

Being Merciful

YOU'RE SHARING WITH ME EVEN THOUGH I WAS MEAN TO YOU?



In today's Gospel reading Jesus tells us to be more kind and generous to others than they are to us. He tells us that the way we treat others is how God will treat us.

Has anyone ever been unkind to you and you felt like getting even by being mean back? Jesus tells us that what we should do instead is be extra kind to that person. Sometimes we do mean or selfish things too, and we hope that God will forgive us.

What our Lord is talking about is called mercy. Mercy means being nicer to a person than they deserve. God is the most merciful of all and we should try our best to be like Him. Next time someone is mean to you ask Jesus to help you forgive that person and be kind to them.



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.

Bless the Lord, O my soul:
AND ALL THAT IS WITHIN ME,
BLESS HIS HOLY NAME.
Bless the Lord, O my soul,
AND FORGET NOT ALL HIS BENEFITS

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**



Compassionate as our Father.

The story of David and Saul in today's First Reading, functions almost like a parable. Showing mercy to his deadly foe, David gives a concrete example of what Jesus expects to become a way of life for His disciples.

The new law Jesus gives in the Gospel would have us all become "Davids", loving our enemies, doing good to those who would harm us, extending a line of credit to those who won't ever repay us. The Old Law required only that the Israelites love their fellow countrymen. The new law Jesus brings makes us kin to every man and woman. His kingdom isn't one of tribe or nationality. It's a family.

As followers of Jesus, we're to live as He lived among us, as "children of the Most High". As sons and daughters, we want to walk in the ways of our heavenly Father, to "be merciful, just as your Father is merciful." Grateful for His mercy, we're called to forgive others their trespasses because God has forgiven ours.

In the context of today's liturgy, we're all "Sauls". By our sinfulness and pride we make ourselves enemies of God. But we've been spared a death we surely deserved to die because God has loved and shown mercy to His enemies, "the ungrateful and the wicked," as Jesus says. Jesus showed us this love in His Passion, forgiving His enemies as they stripped Him of cloak and tunic, cursed Him and struck Him on the cheek, condemned Him to death on a cross. "He redeems your life from the grave" David reminds us in the Psalm.

That's the promise, too, of the Epistle: that we who believe in the "last Adam," Jesus, will rise from the dead in His image, as today we bear the image of the "first Adam," who by his sin made God an enemy and brought death into the world

(excerpt:stpaulcenter.com)

SUNDAY READINGS

First Reading

1Sam.26:2,7-9,
12-13,22-23

Second Reading

1Cor.15:45-49

Gospel

Lk.6:27-38

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.



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

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

CONFESSIONS

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

Parish Priest: Fr. Athanase Joseph

Assistant Parish Priest: Msgr. Michel Francis

Deacons: Rev. Anthony Louis, Rev. David Popo

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Preparing for Lent: God's Invitation.

Lent is a season of being invited by God in a deeply personal way. "Come back to me, with all of your heart," our Lord beckons. Yes, of course we want to have a deeper relationship with God, we tell ourselves earnestly. And we will...soon. God calls to us again: "Come back to me, with all of your heart." Ok, ok, I really will. Just a few more things to do at work. Let me clean my oven, tidy my closets, sell my yoke of oxen, check a field I have purchased....

"Come back to me, with all of your heart."

It is an extraordinary invitation to each one of us, in a personal, individual way. God invites us to drop the defenses that we hold up between ourselves and Him. God offers an entire Lenten season, an entire lifetime, of loving us unconditionally, no matter what we have done or how much we think we have hidden from God.

"Come back to me, with all of your heart."

God is insistent, loving, gently prodding. God is the father of the prodigal child, waiting faithfully, eagerly on the road for our return. There are no folded arms and stern judging stares, only the straining eyes of a parent eager for our return, longing to embrace us and rejoice in us.

"Come back to me, with all of your heart."

That is the invitation of each day of Lent. All we have to do is say to our Lord, "I'm here. Where do I start? Yes, I want to be with you."

