

Kids Column

Lk.13:1-9

WHAT'S HAPPENING

What Kind of Fig Tree are You?



In today's Gospel reading, we hear a parable about a fig tree. The owner waited three years for it to grow some figs, but it still wasn't producing any. He told the gardener to cut it down. But the gardener said he would try just for one more year to get it to bear fruit- and if it didn't give any then he would cut it down.

The fig tree is like a person who can do good things but doesn't. The owner shows the justice of God- he has given the tree enough chances so its time is up. But the gardener is like God's mercy. He wants to give the tree one more chance. And he's going to give it extra fertilizer to try to help it.



Lent is a good time to look at our own life and see if we are doing all the good things we can. Maybe there's something nice that we know we could do for someone but we just never bother to. Or maybe we aren't praying quite as much as we know we should. God is giving us a chance to become better people this Lent, and it's your job to make it happen!

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.

♦The Annual Parish Lenten Family Retreat will be held at the various communities as follows:

Gros Islet - Mon. March 28th at 6:00 p.m.
- Mon. April 4th at 6:00 p.m.

G/Riviere - Wed. March 30th at 6:00 p.m.
Wed. April 6th at 6:00 p.m.

Monchy - Thur. March 31st at 6:00 p.m.
Thur. April 7th at 6:00 p.m.

The facilitator is Fr. Charles Obioma.

♦The dates for the "Open Mic" sessions on Synodality are as foll:

G/Islet - Sun 20 March -7:30 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.
- Sat 26th March - 6:00 p.m.

G/Rivière - Sun 27 March -7:30 a.m.

Monchy - Sun 27 March - 10:00 a.m.

The topics under discussion will be:

What is your dream for your Church?
Who are the people on the periphery/margins?
Who is missing at the table?

Responses can also be sent via email (see pg 1) or brought into the Parish Office

Prayer for the Synod on Synodality

We stand before You, Holy Spirit, as we gather together in Your name.

With You alone to guide us, make Yourself at home in our hearts;

Teach us the way we must go and how we are to pursue it.

We are weak and sinful; do not let us promote disorder.

Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path nor partiality influence our actions.

Let us find in You our unity so that we may journey together to eternal life and not stray from the way of truth and what is right.

All this we ask of You, who are at work in every place and time, in the communion of the Father and the Son, forever and ever. **Amen.**



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

CONFESSIONS

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

VISION 2020-DISCIPLES ON MISSION

3RD SUNDAY OF LENT - MARCH 20TH 2022 - YEAR C

Good Fruit.

In the Church, we are made children of the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the God who makes known His name and His ways to Moses in the First Reading. Mindful of His covenant with Abraham, God came down to rescue His people from the slave drivers of Egypt. Faithful to that same covenant, He sent Jesus to redeem all lives from destruction, as the Psalm tells us. Paul says in the Epistle that God's saving deeds in the Exodus were written down for the Church, intended as a prelude and foreshadowing of our own Baptism by water, our liberation from sin, our feeding with spiritual food and drink. Yet the events of the Exodus were also given as a warning- that being children of Abraham is no guarantee that we will reach the promised land of our salvation.

At any moment, Jesus warns in today's Gospel, we could perish, not as God's punishment for being "greater sinners" but because, like the Israelites in the wilderness, we stumble into evil desires, fall into grumbling, forgetting all His benefits.

Jesus calls us today to repentance, not a one-time change of heart, but an ongoing, daily transformation of our lives. We're called to live the life we sing about in the Psalm, blessing His holy name, giving thanks for His kindness and mercy.

The fig tree in His parable is a familiar Old Testament symbol for Israel. As the fig tree is given one last season to produce fruit before it is cut down, so too Jesus is giving Israel one final opportunity to bear good fruits as evidence of its repentance.

Lent should be for us like the season of reprieve given to the fig tree, a grace period in which we let the gardener, Christ, cultivate our hearts, uprooting what chokes the divine life in us, strengthening us to bear fruits that will last into eternity.

(excerpt: stpaulcenter.com)

Parish Priest: Msgr. Michel Francis

Deacons: Rev. Winston Taylor, Rev. Gerard Calderon

Rev. Anthony Louis, Rev. Madison Stanislaus.

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@hotmail.com☎

Website: www.grosisletchurch.org ☎ Facebook: facebook.com/grosisletparish

First Reading

Ex.3:1-8,13-15

Second Reading

1Cor.10:1-6,10-12

Gospel

Lk.13:1-9



MASS TIMES

GROS ISLET

Morning Prayers:
5:45a.m.



MONDAY:

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



TUESDAY:

6:00 a.m.



WEDNESDAY

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



THURSDAY

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



FRIDAY

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



SATURDAY

6:30 a.m./7:00 p. m.



SUNDAY

Gros Islet/G. Riviere
7:30 a.m.

Gros Islet/Monchy

10:00 a.m.



