



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

"What Makes Life Meaningful?"

18TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME - 3rd August, 2025 - C

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Monday

Holy Family Cathedral 6:00pm

Tuesday

Holy Family Cathedral 6:00 am

St. Anthony's Potters 6:00pm

Wednesday

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

The next **Marriage Preparation** course will be held in **September**. Interested couples can register at the Parish Office.

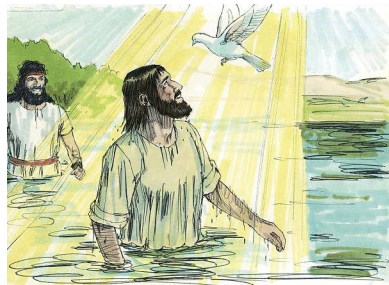
J'OUVERT MORNING BREAKFAST

at St. Lwanga Youth Centre, Stapleton Lane on Monday 4th August from 5 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. Choose from a variety of dishes for \$30.00. Tickets are available at the Pastoral Centre, after the weekend Masses and from any Catechist. Proceeds are in aid of the Diocesan Jubilee of Catechists in September. Your support will be greatly appreciated.

The **Memorial Mass** for **David T. Morris** will be held on Thursday 7th August, 2025 at **3:00pm** at Holy Family Cathedral.

The **Funeral Service** for the late **Alfredo Andrew Diedrick** will be held on Friday August 15th at Holy Family Cathedral. *May his soul Rest In Peace.*

The **Sacrament of Baptism** will be celebrated on Sunday 7th September, 2025. Parents wishing to have their child baptized must register at the Pastoral Centre. Please bring the child's birth certificate when registering and the names of two confirmed Catholics.



ATTENTION PARENTS WITH TEENS

FIND YOUR VOICE, FIND YOUR PASSION - An empowerment workshop for teenagers. This workshop will equip you to discover your strengths, speak with confidence, and build habits for success. The interactive sessions will help you explore your passions, sharpen your public speaking skills, and prepare for school with purpose. Connect with like-minded peers!

Date: August 20 - 25, 2025

Venue: St. Lwanga Youth Center - Stapleton Lane

Registration fee: \$120.00

Get ready to take on the new school year with confidence. Registration is now open until Monday, August 18, 2025. Registration Link: <https://forms.gle/9SKTFT8yDzxYFEyN8>

Call the Pastoral Center at 560-2693 to register your name and number, or send a WhatsApp message to 773-6833 to request the link to register.

REGISTRATION FOR CATECHETICAL GROUPS:

New Groups: Sunday/Monday Pre-Communion Group - children born in 2018

First Communion Group - children born in 2017 (attending Catholic School or those in the non-Catholic schools who completed the required pre-communion sessions) Confirmation Group - young people born in 2012.

Over the years, recurring patterns have highlighted the value of engaging parents before registration for the Sacraments and Religious Education formation. As a result, the catechists feel that holding sessions with parents beforehand would help clarify expectations and foster greater collaborative efforts in supporting parents, children, and young people throughout spiritual formation. To this effect, registration will be held at the end of **two mandatory parents sessions** to be held on September 16th & 17th 2025 from 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. in the Pastoral Center. This is for all Catechetical groups. **Parents, please take note.**

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION *27th July, 2025*

| Cathedral | 1st | 2nd |
|------------------|------------|----------|
| Saturday 6:00 pm | - | - |
| Sunday 7:00 am | \$1,849.15 | \$617.70 |
| 9:00 am | \$2,045.52 | \$486.86 |
| Hispanic | - | - |
| Out Stations | | |
| Potters | \$574.96 | \$114.71 |
| Parham | \$350.00 | \$185.35 |
| Villa | \$1,308.00 | \$349.30 |
| Diocesan Schools | - | - |

Thanks 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, Arnold Gomes, Jean James, Conrad Looby, Cecelia John, Justin Joseph, Carmen Ambrose, Tyler Lockhart, Joan Underwood, Cosmas Rowe, Andrea Brown, Rose Margetson, Niethia Dyer, Victor Charles, Junie Browne, Colette Simon, Brenda Frederick, Elma Skerritt, Yvonne Watkins, Anthony Mathurin, Derrick Louisor.

