

Kids Column

Ash Wednesday



This coming Wednesday is Ash Wednesday, which is the first day of Lent. Lent is a special time in which we prepare to celebrate Jesus' death and resurrection on Good Friday and Easter Sunday.



Lent is a time of repentance. We make sacrifices and try to improve our lives to become more like Jesus. Jesus never sinned but He gave up His life to pay for our sins. That is why we make sacrifices out of love for God and to make up for our sins. We offer our sacrifices to God the Father, just as Jesus on the cross offered up His life to God the Father.

On Ash Wednesday if you go to Mass you can receive ashes on your forehead. The ashes are a sign of repentance. They remind us that without God we are nothing and that someday we will die and be buried. But they can also remind us that if we do have God living in us, after we die we will rise from the dead, just as Jesus did on Easter, after He died on the cross.



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:

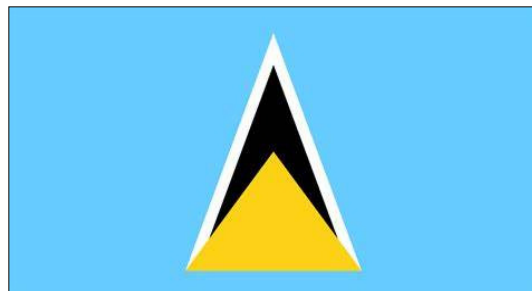
Couples must contact the Parish Office to arrange at least **6 months** before the desired date.

MASS INTENTIONS:

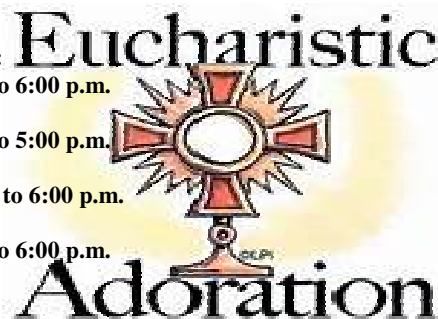
Intentions must be booked at least by the Wednesday, one week before the desired date.

PRAYER FOR THE NATION

God of Power and might, we thank and praise You for Your goodness and mercy. Have mercy upon us, behold us and show us the light of Your mercies. Send Your fear upon our nation that we may know that there is no God besides You. Lift up Your hands over St. Lucia that we may see Your power. Heal the hurts of our nation. Sanctify and purify our actions and way of life that we may be a holy nation Give wisdom and fortitude to our leaders that they may guide our nation in Your precepts. Give love, patience and hope to our youth and strengthen our families. We make this prayer in the name of Your beloved Son Jesus Christ, who is Lord forever and ever. Amen



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.



PARISH OFFICE HOURS

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



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

7TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - 19TH FEB 2023 - YEAR A

Perfect Love.

We are called to the holiness of God. That is the extraordinary claim made in both the First Reading and the Gospel this Sunday. Yet how is it possible that we can be perfect as our Father in heaven is perfect?

Jesus explains that we must be imitators of God as His beloved children. As God does, we must love without limit, with a love that does not distinguish between friend and foe, overcoming evil with good. Jesus Himself, in His Passion and death, gave us the perfect example of the love that we are called to. He offered no resistance to the evil, even though He could have commanded twelve legions of angels to fight alongside Him. He offered His face to be struck and spit upon. He allowed His garments to be stripped from Him. He marched as His enemies compelled Him to the Place of the Skull, and on the Cross, He prayed for those who persecuted Him.

In all this, He showed Himself to be the perfect Son of God. By His grace, and through our imitation of Him, He promises that we too can become children of our heavenly Father. God does not deal with us as we deserve, as we sing in this week's Psalm. He loves us with a Father's love. He saves us from ruin. He forgives our transgressions. He loved us even when we had made ourselves His enemies through our sinfulness. While we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

We have been bought with the price of the blood of God's only Son. We belong to Christ now, as St. Paul says in the Epistle. By our baptism, we have been made temples of His Holy Spirit. We have been saved to share in His holiness and perfection. So let us glorify Him by our lives lived in His service, loving as He loves.

(excerpt: sstpaulcenter.com)

SUNDAY READINGS

First Reading
Lev.19:1-2, 17-18

Second Reading
1Cor.3:16-23

Gospel
Mt.5:38-48

MASS TIMES

Gros Islet
Morning Prayers:
Mon -Fri
5:45 a.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
✠

CONFESSIONS

Every Saturday
9.00 - 10.00 a.m.

&
by appointment

Parish Priest: Msgr. Michel Francis, Fr. Festus Iwuagwu
Deacons: Rev. Anthony Louis Rev. David Popo
Rev. Madison Stanislaus. Rev. Winston Taylor.

