

Christmas is Almost Here!



Now it's only a week until Jesus' birthday! Are you all ready for it? If you have an Advent wreath then this is the week that all the candles will be lit. Jesus is coming soon, so the light should be getting very bright!

Do you have a Christmas tree? Do you know what it represents? A long time ago people used to have plays at Christmas time about how Adam and Eve sinned when they ate the fruit from the tree, and how Jesus was born to save us from that sin. So a Christmas tree is there to remind us of why Jesus came.



Does your family have a nativity scene? It should be all ready for Christmas, but the Baby Jesus doesn't get put in the manger until Christmas Eve.



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.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Mass times for the Season:

Friday, Dec 24th - Vigil: G/Islet – 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, Dec 25th - Christmas Day:

Gros Islet -8:00 a.m. (One Mass only)

Grande Riviere - 7:30 a.m.

Monchy - 10:00 a.m.

Sunday, Dec 26th - Holy Innocents:

Gros Islet -8:00 a.m. (One Mass only)

Grande Riviere - 7:30 a.m.

Monchy - 10:00 a.m.

Friday, Dec 31st – Vigil: Gros Islet – 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, Jan 1st - New Year's Day:

Gros Islet -8:00 a.m. (One Mass only)

Grande Riviere - 7:30 a.m.

Monchy - 10:00 a.m.

Sunday, Jan 2nd -Epiphany of the Lord :

Gros Islet -8:00 a.m. (One Mass only)

Grande Riviere - 7:30 a.m.

Monchy - 10:00 a.m.

A Coronavirus Prayer

Jesus Christ, you travelled through towns and villages, “curing every disease and illness”. At your command, the sick were made well. Come to our aid now, in the midst of the global spread of the Coronavirus, that we may experience your healing love.

Heal those who are sick with the virus. May they regain their strength and health through quality medical care. Heal us from our fear, which prevents nations from working together, and neighbours from helping one another. Heal us from our pride, which can make us claim invulnerability to a disease that knows no borders.

In place of our anxiety, give us your peace. In your wisdom protect our country, Saint Lucia, our region and the whole world from this pandemic. Be with the doctors, nurses and researchers, and all medical professionals who seek to heal and help those affected, and who put themselves at risk in the process. May they know your protection and peace.

Mary, comforter of the afflicted, pray for us. **Amen.**

VISION 2020-DISCIPLES ON MISSION

4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YEAR C- 19TH DECEMBER 2021



Mary's Child.

On this last Sunday before Christmas, the Church's Liturgy reveals the true identity of our Redeemer: He is, as the First Reading says, the “the one who is to rule . . .his origin goes back to the distant past.” He will come from Bethlehem, where David was born of Jesse the Ephrathite and anointed king.

God promised that an heir of David would reign on his throne forever. Jesus is that heir, the One the prophets promised would restore the scattered tribes of Israel into a new kingdom. He is the “shepherd of Israel” sung of in today's Psalm. From His throne in heaven, He has come to save us. He is both the Son of David and the only begotten Son of God, come in the flesh. He is also our high priest, from the mold of the mysterious Melchizedek, priest of God Most High, who blessed Abraham at the dawn of salvation history.

All this is recognized by John when he leaps for joy in his mother's womb. Elizabeth, too, is filled with joy and the Holy Spirit. She recognizes that in Mary “the mother of my Lord” has come to her. Elizabeth blesses Mary for her faith that God's Word would be fulfilled in her.

Mary marks the fulfillment not only of the angel's promise to her, but of all God's promises down through history. Mary is the one they await in the First Reading: “she who is to give birth.” She will give birth this week, at Christmas. And the fruit of her womb should bring us joy. She is the mother of our Lord.

(excerpt: stpaulcentre.com)

CONFESSIONS

Every Saturday

9.00 - 10.00a.m

6.00 - 6.45p.m.

&

by appointment

Parish Priests: Msgr. Michel Francis

Deacons: Rev. Winston Taylor, Rev. Gerard Calderon

Rev. Anthony Louis, Rev. Madison Stanislaus

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SUNDAY READINGS

First Reading

Mi.5:1-4

Second Reading

Heb.10:5-10

Gospel

Lk.1:39-45

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

12:30 & 6:00 p.m.:

Gros Islet

6:00 p.m. **G/Riviere**



THURSDAY

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

Gros Islet

6:00 p.m.: **Monchy**



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

7:00 a.m.: **Gros Islet**



Advent Reflection: *Behold the Handmaid of the Lord.*

The Fourth Sunday of Advent belongs to Mary. This is so because the celebration of the birth of Jesus of necessity involves the motherhood of Mary. Saluted as "full of grace" by the angel, she freely chooses to co-operate with God's plan, and our Savior was "conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit."

