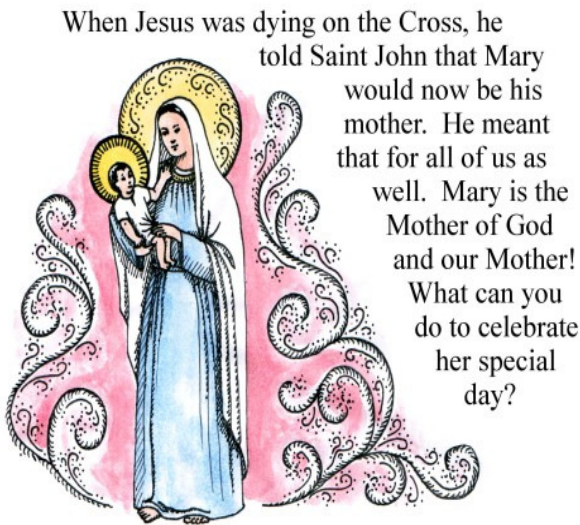


Mary the Mother of God

January 1

On the first day of the year we celebrate the feast day of Mary, the Mother of God.

If you didn't have a mother and God let you design your own mother, what would she be like? Well, God did get to make His own Mother! Can you even imagine how perfect she was?



When Jesus was dying on the Cross, he told Saint John that Mary would now be his mother. He meant that for all of us as well. Mary is the Mother of God and our Mother! What can you do to celebrate her special day?

www.thekidsbulletin.com

The family that prays together, stays together!



THE WORK OF CHRISTMAS

Long after the angels disappear into the heavens, the shepherds return to their flocks, the Magi journey home and the great star sets, Jesus remains. Then the work of Christmas truly begins:

- to find the lost,
- to heal those broken in spirit,
- to feed the hungry,
- to release the oppressed,
- to rebuild the nations,
- to bring peace among all peoples,
- to make a little music with the heart...

and to radiate the Light of Christ, every day, in every way, in all that we do and say.

The Child in whom we rediscover God's great love for humanity becomes the adult Redeemer who challenges us to imitate His selflessness and compassion in order that we might transform our world in love.

May we allow the miracle of Christmas to continue long after the holiday trappings have been packed away. May we welcome the adult Messiah and His challenging Gospel to recreate our lives, making the peace, justice and hope of this holy season a reality in every season of the new year.

Let the work of Christmas begin, and let it begin with us.

(excerpt: H. Thurman/Connections/appleseeds.org)



The Family of God.

Why did Jesus choose to become a baby born of a mother and father and to spend all but His last years living in an ordinary human family? In part, to reveal God's plan to make all people live as one "holy family" in His Church. In the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, God reveals our true home. We're to live as His children, "chosen ones, holy and beloved".

The family advice we hear in today's readings - for mothers, fathers, and children - is all solid and practical. Happy homes are the fruit of our faithfulness to the Lord. But the Liturgy is inviting us to see more, to see how, through our family obligations and relationships, our families become heralds of the family of God that He wants to create on earth.

Jesus shows us this in today's Gospel. His obedience to His earthly parents flows directly from His obedience to the will of His heavenly Father. Joseph and Mary aren't identified by name, but three times are called "his parents" and are referred to separately as his "mother" and "father." The emphasis is all on their familial ties to Jesus. But these ties are emphasized only so that Jesus, in the first words He speaks in Luke's Gospel, can point us beyond that earthly relationship to the Fatherhood of God. In what Jesus calls "my Father's house," every family finds its true meaning and purpose.

The Temple we read about in the Gospel is God's house, His dwelling. But it's also an image of the family of God, the Church. In our families we're to build up this household, this family, this living temple of God - until He reveals His new dwelling among us and says of every person: "I shall be his God and he will be my son".

(excerpt stpaulcentre.com)

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

Parish Priest: Fr. Athanase Joseph
Assistant Parish Priest: Msgr. Michel Francis
Deacons: Rev. Anthony Louis, Rev. David Popo
Address: P.O. Box Choc 8192, Castries LC02 801, Saint Lucia
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Facebook: facebook.com/stjosephtheworkerparish

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

VISION 2020-DISCIPLES ON MISSION

SOLEMNITY OF THE HOLY FAMILY - YEAR C- 29TH DECEMBER 2024

SUNDAY READINGS

First Reading

1Sam.1:20-22,24-28

Second Reading

1Jn.3:1-2,21-24

Gospel

Lk.2:41-52

MASS TIMES

GROS ISLET

Morning Prayers:
5:45a.m.



MONDAY:

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



TUESDAY:

6:00 a.m.