"Come back to me with all your heart, fasting weeping, mourning. Let your hearts be broken, not your garments torn. Turn to the Lord your God again, for He is all tenderness and compassion." Joel 2:12

(excerpt: onlineministries.creighton.edu)



Jubilee 2025- Pilgrims of Hope

A jubilee year is a special year in the life of the church currently celebrated every 25 years. It is meant as a time for us as church to renew ourselves. The jubilee, or the 'Lord's year of favour', has historic roots in the Judeo-Christian tradition. During the time of the prophets it was known as 'the acceptable year', the one-in-seven or 49 when all debts were forgiven and redistributed, prisoners freed and a sense of community restored. (see Lev.25)

Pope Francis has designated 2025 a Jubilee Holy Year. This is an event of great spiritual, ecclesial, and social significance in the life of the Church. Opened on Christmas Eve, 2024, under the theme of "Pilgrims of Hope," Pope Francis called this Jubilee to celebrate hope and invite Catholics worldwide to deepen their faith. As pilgrims, Catholics are called to embark on a spiritual journey, seeking renewal and deeper communion with God. (cont'd overleaf)

PLEASE PRAY FOR

THE SICK

Patsy Crafton
Iris Macauldy
Martha Mason
Marie Joseph

DECEASED

Andrew Flood
Michael Auguste
Stephen Jr. Alfred
Petrona Flamiuce
Nicholas Aurelien
Rosmina Alexander

WEEKDAY READINGS



MONDAY

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



TUESDAY

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



WEDNESDAY

Ecc1.4:12-22
Mk.9:38-40



THURSDAY

Ecc1.5:1-10
Mk.9:41-50



FRIDAY

Ecc1.6:5-17
Mk.10:1-12



SATURDAY

Ecc1.17:1-15
Mk.10:13-16



MASS INTENTIONS

GROS ISLET	CLERGY/RELIGIOUS	INTENTIONS
7TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR C		
Sat Feb 22- 6:00 p.m. 46th Independence Anniv.		B'day: Jesse Edward, Shane Defraites
Sun Feb 23 - 7:30 a.m.		Eucharistic Service
10:00 a.m.		Eucharistic Service
Grande Riviere - 7:30 a.m.		MISSA PRO POPULO
Monchy - 10:00 a.m.		B'day: Peter Cherry
WEEKDAY MASS INTENTIONS		
Mon Feb 24 - 6:00 a.m.	Fr. Cecil Goodman	B'day: Kateri Parker, David Junior Popo
Sat Mar 1 - 6:30 a.m. <i>Mass at the Shrine</i>	Fr. Ignatius Cetoute Fr. Cleophus Joseph	B'day: Janetha Louis, Davilia Desir

Jubilee 2025- Pilgrims of Hope (cont'd)

The theme encourages us to trust in God's promises and be beacons of hope in the world. Because it marks the 1,700th anniversary of the First Council of Nicaea, Jubilee 2025 also celebrates the fundamental truth of the Incarnation, that Jesus is *both* true God and true man, a teaching always believed in the early Church and dogmatically defined at the Council.

Jubilee years emphasize pilgrimages to designated holy sites, doing acts of charity, receiving the sacrament of reconciliation and restoring relationships with God. The Jubilee is a reminder of God's mercy and the call to live out the gospel more fully. Jubilees also provide an opportunity for special jubilee indulgences, which can remove the residual effects of sin through the grace of Christ. The Church offers these special indulgences, which are remissions of the temporal punishment of already forgiven sins, not a "get out of jail free card" for future sins. Remitting the punishment, or aftereffects of forgiven sin, includes purifying us of our "unhealthy attachment to creatures" and other created things (CCC 1472). Indulgences are outlined in the Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC 1471-1479). They are either partial or plenary, remitting some (partial) or the complete (plenary) temporal punishment due to one's sins. Indulgences can be obtained for oneself or for one who has died (the faithful departed).

The papal bull, issued May 9, that introduced the Jubilee Year is titled "Spes Non Confundit," or "Hope does not disappoint." (Rom.5:5). "Everyone knows what it is to hope," Pope Francis wrote. "In the heart of each person, hope dwells as the desire and expectation of good things to come..." Pope Francis called for "signs of hope" in the Jubilee Year, including the desire for peace in the world, openness to life, responsible parenthood, closeness to prisoners, the poor, the sick, the young, the elderly, migrants and people "in difficult situations." He called on affluent countries to forgive the debts of countries that would never be able to repay them, and address "ecological debt," which he described as "connected to commercial imbalances with effects on the environment and the disproportionate use of natural resources by certain countries over long periods of time."

The Jubilee Year concludes with the closing of the Holy Door at St. Peter's Basilica Jan. 6, 2026,

(excerpt: catholic.com & catholicreview.org)