



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

"All Mankind Shall See the Salvation of God"

2nd SUNDAY OF ADVENT - 8th DECEMBER, 2024 - C

**THE CATHEDRAL BOOK STORE IS
LOCATED IN THE PASTORAL
CENTRE.**



Weekday Mass Schedule

Monday

Holy Family Cathedral 6:00pm

Tuesday

Holy Family Cathedral 6:00 am

St. Anthony's Potters 6:00pm

Wednesday

St. Francis of Assisi, Villa 6:00pm

Holy Family Cathedral 6:00pm

Thursday

Holy Family Cathedral 6:00 am

St. Francis of Assisi, Villa 6:00pm

Friday

Holy Family Cathedral 12:15 noon

Saturday

Holy Family Cathedral 8:00am

Bible diaries and Gospels are Now available at the Pastoral Centre.

The 2025 Diocesan Liturgical Calendars are available for sale at the weekend Masses

On Monday 9th December we will celebrate the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. It is a day of obligation for all Catholics. Mass will be celebrated at **8:00 am**.

On Thursday 12th December, we celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe. On this day there will be an ordination Mass for Mr. Churchill Norbert. He will be ordained to the Order of Permanent Diaconate at 6:00 pm. All are invited.

St. Joseph's Academy's Christmas Carol Service will be held on **Friday 13th December, 2024** at Holy Family Cathedral, Michael's Mount from **5:00 pm**. There will be readings, carols, Caribbean Christmas songs, dancing and steelpan music. Keep Jesus in Your Heart this Yuletide Season!

The Advent Novena will begin on Monday 16th December at 5:00 am at Holy Family Cathedral and at **5:30 am** at St Francis of Assisi, Villa.

Masses for Christmas

Christmas Eve Mass

Holy Family Cathedral Vigil - **7 pm**

Mass at **11 pm**. Carol Service begins at **10:30pm**.

Christmas Day Mass

Holy Family Cathedral—**9 am**

Donovans & Parham—**9 am**

Villa and Potters - **11 am**.

All are invited to Christ the King High School's Annual Carol Service on Tuesday **10th December, 2024 at 5:00 p.m.** at **Holy Family Cathedral**. Come and experience the joy of the season with us. Let us gather to proclaim the good news: Christ the Savior is born!

The annual **CHRISTMAS DINNER** will be held on **Saturday 14th December 2024** on Holy Family Cathedral grounds from 6:30 pm to 9:30pm. It will be an evening with a difference: **BINGO, ENTERTAINMENT**, lots to eat and drink. For the success of this parish fundraiser, all parishioners are invited to be part of this event through your monetary contribution which will assist with the pre-planning. For ease and convenience, contributions can be sent via the following:

1. CHRISTMAS DINNER ENVELOPES
2. For ACB Customers that wish to do Peer to Peer (ACB TO ACB)
Account # 972-103-142-6
3. For Customers that wish to do EFT Electronic Funds Transfer (from another bank to ACB
Name of Account: Bishop of St John's Basseterre
Type of Account: Chequing
Account # 972-103-142-6
Routing # 001320695
4. Cheques or cash can be brought to the Pastoral Centre.
Cheques are to be made payable to Holy Family Cathedral.

TICKETS COST \$50.00 and can be purchased from Mr. Gilbert Laudat at HFC, from Shyka Hannays & Jennifer Warrington on Saturday night, from Deacon Pershing Waldron Jr, from Efiah Norbert and Bella (Joanna Esprit) at Villa, Beverly Bedneau at Potters, Helen Raguette at Parham, Roxanne Joseph, Patricia Collins

Please return your Christmas Dinner Envelopes NOW.

On behalf of the CKHS Board and the Organizing Committee, we extend our sincere gratitude for your prayers, support, and contributions to the Gala Dinner, which marked a successful conclusion to our 90th-anniversary celebration. We deeply appreciate each and every one of you and your contributions to such a wonderful evening. May God bless you.

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION 1st December, 2024

Cathedral	1st	2nd
Saturday	\$1,342.34	\$ 540.67
Sunday 7:00 am	\$1,47.93	\$ 249.16
9:00 am	\$1,978.70	\$ 340.34
Out Stations		
Potters	\$ 351.35	\$ 177.50
Parham	\$ 231.03	\$ 231.42
Villa	\$ 668.32	\$ 269.95
Diocesan Schools	\$ 135.00	

Thank you for your generosity

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, Catherine Durand, Georgina-Glave-Toussaint, Catherine DeTouche, Edward Lewis, Gweneth Bryan, Shanla Carr, Arnold Gomes, Jean James, Conrad Looby, Cecelia John, Justin Joseph, Carmen Ambrose, Tyler Lockhart, Joan Underwood, Cosmas Rowe, Andrea Brown, Rose Margetson, Niethia Dyier, Victor Charles, Junie Browne, Cheralyn Beazer, Jean Mathurin, Yvonne Watkins.

