

The Son who was Sorry



Today's Gospel reading tells us about God's forgiveness. We are like the son who ran away and wasted all his money whenever we don't use our gifts or talents to serve God or others.

God is like the father in this story. He lets the younger son do whatever he wants, but he loves him even when he chooses to be bad. All he wants is for his son to come home and be sorry. He is ready and waiting to forgive the prodigal son.

God is waiting to forgive us too, in the sacrament of Confession. He wants us to be sorry for our sins and tell Him we are sorry so He can take them away.

Try to make sure you go to confession before Easter so your soul will be clean and ready for the great celebration!



www.thekidsbulletin.com

Consecration Prayer for Ukraine, Russia, to the Immaculate Heart of Mary

At this hour, a weary and distraught humanity stands with you. Therefore, O Mother, hear our prayer. Star of the Sea, do not let us be shipwrecked in the tempest of war. Ark of the New Covenant, inspire projects and paths of reconciliation.

Queen of Heaven, restore God's peace to the world. Eliminate hatred and the thirst for revenge, and teach us forgiveness. Free us from war, protect our world from the menace of nuclear weapons.

Queen of the Rosary, make us realize our need to pray and to love. Queen of the Human Family, show people the path of fraternity. Queen of Peace, obtain peace for our world.

O Mother, may your sorrowful plea stir our hardened hearts. May the tears you shed for us make this valley parched by our hatred blossom anew. Amid the thunder of weapons, may your prayer turn our thoughts to peace. May your maternal touch soothe those who suffer and flee from the rain of bombs. May your motherly embrace comfort those forced to leave their homes and their native land. May your Sorrowful Heart move us to compassion and inspire us to open our doors and to care for our brothers and sisters who are injured and cast aside. **Amen.** Hail Mary, full of grace.....

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

4TH SUNDAY OF LENT - 27TH MARCH 2022 - YEAR C

A Father's Forgiveness.

In the First Reading, God forgives the reproach of the generations who grumbled against Him after the Exodus. On the threshold of the promised land, Israel can with a clean heart celebrate the Passover, the feast of God's firstborn son. Reconciliation is also at the heart of the story Jesus tells in the Gospel. The story of the Prodigal Son is the story of Israel and of the human race. But it is also the story of every believer.

In Baptism, we're given a divine birthright, made "a new creation," as Paul puts it in the Epistle. But when we sin, we're like the Prodigal Son, quitting our Father's house, squandering our inheritance in trying to live without Him. Lost in sin, we cut ourselves off from the grace of sonship lavished upon us in Baptism. It is still possible for us to come to our senses and make our way back to the Father, as the prodigal does. But only He can remove the reproach and restore the divine sonship we have spurned. Only He can free us from the slavery to sin that causes us, like the Prodigal Son, to see God not as our Father but as our master, one we serve as slaves.

God wants not slaves but children. Like the father in today's Gospel, He longs to call each of us "My son," to share His life with us, to tell us: "all I have is yours."

The Father's words of longing and compassion still come to His prodigal children in the Sacrament of Penance. This is part of what Paul calls "the work of handing on his reconciliation" entrusted by Jesus to the Apostles and the Church. Reconciled like Israel, we take our place at the table of the Eucharist, the homecoming banquet the Father calls for His lost sons, the new Passover we celebrate this side of heaven. We taste the goodness of the Lord, as we sing in the Psalm, rejoicing that we who were dead are found alive again.

(excerpt: stpaulcentre.com)

SUNDAY READINGS

First Reading

Jos.5:9-12

Second Reading

2Cor.5:17-21

Gospel

Lk.15:1-3,11-32



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./6:00 p. m.



SUNDAY

Gros Islet/G. Riviere
7:30 A.M.

Gros Islet/Monchy

10:00 a.m.



HOLIDAY

Variable



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/grosisletchurch

Lenten Reflection - Reconciliation

Lent is a wonderful time to celebrate the reconciling love and healing graces our Lord offers us. Like all religious experiences, it takes preparation. Reconciliation is what God does. We prepare for it by opening ourselves up, by reflecting upon the areas of darkness in our lives into which God so deeply desires to shine a light.

It might begin with the simple question: where might God be offering me forgiveness and healing? If my answer is, "I don't know," then I have some reflection to do. I can examine my life - what I have done and what I have failed to do - and see what graces are offered me there.

If I've come through that era of saying that any guilt, anything that makes me feel bad about myself, is a bad thing, to be avoided at all costs, then I might have a difficult time coming to genuine sorrow for my sins. If this is the case, I need to work on my reflection, asking God to rouse a sense of embarrassment, leading to deep sorrow, for any way I may not have been faithful, honest, loving, selfless or generous in my relationship with God, with my family, with others.