David sought to build a dwelling place, a temple for the Lord. Instead, it is the Lord who promises to establish a house, a legacy for him. It is Mary's yes that brings that legacy to its culmination, the birth of the Savior from the House of David. It is she who gives a home to the Son of God in her womb. God chooses to occupy the womb of the Blessed Virgin Mary in order to achieve His purposes, namely our salvation. Jesus has been made known, Paul says, to bring all nations to the obedience of faith. We are called with Mary to marvel at all that the Lord has done throughout the ages for our salvation. And we too must respond to this annunciation with humble obedience that His will be done, that our lives be lived according to His word.

(excerpt: alicetx.com/frsebastianvettath)
(excerpt: catholicwealdstone.org)

The Coming of the Light.

Christmas celebrates the dawn of the Light of the World. The powers of darkness are overcome by His coming to share our life. The long reign of sin is ended and grace has been poured out upon the earth. The Sun of Justice has arisen, and evil is vanquished.

Perhaps the hardest thing to remember about Christmas is that it celebrates the incarnation, not just the nativity. We do not really celebrate Christ's *birthday*, remembering something that happened long ago. We celebrate the stupendous fact of the incarnation, God entering our world so thoroughly that nothing has been the same since.

And God continues to take flesh in our midst, in all of us who form His body today. The birth we celebrate is not just the historical event but Christ's continuing birth in us, accomplished by the power of the Spirit through the waters of baptism.

What we celebrate is our redemption in Christ and the transformation of all creation by the presence of the divine in our midst.

(excerpt: applesseds.org/liturgytrainingprogramme)

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK

Nellie Hall
Martha Mason
Iris Macauldy
Denis Augustin
Bentley Jn. Baptiste

DECEASED

Magdalene Charles
Arthur Baptiste Sr.
Francis Christophe
Michael Gustave
Pauline Francois

WEEKDAY READINGS

MONDAY
Is.7:10-14
Lk.1:26-38
✠

TUESDAY
Sgs.2:8-14
Lk.1:39-45
✠

WEDNESDAY
1Sam.1:24-28
Lk.1:46-56
✠

THURSDAY
Mal.3:1-4,23-24
Lk.1:57-66
✠

FRIDAY
2Sam.7:1-5,8-12,14,16
Lk.1:67-79
✠

VIGIL
Is.9:1-7
Titus2:11-14
Lk. 2:1-14

SATURDAY
Is.52:7-10
Heb.1:1-6
Jn.1:1-18

MASS INTENTIONS		
GROS ISLET	CLERGY / RELIGIOUS	INTENTIONS
4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT -YEAR C		
Sat. Dec 18 - 6:00 p.m.		Thks: Perlin Verdant & family Nancy Joseph, Zoey Hinkson Sashla Regobert, Laurencia Cadette Wedd Ann: William & Suzette Dussiel
Sun. Dec 19 -7:30 a.m.		MISSA PRO POPULO
10:00 a.m.		Thks: Stellina Best & family Ronald & Marguerite Devaux Wedd Ann: Vimla & Kingsley St. Hill
Grande Riviere -7:30 am		Eucharistic Service
Monchy-10:00 am		Eucharistic Service
WEEKDAY MASS INTENTIONS		
Mon Dec 20 - 5:30 a.m.	Fr. Paul Vu	Int: Genette Gustave, Tova Verneuil B'day: Edna Hill, Chad & Jaden Sidoine
6:00 p.m.		B'day: Danny Jn. Baptiste
Tues Dec 21 - 5:30 a.m.	Rev. John Douglas Rev. Robert Harvey Rev. Anthony Louis	B'day: Peter Lewis, Noah Lesmond Vernette Brooks, Fedele Raphael Guid & Protec: Jose-Anne d'Auvergne
Wed Dec 22 - 5:30 a.m.	Fr. Cecil Goodman Rev. Thomas Alexander	IHO St. Joseph: Catherine Alexis & family Wedd Ann: Neil & Marie Ange Williams
6:00 p.m.		Healing: Andrea Duval Guid & Protec: Jose-Anne d'Auvergne
Thu Dec 23 - 5:30 a.m.	Msgr. Theophilus Joseph Fr. Linus Clovis Sr. Adinase Mumba	Thks: Jose-Anne d' Auvergne Althea & Ellen Regis
6:00 p.m.		Dc'd: Dwight Venner
Fri Dec 24 - 6:00 a.m.	Fr. Vincent Arulanandam Rev. Girard Glace Sr. Mary Muskosa	B'day: Darnell Boxill, Leone Gaetan Thks: Christine Glace-Fevrier
6:30 p.m. Vigil		MISSA PRO POPULO
Sat Dec 25 - 8.00 a.m. <i>Nativity of the Lord</i>	Fr. Henry Nmor Fr. Konrad Mair Fr. Kenneth Haakyav	Wedd Ann: Tony & Martha Sonson Winston & Clara Francois
Grande Riviere- 7:30 a.m.		Parishioners
Monchy– 10:00 a.m.		Parishioners