseph died a holy and peaceful death in the arms of Jesus and Mary. Now he is in Heaven, helping us when we pray to him. We should pray to him because he is a great protector and teacher for us, just like he was for Jesus.

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 youth aged 15 to 25 will be held from March 31st to April 1st. Registration forms are now available from Youth Leaders and Catechists.

• The Family Lenten Retreats in the parish continue as follows:

Monchy – Monday, March 20^{th} to Wednesday, March 22^{nd} at 6:00 p.m. each day **Gros Islet** - Monday, March 27^{th} to Friday, March 31^{st} at 6:00 p.m. each day.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

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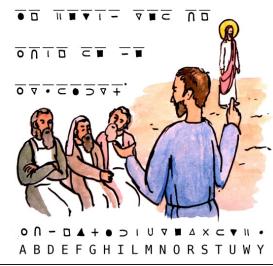
Monday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday: 9:00am to 2:00pm. Closed Tuesdays

The Kids' Bulletin

Fourth Sunday of Lent March 19, 2023

What did the man that Jesus cured say to the people who thought Jesus was a sinner? Use the code at the bottom to find out!





Synod 2021-2023; Communitor/Participation/Mission

4TH SUNDAY OF LENT - 19TH MARCH 2023 - YEAR A

Giving Sight to the Blind.

God's ways of seeing are not our ways, we hear in today's First Reading. Jesus illustrates this in the Gospel as the blind man comes to see, and the Pharisees are made blind. The blind man stands for all humanity. "Born totally in sin," he is made a new creation by the saving power of Christ. As God fashioned the first man from the clay of the earth, Jesus gives the blind man new life by anointing his eyes with clay. As God breathed the spirit of life into the first man, the blind man is not healed until he washes in the waters of Siloam, a name that means "sent."

Jesus is the One "sent" by the Father to do the Father's will. He is the new source of life-giving water: the Holy Spirit who rushes upon us in Baptism. This is the Spirit that rushes upon God's chosen king David in the First Reading. A shepherd like Moses before him, David is also a sign pointing to the good shepherd and king to come - Jesus.

The Lord is our shepherd, as we sing in the Psalm. By His death and Resurrection He has made a path for us through the dark valley of sin and death, leading us to the verdant pastures of the kingdom of life, the Church. In the restful waters of Baptism He has refreshed our souls. He has anointed our heads with the oil of Confirmation and spread the Eucharistic table before us, filling our cups to overflowing.

With the once-blind man we enter His house to give God the praise, to renew our vow: "Lord, I believe." "The Lord looks at the heart," we hear in the First Reading. Let Him find us, as Paul advises in the Epistle, living as "children of light," trying always to learn what is pleasing to our Father.

CONFESSIONS	Parish Priest: Msgr. Michel Francis, Fr. Festus Iwuagwu	6
Every Saturday	Deacons: Rev. Anthony Louis, Rev. David Popo	
	Rev. Madison Stanislaus, Rev. Winston Taylor.	
9.00 - 10.00 a.m	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 & Youtube: Gros Islet Church	
by appointment	Website: www.grosisletchurch.org 🕆 Facebook: facebook.com/grosisletchurch	

Gospel Jn.9:1-41 $\mathbf{MASS TIMES}$ $\mathbf{MASS TIMES}$ GROS ISLET Morning Prayers: 5:45a.m. \mathbf{MONDAY} : 6:00 a. m./12:30 p.m. \mathbf{MONDAY} : 6:00 a.m. $\mathbf{TUESDAY}$: 6:00 a.m.

First Reading

1Sam16:1,

6-7,10-13

Second Reading

Eph.5:8-14

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

THURSDAY6:00 a.m./12:30 p.m.
Monchy: 6:00 p.m.

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(excerpt: stpaulcentre.com)

SUNDAY Gros Islet/G. Riviere 7:30 A.M. Gros Islet/Monchy 10:00 a.m. ♥ HOLIDAY Variable ♥ Lenten Reflection - Reconciliation

Lent is a wonderful time to celebrate the reconciling love and healing graces our Lord offers us. Like all religious experiences, it takes preparation. Reconciliation is what God does. We prepare for it by opening ourselves up, by reflecting upon the areas of darkness in our lives into which God so deeply desires to shine a light.

It might begin with the simple question: where might God be offering me forgiveness and healing? If my answer is, "I don't know," then I have some reflection to do. I can examine my life - what I have done and what I have failed to do - and see what graces are offered me there.