Prayer for Protection during the Hurricane Season

O God, Master of this passing world, hear the humble voices of your children. The Sea of Galilee obeyed your order and returned to its former quietude. You are still the Master of land and sea. We live in the shadow of a danger over which we have no control. During this hurricane season we turn to You, O loving Father. Spare us from past tragedies whose memories are still so vivid and whose wounds seem to refuse to heal with the passing of time. O Virgin, Star of the Sea, our beloved Mother, we ask you to plead with your Son on our behalf, so that spared from the calamities common to this area and animated with a true spirit of gratitude, we will walk in the footsteps of your Divine Son to reach the heavenly Jerusalem, where a stormless eternity awaits us. Amen.

THE JUBILEE PRAYER (AMENDED)

Father in heaven, may the faith you have given us in your Son, Jesus Christ, our brother and the flame of charity enkindled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit, reawaken in us the blessed hope for the coming of your Kingdom. May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope, a yearning for the treasures of heaven. May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our Redeemer throughout the earth. To you our God, eternally blessed, be glory and praise for ever. Amen

"What Makes Life Meaningful?"

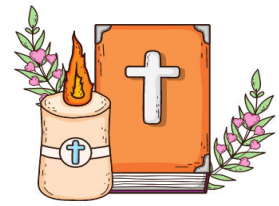
Life makes sense only if we can relate it to lasting values. If persons seek only values that perish, they will never be satisfied. Money and all that it can buy cannot impart lasting happiness. Think of the high suicide rate among the wealthy!

Life is meaningful insofar as it is related to others: fellow human beings and ultimately God in Christ Jesus. Think of people who have meant something to you in the past. These people, parents, teachers, sisters, brothers, friends, partner in marriage, and finally Jesus Christ himself, have all contributed to whatever you are now as a person! Remove one person from this list and you would be different, perhaps less fortunate.

The Lesson for the Future is obvious. Go on building communication with others. In love, friendship, and dedication relate to others, and do not overlook your direct relationship with God—Jesus Christ through prayerful Bible reading and regular worship with fellow Christians.



LECTIO DIVINA



"life has a real meaning in God"

Read: The Preacher of Ecclesiastes teaches us that our activity is vain and meaningless if it is without God. Saint Paul teaches us, therefore, to seek heavenly realities instead. Similarly, Jesus tells the parable of the rich man who thinks his life is made secure by what he has amassed, rather than by his relationship with God.

Reflect: Human beings search for meaning to their existence, and yet at the same time, modern culture has often denied that there is an ultimate meaning. If life has no meaning, there is a frustrated pointlessness to activity, which we hear echoed in the language of Ecclesiastes. Nietzsche said that without God there is a void in human life. The rich man in the parable is trying to fill the void with things and distractions. Yet, ultimately this fails to satisfy and at death is shown to be empty selfishness. Nietzsche, Sartre and other philosophers would propose that we embrace meaninglessness and make ourselves into the ultimate meaning. But life has a real meaning, rooted in the God who created us and we are to build our lives on a relationship with him, instead.

Pray: What are my preoccupations and frustrations? Pray to see God's hand at work in these.

Act: Visit a friend who is struggling at the moment.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday 3rd August

