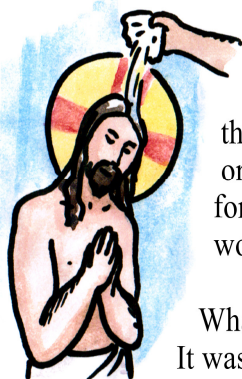


# Jesus Begins His Mission



Today we celebrate the baptism of Jesus. After living with his mother for thirty years and working as an ordinary carpenter, it was time for Jesus to start His special work.

What was Jesus' special work? It was showing people the way to God and taking away their sins.

When you were baptized God was getting you ready for a special job too. He was giving you grace so that you could grow closer to Him and bring other people closer to Him too.

How can you help bring others closer to God?



[www.thekidsbulletin.com](http://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.

**Keeping Christmas** (Henry Van Dyke)

There is something better than the observance of Christmas Day. *Keeping Christmas.*

**Are you willing** to forget what you have done for other people, and to remember what other people have done for you; to ignore what the world owes you, and to think what you owe the world;

To own up to the fact that the reason for your existence is not what you are going to get out of life, but what you are going to give to life;

To close your book of complaints against the management of the universe, and look around you for a place where you can sow a few seeds of happiness. *Are you willing to do these things even for a day? Then you can keep Christmas.*

**Are you willing** to stoop down and consider the needs and desires of little children; to remember the weakness and loneliness of people growing old; to stop asking how much your friends love you, and ask yourself whether you love them enough;

To bear in mind the things that other people have to bear in their hearts; to try to understand what those who live in the same home with you really want, without waiting for them to tell you;

To trim your lamp so that it will give more light and less smoke, and to carry it in front so that your shadow will fall behind you; to make a grave for your ugly thoughts, and a garden with the gate open for your kindly feelings. *Are you willing to do these things, even for a day? Then you can keep Christmas.*

**Are you willing** to believe that love is the strongest thing in the world - stronger than hate, stronger than evil, stronger than death - and that the blessed life which began in Bethlehem over two thousand years ago is the image and brightness of the Eternal Love? **Then you can keep Christmas.**

And if you can keep it for a day, why not for always?



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

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

**THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD - 8TH JANUARY 2023- YEAR A**

*Anointed Ones.*

**J**esus presents himself for baptism in today's Gospel not because He is a sinner, but to fulfill the word of God proclaimed by His prophets. He must be baptized to reveal that He is the Christ, "the anointed one", the Spirit-endowed Servant promised by Isaiah in the First Reading. His baptism marks the start of a new world, a new creation, instituting the Christian sacrament different and greater to the baptism of John.

As Isaiah prophesied, the Spirit descends upon Jesus as the Spirit hovered over the face of the deep in the beginning. As it was in the beginning, at the Jordan the majestic voice of the Lord also thunders above the waters. The Father opens the heavens and declares Jesus to be His "beloved son." God had long prepared the Israelites for His coming, as Peter preaches in the Second Reading. Jesus was anticipated in the "beloved son" given to Abraham, and in the calling of Israel as His "first-born son". Jesus is the divine son begotten by God, the everlasting heir promised to King David.

He is "a covenant of the people (Israel)" and "a light to the nations," Isaiah says. By the new covenant made in His blood, God has gathered the lost sheep of Israel together with whoever fears Him in every nation. Christ has become the source from which God pours out His Spirit on Israelites and Gentiles alike. In Baptism, all are anointed with that same Spirit, made beloved sons and daughters of God. Indeed, we are Christians, literally "anointed ones."

We are the "sons of God" in the Psalm, called to give glory to His name in His temple. Let us pray that we remain faithful to our calling as His children, that our Father might call us what He calls His Son, "my beloved; my favour rests on Him."

(excerpt: stpaulcenter.com)

**Parish Priests:** Msgr. Michel Francis, Fr. Festus Iwuagwu  
**Deacons:** Rev. Anthony Louis, Rev. David Popo  
Rev. Winston Taylor, Rev. Madison Stanislaus  
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Website: [www.grosisletchurch.org](http://www.grosisletchurch.org) ☎ [facebook.com/stjosephtheworkerparish](https://facebook.com/stjosephtheworkerparish)

**SUNDAY READINGS**

**First Reading**

Is.42: 1-4, 6-7

**Second Reading**

Acts 10:34-38

**Gospel**

Mt.3:13-17

Matt.4:1-11



**MASS TIMES**

Morning Prayers:

5:45a.m.



**MONDAY: Gros Islet**

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



**TUESDAY: Gros Islet**

6:00 a.m.



**WEDNESDAY:**

Gros Islet

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

G/Riviere: 6:00 p.m.



**THURSDAY:**

Gros Islet

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

Monchy: 6:00 p.m.



**FRIDAY: Gros Islet**

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



**SATURDAY: Gros Islet**

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





**What does Baptism do for us?**

Baptism is the primal Sacrament of Initiation into God's life, a rite of inauguration or initiation in which and through which we enter into a way of living and sharing life with others and with God. It removes both the guilt and punishment due to Original sin.