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Facebook: facebook.com/stjosephtheworkerparish

Preparing for Lent: “Rend your hearts, not your garments, and return to the Lord, your God.” Joel 2

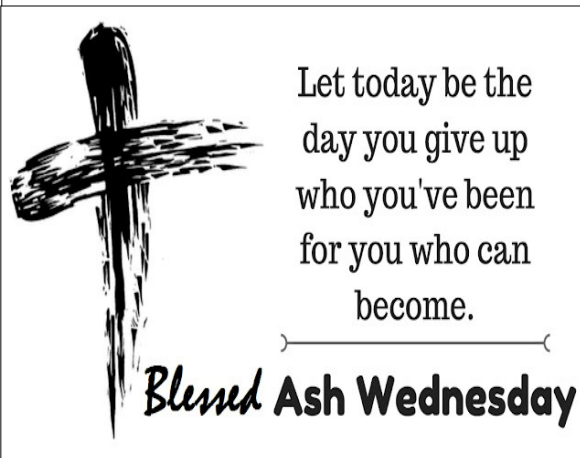
We say we deeply desire that the six weeks of Lent will be a time of religious experience for us. We are preparing to “rend” or *tear open* our hearts. This is a time to let our hearts be opened to examine what in us needs forgiveness and healing and opened to new graces, new generosity, new compassion. We want to “turn away from sin and be faithful to the gospel.”

We want to reflect on the meaning of the death and resurrection of Jesus for us. We want it to become personal. Jesus was broken and given for each one of us. Our own sins - what we have done and what we have failed to do - have been forgiven. We want to feel gratitude and let it transform how we feel about the sin of others. We desire to experience mercy and become more mercy-filled in our relationship with others. Experiencing our own poverty, we want to be renewed in a dedication to notice, have compassion for and stand in solidarity with the poor of our world. Then the Spiritual and Corporal works of mercy can come alive in us.

This Ash Wednesday we will wear the cross of ashes that says we are not afraid to walk around in the world with this sign which indicates that we know our life on this earth is not all there is. It says that we believe in everlasting life. It says that we know who we are and want to choose to take advantage of the days ahead. We remember where we came from and where we’re going.

On Ash Wednesday, a journey to turn to God with all of our hearts begins.

(excerpt: onlineministries.creighton.edu)



PLEASE PRAY FOR

THE SICK

Patsy Crafton
Iris Macauldy
Martha Mason
Theresa Huntley

DECEASED

Teresa Felix
Jules Wilson
Therese Lorde
Tricia Tommy
Alvin Aurelien
Francis Charles
Christiana Pierre
Leontine Arnaud
Marcellina Alexis

WEEKDAY READINGS



MONDAY

Ecc1.1:1-10
Mk.9:14-29



TUESDAY

Ecc1.2:1-11
Mk.9:30-37



WEDNESDAY

Jl.2:12-18
2Cor.5:20--6:2
Mt.6:1-6,16-18



THURSDAY

Deut.30:15-20
Lk.9:22-25



FRIDAY

Is.58:1-9
Mt.9:14-15



SATURDAY

Is.58:9-14
Lk.5:27-32

MASS INTENTIONS

| GROS ISLET | CLERGY/RELIGIOUS | INTENTIONS |
|--|--|--|
| 7TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A | | |
| Sat Feb 18- 6:00 p.m. | | Thks: Shane Defreitas Sp. Int: Simone Blanchard |
| Sun Feb 19- 7:30 a.m. | | MISSA PRO POPULO |
| 10:00 a.m. | | Int: Parish Youth |
| Grande Riviere - 7:30 a.m. | | B'day: Josephine Louis, Sherrian Aimable |
| Monchy - 10:00 a.m. | | Int: Prisca Delice Thks: Margerie Philip & family |
| WEEKDAY MASS INTENTIONS | | |
| Mon Feb 20 - 6:00 a.m. | Fr. Paul Vu | Healing: Glory Josie |
| 12:30 p.m. | | Dc'd: Gabriel, Cuthbert & Herbert Lubin |
| Tue Feb 21 - 6:00 a.m. | Rev. John Douglas Rev. Anthony Louis Rev. Robert Harvey | B'day: Naila Williams, Jesse Edward Thks: Jeannine Blanchard & family |
| Wed Feb 22- 7:30 a.m. <i>Ash Wednesday</i> <i>44th Independence Anniv.</i> | | Conversion of Sinners |
| Monchy - 7:30 a.m. | | Conversion of Sinners |
| Grande Riviere - 7:30 a.m. | | Conversion of Sinners |
| Thu Feb 23 - 6:00 a.m. | Msgr. Theophilus Joseph Fr. Linus Clovis Sr. Adinase Mumba | B'day: Giovanni St. Omer Jr. Thks: Althea & Ellen Regis |
| 12:30 p.m. | | Thks: Myrna Walker & family Ike Blanchard & family |
| Fri Feb 24 - 6:00 a.m. | Fr. Vincent Arulanandam Rev. Girard Glace Sr. Mary Muskosa | Dc'd: Magdalene & Peter Jackson |
| 12:30 p.m. | | B'day: Kateri Parker, Frederick Jones Lucella Sandiford-James Guid & Protec: Ted Sandiford |
| Sat Feb 25 - 6:30 a.m. <i>BVM</i> | Fr. Henry Nmor Fr. Konrad Mair Fr. Kenneth Haakyav | Thks: Kadie & Keva Chong Diane & Richard Palton & family |