

Kids Column

Jn.12:20-30

*Unless a grain falls to the ground and dies...*



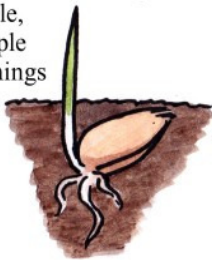
Jesus knew He was going to die soon. It made Him sad, but He knew that He had to do it. He told the apostles, "Unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit." Because Jesus died, we can be freed from our sins and live!

Have you ever tried planting seeds? The little seeds are hard and dry and seem to be dead. We put them into some damp soil, and cover them up. After a few days you can see little sprouts coming out of the soil, and soon there are little plants growing! Maybe your Mom or Dad can help you plant some seeds this spring.



Our Lord was telling His friends that He had to be like a seed. He would die and be buried, and then after a few days, come back to life! And like a plant that grows and produces more seed, the Church would grow from Jesus and bring other holy people, saints, into the world. Saints are people that are ready to give up their good things and even their lives for love of God, just like Jesus.

Are you ready to be a saint?



www.thekidsbulletin.com

DO YOU WANT TO FAST THIS LENT?

*In the words of Pope Francis*

- Fast from hurting words and say kind words.
- Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude.
- Fast from anger and be filled with patience.
- Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope.
- Fast from worries and have trust in God.
- Fast from complaints and contemplate simplicity.
- Fast from pressures and be prayerful.
- Fast from bitterness and fill your hearts with joy.
- Fast from selfishness and be compassionate to others.
- Fast from grudges and be reconciled.
- Fast from words and be silent so you can listen.

pietrafitness.com



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

5TH SUNDAY OF LENT - MARCH 17TH 2024- YEAR B

*High and Lifted up.*

Our readings today are filled with anticipation - the days are coming, Jeremiah prophesies in the First Reading; the hour has come, Jesus says in the Gospel.

The new covenant that God promised to Jeremiah is made in the "hour" of Jesus - in His Death, Resurrection, and Ascension to the Father's right hand. The prophets said this new covenant would return Israel's exiled tribes from the ends of the world. Jesus too predicted His passion would gather the dispersed children of God. But Jesus promises to draw to Himself not only Israelites, but all men and women.

The new covenant is more than a political or national restoration. It is a universal spiritual restoration. In the "hour" of Jesus, sinners in every nation can return to the Father to be washed of their guilt and given new hearts to love and serve Him.

In predicting He will be "lifted up," Jesus isn't describing only His coming Crucifixion. Isaiah used the same word to tell how the Messiah, after suffering for Israel's sins, would be raised high and greatly exalted. Elsewhere the term describes how kings are elevated above their subjects.

Troubled in His agony, Jesus doesn't pray to be saved. Instead, He offers himself to the Father on the Cross as a living prayer and supplication. For this, God gives Him dominion over heaven and earth. Where He has gone we can follow if we let Him lead us. To follow Jesus means hating our lives of sin and selfishness. It means trusting in the Father's will, the law He has written in our hearts.

Jesus' "hour" continues in the Eucharist, where we join our sacrifices to His, giving God our lives in reverence and obedience, confident He will raise us up to bear fruits of holiness.

(excerpt: stpaulcenter.com)

SUNDAY READINGS

- First Reading**  
Jer.31:31-34
- Second Reading**  
Heb.5:7-9
- Gospel**  
Jn.12:20-30

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**MASS TIMES**

**GROS ISLET**  
Morning Prayers:  
5:45a.m.

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**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.

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**HOLIDAY**  
Variable

✠

**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.

Eucharistic



Adoration

- Weekdays:**  
6:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
- Saturdays:**  
6:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- Sundays:**  
12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
- Holidays:**  
7:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

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

**Parish Priest:** Msgr. Michel Francis, Fr. Joseph X. Savarimuthu  
**Deacons:** Rev. Anthony Louis, Rev. David Popo  
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**Website:** www.grosisletchurch.org  
**Facebook:** facebook.com/stjosephtheworkerparish

**Lenten Reflection: Family Prayer**

One of the challenges that we too often find in our busy lives is time to pray together as a family. It can be quite transformative of family bonds to pause briefly to pray together. Here are a few ways a family might pray together during Lent or at any time of the year.

**In the Morning:**

Brief prayer doesn't have to be without substance or power. This might be a spontaneous prayer while we are lying in bed with our spouse or perhaps when the family is rushing around each other in the kitchen grabbing breakfast. It can be wonderful to pause to pray, simply asking the Lord to be with each of us in what we are about to do that day.

**In the Car:**

So many of us spend a fair amount of time in the car, often with other members of our family. Begin or end each trip with a brief prayer.