Baptism gives us a new identity. We have a name in the family of God, the name given to us when we are baptized. God calls us by name and uniquely identifies us. We become children in His family. *Baptism, then, isn't just a pretty ceremony that is a part of our family's tradition. We don't bring our newborns to church and have them baptized simply to please our parents and our grandparents.*

Nor is it something that is of a momentary character, as if everything happens when we're baptized. Baptism is an inauguration into a *lifetime* adventure in which we try to live with God and with others in specific ways.

God our Father in heaven wants us to be intimate with Him. He wants us to know Him, to love Him, and to be close to Him. He wants us to work with Him to bring His creation into completion, to overcome all that is dislocated and chaotic in life and bring His peace, His order and His harmony into the world around us.

The Baptized are to follow Jesus in loving service, self-sacrifice and final victory. Baptism puts us forever in the love of God.

(catholicweb.com/frcharlesirvin)

**And Confirmation?**

There is a close relationship between the sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation. While Confirmation is a distinct and complete sacrament, it perfects in us that which was begun in Baptism.

We are born spiritually in the sacrament of Baptism. We become sharers in the divine life of the most Blessed Trinity. As we practice the virtues of faith, hope and love and as we unite with Christ in His Church in offering worship to God, we also grow in grace and goodness.

Then we are Confirmed. We receive a special grace by which our faith is deepened and strengthened by the Holy Spirit, so that it will be strong enough not only for our own needs but for the needs of others with whom we shall try to share it. The confirmed Christian, strong in his faith and with an ardent love for souls which stems from his love for Christ, feels a continual concern for others. His words and his actions proclaim to those around him: "Christ lives, and He lives for **you**."

The grace of Confirmation comes to our aid, if we will let it, and pushes back the urgings of self-will, helps us to preserve our sense of values, and keeps us on an even keel so that faith may triumph.

(excerpt: beginningcatholic.com)

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK**

Carmen Lord  
Iris Macauldy  
Patsy Crafton  
Martha Mason  
Teresa Huntley

**DECEASED**

Junia Etienne  
Eulalie Duval  
Marie Louison  
Antoine Marshall  
Zacherie Aimable  
Madeline Louison

**WEEKDAY READINGS**



**MONDAY**

Heb.1:1-6  
Mk.1:14-20



**TUESDAY**

Heb.2:5-12  
Mk.1:21-28



**WEDNESDAY**

Heb.2:14-18  
Mk.1:29-39



**THURSDAY**

Heb.3:7-14  
Mk.1:40-45



**FRIDAY**

Heb.4:1-5,11  
Mk.2:1-12



**SATURDAY**

Heb.4:12-16  
Mk.2:13-17



**MASS INTENTIONS**

GROS ISLET	CLERGY / RELIGIOUS	INTENTIONS
<b>THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD</b>		
Sat Jan 7- 6:00 p.m.		<b>Guid:</b> Agatha Toussaint <b>Thks:</b> The Destang family Alghitha Richelieu & family
Sun Jan 8 - 7:30 a.m. <i>The Baptism of the Lord</i>		<b>MISSA PRO POPULO</b>
10:00 a.m.		<b>Sp. Int:</b> Bosso family
Grande Riviere-7:30 a.m.		<b>Thks:</b> Lysa Esnard, Lee Paul Augustin <b>Wedd Ann:</b> Juliana & Joseph Oculien Charmaine & Edward Justin
Monchy-10:00 a.m.		<b>B'day:</b> Agatha Charles
<b>WEEKDAY MASS INTENTIONS</b>		
Mon Jan 9 - 6:30 a.m.	Fr. Cezar Herrera Rev. Andrew Edward Sr. Ramona George	<b>Thks:</b> Althea & Ellen Regis Bernadette Pamphile & family
12:30 p.m.		<b>B'day:</b> Michael Auguste <b>Holy Spirit:</b> Tronai Louis
Tues Jan 10 - 6:00 a.m.	Fr. Will Howard Sr. Benedicta Chanda Sr. Petronilla Banda	<b>Int:</b> Winston Taylor
Wed Jan 11 - 6:00 a.m.	Sr. Scholastica Felician	<b>Dc'd:</b> Etheline Lawrence
12:30 p.m.		<b>B'day:</b> Zahra La Force <b>Thks:</b> Cecil Graham
Grande Riviere-6:00 p.m.		<b>Thks:</b> Lysa Esnard
Thu Jan 12 - 6:00 a.m.	Rev. Wilfred Harris Rev. Arnold Clouden Rev. Marcellus Serieux	<b>Int:</b> Anthony Robinson & family
12:30 p.m.		<b>Int:</b> Soup Kitchen Volunteers
Fri Jan 13 - 6:00 a.m.	Rev. Anthony Louis Rev. Vincent Norbert Rev. Madison Stanislaus	<b>Thks:</b> Shanta King & family
12:30 p.m.		<b>Sp. Int:</b> Simone Blanchard & family Jeannine Blanchard & family
Sat Jan 14 - 6.30 a.m. <i>BVM</i>	Msgr. Justin Barthelmy Sr. Mary Dungdung Sr. Mercy Masaka	<b>Dc'd:</b> James Prudent Alexander Blanchard Charmaine Blanchard-Johnson