First Reading

Ecclesiastes 1:2; 2:21-23

Responsorial Psalm

Psalms 90: 3-6, 12-14 & 17

Second Reading

Colossians 3: 1-5, 9-11

Gospel

Luke 12: 13-21



His Land Had Produced a Good Harvest

Monday 4th August

Exodus Numbers 11: 4-15

Psalm 81: 12-17

Matthew 14: 13-21

St. John Vianney, Priest

Tuesday 5th August

Numbers 12: 1-13

Psalm 51: 3-7, 12-13

Matthew 14: 22-36 / 15: -2, 10-14

The Dedication of the Basilica of Saint Mary Major in Rome

Wednesday 6th August

Daniel 7: 9-10, 13-14

Psalm 97: 1-2, 5-6, 9

Luke 9: 28-36

Transfiguration of the Lord

Thursday 7th August

Numbers 20: 1-13

Psalm 95: 1-2, 6-9

Matthew 16: 13-23

St. Cajetan, Priest

St. Sixtus II, Pope & Companions, Martyrs

Friday 8th August

Deuteronomy 4: 32-40

Psalm 77: 12-16 & 21

Matthew 16: 24-28

St. Dominic, Priest

Saturday 9th August

Deuteronomy 6: 4-13

Psalm 18: 2-4, 47 & 51

Matthew 17: 14-20

Blessed Virgin Mary

St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross, virgin & Martyr

WHAT THE FIRST READING SAYS TO ME

When we read the Bible, we expect "Gospel," which means "good news." On first reading this passage, we would be inclined to characterize it as bad news. "All things are vanity." If life is an absurdity, why go on living it in the first place?

Actually, this passage is a very strong statement of what human life is without God. Only if we relate life to God directly in prayer and worship and indirectly in meeting him in other human beings does existence make sense. "If today you hear his [God's] voice, harden not your hearts".

WHAT THE SECOND READING SAYS TO ME

Our friends and those with whom we socialize can have a great effect on us—either for good or for evil. Thus, we advise youngsters to get out of the wrong gang. Good friends, however, have an uplifting impact. Paul, expects a similar effect from our being in company with Christ: "Seek what is above."

In baptism, you have died to selfishness and sin. But this dying to evil is an ongoing process which results in growing into the image of the Creator. Remaining in Christ's company makes life meaningful.

WHAT THE GOSPEL SAYS TO ME

Th rich fool of this passage lived his life without reference to God. And, indeed, a life without reference to God is an absurdity. Where does God fit into your money-making process?

Concern for the future is good stewardship. But if concern becomes greed, egotism, keeping up with the neighbors, inspired by the philosophy that "we live only once," you are in trouble. You are only God's steward of all that you possess! Do you feel responsible for those less fortunate?

Saint of the Day - August 6th, 2025

The Story of the Transfiguration of the Lord

All three Synoptic Gospels tell the story of the Transfiguration (Matthew 17:1-8; Mark 9:2-9; Luke 9:28-36). With remarkable agreement, all three place the event shortly after Peter's confession of faith that Jesus is the Messiah and Jesus' first prediction of his passion and death. Peter's eagerness to erect tents or booths on the spot suggests it occurred during the week-long Jewish Feast of Booths in the fall.

According to Scripture scholars, in spite of the texts' agreement it is difficult to reconstruct the disciples' experience, because the Gospels draw heavily on Old Testament descriptions of the Sinai encounter with God, and prophetic visions of the Son of Man. Certainly Peter, James, and John had a glimpse of Jesus' divinity strong enough to strike fear into their hearts. Such an experience defies description, so they drew on familiar religious language to describe it. And certainly Jesus warned them that his glory and his suffering were to be inextricably connected—a theme John highlights throughout his Gospel.

Tradition names Mount Tabor as the site of the revelation. A church first raised there in the fourth century was dedicated on August 6. A feast in honor of the Transfiguration was celebrated in the Eastern Church from about that time. Western observance began in some localities about the eighth century.

On July 22, 1456, Crusaders defeated the Turks at Belgrade. News of the victory reached Rome on August 6, and Pope Callistus III placed the feast on the Roman calendar the following year.

Reflection

One of the Transfiguration accounts is read on the second Sunday of Lent each year, proclaiming Christ's divinity to the Elect and baptized alike. The Gospel for the first Sunday of Lent, by contrast, is the story of the temptation in the desert—affirmation of Jesus' humanity. The two distinct but inseparable natures of the Lord were a subject of much theological argument at the beginning of the Church's history; it remains hard for believers to grasp.



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