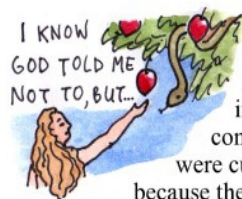
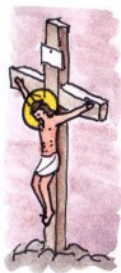


### For God so Loved the World



I KNOW GOD TOLD ME NOT TO, BUT... When God made the world He wanted the people to be His friends and always live in happiness. But instead of choosing to love God completely, the people sinned. They were cut off from the happiness of God because they chose to love themselves more than they loved God.



But God still loved the people so much that He sent His Son, Jesus, to save the people from their sins. Now we just need to choose to believe in Jesus, and to love Him. As today's Gospel reading says, "...so must the Son of man be lifted up, that whoever believes in Him may have eternal life."

How can we turn to Jesus so that we can be saved from our sins?

Here are a few things that can help you a lot:

1. When you wake up in the morning, tell Jesus that you are offering everything that happens today to Him.

2. Every day look at a crucifix (a cross with Jesus on it.) Think about how much Jesus loves us. How much do we love Him back?



3. Each night before you go to sleep, think about your day. Did you show your love for God today? If you did something bad, be sorry and think about how can you do better tomorrow.

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 Gros Islet Parish Family Lenten Retreat will be held from Monday, March 18<sup>th</sup> to Friday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6:00 p.m. each day at the Gros Islet Church. The facilitator will be Fr. Michel.

#### What is Laetare Sunday?

Fourth Sunday in Lent is called Laetare Sunday because the entrance antiphon for the Mass of the day, Isaiah 66:10-11, begins "Laetare, Jerusalem", which means "Rejoice, Jerusalem". The passage from Isaiah continues, "rejoice with joy, you that have been in sorrow." Further, as the midpoint of Lent is the Thursday of the third week of Lent, the Sunday following that day, the fourth Sunday, has traditionally been viewed as a day of celebration, on which the austerity of Lent is briefly lessened.

On Laetare Sunday, the purple vestments and altar cloths of Lent are set aside, and rose ones are used instead. The rose vestments on Laetare Sunday originate from the custom that as a symbol of joy and hope in the middle of this somber Season, popes used to carry a golden rose in their right hand when returning from the celebration of that day's Mass. The golden rose represents Christ in the shining splendor of His majesty, the "flower sprung from the root of Jesse".

Originally it was natural rose, then a single golden rose of natural size, but since the fifteenth century it has consisted of a cluster or branch of roses wrought of pure gold in brilliant workmanship by famous artists.

The pope blesses one every year, and often confers it upon churches, shrines, cities, or distinguished persons as a token of esteem and paternal affection. In case of such a bestowal, a new rose is made during the subsequent year.

(excerpt: catholicism.about.com)



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

#### CONFESSIONS

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

# VISION 2020-DISCIPLES ON MISSION

4TH SUNDAY OF LENT - 10TH MARCH 2024 - YEAR B

*Rich in Mercy.*

The Sunday readings in Lent have been showing us the high points of salvation history - God's covenant with creation in the time of Noah; His promises to Abraham; the law He gave to Israel at Sinai.

In the First Reading, we hear of the destruction of the kingdom established by God's final Old Testament covenant, the covenant with David. His chosen people abandoned the law He gave them. For their sins, the temple was destroyed and they were exiled in Babylon. We hear their sorrow and repentance in the exile lament we sing as today's Psalm. But we also hear how God, in His mercy, gathered them back, even anointing a pagan king to shepherd them and rebuild the temple.

God is rich in mercy, as the Epistle teaches. He promised that David's kingdom would last forever, that David's son would be His Son and rule all nations. In Jesus, God keeps that promise.

Moses lifted up the serpent as a sign of salvation Now Jesus is lifted up on the Cross, to draw all people to Himself. Those who refuse to believe in this sign of the Father's love condemn themselves, as the Israelites in their infidelity brought judgment upon themselves.