If I've come through that era of saying that any guilt, anything that makes me feel bad about myself, is a bad thing, to be avoided at all costs, then I might have a difficult time coming to genuine sorrow for my sins. If this is the case, I need to work on my reflection, asking God to rouse a sense of embarrassment, leading to deep sorrow, for any way I may not have been faithful, honest, loving, selfless or generous in my relationship with God, with my family, with others. God will always shine light into these important parts of our lives, to help us experience remorse and a genuine desire for forgiveness and healing. The point here is not ultimately to focus on ourselves. The focus is on God's reconciling, healing love. As John says, God showed his love for us when he sent his only Son into the world to give us life. Real love isn't our love for God, but God's love for us. God sent his Son to be the sacrifice by which our sins are forgiven. It may be that I have experienced troubling guilt coming out of deep childhood trauma or a long-standing sense of shame This may plague my ability to feel good about myself and to be able to reflect upon my sins, the ways I fail at loving. I can still prepare for genuine reconciliation by preparing to better trust God's love for me, based upon two convictions. First, God's love is un-conditional - it is not conditioned on my being better, or my overcoming anything, or even my being good at all - God just loves me. Secondly, God knows everything, including what I'm struggling with or suffering under. It may be that my greatest sin, the place where I need the greatest sorrow and desire for forgiveness and healing, is my lack of trust in God's complete and unconditional love for me.

Even in a place I might be most embarrassed and feel most naked, God is loving me and offering me wholeness and joy.

PLEASE PRAY FOR

THE SICK Patsy Crafton Martha Mason Iris Macauldy Teresa Huntley

DECEASED

Theresa Felix Frances James Henry Kappel Christiana Pierre Rev. Arnold Clouden Mr. & Mrs. Jules Wilson

WEEKDAY READINGS ዮ MONDAY 2Sam.7:4-5,12-14,16 Rom. 4:13-16,18,22 Mt.1:16,18-21,24 ዮ TUESDAY Ez.47:1-9,12 Jn.5:1-3,5-16 ዮ **WEDNESDAY** Is.49:8-15 Jn.5:17-30 ዮ **THURSDAY** Ex.32:7-14 Jn.5:31-47 ÷ FRIDAY Wis.2:1.12-22 Jn.7:1-2,10,25-30 ÷ **SATURDAY** Is.7:10-14.8:10 Heb.10:4-10 Lk. 1:26-38

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MASS INTENTIONS				
GROS ISLET	CLERGY /RELIGIOUS	INTENTIONS		
4TH SUNDAY OF LENT - YEAR A				
Sat Mar 18 - 6:00 p.m.	Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever! Psalm 23: 8	Thks: The Destang family Arrienne Augier B'day: Aidan Bousquet, Joe DuBois		
Sun Mar 19 - 8:00 a.m.		B'day: Rhonda Blanchard St. Joseph: Perlin Verdant & family		
4:00 p.m.		MISSA PRO POPULO		
Grande Riviere -7:30 a.m.		B'day: Josephine Louis		
Monchy - 10:00 a.m.		Thks: Marcia Haywood		
WEEKDAY MASS INTENTIONS				
Mon Mar 20 - 6:00 a.m. St. Joseph, Husband of Mary	Fr. Paul Vu	Holy Spirit: Ange Barachiel		
12:30 p.m.	Fr. Barnabas Iorgilim	Healing: J. Joseph Holy Spirit: Armani Modeste		
Tues Mar 21 - 6:00 a.m.	Fr. Vincent Arulanandam	St. Joseph: Sophia Evin		
Wed Mar 22 - 6:00 a.m.	Rev. Thomas Alexander Fr. Cecil Goodman	B'day: Terrel Monplaisir		
12:30 p.m.		Healing: J. Joseph Sp. Int: Jeannine Blanchard & family		
Grande Riviere - 6:00 p.m.		50th B'day: Wayne Davidson		
Thu Mar 23 - 6:00 a.m.	Msgr. Theophilus Joseph Fr. Linus Clovis	Dc'd: Leonne Mathurin Felicien & Raymond families		
12:30 p.m.		B'day: Grissel Leon St. Joseph: Jevon Innocent Healing: Simone Blanchard		
Fri Mar 24 - 6:00 a.m.	Rev. Girard Glace Fr. Festus Iwuagwu	Dc'd: Frances Valasse Remy Lesmond, Dorista Annius		
12:30 p.m.		Thks: Vanya Pilgrim-Samuel Sacred Heart: Marie Georges Arnaud		
Sat Mar 25 - 6:30 a.m.	Fr. Henry Nmor Fr. Kenneth Haakyav	B'day: Mary Sidoine, Gabriel Joseph		