HOLIDAY

Variable

Fasting for Lent:

Fasting is good, but it is a means and not an end in itself. As we move through Lent, we are called to give even more deeply, to give up aspects of our lives and ourselves to God; to consider where we have not yet surrendered our lives to God, in concrete and practical ways. For example:

- Do I seek to make my family’s everyday life happier rather than putting my own desires first?
- Can I make do without some material goods so that I can share with others who lack even the basics?
- Can I stop dwelling on past hurts so that I can give generously here and now?
- Do I listen when I want to speak and make room for others’ voices and dissenting opinions?
- Am I willing to let teenage or adult children, friends, or my spouse grow in new directions, even when that means certain kinds of losses for myself?
- Am I able to let go of any desire that exists to prop up my own sense of self, and trust that there is a deeper self beneath whose joy lies in self-gift?

During Lent, we are called to first convert ourselves and then to transform the world, so that we might serve the Kingdom which Jesus lived and preached.

(excerpt: ignatianspirituality.com)

The Annunciation of the Lord - March 25th

This feast celebrates the angel Gabriel's appearance to the Virgin Mary announcing that she had been chosen to be the Mother of Our Lord, and Mary's *fiat*, her willing acceptance of God's holy plan. Originally a feast of our Lord, now celebrated as a Marian feast, the feast of the Annunciation dates back at least to the fifth century, and the date of the feast, determined by the date of Christmas, was set by the seventh century. The Annunciation, as much as or even more so than Christmas, represents Christ's Incarnation. When Mary signaled to Gabriel her acceptance of God's will, Christ was conceived in her womb through the power of the Holy Spirit. At the Annunciation, the angel Gabriel announced to Mary that she would conceive a Son, and His name would be Jesus. His greeting, "Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you" has echoed down through the ages in many prayers, Mary was initially confused as to how she would bear God's Son, since she was a virgin. The angel explained that the Holy Spirit would come upon on her. This is why when we recite the Nicene creed we say "by the power of the Holy Spirit, (Jesus) was born of the Virgin Mary and became man." The Apostles Creed likewise affirms that Jesus was "conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit." Thus, the Feast of the Annunciation is the beginning of Jesus' miraculous life, and it begins with the *theotokos* or “God-bearer” conceiving Jesus by the Holy Spirit's power.

(excerpt: churchyear.net)

PLEASE PRAY FOR	
THE SICK	
Nellie Hall Martha Mason Iris Macauldy Patsy Crafton Denis Augustin Carmen Lord	
DECEASED	
Dorista Anius Henri Arnaud Matthew Bruno Lawrence Scott Nathan Timaitre Margaret Cadasse Karena McGowan	
WEEKDAY READINGS	
✠ MONDAY 2Kgs.5:1-15 Lk.4:24-30 ✠ TUESDAY Dan.3:25,34-43 Mt.18:21-35 ✠ WEDNESDAY Dt.4:1,5-9 Mt.5:17-19 ✠ THURSDAY Jer.7:23-28 Lk.11:14-23 ✠ FRIDAY Is.7:10-14;8:10 Heb.10:4-10 Lk.1:26-38 ✠ SATURDAY Hos.5:15-6:6 Lk.18:9-14 ✠	

MASS INTENTIONS		
GROS ISLET	CLERGY /RELIGIOUS	INTENTIONS
3RD SUNDAY OF LENT - YEAR C		
Sat Mar 19 - 6:00 p.m.		B'day: Alaia DeFraitres Aidan Bousquet, Joe DuBois Thks: Norma Maynard & family St. Joseph: Perlin Verdant & family
Sun Mar 20 - 7:30 a.m.		MISSA PRO POPULO
10:00 a.m.		Thks: Cecil Graham, Anthony Louis
Grande Riviere -7:30 a.m.		Healing: Richard Sayers
Monchy - 10:00 a.m.		Int: Parish Youth
WEEKDAY MASS INTENTIONS		
Mon Mar 21 - 6:00 a.m.	Rev. Anthony Louis Rev. John Douglas Rev. Robert Harvey	St. Anthony: Mandy Phulchere
12:30 p.m.		Dc'd: Dorista Anius Paul & Peter Jn. Baptiste Bernadette, Ephridge & Alfred Gaspard
Tues Mar 22 - 6:00 a.m.	Fr. Cecil Goodman Rev. Thomas Alexander	70th B'day: Mathilda Emile B'day: Terrel Monplaisir
Wed Mar 23 - 6:00 a.m.	Msgr. Theophilus Joseph Fr. Linus Clovis Sr. Adinase Mumba	Int: Bernadette Pamphile
12:30 p.m.		B'day: Grissel Leon
Grande Riviere - 6:00 p.m.	Fr. Vincent Arulanandam Rev. Girard Glace Sr. Mary Muskosa	Parishioners
Thu Mar 24 - 6:00 a.m.		Int: Anthony Robinson
12:30 p.m.		Bless: Shakim Brice Guid: Jude Felicien
Monchy - 6:00 p.m.		Parishioners
Fri Mar 25 - 6:00 a.m. <i>Annunciation of the Lord</i>	Fr. Konrad Mair Fr. Kenneth Haakyav	B'day: Mary Sidoine
12:30 p.m.		B'day: Janne-Eve d'Auvergne
Sat Mar 26 - 6:30 a.m.	Rev. Nathalbert Husbands Sr. Stephanía Banda	Dc'd: Remy Lesmond Frances Valasse, Amos Providence Noelise Charlemagne, Leone Mathurin