Catholic Radio 89.7 FM is a listener-supported, non-profit radio ministry. With your support, we are able to broadcast the Gospel message over the airwaves and change people's lives, while also serving as a source of comfort and encouragement for many more. We need your help in keeping this vital ministry going. Please consider giving a regular financial gift to keep Catholic Radio on the airwaves. Gifts of any amount are critical to Catholic Radio's future.

How can you give?

- 1) Place your gift in an envelope marked "Catholic Radio" and drop it in your offering basket
- 2) Donations may be dropped off at Holy Family Cathedral Pastoral Centre or the Chancery Office.
- 3) Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT):
Account Name: Bishop of St. John's-Baseterre
(a) **Account Name:** Bishop of St. John's-Baseterre
(b) **Account Type:** Chequing
(c) **Account Number:** 311 213
(d) **EFT Routing Number:** 000000712
(e) **Bank:** ECAB

You may also contact Mr. Ashworth Azille - at 268-782-2438 or Mrs. Morvette Thomas - at 268-464-6833.

May God continue to bless your generosity.

GIVE HOPE PROJECT: During the Pandemic, the Catechetical and Youth Ministry introduced the Give Hope project where we provided food packages and breakfast to over 50 families in the nearby community. We have continued the distribution of food packages during the Food pantry drives from your contribution of food items. As we continue our missionary work, we are inviting the community to assist with our gift drive this year. Needed: gifts/toys for children 6 months to 12 years. Thank you for assisting us in Giving Hope to those in need.

JUBILEE YEAR 2025 – Pilgrim of Hope

"Hope does not disappoint" (Rom 5:5)

What is a Jubilee Year?

In the Catholic Church, a Jubilee or Holy Year is a special year of forgiveness and reconciliation, in which people are invited to come back into right relationship with God, with one another, and with all of creation.

How often is a Jubilee Year?

A Jubilee Year is celebrated by the Church every 25 years. This has been the case since 1470, when Pope Paul II changed it from every 50 years. A Pope can also proclaim an Extraordinary Jubilee, like the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy which Pope Francis inaugurated in 2015.

What is the theme of the Jubilee Year in 2025?

The theme is **Pilgrims of Hope**. Pope Francis has invited Catholics to renew our hope and discover a vision that can "restore access to the fruits of the earth to everyone". We are also invited to rediscover a spirituality of God's creation in which we understand ourselves as "pilgrims on the earth" rather than masters of the worlds.

When does the Jubilee Year start and finish?

The 2025 Jubilee Year begins on Christmas Eve 2024 and concludes on 6 January 2026.

What do Catholics do during a Jubilee Year?

The Jubilee Year is an opportunity to respond to God's call to turn to him and to pursue justice. The Jubilee Year will offer the faithful opportunities to participate in various jubilee events at the Vatican and in their own dioceses. For pilgrims who cannot travel to Rome, bishops around the world are expected to designate their cathedrals or a popular Catholic shrine as special places of prayer for Holy Year pilgrims, offering opportunities for reconciliation, indulgences and other events intended to strengthen and revive faith.

(Stay tuned for more information on how the Diocese will be celebrating the Jubilee Year)

Beginning Advent:



What are the key first steps to enter into Advent?

We can all slow down. We can all breathe more deeply. We can all begin to trust that this will be a blessed time. Then, when we let ourselves be who we are, and hear the Scriptures, we can begin to quietly pray, "Come, Lord, Jesus." We might expand that prayer, in quiet moments of our days ahead, "Come into my life. I trust you don't mind if it is still messy. I believe you love me, because I need your love. I don't fear you can't find the way to my heart. Come and fill me with peace and the love only you can give." Some of us will want to open our hands on our laps or hold up our arms in the privacy of our rooms and say out loud, "Come, Lord, Jesus, come into this house, into my family, into our struggles. Come and heal us, and give us joy again. Come and unite us and let us experience, each in our own way, a bit of the joy you are offering me now." And, before a single decoration goes up, we have prepared for Christmas' message with the foundation of faith, with the mystery of Advent's gift. God wants to be with us. Advent is letting God's will be done in our hearts and in our everyday lives.

Taken from Praying Advent, on Creighton University's Online Ministries

Applications are invited from suitably qualified professionals to fill the position of Biology and Chemistry teacher at the Christ the King High School. Cover letter and CV should be submitted to christtheking268@gmail.com.

Deadline for submission is **Friday 13th December, 2024.**

This Sunday's Readings

First Reading

Baruch 5: 1-9

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 126: 1-6

Second Reading

Philippians 1: 4-6, 8-11

Gospel

Luke 3: 1-6

"Prepare the way of the Lord; make his path straight!"



