



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

"If God is for Us, Who Can Be Against Us?"

2nd SUNDAY OF LENT - 25th FEBRUARY, 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.

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION 18th February, 2024

	1st	2nd
Cathedral Saturday	\$2,025.00	\$ 720.45
Sunday 7:00 am	\$1,448.84	\$ 371.00
9:00 am	\$2,412.73	\$ 753.87
Potters	\$ 515.50	\$155.50
Parham	\$1,328.45	\$174.00
Villa	\$ 796.79	\$121.49
Donovans	\$ 303.00	\$ 245.00
Diocesan Schools	\$ 205.00	

Thank you for your generosity

BANNS

There is a promise of marriage between Andrew Salomon Doumith and Christina Mary Bitar. Anyone knowing of any reason why this couple should not be married in the Catholic Church should contact one of the priests.

Stations of the Cross continues on Friday 1st March, 2024 at 7:00 pm at Holy Family Cathedral.

Parish Lenten Mission will be from the 11th to 14th March at 7:00 pm . The theme is 'A Synodal church and a parish response.' The preacher is Msgr. Patrick Anthony (PABA) from St. Lucia. All are invited to attend.

LENTEN BIBLE SESSION with Fr. Jean Paul and Fr. Wacuma - February 28, March 6 & 13 - 6:45 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. at the Pastoral Centre. Learn more about the Scriptures and achieve a fulfilling relationship with God through these sessions this Lent. Bring a friend with you!

PENTECOST SONG CONTEST

Are you a singer or do you know how to turn a tune very well? Can you bring down the Holy Spirit with your vocal abilities and stage performance? Holy Family Cathedral Parish invites you to be a part of its Pentecost Song Contest 2024. You may select any genre, Christian song or your original composition but your presentation must have an upbeat rhythm indicative of Pentecost Sunday. Register at the Pastoral Centre before 29th February, 2024. Call Gilbert Laudat at 720-2431 for more information.

St Joseph's Academy—St Joseph's Day. Invites you to their Fundraising Lunch - All Meals will be served with a Drink. Saturday 16th March, 2024 from 12 Noon until 2:00pm at St Joseph's Academy grounds.

Chicken, Pork, Pepperpot and Saltfish Lunch cost is \$30.00 and Fish Lunch. The cost is \$35.00. Please support.

Parishioners are kindly asked to take note that Eucharistic Adoration will be in the chapel of Holy Family Cathedral on Friday March 8th from 11:00 am to 7:00 pm and Saturday March 9th from 7:00 am to 2:00pm. Please call or come to the Pastoral Centre to sign-up. Please spend 1 hour in the Blessed Sacrament as part of your Lenten journey.

ARE YOU OR SOMEONE YOU MAY KNOW BE INTERESTED IN SHARPENING THEIR SKILLS IN DIGITAL STORYTELLING AND VIDEO PRODUCTION?

Join our special training modules:

CAST (Communications For The Antilles Specialist Training)

Become part of our Media Resource Pool and contribute to building social communications for the Catholic Church in our AEC region. **SIGN UP NOW!**

Training starts Thursday 7th March, 2023 from 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm virtually!

For more information and registration send an email: castmultimedia2020@gmail.com.

REGISTER NOW



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: Jesus took with him Peter, James and John and led them up to a high mountain. Jesus transfigured before them. Moses and Elijah appeared talking with Jesus. Peter offered to make three tents. The disciples were overcome with awe. The cloud covered them while a voice was heard: "This is my Son, the Beloved: listen to him!" As they were coming down, Jesus gave them instruction to tell no one about it until he had risen from the dead. The disciples did not understand as yet the meaning of Jesus' words "to rise from the dead."

REFLECT: The disciples witnessed Jesus' transfiguration. His glory, albeit momentarily, has been revealed to them. Jesus knew that his disciples would need an inspiration. They were already heading toward Jerusalem. Jerusalem was the place of Jesus' passion and death. Lest the disciples lose track of the fact that Jerusalem would also be the place of Jesus' resurrection, Jesus allowed them to witness his transfiguration. There is something bigger than Jesus' impending sufferings and death. When we experience problems in life, let us not forget that Jesus' glory awaits us. Jesus' transfiguration reminds us that sufferings and death do not have the last say. Life does.

PRAY: Let us pray that through the inspiration of Jesus' transfiguration we may be able to overcome everyday trials.

ACT: Let us think of something that keeps our hope alive. Let us strive to cultivate whatever is the source of our hope by relating it to Christ's resurrection.

CATECHETICAL NOTICE

ANTILLES EPISCOPAL CONFERENCE YOUTH ASSEMBLY (AECYA) will be held in the Archdiocese of Castries, in St. Lucia from July 17 - 28 2025. The main theme for the Youth Assembly is "Pilgrims of Hope". Youth and young adults 16 - 35 years will soon be invited to register to start the preparatory stages of prayer, special activities and fundraising events.

In preparation for the Jubilee Year, 2025, Pope Francis has dedicated 2024 as the Year of Prayer. Youth and young adults are invited to participate.

LENTEN FOOD PANTRY DRIVE for vulnerable and needy families. Join the children and young people in the Catechetical programme, the Youth to Youth Ministry team with the Pontifical Mission Societies, as we continue to embark on helping those who suffer silently. Following the successful Can Concert held in December where your contribution of non-perishable items helped many families and shut-ins, parishioners are welcomed to join us this Lent. Bring your items to the Pastoral Centre where our Pantry Box awaits your Lenten offerings (Almsgiving). The young people will package and distribute the items during the Easter Break.

