

"Ignorance of Scripture is ignorance of Christ", said St. Jerome, who translated most of the Bible into Latin.

In 2019, on St. Jerome's Feast day, September 30th, Pope Francis decreed that from 2020, the third Sunday of Ordinary Time each year was to be celebrated as the Sunday of God's Word.

Every day of the Church's liturgical year involves reading of Scripture at Mass and in the Liturgy of the Hours. But because Scripture is a regular part of the Church's life, we can treat it as routine and unexceptional.

Pope Francis invited us never to take God's Word for granted, "but instead to let ourselves be nourished by it, in order to acknowledge and live fully our relationship with Him and with our brothers and sisters".

This celebration is meant to provide an annual reminder of just how precious God's Word is and to encourage us to appreciate that fact, to familiarize ourselves with the Word of God and to make it central to our way of living.

**A Prayer  
Before Reading  
the Bible**

Lord,  
thank you that through your  
Spirit, you will lead me to all  
truth. As I spend time reading  
the Bible today, give me a  
spirit of wisdom and  
revelation to fully and deeply  
understand your Word.  
Teach me your decrees and  
precepts, and I will present  
myself as a diligent student of  
your Word--a worker who is  
unashamed of the Gospel,  
rightly dividing your Word of  
truth (2 Tim 2:15).  
Amen

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# Jesus Tells us to Repent

Today we hear about Jesus beginning His mission of preaching and healing the sick. The very first thing He tells the people is that they should repent from their sins.

Why do we need to repent of our sins? Why don't we just stop thinking about the bad things we did and start trying to be good?

Well, pretend your soul is like a garden. When you sin, it's like making a big hole in the ground. You can't grow flowers in a hole, and someone might trip on it and make the hole bigger. That's what can happen with sins too- little sins can cause bigger ones.

When you are sorry for your sins and go to confession it's like filling in the holes and planting flowers where they used to be. Keep your soul like a good garden and make sure you don't have any holes in it!



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## 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.



## 3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - 25 JANUARY 2026 - YEAR A

### Fishers of Men.

Today's liturgy gives us a lesson in ancient Israelite geography and history. Isaiah's prophecy in the First Reading is quoted by Matthew in the Gospel. Both intend to recall the apparent fall of the everlasting kingdom promised to David.

Eight centuries before Christ, that part of the kingdom where the tribes of Zebulun and Naphtali lived was attacked by the Assyrians, and the tribes were hauled off into captivity. It marked the beginning of the kingdom's end. The Davidic empire finally crumbled in the sixth century BC, when Jerusalem was seized by Babylon and the remaining tribes were driven into exile.

Isaiah prophesied that Zebulun and Naphtali, the lands first to be degraded, would be the first to see the light of God's salvation. Jesus today fulfills that prophecy, announcing the restoration of David's kingdom at precisely the spot where the kingdom began to fall. His gospel of the Kingdom includes not only the twelve tribes of Israel but all the nations, symbolized by the "Galilee of the Nations." Calling His first disciples, two fishermen on the Sea of Galilee, He appoints them to be "fishers of men," gathering people from the ends of the earth.

They are to preach the gospel, Paul says in the Epistle, to unite all peoples in the same mind and in the same purpose in a world-wide kingdom of God. By their preaching, Isaiah's promise has been delivered. A world in darkness has seen the light. The yoke of slavery and sin, borne by humanity since time began, has been smashed.

And we are able now, as we sing in the Psalm, to dwell in the house of the Lord, to worship Him in the land of the living.

(excerpt: stpaulcenter.com)

## 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  
Address: P.O. Box Choc 8192, Castries LC02 801, Saint Lucia  
Tel: (758) 450-8325 / (758) 450-9390 ☎ Cell: (758) 285-8831  
Email: st.joseph\_church@candw.lc ☎ Website: www.grosisletchurch.org  
Facebook: facebook.com/stjosephtheworkerparish

