

Kids Column

Our Lady and the Magi

On January 1st we celebrate the feast of Mary, the Mother of God. Do you know why Mary is so special? She always says yes to God. When God asked her to be the mother of His Son she said yes, even though she knew she would have to suffer a lot. She accepted Jesus' death on the cross because God willed it.

Mary was the way that God chose to come into the world. He could have come as a grown-up king with great power, but He chose instead to come into the world the way everyone else does, being born of a mother. Mary was the perfect woman- He had made her for Himself- so she deserves to be greatly honoured as God's mother.

On January 3rd this year we celebrate the feast of the Epiphany, when the wise men, or magi, came from far away to worship the new baby King Jesus. They travelled for many days and were guided by a star that God put in the sky for them. Finally they came to the house in Bethlehem where Mary and Jesus were staying.

Even though Mary was just a poor young mother and Jesus was a poor helpless baby, the great men fell on their knees before them and worshipped Jesus, offering their expensive treasures of gold, frankincense and myrrh.

God loves the poor so much he made Himself a poor baby. He is honoured every time we are kind to the poor and pray for them. Can you do something kind for someone who is poorer than you, or say a prayer for them today?



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.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

♦ Offerings and donations for the Parish can now be made via Sure Pay. Please specify that the payment is for **St. Joseph the Worker Parish**. Payments can be made in person at the Sure Pay counters or online. Please contact the Parish Office if you require further information about the online payments.



A Coronavirus Prayer

Jesus Christ, you travelled through towns and villages, "curing every disease and illness". At your command, the sick were made well. Come to our aid now, in the midst of the global spread of the Coronavirus, that we may experience your healing love.

Heal those who are sick with the virus. May they regain their strength and health through quality medical care. Heal us from our fear, which prevents nations from working together, and neighbours from helping one another. Heal us from our pride, which can make us claim invulnerability to a disease that knows no borders.

In place of our anxiety, give us your peace. In your wisdom protect our country, Saint Lucia, our region and the whole world from this pandemic. Be with the doctors, nurses and researchers, and all medical professionals who seek to heal and help those affected, and who put themselves at risk in the process. May they know your protection and peace.

Mary, comforter of the afflicted, pray for us. **Amen.**

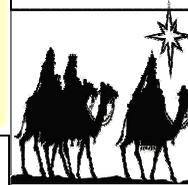


St. Joseph the Worker Parish
Gros Islet, Grande Riviere & Monchy

CONFESSIONS
Every Saturday
9.00 - 10.00a.m
6.00 - 6.45p.m.
&
by appointment

VISION 2020-DISCIPLES ON MISSION

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD - 3RD JAN 2021



Come and adore Him!

Today the child born on Christmas is revealed to be the long-awaited king of the Jews. As the priests and scribes interpret the prophecies in the Gospel, He is the ruler expected from the line of King David, whose greatness is to reach to the ends of the earth.

Jesus is found with His mother, as David's son, Solomon, was enthroned alongside his Queen Mother. The magi come to pay Him tribute, as once kings and queens came to Solomon. His coming evokes promises that extend back to Israel's beginnings. Centuries before, an evil king seeking to destroy Moses and the Israelites had summoned Balaam, who came from the East with two servants. But Balaam refused to curse Israel, and instead prophesied that a star and royal staff would arise out of Israel and be exalted above all the nations.

This is the star the three magi follow, and like Balaam, they too refuse to be tangled in an evil king's scheme. Their pilgrimage is a sign that the prophecies in the First Reading and Psalm are being fulfilled. They come from afar, guided by God's light, bearing the wealth of nations, to praise Israel's God.

We celebrate today our own entrance into the family of God, and the fulfillment of God's plan that all nations be united with Israel as co-heirs to His Fatherly blessings, as Paul reveals in the Epistle. We too must be guided by the root of David, the bright morning star, and the light of the world.

As the magi adored Him in the manger, let us renew our vow to serve Him, placing our gifts - our intentions and talents - on the altar in this Eucharist. We must offer to Him our very lives in thanksgiving. No lesser gift will suffice for this newborn King.

(excerpt: stpaulcenter.com)

Parish Priests: Msgr. Michel Francis
Deacons: Rev. Winston Taylor, Rev. Gerard Calderon
Rev. Anthony Louis, Rev. Madison Stanislaus
P.O Box Choc 8192, Castries LC02 801, Saint Lucia
Tel: (758) 450-8325 ☎ Fax: (758) 450-8794 ☎ Cell: (758) 285-8831
Email: st.joseph_church@hotmail.com ☎ Website: www.grosisletchurch.org

SUNDAY READINGS

First Reading
Is.60:1-6
Second Reading
Eph.3:2-3,5-6
Gospel
Mt.2:1-12

MASS TIMES
Morning Prayers:
5:45a.m.
✠
MONDAY: GROS ISLET
Mass: 6:00 a. m.
12:30 p.m.
✠
TUESDAY: GROS ISLET
6:00 a.m.
✠
WEDNESDAY
12:30 & 6:00 p.m.:
Gros Islet
6:00 p.m. **G/Riviere**
✠
THURSDAY
6:00 a.m./12:30 p.m.:
Gros Islet
6:00 p.m.: **Monchy**
✠
FRIDAY
6:00 a.m./12:30 p.m.:
Gros Islet
✠
SATURDAY
6:30 a.m./6:00 p. m.:
Gros Islet
✠
SUNDAY
7:30 a.m.:
GROS ISLET/G. RIVIERE
10:00 a.m.:
Gros Islet/Monchy
✠
HOLIDAY
7:00 a.m.: **Gros Islet**
✠

The Blessing of Homes on Epiphany.

