

# Spending Time with God

In today's Gospel reading, Our Lord went to Simon and Andrew's house, where He spent the evening healing the sick and casting out demons. But early the next morning before the sun came up He went away into the wilderness to pray.

At first we wonder why Jesus would have to pray- He is God, after all! But He was also human so He needed to take some time to be with His Heavenly Father. And that is what real praying is- it's being with God and talking to Him and listening to Him.

Like Jesus, we also need to spend time with God. Even if we are always doing His work, like helping people or studying His truths, we still need to take some time to talk with Our Father in Heaven. Starting today, take a few minutes every day to go to a quiet place and talk with God.

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.

## Prayer to St. Joseph

*Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer,  
spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.  
To you God entrusted his only Son;  
in you Mary placed her trust;  
with you Christ became man.*

*Blessed Joseph, to us too,  
show yourself a father  
and guide us in the path of life.  
Obtain for us grace, mercy, and courage,  
and defend us from every evil.  
Amen.*



## 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.



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

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

# VISION 2020-DISCIPLES ON MISSION

5TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - 7TH FEB 2021 - YEAR B

*Raised to Serve.*

In today's First Reading, Job describes the futility of life before Christ. His lament reminds us of the curse of toil and death placed upon Adam following his original sin. Men and women are like slaves seeking shade, unable to find rest. Their lives are like the wind that comes and goes. But, as we sing in the Psalm, He who created the stars promised to heal the brokenhearted and gather those lost in exile from Him. We see this promise fulfilled in today's Gospel. Simon's mother-in-law is like Job's toiling, hopeless humanity. She is laid low by affliction but too weak to save herself. But as God promised to take His chosen people by the hand, Jesus grasps her by the hand and helps her up. The word translated "help" is actually Greek for "raising up." The same verb is used when Jesus commands a dead girl to arise. It's used again to describe His own resurrection. What Jesus has done for Simon's mother-in-law, He has done for all humanity - raised all of us who lay dead through our sins.

Notice all the words of totality and completeness in the Gospel. The *whole* town gathers; *all* the sick are brought to Him. He drives out demons in the *whole* of Galilee. *Everyone* is looking for Christ. We too have found Him. By our baptism, He healed and raised us to live in His presence.

Like Simon's mother-in-law, there is only one way we can thank Him for the new life He has given us. We must rise to serve Him and His gospel. Our lives must be our thanksgiving, as Paul describes in the Epistle. We must tell everyone the good news, the purpose for which Jesus has come - that others, too, may have a share in this salvation.

(excerpt: stpaulcenter.com)

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## SUNDAY READINGS

**First Reading**  
Job.7:1-4,6-7

**Second Reading**  
1Cor.9:16-19,22-23

**Gospel**  
Mk.1:29-39

## MASS TIMES

**GROS ISLET**  
Morning Prayers:  
5:45a.m.

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

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**TUESDAY**  
6:00 a.m.

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

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

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

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**SATURDAY**  
6:30 a.m./6:00 p. m.

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

**Gros Islet/Monchy**  
10:00 a.m.

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**HOLIDAY**  
7:00 a.m.

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**St. Joseph: “With a Father’s Heart” (cont’d.)**

*A father “in the shadows,” centered on Mary and Jesus:*

Taking a cue from *The Shadow of the Father*, a book by Polish writer Jan Dobraczyński , Pope Francis describes Joseph’s fatherhood of Jesus as “the earthly shadow of the heavenly Father.”

“Fathers are not born, but made,” says Pope Francis. “A man does not become a father simply by bringing a child into the world, but by taking up the responsibility to care for that child.” Unfortunately, in today’s society, children “often seem orphans, lacking fathers” who are able to introduce them “to life and reality.” Children, the Pope says, need fathers who will not try to dominate them, but instead raise them to be “capable of deciding for themselves, enjoying freedom and exploring new possibilities.”

This is the sense in which St Joseph is described as a “most chaste” father, which is the opposite of domineering possessiveness. Joseph, says Pope Francis, “knew how to love with extraordinary freedom. He never made himself the centre of things. He did not think of himself, but focused instead on the lives of Mary and Jesus.”

