



Holy Family Cathedral Parish

Holy Family Cathedral
Michael's Mount

St. Martin de Porres
Parham

St. Anthony's
Potters

St. Francis of Assisi
Villa

Good Samaritan
Donovans



P.O. Box 16, St. John's Antigua ♦ Email - hfc.antigua@gmail.com ♦ Phone 268 560-2693 ♦ 268 461-1127
"Word and Sacrament"

2nd SUNDAY OF EASTER—DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY 7th APRIL, 2024 - B

THE CATHEDRAL BOOK STORE IS LOCATED IN THE PASTORAL CENTRE.



PASTORAL PROGRAM AT HOLY FAMILY CATHEDRAL PARISH

FEEDING PROGRAM - for the Shut-Ins and the Elderly, is ongoing-

Donations to support these programs are welcome. Please write to the Administrator, Holy Family Cathedral P. O. Box 16 or Michael's Mount, St. John's, Antigua.

Today is Divine Mercy Sunday at 3:00 pm at Holy Family Cathedral there will be the celebration of the **Hour of Great Mercy**.

All are Invited.

ACIES 2024

The main function of the Legion of Mary called Acies, will be held on April 8, day of the Solemnity of the Annunciation.

All active and auxiliary members are invited to renew their consecration to Mary at the Mass at 6 pm.

The entire community is invited to join us.

The Funeral Service for Ms. Gwendolyn "Kitty" Joseph will be held on Wednesday 10th April at 2:00 pm at Holy Family Cathedral.

May her soul rest in peace.

ALL CATECHETICAL SESSIONS resume this week starting with Sunday School after Mass today.

THANK YOU!! The Catechetical, Youth & Ministry and the Pontifical Missionary Society (PMS) say a heartfelt thank you to the children, young people, parents, and parishioners who contributed food items and toiletries towards the Lenten Pantry Drive which provided food packages to shut-ins, needy families and individuals. May the Lord continue to bless you abundantly as you blessed others.

Holy Family Cathedral Parish presents **PENTECOST SUNDAY** with a difference. Pentecost will be celebrated on Sunday 19th May, 2024 from 11:00 am in the upper car park of the Cathedral grounds. Entertainment, Food and Fun.

St Joseph's Academy's Entrance Exam & Interviews

Application Forms for students wishing to enter **Forms 1 – 4** are now available at the school's office. Office hours are from 8:00 am – 2:00 pm. The final date for submitting applications for **Form 1** students is **Thursday, May 9**.

The exam for students wishing to enter **Form 1** will be held on **Saturday, May 11**, beginning at 8:00 am.

Interviews for students wishing to enter **Forms 2 – 4** will begin on **Monday, June 10, 2024**



LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION
31st March, 2024

	1st	2nd
Cathedral Easter Vigil	\$3,843.19	\$ xxx
Sunday	7:00 am \$ xxx	9:00 am \$ xxx
Potters	\$ 873.40	\$ 183.40
Parham	\$ 824.45	\$ 270.00
Villa	\$1,682.12	\$ 520.92
Donovans	\$ xxx	\$ xxx
Diocesan Schools	\$ 60.00	
Holy Thursday	\$3,117.29	
Holy Land/Good Friday	\$4,862.81	

Thank you for your generosity



The Prayer of the Synod Adsumus Sancte Spiritus

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.

PRAYER FOR THE SICK & SHUT-INS :

Dear Jesus, Divine Physician and Healer of the sick, we turn to you in this time of illness. O dearest comforter of the troubled, alleviate our worry and sorrow with your gentle love, and grant us the grace and strength to accept this burden. Dear God, we place our worries in your hands. **We place our sick under your care and humbly ask that you restore your servant to health again.** Amen.

Gillian Howie, Nelister Sebastian, Catherine Durand, Dion Thomas, Georgina-Glave-Toussaint, Catherine DeTouche, Edward Lewis, David Morris, Gweneth Bryan, Shanla Carr, Arnold Gomes, Auchland Jarvis, Jean James, Conrad Looby, Cecelia John, Justin Joseph, Carmen Ambrose, Tyler Lockhart., Joan Underwood, Cosmas Rowe, Andrea Brown, Latoya Edmun-Joseph, Rose Margetson, Niethia Dyier, Patrick Skerritt, Victor Charles. Junie Browne.

Lectio Divina

READ: On the evening of the first day after the Sabbath, the disciples were in a locked room. They feared the Jews. Jesus stood in their midst. He gave them his peace twice. Then Jesus sent his disciples while breathing on them the Holy Spirit. Thomas was not with them. After eight days, they were again together and Thomas was with them. Jesus again gave them his peace. Jesus asked Thomas to put his finger into Jesus' hands and touch his side, inviting Thomas to believe. Thomas professed, saying "My Lord and my God!"

REFLECT: Today is the last day of the Easter Octave. This day is also known as Divine Mercy Sunday. We ponder on God's mercy and compassion. Jesus' giving of peace to his disciples who abandoned him during his passion and death indicates God's overflowing and immeasurable mercy. Despite the disciples' abandonment, Jesus offered them his peace. The sense of peace or shalom which Jesus gives entails not only the absence of conflict but includes all the blessings a person may receive from God. We may reflect that what enabled Thomas to make a profession of faith was not merely the invitation that Thomas would touch Jesus but the shalom that Thomas received when Jesus appeared in their midst. Thomas must have profoundly felt Jesus' forgiveness. He must have felt the touch of the Divine Mercy.

PRAY: Let us pray that the Divine Mercy may keep touching our hearts.

ACT: Let us sincerely forgive somebody who hurt us.

