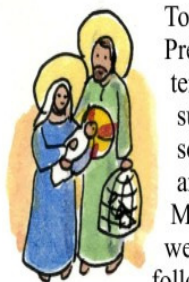



The Presentation of Jesus



Today we celebrate the feast of the Presentation of Baby Jesus in the temple. God's people were supposed to offer their firstborn sons to the service of God, or make an offering of animals instead. Mary and Joseph were poor, so they followed the law by offering a pair of turtledoves.

Did you know that you can offer yourself to God too? You can use your life to do good and please God. A good way to start is to pray a "morning offering" every day. Tell God that you



I OFFER MY EVERYTHING THIS DAY...

love Him and offer Him all your prayers, work, joys, and sufferings of the day. When you do everything for God you will be cooperating with Jesus in making the world a better and happier place!

How can you start offering yourself to God 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.

MASS INTENTIONS:

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

Paul Miki, a Jesuit and a native of Japan, is the best known among the martyrs of Japan. He was educated by the Jesuits, joined the Society of Jesus and became a well known and successful preacher, gaining numerous converts to Catholicism, angering the local government officials.

In 1597, Miki was arrested and jailed along with 26 fellow Catholics. They were crucified on a hill, now known as the Holy Mountain, overlooking Nagasaki. Among them were priests, brothers, and laymen, Franciscans, Jesuits, members of the Secular Franciscan Order, catechists, doctors, artisans, servants, old men and innocent children, all united in a common faith and love for Jesus and His Church.

Miki preached his last sermon from the cross, where it is maintained that he forgave his executioners. When missionaries returned to Japan in the 1860s, at first they found no trace of Christianity. But after establishing themselves they found that thousands of Christians lived around Nagasaki and that they had secretly preserved the faith.

Beatified in 1627, the martyrs of Japan were finally canonized in 1862.

(excerpt: franciscanmedia.org /wikipedia.org)



The Prophecy of Simeon

(Lk.2 : 29-32)

Now dismiss Thy servant, O Lord, in peace, according to Thy word:

For mine own eyes hath seen

Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared

in the sight of all the peoples,

a light to reveal Thee to the nations

and the glory of Thy people Israel."



The Presentation of the Lord - 2nd February, 2025 - Year C



A Light to the Nations.

This feast marks the Presentation of the Lord Jesus in the Temple, forty days after he was born. As the firstborn, he belonged to God. According to the Law, Mary and Joseph were required to take him to the Temple and "redeem" him by paying five shekels. At the same time, the Law required the child's mother to offer sacrifice in order to overcome the ritual impurity brought about by childbirth.

The feast we celebrate today shows a curious turn of events. The Redeemer seems to be redeemed. She who is all-pure presents herself to be purified. Such is the humility of our God. Such is the humility of the Blessed Virgin. They submit to the law even though they are not bound by it.

However, the Gospel story nowhere mentions Jesus' "redemption," but seems to describe instead a religious consecration such as a priest might undergo. Luke tells us that Jesus is "presented" in the Temple, using the same verb that St. Paul uses to describe the offering of a sacrifice. Another parallel is the Old Testament dedication of Samuel to the Temple as a priest.

The drama surrounding Jesus' conception and birth began in the Temple, when the Archangel visited Mary's kinsman, Zechariah the priest. Now the story of Jesus' infancy comes to a fitting conclusion, again in the Temple.

All the readings today concern Jerusalem, the Temple, and the sacrificial rites. The first reading comes from the Prophet Malachi, who called the priests to return to faithful service and foretold a day when a Messiah would arrive with definitive purification of the priesthood. Likewise, the Psalm announces that Jerusalem is about to receive a great visitor, identified as "The LORD of hosts . . . the king of glory."

Christ now arrives as the long-awaited priest and redeemer. He is also the sacrifice. Indeed, as his life will show, He is the Temple itself.

(excerpt: stpaulenter.com)

SUNDAY READINGS

First Reading

Mal.3:1-4

Second Reading

Heb.2:14-18

Gospel

Lk.2:22-40



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

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

6:00 p.m. G/Riviere



THURSDAY

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



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

Variable

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

CONFESSIONS Every Saturday

9.00 - 10.00a.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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Tel: (758) 450-8325/ (758) 450-9390 ☎Cell: (758) 285-8831

Email: st.joseph_church@candw.lc.com ☎Website: www.grosisletchurch.org

Facebook: facebook.com/stjosephtheworkerparish

St. Agatha, Virgin & Martyr - Feast Day February 5th

St. Agatha is one of the most highly venerated virgin martyrs of the Catholic Church. It is believed that she was born around 231 A.D. in Sicily to a rich and noble family. At about fifteen, Agatha made a vow of virginity and rejected the amorous advances of the Roman prefect Quintianus, who had been sent to govern Sicily by the emperor Decius, who is himself infamous for his persecution of Christians.