Happiness for Joseph involved a true gift of self: “In him, we never see frustration, but only trust,” writes Pope Francis. “His patient silence was the prelude to concrete expressions of trust.” Joseph stands out, therefore, as an exemplary figure for our time, in a world that “needs /-- fathers,” and not “tyrants”; a society that “rejects those who confuse authority with authoritarianism, service with servility, discussion with oppression, charity with a welfare mentality, power with destruction.”

True fathers, instead, “refuse to live the lives of their children for them,” and instead respect their freedom. In this sense, says Pope Francis, a father realizes that “he is most a father and an educator at the point when he becomes ‘useless,’ when he sees that his child has become independent and can walk the paths of life unaccompanied.” Being a father, the Pope emphasizes, “has nothing to do with possession, but is rather a ‘sign’ pointing to a greater fatherhood”: that of the “heavenly Father” .

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PLEASE PRAY FOR	
THE SICK	
Iris Macauldy Mary Alexander Martha Mason Rosna Joseph Nellie Hall	
DECEASED	
Priscillia Henry Florence Casimir James Clarke Marie Christophe Patricia Gajadhar Vincentia Victor Magdalena Lawrence	
WEEKDAY READINGS	
✠ <b>MONDAY</b> Gen.1:1-19 Mk.6:53-56 ✠ <b>TUESDAY</b> Gen.1:20--2:4 Mk.7:1-13 ✠ <b>WEDNESDAY</b> Gen.2:4-9,15-17 Mk.7:14-23 ✠ <b>THURSDAY</b> Gen.2:18-25 Mk.7:24-30 ✠ <b>FRIDAY</b> Gen.3:1-8 Mk.7:31-37 ✠ <b>SATURDAY</b> Gen.3:9-24 Mk.8:1-10 ✠	

MASS INTENTIONS		
GROS ISLET	CLERGY/RELIGIOUS	INTENTIONS
5TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR B		
Sat Feb 6 - 5:00 p.m.		<b>Thks:</b> The Destang family Alghitha Richelieu & family The Leslie family, Marcia Haywood <b>Int:</b> Charmaine Blanchard-Johnson
Sun Feb 7 - 7:30 a.m.		<b>MISSA PRO POPULO</b>
10:00 a.m.		<b>B'day:</b> Emy Mason <b>Guid:</b> The Jn Marie family
Grande Riviere - 7:30 a.m.		<b>Eucharistic Service</b>
Monchy - 10:00 a.m.		<b>Eucharistic Service</b>
WEEKDAY MASS INTENTIONS		
Mon Feb 8 - 6:00 a.m.	Fr. Albert Smith Mother Rosaria Joseph Sr. Christine Alphonse	<b>Thks:</b> Bernitha Clery
12:30 p.m.		<b>B'day:</b> J' san Toussaint, Deryn Leslie Deezya Sidoine, Lorraine Tuttlefield
Tue Feb 9 - 6:00 a.m.	Fr. Cezar Herrera Fr. Amalraj Penigilipadi Sr. Giovanna Mabunda	<b>Dc'd:</b> Charlesia & Edwin Montoute Members of the Montoute family
Wed Feb 10 - 6:00 a.m. <i>St. Scholastica, Virgin</i>	Fr. Will Howard Rev. Andrew Edward Sr. Ramona George	<b>B'day:</b> Tamara Richard
12:30 p.m.		<b>Dc'd:</b> Rosa Glace Samuel Brookes, Frances Auguste Gabriel, Cuthbert & Herbert Lubin
Grand Riviere - 6:00 p.m.		<b>Parishioners</b>
Thu Feb 11 - 6:00 a.m.	Sr. Benedicta Chanda Sr. Petronilla Banda Sr. Scholastica Felician	<b>Thks:</b> Diane & Richard Palton & family
12:30 p.m.		<b>Thks:</b> The Regobert & Cadette families
Monchy - 6:00 p.m.		<b>Parishioners</b>
Fri Feb 12 - 6:00 a.m.	Rev. Arnold Clouden Rev. Wilfred Harris Rev. Marcellus Serieux	<b>Int:</b> Bernadette Pamphile
12:30 p.m.		<b>B'day:</b> Keryl St Helene <b>IHO St. Gerard Majella:</b> Jana Toussaint
Sat Feb 13 - 6:30 a.m. <i>BVM</i>	Rev. Vincent Norbert Rev. Anthony Pierre Rev. Madison Stanislaus	<b>Dc'd:</b> Louise Medford Holy Souls, Unborn Souls