

Kids Column

Lk.13:1-9

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 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.



"The forthcoming Jubilee can contribute greatly to restoring a climate of hope and trust as a prelude to the renewal and rebirth that we so urgently desire; that is why I have chosen as the motto of the Jubilee, Pilgrims of Hope."

-Pope Francis, Letter for Jubilee 2025, 11 February 2022



Fast from technology.  
Turn off your cell phone, computer, television.  
Use that time to care for your relationship with God, the earth, yourself, and others.  
Go for a walk, explore nature.  
Seek out conversation with neighbours, especially those who are lonely.

maryknollogc.org

"During this season of conversion, let us renew our faith, and receive with open hearts the love of God"

Pope Francis

Synod 2021-2023: Communion/Participation/Mission

3RD SUNDAY OF LENT - 23RD MARCH 2025 - YEAR C



Fruit that will last.

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 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 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)

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

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.



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



Fasting for Lent:

Fasting for Lent 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 selves 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 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.

The feast of the Annunciation dates back at least to the fifth 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. The angel 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

Patsy Crafton  
Iris Macauldy  
Martha Mason  
Marie Joseph

DECEASED

Marjorie Grell  
Samuel Bowers  
Gabriel Mathurin  
Bernadette Hinds  
Felix Francis Charles  
Felicité Hetty Lucien

WEEKDAY READINGS

✠  
**MONDAY**  
2Kgs.5:1-15  
Lk.4:24-30

✠  
**TUESDAY**  
Is.7:10-14,8:10  
Heb.10:4-10  
Lk.1:26-38

✠  
**WEDNESDAY**  
Dt.4:1,5-9  
Mt.5:17-19

✠  
**THURSDAY**  
Jer.7:23-28  
Lk.11:14-23

✠  
**FRIDAY**  
Hos.14:2-10  
Mk.12:28-34

✠  
**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 22 - 6:00 p.m.

Sun Mar 23 - 7:30 a.m.

10:00 a.m.

Grande Riviere -7:30 a.m.

Monchy - 10:00 a.m.

For as high as  
the heavens are above  
the earth, so great is

His love

for those who fear Him.

PSALM 103:11

**Thks:** The Destang family  
**B’day:** William Dussiel, Anselma O’Neil

**MISSA PRO POPULO**

**B’day:** Grissel Leon

**Thks:** Juliet Joseph & family

**B’day:** Thérèse Jn. Baptiste

WEEKDAY MASS INTENTIONS

Mon Mar 24 - 6:00 a.m.

12:30 p.m.

Fr. Vincent Arulanandam  
Rev. Girard Glace  
Sr. Mary Muskosa

**Dc’d:** Simone & Lennox Belrose  
Jerome & Louise Benjamin

**Dc’d:** Foster & Pauline Benjamin  
Charmaine Blanchard-Johnson

Tues Mar 25 - 6:00 a.m.

*Annunciation of the Lord*

Fr. Henry Nmor  
Fr. Konrad Mair  
Fr. Kenneth Haakyav

**B’day:** Mary Sidoine  
Theresa Herman  
**Int:** Melissa Charlemagne

Wed Mar 26 - 6:00 a.m.

12:30 p.m.

Rev. Nathalbert Husbands  
Sr. Stephania Banda

**B’day:** Lucelta Louis  
**Thks:** Valdez & Valdine Belmar  
**Graces:** For the Poor

**Thks:** The Hyacinth family

**Parishioners**

Thu Mar 27 - 6:00 a.m.

12:30 p.m.

Fr. Kevin Murray  
Rev. Gabriel Geoffrey

**Conversion of Sinners**

**Int:** Alphonsia Prescod

Fri Mar 28 - 6:00 a.m.

12:30 p.m.

Fr. John Milton  
Rev. Gerard Calderon

**Dc’d:** Teresa Huntley  
Philomene Raveneau

**B’day:** Francisca Jean  
**Thks:** Janne-Eve d’Auvergne

Sat Mar 29 - 6:30 a.m.

Rev. David Popo  
Rev. Peter Fevrier  
Rev. Herald Wilson

**Int:** Vernetta Brooks  
Mikaela & Imani Elliott