St. John's Catholic Primary School is pleased to announce that registration is open for the period of March 15th to May 15th 2024. We are accepting preschool and primary school students, ages two and a half to eleven years old. Application forms can be collected from the school's office from 8am – 12pm daily, or can be emailed to you. To receive the form via email, please send a request email to sjcpsprimary@gmail.com, **Subject – Preschool Application Form or Primary School Application Form.**

To complete the application process, you will need copies of your child's:

- Birth certificate
- Baptismal certificate where applicable
- Health and immunization card
- Recent school report or transcript
- A passport size picture
- \$120 registration fee
- Completed application form

We are looking forward to welcoming you to our SJCPS family.

YOUTH LEADERSHIP TRAINING for Young Adults & Adults

Are you interested in being trained for the Youth Leadership Ministry? You are invited to register for the ONE Day Workshop to be held on April 25th from 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. at St. Lwanga Youth Center, Stapleton Lane. Please register your interest by sending an email to catechetichfc@gmail.com or whatsapp **773-6833** on or before April 10th, 2024.

This training is a collaborative initiative with the Catechetical & Youth Ministry and the visiting Youth team from Trinidad, Grenada and Anguilla who will be on island for the Confirmation Retreat Weekend at Mount Tabor.

This Sunday's Readings

7th April, 2024

First Reading: 4:32-35

Responsorial Psalm: Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.

Second Reading: 1 John 5: 1-6

Gospel: John 20: 19-31

Readings for Monday to Saturday

Monday 8th April

Isaiah 7: 10-14; 8:10

Hebrews 10: 4-10

Psalm 40: 7-11

Luke 1: 26-38

Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord

Tuesday 9th April

Acts 4: 32-37

Psalm 93: 1-2, 5

John 3: 7-15

Wednesday 10th April

Acts 5: 17-26

Psalm 34: 2-9

John 3: 16-21

Thursday 11th April

Acts 5: 27-33

Psalm 34: 2, 9, 17-18, 19-20

John 3: 31-36

St. Stanislaus, bishop & martyr

Friday 12th April

Acts 5: 34-42

Psalm 27: 1, 4, 13-14

John 6: 1-15

Saturday 13th April

Acts 6: 1-7

Psalm 33: 1-2, 4-5, 18-19

John 6: 16-21

St. Martin 1, pope & martyr

WHAT THE FIRST READING SAYS TO ME

We learn from this reading that besides communal life the early Jerusalem Church devoted itself to the teachings of the apostles (the Hebrew Bible and the way Jesus had interpreted it by word and example), the breaking of the bread ("agape"-daily meal with a distinctly sacred character, the Eucharist in its earliest form), and the prayers (participating in the prayers of the Jewish temple).

Sharing "all things in common" was done in the Jerusalem Church for at least some time. This is not a universal law for all Christians. The point for us is their fellowship, which we should all practice.

WHAT THE SECOND READING SAYS TO ME

This reading is taken from the First Letter of Peter which is probably a homily (sermon) given on the occasion of a baptismal ceremony. Notice how the homilist relates our rebirth through baptism to the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Christian rebirth from water and Spirit is a birth to hope to an imperishable inheritance. It is all for you "who by the power of God are safeguarded through faith." Although you have never seen the Lord Jesus, you love him, and without seeing you believe in him. A well-known Baptist preacher of Harlem used to say: "Keep the faith, baby!" This is a folksy way of saying it. But the underlying concern must be ours, and it should be done in fellowship with others!

WHAT THE GOSPEL SAYS TO ME

The Second Reading has made the point that without seeing him Christians believe in Jesus. By relating the well-known tradition concerning the unbelieving Thomas, the writer of John wants to shed further light on this point. He indicates that even seeing, as Thomas did, is no guarantee of faith. Faith comes by hearing the word of the risen Lord who addresses Thomas personally.

Christianity knows the golden rule: Faith comes from hearing. It is God, personally addressing you in an "I-Thou" situation! This intangible situation can never be fully explained just as we cannot explain what exactly happens when someone falls in love! Respond when the Lord says: "Shalom-peace" to you in any situation of your life and keep that faith alive!

KNOW YOUR CHURCH

The pope's problem with today's seminarians and young priests
If surveys and anecdotal evidence are correct, the younger generation of Catholic clerics are not fond of Pope Francis, which could hinder implementation of his reforms going forward.

He's warned Catholic seminaries against the tendency to turn future priests into "little monsters". He's scolded the Church's presbyters for wearing ornate liturgical vestments that stem from a bygone era, telling them to stop dressing up in "granny's lace". And he's called it a "scandal" to see young priests and seminarians going into the ecclesiastical tailor shops of Rome and "trying on cassocks and hats, or lacey albs".

This is all part of Pope Francis venting his aversion to clericalism. He has denounced it over and over again in his eleven years as Bishop of Rome, identifying it as a "scourge" and "plague" that wounds the Church and its members. Railing against clericalism has been a mantra throughout his entire pontificate.

"The holy, faithful People of God go forward patiently and humbly, enduring the scorn, mistreatment and marginalization of institutionalized clericalism," he said last October during the Synod assembly on synodality. "How naturally we speak of the princes of the Church, or of episcopal promotions as getting ahead career-wise!" Indeed.

Institutionalized clericalism

The pope is right to point out that clericalism is ingrained in the very institution of the Church. It is a deeply-rooted mentality and ethos that is, without a doubt, most often identified in ecclesiastical ambition, certain forms of dress, and the language clerics and even many lay people tend to use. But these are only symptoms, perhaps, of a much deeper and more fundamental problem. It is this: the idea, drilled into the heads of seminarians and priests over the centuries, that they are special. They are chosen ones. They are men "set apart", as some of the classic Catholic literature and manuals define those men who feel they have a vocation to the "holy priesthood".

"You are my Lord and my God."





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