Quintianus thought he could force Agatha to turn away from her vow and marry him. His persistent proposals were consistently spurned by Agatha, so Quintianus had her arrested for being a christian and brought before the judge. He was the judge.

He expected her to give in to his demands when she was faced with torture and possible death, but she simply reaffirmed her belief in God by praying for courage. To force her to change her mind, Quintianus had her imprisoned in a brothel. But Agatha never lost her confidence in God, even though she suffered a month of assaults.

Quintianus heard of her calm strength and ordered that she be brought before him once again. During her interrogation, she told him that to be a servant of Jesus Christ was her true freedom. Enraged, Quintianus sent her off to prison this time, a move intended to make her even more afraid, but it was probably a great relief to her.

Agatha continued to proclaim Jesus as her Savior, Lord, Life and Hope. Quintianus had her stretched on a rack, torn with iron hooks, burned with torches, and whipped. Noticing Agatha was enduring all the torture, he ordered that her breasts be cut off. He then sent her back to prison with an order of no food or medical attention. But Agatha had a vision of St. Peter who comforted her and healed her wounds through his prayers. After four days, Quintianus ignoring the miraculous curing of her wounds, had her stripped naked and rolled over hot coals which were mixed with sharp shards. She was returned to prison where she finally died. Her death occurred about the year 251 A.D.

St. Agatha is the patron saint of Sicily, Palermo, bell founders, breast cancer patients, rape victims, and wet nurses. She is also considered to be a powerful intercessor when people suffer from fires.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

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

(excerpt: catholic.org)
(excerpt: britannica.com)

**PLEASE PRAY
FOR THE SICK**

Marie Joseph
Patsy Crafton
Martha Mason
Iris Macauldy

DECEASED

Ivin Lucien
Martin Satney
Francis Leandre
Princess McNeil
Veronica Dubois
Petrona Flamiuse
Nicholson Sonson
Veronica Evariste

WEEKDAY READINGS



MONDAY

Heb.11:32-40
Mk.5:1-20



TUESDAY

Heb.12:1-4
Mk.5:21-43



WEDNESDAY

Heb.12:4-7,11-15
Mk.6:1-6



THURSDAY

Heb.12:18-19,21-24
Mk.6:7-13



FRIDAY

Heb.13:1-8
Mk.6:14-29



SATURDAY

Heb.13:15-17,20-21
Mk.6:30-34

MASS INTENTIONS

GROS ISLET

CLERGY / RELIGIOUS

INTENTIONS

THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD -YEAR C

Sat Feb 01 - 6:00 p.m.



Thks: Augusta Toussaint
Perlin Verdant & family
Sp. Int: The George family
Dionysia Sealy-Compton & family

Sun Feb 02 - 7:30 a.m
Presentation of the Lord

MISSA PRO POPULO

10:00 a.m.

Thks: Jean Claude Severin
B'day: Lester Auguste
Shirley Lubin, Marie Jules

Grande Riviere - 7:30 a.m.

Holy Spirit: Catherine Albertin
B'day: Quacey Esnard
Sirah Philip, Tamara Dantes

Monchy - 10:00 a.m.

Guid: Nevia & Junior Joseph

WEEKDAY MASS INTENTIONS

Mon Feb 03 - 6:00 a.m.

Rev. Madison Stanislaus
Rev. Vincent Norbert
Rev. Anthony Pierre

Thks: Kate Haywood, Emalie Popo
B'day: Francis Lastic, Juliana St. Hill

12:30 p.m.

Dc'd: Gabriel & Rudy Lubin
Cuthbert & Herbert Lubin

Tues Feb 04 - 6:00 a.m.

Sr. Mary Dungdung
Sr. Mercy Masaka

B'day: James Jacob
Merlina Jacob-Pilgrim

Wed Feb 05 - 6:00 a.m.
St. Agatha, Virgin & Martyr

Rev. Jeremy Joseph
Sr. Marie Joseph

Dc'd: Charles Hippolyte
Mathurine Charles, Kevin Haywood

12:30 p.m.

Dc'd: Madge, Bert & Danielle Edmunds

Grande Riviere - 6:00 p.m.

Parishioners

Thu Feb 06 - 6:00 a.m.
*St. Paul Miki & Companions
Martyrs*

Rev. Errol Frederick
Sr. Rosemarie Minj

Bapt Ann: Marcia Haywood

12:30 p.m.

Thks: Jennifer Remy

Fri Feb 07 - 6:00 a.m.

Fr. Yvon Tremont

Dc'd: Holy Souls in Purgatory

12:30 p.m.

Guid: Kaelan Haywood

Sat Feb 08 - 6.30 a.m.
BVM

Fr. Gabriel Arockiasammy
Sr. Bernadette Peter

Thks: Vernetta Brooks & family