Remember your mercies, Lord, your tenderness from ages past. Do not let our enemies triumph over us; O God, deliver Israel from all her distress.

This Sunday's Readings
25th February, 2024

First Reading: Genesis 22: 1-2, 9-13, 15-18

Responsorial Psalm: I will walk before the Lord, in the land of the living.

Second Reading: Romans 8: 31-34

Gospel: Mark 9: 2-10

Readings for Monday to Saturday

Monday 26th Daniel 9: 4-10

Psalm 79: 8, 9, 11-13

Luke 6: 36-38

Tuesday 27th Isaiah 1: 10, 16-20

Psalm 50: 8, 9, 16, 17, 21, 23

Matthew 23: 1-12

Wednesday 28th Jeremiah 18: 18-20

Psalm 31: 5, 6, 14-16

Matthew 20: 17-28

Thursday 29th Jeremiah 17: 5-10

Psalm 1: 1-4, 6

Luke 16: 19-31

Friday 1st Genesis 37: 3, 4, 12, 13, 17-28

Psalm 105: 16-21

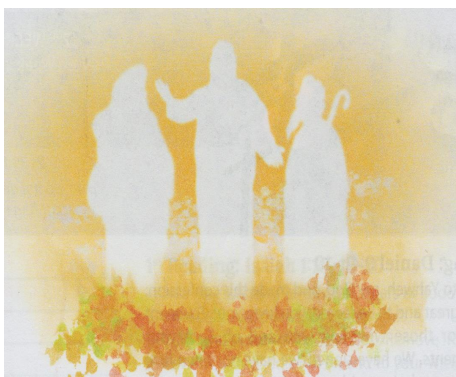
Matthew 21: 33-43, 45-46

Saturday 2nd Micah 7: 14, 15, 18-20

Psalm 103: 1-4, 9-12

Luke 15: 1-3, 11-32

"Even his clothes shone, becoming as white as no bleach of the world could make them."



WHAT THE FIRST READING SAYS

TO ME: In Hebrew tradition, Abraham represents the classic example of faith. This tradition describes an honest man, how he goes through a tormenting experience of uncertainty, and how he finally resolves it. Guided by God, the author brings out a timeless message to all who wrestle with the problem of fidelity, faith, and trust in a future. He teaches that there is a way out if we dare to persevere, hoping against all hope, and in faith get on our knees to pray. "I believed, even when I said, 'I am greatly afflicted'". This could well have been said by Abraham! How do we stand fast when shadows of uncertainty and doubt are tormenting us? We could pray: "Father of light, ... free us from the original darkness that shadows our vision. Restore our sight that we may look upon your Son who calls us to repentance and a change of heart."

WHAT THE SECOND READING SAYS TO ME

"If God is for us, who can be against us?" This one line states in a nut-shell what the other two readings teach in story form. Abraham experienced it when he was faithful in the darkest moment of his life. The three apostles felt it when, in their doubt and embarrassment about the necessity of suffering in life, they enjoyed a moment of light and glory on the mountain. We, God's chosen ones, should find consolation and courage in these words when we pass through the valley of darkness, doubt, and mental suffering.

WHAT THE GOSPEL SAYS TO ME

What does Mark try to bring out by relating this tradition about Jesus' transfiguration? He knew the Abraham story of the First Reading: Abraham's faith, his suffering and mental pain, and finally God speaking! Mark follows the same pattern: He has Peter's profession of faith: "You are the Messiah", Jesus foretelling his suffering and our partaking in it, and finally God speaking. We must suffer physical and mental pain, but like Christ we will overcome. Notice that there is a mountain as in the first tradition, as well as the traditional cloud as sign of God's presence. Our prayer could be: "God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference."

KNOW YOUR CHURCH

By Walter Sanchez Silva

ACI Prensa Staff, Feb 19, 2024 / 07:00 am

Father Eduardo Hayen Cuarón, director of the weekly newspaper Presencia of the Diocese of Ciudad Juárez in Mexico, recently responded to the question of whether all religions are equal, good, and true. Responding on X Feb. 4, the priest addressed the following question: "I am an open-minded person and I believe that all religions are equal; they are all like rivers that one way or another flow into the sea. As long as religions lead man to do good, any religion is good and true, right?" Hayen responded that "it is good to have an open mind to try to perceive all that is good in religions. Without a doubt, Muslims are very observant in prayer and fasting; Buddhists also mortify the body, and Jehovah's Witnesses are tenacious in promoting their magazine by knocking on doors." "But judging a religion by some good elements it may have is not a valid criterion to say that it is the true religion. Not all religions are true. No," the priest said. We affirm that there is only one God," the Mexican priest continued, "then there is only one divine truth, and therefore one religion is the true one. So be careful not to be so open-minded, so open that you are eventually left in a frightening spiritual confusion. Chesterton said that 'having an open mind is like having an open mouth: It's not an end, but a means.' And the end, he said, is to close your mouth on something solid." The priest also said that at one point in his life he also believed "the tale that any religion leads to God and that therefore we should not bother finding the true one." Many religions teach things contrary to those of other religions, so not all of them are true. Don't get confused. If there is only one God, only one religion is the true one," he continued. In conclusion, Hayen said that "always living with an open mind can be a problem in finding something solid on which you can base your life. I hope your search is sincere, because when it comes to discerning what the true religion is, you must go as deep as possible. If you find it, your life will have hit the nail on the head."



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