The blessing of homes on Epiphany is a very old Catholic custom, and Catholics are encouraged to perform this rite every year. This is a rite which we can carry out ourselves.

When the Wise men or Magi became an important focus in the celebration of the Epiphany, the blessing of homes was a natural conclusion: the Wise Men came to bring gifts to honor the King of Kings, but when they entered the home at Bethlehem, they were blessed by Him whom they came to bless. We, too, are always blessed by those whom we go to bless - to give is to receive.

The Church teaches that a “temple” is not only a building in which we worship, but that we are temples of the Holy Spirit, that the Body of Christ is not only that of which we partake at the Divine Liturgy, but that we are the Body of Christ. And just as the Gifts of the Eucharist are treated with reverence and kept in sanctified vessels, so should every Christian’s life be full of reverence and sanctity even outside the physical walls of the church.

The Church also teaches us to sanctify everything: dwellings, places of work, all our pursuits, and the fruits of our labor. And just as a Church and sacred vessels, once sanctified and set aside for sacred use can no longer be used for anything profane, a Christian washed in baptismal waters, his home and all his works, can no longer be the dwelling of sin and the works of Satan, but only and always, the temple of the Holy Spirit.

The annual blessing of homes is not as elaborate as the blessing of a new dwelling, but it should not be overlooked, for it is a way that the grace of God is extended to rid a home of every evil and to fill it with every blessing. What a wonderful way to begin the New Year!

(excerpt: frsergei.wordpress.com)



**PLEASE PRAY
FOR THE SICK**

Iris Macauldy
Priscillia Henry
Martha Mason
Rosna Joseph
Nellie Hall

DECEASED

Nathaniel Actie
Brent Dorville
Lucita Lucien
Anne Auguste

WEEKDAY READINGS



MONDAY

1Jn.3:22—4:6
Mt.4:12-17,23-25



TUESDAY

1Jn.4:7-10
Mk.6:34-44



WEDNESDAY

1Jn.4:11-18
Mk.6:45-52



THURSDAY

1Jn.4:19—5:4
Lk.4:14-22



FRIDAY

1Jn.5:5-13
Lk.5:12-16



SATURDAY

1Jn.5:14-21
Jn.3:22-30



MASS INTENTIONS

GROS ISLET	CLERGY / RELIGIOUS	INTENTIONS
EPIPHANY OF THE LORD		
Sat. Jan 2 - 6:00 p.m.		Int: Lorraine Williams Thks: Algitha Richelieu & family The Louis & Herman families B'day: Jacinta St. Helene, Earl Moona
Sun Jan 3 - 7:30 a.m. <i>Epiphany of the Lord</i>		Eucharistic Service
10:00 a.m.		Eucharistic Service
Grande Riviere		MISSA PRO POPULO
Monchy		B'day: Agatha Charles Guid & Protec: The Jn. Marie family
WEEKDAY MASS INTENTIONS		
Mon Jan 4 - 6:00 a.m. <i>St Elizabeth Ann Seton Religious</i>	Fr. Vinoth Santhappan Fr. John Wilson Sr. Mary Lee Cox	De'd: Veronica Aurelien
12:30 p.m.		Thks: Leslie Clarke
Tues Jan 5 - 6:00 a.m. <i>St John Neumann, Bishop</i>	Fr. Joseph Raj Sr. Mary Mutwiwa	De'd: Fr. Raymond Laurent
Wed Jan 6 - 6:00 a.m.	Arch. Robert Rivas OP Msgr. Patrick Anthony Sr. Frances Norbisch	De'd: Epiphane & Josephine Verdant
12:30 p.m.		Thks: Donors and Benefactors
Grande Riviere - 6:00 p.m.		Parishioners
Thu Jan 7 - 6:00 a.m.	Fr. Albert Smith Mother Rosaria Joseph Sr. Christine Alphonse	Thks: Regina Joseph B'day: John Wiggins Snr
12:30 p.m.		Parishioners
Fri Jan 8 - 6:00 a.m.	Fr. Amalraj Penigilipadi Fr. Cezar Herrera Sr. Ramona George	Thks: Bernadette Pamphile & family Anthony Robinson & family
12:30 p.m.		B'day: John Wiggins Jnr Marie Therese Mathurin
Sat Jan 9 - 6.30 a.m.	Rev. Winston Taylor Rev. Andrew Edward Sr. Benedicta Chanda	Thks: June Burns & family Shanta King & family