**Before Meals:**

One of the most natural times to pray is as we sit down to eat. This prayer could be a traditional mealtime prayer to say together.

**Other Times:**

We can say brief prayers for any given occasion. We can pray together for birthdays, anniversaries, the beginning and ending of a school year, school examinations or when one of the family is beginning any new endeavor. We may want to add some special prayer time if one of the family is experiencing a personally anxious time or crisis. We might place a special candle on the dining room table and light it each evening as we remember that person in our prayer.

The most important part of family prayer is perhaps the easiest to overlook - how we hold each other up to the Lord. Even when we are not physically together, we need to pray for each other. In reality this means that we create a pattern of talking with the Lord about the people we love most dearly, each and every day. They become part of our very relationship with God. Whether we are a married couple with young ones or if the children have grown up and begun lives of their own, this aspect of family prayer is so important.

Perhaps the whole family doesn't share our faith; perhaps one spouse doesn't pray at all; but we can talk with the Lord about our spouse and family every day, sometimes asking for help or just expressing gratitude, sometimes begging for the gift of faith for our family.

May our Lord bless our praying in the community of our family these days of Lent.

(excerpt: onlineministries.creighton.edu)

**PLEASE PRAY FOR**

**THE SICK**

Patsy Crafton  
Iris Macauldy  
Martha Mason  
Teresa Huntley  
Marie Joseph

**DECEASED**

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

**WEEKDAY READINGS**



**MONDAY**

Dan.13:1-9, 15-17,  
19-30, 33-62  
Jn.8:1-11



**TUESDAY**

2Sam.7:4-5,12-14,16  
Rom.4:13,16-18,22  
Mt.1:16,18-21,24



**WEDNESDAY**

Dan.3:14-20,24-25,28  
Jn.8:31-42



**THURSDAY**

Gen.17:3-9  
Jn.8:51-59



**FRIDAY**

Jer.20:10-13  
Jn.10:31-42



**SATURDAY**

Ez.37:21-28  
Jn.11:45-56

**MASS INTENTIONS**

GROS ISLET	CLERGY /RELIGIOUS	INTENTIONS
<b>5TH SUNDAY OF LENT - YEAR B</b>		
<b>Sat Mar 16- 6:00 p.m.</b>		<b>B'day:</b> Aidan Bousquet, Joe DuBois <b>Thks:</b> The Destang family Monica Richard & family
<b>Sun Mar 17 - 7:30 a.m.</b>		<b>MISSA PRO POPULO</b>
<b>10:00 a.m.</b>		<b>Protec/Deliv/Success:</b> Rebecca Foster <b>Guid &amp; Protec:</b> Andre, Ross & Melanie Downes
<b>Grande Riviere -7:30 a.m.</b>		<b>Int:</b> Parish Youth
<b>Monchy - 10:00 a.m.</b>		<b>B'day:</b> Elsa Delice
<b>WEEKDAY MASS INTENTIONS</b>		
<b>Mon Mar 18 - 6:00 a.m.</b>	Fr. Gabriel Arockiasammy Sr. Bernadette Peter	<b>Dc'd:</b> Francis Cadette Kenneth & Mona James Josephine Common, Lucy Regobert
<b>12:30 p.m.</b>		<b>Thks:</b> Valdene Belrose <b>B'day:</b> William Delice, George Belrose
<b>Tues Mar 19- 6:00 a.m.</b> <i>St. Joseph Husband of the BVM</i>	Fr. Lambert St. Rose	<b>St. Joseph:</b> Perlin Verdant & family
<b>Wed Mar 20 - 6:00 a.m.</b>	Fr. Paul Vu	<b>Dc'd:</b> Jerome Benjamin, Louis Jerome
<b>12:30 p.m.</b>		<b>Thks:</b> Martha White, Henri Theobalds
<b>Thu Mar 21 - 6:00 a.m.</b>	Rev. John Douglas Rev. Anthony Louis Rev. Robert Harvey	<b>Dc'd:</b> Paulina Raveneau Foster and Pauline Benjamin
<b>12:30 p.m.</b>		<b>Int:</b> Soup Kitchen Volunteers
<b>Fri Mar 22 - 6:00 a.m.</b>	Fr. Cecil Goodman Rev. Thomas Alexander	<b>B'day:</b> Terrel Monplaisir Jocelyne Alphonse
<b>12:30 p.m.</b>		<b>Sp. Int:</b> Janne-Eve d' Auvergne
<b>Sat Mar 23 - 6:30 a.m.</b>	Fr. Linus Clovis Sr. Adinase Mumba	<b>B'day:</b> Grissel Leon