Readings for Monday to Saturday

Monday 9th December

Genesis 3: 9-15, 20

Psalm 98: 1-4

Ephesians 1:3-6, 11-12

Luke 1: 26-38

*Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception
of the Blessed Virgin Mary*

Tuesday 10th December

Isaiah 40: 1-11

Psalm 96: 1-3 & 10-13

Matthew 18: 12-14

Wednesday 11th December

Isaiah 40: 25-31

Psalm 103: 1-4, 8 & 10

Matthew 11: 28-30

St. Damas'us I, pope

Thursday 12th December

Zechariah 2:14-17 Or

Revelation 11: 19; 12: 1-6, 10

Jdt 13:18-19

Luke 1: 26-38 or Luke 1: 39-47

Our Lady of Guadalupe

Friday 13th December

Isaiah 48: 17-19

Psalm 1: 1-4 & 6

Matthew 11: 16-19

St. Lucy, virgin & martyr

Saturday 14th December

Sirach 48: 1-4, 9-11

Psalm 80: 2 & 3, 15-16, 18-19

Matthew 17: 9-13

St. John of the Cross, priest & doctor

WHAT THE FIRST READING SAYS TO ME

The writer of the Book of Baruch actually lived during the 2nd or 3rd century B.C. However, he made use of a fictitious setting: the Babylonian exile from which the people were delivered, in order to get his message across to the Jews who were in Egypt at this time. Life in the big cities was not easy for the Jewish minority groups. In enthusiastic and poetic language, the sacred author encourages his fellow faithful: "God will show all the earth your splendor."

He sets forth a prophetic vision that we can easily apply to ourselves. "Jerusalem," the capital of Israel, stands for God's people, you and me. We should "look to the east," toward the rising sun, which in the Christian tradition signifies Christ, the light of the world. The message of Advent is faith in a better future. Christ will come. With this in mind, let us make the Responsorial Psalm our Advent prayer of hope.

WHAT THE SECOND READING SAYS TO ME

Paul writes about "the day of Christ Jesus." It is the day of Christ's coming. In waiting for his coming, Christians must "learn to discern what is of value." What is the priority of your values? During Advent we prepare for the Lord's coming at Christmas and his final coming to each of us. Could you explain your priorities if the Lord were to call you right now?

WHAT THE GOSPEL SAYS TO ME

Luke relates John the Baptist's call to be a prophet, i.e., God's mouthpiece or spokesman. In God's name, he is to deliver a message of repentance. Change in attitude is necessary to make ready the way of the Lord. Later, Jesus himself will inaugurate his mission with a call for repentance (Mk 1:15). John was committed to his task. He did not preach only what people wanted to hear. He openly rebuked King Herod for wrongfully living with his brother's wife and this zeal for God's law cost him his life (Mk 6:14ff). Calculating persons would say: "He should have been more careful!" But men like John with their great visions and enthusiastic commitment have changed the world!

Do you consider "commitment" as a value? It does not mean that you should give up planning. We need both the calculations of the computer and the commitment of the prophets! While waiting for Christ and his ideals to spread throughout the world, we should seek creative participation in his mission. John prepared for Christ's mission. We should continue it, so that all mankind will "see the salvation of God."

Saint of the Day - 9th December 2024

The Story of the Immaculate Conception of Mary

A feast called the Conception of Mary arose in the Eastern Church in the seventh century. It came to the West in the eighth century. In the 11th century it received its present name, the Immaculate Conception. In the 18th century it became a feast of the universal Church. It is now recognized as a solemnity.

In 1854, Pius IX solemnly proclaimed: "The most Blessed Virgin Mary, in the first instant of her conception, by a singular grace and privilege granted by almighty God, in view of the merits of Jesus Christ, the savior of the human race, was preserved free from all stain of original sin."

It took a long time for this doctrine to develop. While many Fathers and Doctors of the Church considered Mary the greatest and holiest of the saints, they often had difficulty in seeing Mary as sinless—either at her conception or throughout her life. This is one of the Church teachings that arose more from the piety of the faithful than from the insights of brilliant theologians. Even such champions of Mary as Bernard of Clairvaux and Thomas Aquinas could not see theological justification for this teaching.

Two Franciscans, William of Ware and Blessed John Duns Scotus, helped develop the theology. They pointed out that Mary's Immaculate Conception enhances Jesus' redemptive work. Other members of the human race are cleansed from original sin after birth. In Mary, Jesus' work was so powerful as to prevent original sin at the outset.

Reflection

In Luke 1:28 the angel Gabriel, speaking on God's behalf, addresses Mary as "full of grace" or "highly favored". In that context, this phrase means that Mary is receiving all the special divine help necessary for the task ahead. However, the Church grows in understanding with the help of the Holy Spirit. The Spirit led the Church, especially non-theologians, to the insight that Mary had to be the most perfect work of God next to the Incarnation. Or rather, Mary's intimate association with the Incarnation called for the special involvement of God in Mary's whole life.



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EXOTIC ANTIGUA -2024 December Christmas Schedule

9th—(9am to 6pm) | 15th, 22nd & 29th—(9am to 4pm)
19th, 20th & 21st—(9am-6pm)
23rd, 24th—(9am-7pm) | 30th & 31st—(9am-6pm)
Days Closed—25th, 26th & JAN 1st

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