WEDNESDAY

6:00a.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



NEW YEAR'S DAY MESSAGE 2025

The Year 2024 went by quickly. It was a year of opportunity with its unique challenges. We did not allow the challenges to define us; our resilience helped us wear out the storms of struggle. We are grateful to God for leading us as individuals, families, a parish community, groups and community generally, in our pains, sufferings and moments of decision.

The New Year calls us to a vision of life that reflects our **Archdiocesan Theme - Mamai Bondye, Annou Bati L'Eglise Nou Ansanm: People of God let us Build our Church Together.** This theme will be incorporated with the vision of the universal Church for 2025, *Pilgrims of Hope*. We must work towards re-claiming our Catholic Identity. It means that we must first and foremost engage in activities in proclaiming the Good News through Evangelization, Catechesis and Liturgy in our pastoral plan with the various groups in the parish community. We must review our methods of Catechesis – teaching and passing on the faith - especially to our children, youth and parents. We must also reexamine our engagement with the elderly and homebound.

During **2025**, we are called to a renewed commitment to the growth and development of our families, parish community, workplaces and neighbourhoods. Let us work collaboratively towards the holistic growth of every aspect of our Church and society during this time of economic challenges, violence, crime, immorality, division and conflicts. Let's endeavour to be living examples of God's peace, love and faithfulness through our courage and perseverance.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Msgr. Michel Francis - my immediate collaborator, Parish Staff, the Parish Council, members of the various Parish Committees, Confraternities and Groups for your diligent work and service in Christ's vineyard. My heartfelt thanks to all who helped plan and took part in the Advent and Christmas Season liturgies. Thanks to those who cleaned and decorated the Church – a job well done of which I think the entire congregation is greatly appreciative. My gratitude is also extended to the Altar Servers, Lectors, Extra Ordinary Ministers of the Eucharist, Ushers, Collectors, the Choirs and Musicians, Animators, Live Streaming Team and all who attended the various liturgical celebrations. You have demonstrated through the use of your time, talent and treasure that together we can do great things for God and the good and growth of our parish community.

May the **Peace, Love and Joy** of the **CHRIST CHILD** remain with you throughout 2025!

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL OF YOU BROTHERS AND SISTERS!

Fr. Athanase Joseph
Parish Priest

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK

Marie Joseph
Patsy Crafton
Martha Mason
Iris Macauldy

DECEASED

Vera Xavier
Gabriel Alfred
Gregor Richelieu
Margaret Alcindor

WEEKDAY READINGS



MONDAY

1Jn.2:12-17
Lk.2:36-40



TUESDAY

1Jn.2:18-21
Jn.1:1-18



WEDNESDAY

Num.6:22-27
Gal.4:4-7
Lk.2:16-21



THURSDAY

1Jn.2:22-28
Jn.1:19-28



FRIDAY

1Jn.2:29-3:6
Jn.1:29-34



SATURDAY

1Jn.3:7-10
Jn.1:35-42



MASS INTENTIONS

GROS ISLET	CLERGY / RELIGIOUS	INTENTIONS
THE HOLY FAMILY: JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH - YEAR C		
Sat Dec 28 - 6:00 p.m.		Thks: The Glace family B'day: Gloria Kelsick
Sun Dec 29 - 7:30 a.m. <i>The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph</i>		MISSA PRO POPULO
10:00 a.m.		B'day: Trudy Louis, Sam Flood Wedd Ann: Christopher & Laura Emmanuel
G/Riviere - 7:30 a.m.		Thks: Mary Marshall & family
Monchy - 10:00 a.m.		Thks: Elsa Delice & family
WEEKDAY MASS INTENTIONS		
Mon Dec 30 - 6:00 a.m.	Sr. Margaret Maynard	De'd: Davidson Popo
12:30 p.m.		Wedd Ann: Thomas & Trudy Louis
Tues Dec 31 - 6:00 a.m.	Sr. Mary Mumba	B'day: Triston Thomas Thks: Claude & Mary Severin & children
9:00 p.m. Vigil		MISSA PRO POPULO
Wed Jan 1 - 8:00 a.m. <i>Mary, Mother of God</i>		Thks: The Hyacinth family
G/Riviere - 7:30 a.m.		Thks: Lysa Esnard & family
Monchy - 10:00 a.m.		Thks: John Cherubin & family
Thu Jan 2 - 6:00 a.m.	Fr. Athanase Joseph Fr. Stephen Quinlan Fr. Philomin Zacharias	B'day: Jacinta St. Helene Earl Moona
Fri Jan 3 - 6:00 a.m.	Msgr. Michel Francis Fr. Arthur Zalewski	Thks: The Rene family Bernadette Pamphile & family
Sat Jan 4 - 6:30 a.m. <i>Mass at the Shrine</i>	Arch. Gabriel Malzaire Fr. Vinoth Santhappan	Thks: Jeremiah Hyacinth Rachel Myers & family