God will always shine light into these important parts of our lives, to help us experience remorse and a genuine desire for forgiveness and healing. The point here is not ultimately to focus on ourselves. The focus is on God's reconciling, healing love. As John says, God showed his love for us when he sent his only Son into the world to give us life. Real love isn't our love for God, but God's love for us. God sent his Son to be the sacrifice by which our sins are forgiven.

It may be that I have experienced troubling guilt coming out of deep childhood trauma or a long-standing sense of shame This may plague my ability to feel good about myself and to be able to reflect upon my sins, the ways I fail at loving. I can still prepare for genuine reconciliation by preparing to better trust God's love for me, based upon two convictions. First, God's love is un-conditional - it is not conditioned on my being better, or my overcoming anything, or even my being good at all - God just loves me. Secondly, God knows everything, including what I'm struggling with or suffering under. It may be that my greatest sin, the place where I need the greatest sorrow and desire for forgiveness and healing, is my lack of trust in God's complete and unconditional love for me.

Even in a place I might be most embarrassed and feel most naked, God is loving me and offering me wholeness and joy.

(excerpt: onlineministries.creighton.edu)

PLEASE PRAY FOR	
THE SICK	
Nellie Hall Martha Mason Iris Macauldy Patsy Crafton Denis Augustin Carmen Lord	
DECEASED	
Dorista Anius Henri Arnaud Laurence Scott Nathan Timaitre Margaret Cadasse Karen McGowan	
WEEKDAY READINGS	
✠ MONDAY Is.65:17-21 Jn.4:43-54 ✠ TUESDAY Ez.47:1-9,12 Jn.5:1-3,5-16 ✠ WEDNESDAY Is.49:8-15 Jn.5:17-30 ✠ THURSDAY Ex.32:7-14 Jn.5:31-47 ✠ FRIDAY Wis.2:1,12-22 Jn.7:1-2,10,25-30 ✠ SATURDAY Jer.11:18-20 Jn.7:40-52 ✠	

MASS INTENTIONS		
GROS ISLET	CLERGY /RELIGIOUS	INTENTIONS
4TH SUNDAY OF LENT - YEAR C		
Sat Mar 26 - 6:00 p.m.		Thks: Patricia Charles Healing: Alex Blanchard B'day: Amelia Waters William Dussiel, Anselma O'Neil Jaylan Ferdinand, Cecilia Epiphane
Sun Mar 27 - 7:30 a.m.		MISSA PRO POPULO
10:00 a.m.		B'day: Michele Lesmond Rose & Fragrant Moise Wedd Ann: Agatha & Cajetan Danzie
Grande Riviere -7:30 a.m.		Thks: Catherine Augustin & family
Monchy - 10:00 a.m.		B'day: Joseph Evans, John Cherubin Annalisa Simon, Karim Joseph
WEEKDAY MASS INTENTIONS		
Mon Mar 28 - 6:00 a.m.	Fr. Barnabas Iorgilim Rev. Herald Wilson Rev. Gerard Calderon	B'day: Clita Auguste, Arrienne Augier
12:30 p.m.		Healing: Helena Heath Thks: Francisca Jean Deliv: Anthony Jean
6:00 p.m.		Lenten Retreat
Tues Mar 29 - 6:00 a.m.	Rev. David Popo Rev. Peter Fevrier	B'day: David Louis, Mary Jacob Guid & Protec: Jeanmal Morris
Wed Mar 30 - 6:00 a.m.	Rev. Winston Taylor Sr. Mary Mumba Sr. Margaret Maynard	Dc'd: Raymond family, Leon Edward
12:30 p.m.		B'day: Geneva Eugene, Althea Regis
Grande Riviere - 6:00 p.m.		Lenten Retreat
Thu Mar 31 - 6:00 a.m.	Fr. Cleophus Joseph Fr. Ignatius Cetoute Sr. Marie Therese Clement	B'day: Glenda James Myers
12:30 p.m.		Thks: Anthony Louis
Monchy - 6:00 p.m.		Lenten Retreat
Fri April 1 - 6:00 a.m.	Fr. Athanase Joseph Fr. Philomin Zacharias Fr. Celestine Nwakwuo	Dc'd: Krystal Felix Letitia & Albert Laurent
12:30 p.m.		Guid & Protec: Virginia d'Auvergne & family
Sat April 2 - 6:30 a.m.	Fr. Stephen Quinlan	Dc'd: Joseph Jamison, Unborn Souls Stephen Macauldy, Cherricia Angel