## SUNDAY READINGS

### First Reading

Is.8:23-9:3

### Second Reading

1Cor.1:10-13,17

### Gospel

Matt.4:12-23



## 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



<b>St. Thomas Aquinas, Priest and Doctor of the Church</b>  St. Thomas Aquinas, a Dominican friar and priest born in 1225 in Italy, is considered the Church's greatest theologian and philosopher. Much of modern philosophy was conceived in development of, or in opposition to, his ideas, particularly in the areas of ethics, natural law, metaphysics, and political theory. At the forefront of medieval thought was a struggle to reconcile the relationship between theology (faith) and philosophy (reason). People were at odds as to how to unite the knowledge they obtained through revelation with the information they observed using their minds and their senses. Not only were they compatible, according to Thomas's ideology, they could work in collaboration. He believed that revelation could guide reason and prevent it from making mistakes, while reason could clarify and demystify faith. Unlike many in the Church of the time, Thomas embraced several ideas put forward by Aristotle. He attempted to synthesize Aristotelian philosophy with the principles of Christianity. Thomas is the author of many works, the best known of which are the <i>Summa Theologica</i> and the <i>Summa contra Gentiles</i> . His commentaries on Sacred Scripture and on Aristotle are also an important part of his body of work. Thomas' Eucharistic hymns form a part of the Church's liturgy, and he is held to be the model teacher for those studying for the priesthood. In modern times, under papal directives, the study of his works is used as a core of the required program of study for those seeking ordination as priests and deacons, for religious formation and for other students of the sacred disciplines e.g. Catholic Theology, Church History, Liturgy and Canon Law as well as Philosophy. He died in 1274, was canonized in 1323 and declared Doctor of the Church by Pope Pius V who called him "the most brilliant light of the Church.". He is the patron saint of schools, including colleges, universities, and students. <div>(excerpt: wikipedia.com)</div> <div><b>Prayer of St. Thomas Aquinas</b>  Grant me, O Lord my God, A mind to know you, a heart to seek you, Wisdom to find you, conduct pleasing to you, Faithful perseverance in waiting for you, And a hope of finally embracing you.  Amen.</div>	<div><b>PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK</b>  Patsy Crafton Iris Macauldy Marie Joseph Anne Marie Felicien</div> <div><b>DECEASED</b>  Omar Joseph Cecile Gatneau Anaclet Richelieu Joan Moise-Delivry Pauline d'Auvergne Anne Marie St. Mark</div> <div><b>WEEKDAY READINGS</b>  ✠ <b>MONDAY</b> 2Tim..1:1-8 Mk.3:22-30 ✠ <b>TUESDAY</b> 2Sam.6:12-15,17-19 Mk.3:31-35 ✠ <b>WEDNESDAY</b> 2Sam.7:4-17 Mk.4:1-20 ✠ <b>THURSDAY</b> 2Sam.7:18-19,24-29 Mk.4:21-25 ✠ <b>FRIDAY</b> 2Sam.11:1-4,5-10, 13-17 Mk.4:26-34 ✠ <b>SATURDAY</b> 2Sam.12:1-7,10-17 Mk.4:35-41 ✠</div>
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MASS INTENTIONS		
GROS ISLET	CLERGY/RELIGIOUS	INTENTIONS
3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A		
Sat Jan 24 - 6:00 p.m.		Sp. Int: Ayinde Popo Glance & George families B'day: Denzel Roberts, Agnes Actie
Sun Jan 25 -7:30 a.m.		MISSA PRO POPULO
10:00 a.m.		Int: Felicia Hyacinth & family Arthur Tisson & family
Grande Riviere - 7:30 a.m.		Int: Arthur Tisson & family Thks: Zoey Hinkson, Sashla St. Omer Quacey & Sarah Esnard, Laurencia Cadette
Monchy - 10:00 a.m.		Int: Arthur Tisson & family
WEEKDAY MASS INTENTIONS		
Mon Jan 26 - 6:00 a.m. <i>Sts. Timothy &amp; Titus, Bishops</i>	Rev. Nathalbert Husbands Sr. Stephanina Banda	Success: Edna Hill
12:30 p.m.		Dc'd: Paul Joseph
Tue Jan 27- 6:00 a.m.	Fr. Kevin Murray Rev. Gabriel Geoffrey	Thks: Bernadette Pamphile Cyrillia & Althea Palton
Wed Jan 28 - 6:00 a.m. <i>St. Thomas Aquinas Priest &amp; Doctor</i>	Fr. John Milton Rev. Gerard Calderon	Deliv: Isaiah Lubrin Kirsteen Lubrin & family
12:30 p.m.		Dc'd: Teresa Willie
Grande Riviere - 6:00 p.m.		Parishioners
Thu Jan 29 - 6:00 a.m.	Rev. David Popo Rev. Peter Fevrier Rev. Herald Wilson	Thks: Mgmt. & Staff of Glance Motors
12:30 p.m.		Thks: Jeanne Frederick Miguel Louisy, Ellen Regis
Fri Jan 30 - 6:00 a.m.	Sr. Margaret Maynard	Int: Conversion of Sinners Thks: Jose Anne d'Auvergne The Belrose family
12:30 p.m.		Dc'd: Zaccharie Aimable
Sat Jan 31 - 6:30 a.m. <i>St. John Bosco, Priest</i>	Sr. Mary Mumba	Int: Vernette Brooks & family