But God did not leave Israel in exile, and He does not want to leave any of us dead in our transgressions. We are God's handiwork, saved to live as His people in the light of His truth. Midway through this season of repentance, let us again behold the Pierced One and rededicate ourselves to living the "good works" that God has prepared us for.

(excerpt:stpaulcenter.com)

#### SUNDAY READINGS

##### First Reading

2Chr.36:14-16,  
19-23

##### Second Reading

Eph.2:4-10

##### Gospel

Jn.3:14-21

#### MASS TIMES

##### GROS ISLET

Morning Prayers:  
5:45a.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

Parish Priests: Msgr. Michel Francis, Fr. Joseph X 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

**Lenten Reflection.**

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 in me 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.

(excerpt: onlineministries.creighton.edu)

**PLEASE PRAY FOR**

**THE SICK**

Patsy Crafton  
Iris Macauldy  
Martha Mason  
Teresa Huntley  
Marie Joseph

**DECEASED**

Filia Gomez  
George Ford  
Jim Augustin  
Lance Defraites  
Francisca Pierre  
Philomene Bruno  
Rosalina I. Williams

**WEEKDAY READINGS**



**MONDAY**

Is.65:17-21  
Jn.4:43-54



**TUESDAY**

Ez.47:1-9,12  
Jn.5:1-3,5-16



**WEDNESDAY**

Is.49:8-15  
Jn.5:17-30



**THURSDAY**

Ex.32:7-14  
Jn.5:31-47



**FRIDAY**

Wis.2:1,12-22  
Jn.7:1-2,10,25-30



**SATURDAY**

Jer.11:18-20  
Jn.7:40-52



**MASS INTENTIONS**

**GROS ISLET**

**CLERGY /RELIGIOUS**

**INTENTIONS**

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

**Sat Mar 9 - 6:00 p.m.**



**B'day:** Irenez Anius  
Anthony Bousquet, Leilani Glace  
**Thks:** Algitha Richelieu & family  
Jenny & Trevor Constantine

**Sun Mar 10 - 7:30 a.m.**

**MISSA PRO POPULO**

**10:00 a.m.**

**Protec/Deliv/Success:** Rebecca Foster  
**Guid/Protec/Healing:** Maria Charlery

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

**Thks:** Mary & Barthelmy Felix

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

**Thks:** John Cherubin & family

**WEEKDAY MASS INTENTIONS**

**Mon Mar 11 - 6:00 a.m.**

Fr. Joseph Xavier  
Sr. Scholastica Felician

**Int:** Anthony Robinson

**12:30 p.m.**

**86th B'day:** Florence Lastic

**Tues Mar 12 - 6:00 a.m.**

Fr. Festus Iwuagwu  
Rev. Wilfred Harris  
Rev. Marcellus Serieux

**Thks:** Keva & Kadie Chong  
**B'day:** Aaron Bent, Monica Richard

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

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

**Dc'd:** Hester Joseph  
Maria Bernard, Patrick Joseph

**12:30 p.m.**

**B'day:** Patricia Charles

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

**Parishioners**

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

Msgr. Justin Barthelmy  
Sr. Mary Dungdung  
Sr. Mercy Masaka

**Thks:** Glace Motors Ltd.

**12:30 p.m.**

**Sp. Int:** Dyson Imbert

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

Rev. Jeremy Joseph  
Sr. Marie Joseph

**B'day:** Angela Auguste  
**Thks:**  
Mgmt & Staff- First Stop Auto Parts

**12:30 p.m.**

**Dc'd:** Elizabeth Clement  
James & Paulina Prudent

**Sat Mar 16 - 6:30 a.m.**

Rev. Errol Frederick  
Sr. Rosemarie Minj

**Dc'd:** Catherine Hinkson, Prisca Delice