



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

"Faith in God Gives Hope For a Destiny To Come"

19TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME - 10th 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

There is a vacancy at **St. Joseph's Academy** to teach **Physical Education** and Sports in Forms One, Two and Three. Suitably qualified applicants may apply, as soon as possible to the Principal, **St. Joseph's Academy P.O. Box 234** or by email: sjaantigu@gmail.com or drop off a hard copy to the school's office.

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

The Funeral Service for the late **Alfredo Andrew Diedrick** will be held on Friday August **15th at 2:00 pm** at Holy Family Cathedral. *May his soul rest in peace.*

The Funeral Mass for **Mr. Alexis Mathurin** (husband of Jean Mathurin) will be held at Holy Family Cathedral on **Wednesday 20th August at 2:00 pm**. Tributes begin at 1:30 pm. *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.

THANK YOU: The Catechists of both parishes express great appreciation and gratitude to all who supported the **J'ouvert Morning Breakfast**. It was indeed a success, and the tickets sold by the catechists will help towards their airfare for the Diocesan Jubilee of Catechists in St. Kitts from **September 25th to 29th**. Your support in future fundraisers will be equally appreciated. Thank you!

Jubilee of Youth Activities from August 22nd to 24th. More details to follow next week.

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 *3rd August, 2025*

Cathedral	1st	2nd
Saturday 6:00 pm	\$2,407.37	\$615.45
Sunday 7:00 am	\$1,341.04	\$579.35
9:00 am	\$2,278.80	\$618.00
Hispanic	-	-
Out Stations		
Potters	\$625.00	\$70.00
Parham	\$225.00	\$52.00
Villa	\$532.27	\$174.55
Diocesan Schools	\$130.00	-

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)

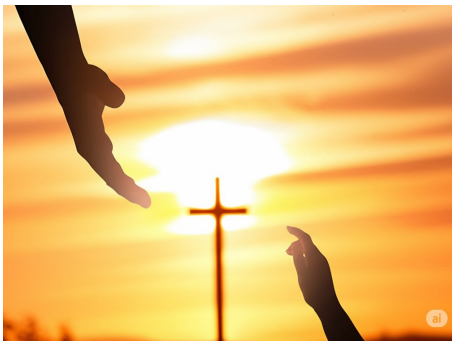
Father in heaven, may the faith you have given us in your Son, Jesus Christ, our brother and the flame of charity enkindled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit, reawaken in us the blessed hope for the coming of your Kingdom. May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope, a yearning for the 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

“Faith in God Gives Hope For a Destiny To Come “

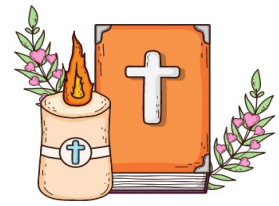
“Listen here, Joe. / Don’t you know / That tomorrow / You Got to go / Out yonder where / The steel winds blow? / . . . Don’t ask me why. / Just go ahead and die.” These lines are from Langston Hughes’ poem “Without Benefit of Declaration.” Apparently, life is just such a journey “without benefit of declaration.” Simply live it and die! The Hebrew sages searched for “declaration” and, guided by God, they came up - not with all the answers but certainly with some remarkable insights. They reasoned that if God is good, he must have a plan of salvation. Life cannot be a journey without destiny!

This outlook on life requires faith in God, and though it does not offer all the answers it gives enough of them to enable us to see meaning in our lives. It is like the faith in a parent that makes a child feel safe even when the child does not know where they are going.

To a certain extent, limited as our human horizon is, we are like children. Trust in a loving God takes away absurdity and gives hope for a destiny to come. Today’s Bible readings deal with the journey of Life and preparedness.



LECTIO DIVINA



"Be ready, dressed for service."

Read: The Book of Wisdom recounts the confidence of the People of Israel in God's promise, and they offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving. The Letter to the Hebrews describes the nature of faith as "the assurance of what we hope for", and it is this faith which will grant us God's favour, as it did our ancestors. Jesus teaches that the disciples are to hold on to their faith, even if the end is not so soon. They are to remain faithful servants of the Lord.

Reflect: The Chronicles of Narnia by C.S. Lewis continue to have a great popularity among young and old, with some of the books being made into films. However, the final book of the series is perhaps less widely read. Aslan the great lion has not been seen for many generations, and some start to lose faith in him, even doubting that he ever existed. The lion symbolizes Christ, as Lord and Saviour. In today's Gospel Jesus also prepares his disciples for a time when he will not be physically with them, so that their faith might remain strong until he comes. The Gospel teaches us that Jesus wants us to stay "dressed for service" and faithful to God's will, rather than falling away and losing our practice of the virtues.

Pray: Meditate on having your lamp lit, ready to serve Christ in others and to welcome him at the last.

Act: Talk to older members of your family about their faith and what it means to them.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday 10th August

First Reading

Wisdom of Solomon 18: 6-9

Responsorial Psalm

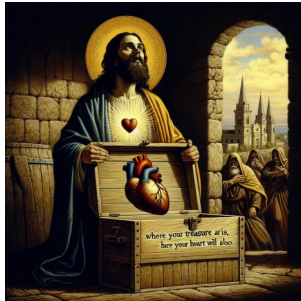
Psalms 33: 1, 12, 18-22

Second Reading

Hebrews 11: 1-2, 8-19 / 11: 1-2, 8-12

Gospel

Luke 12: 32-48



"For Where Your Treasure is, There Your Heart Will Be."

Monday 11th August

Deuteronomy 10: 12-22

Psalm 147: 12-15, 19-20

Matthew 17: 22-27

St. Clare, Virgin

Tuesday 12th August

Deuteronomy 31: 1-8

Psalm 32: 3-4, 7-9 & 12

Matthew 18: 1-5, 10, 12-14

St. Jane Frances de Chantal, Religious

Wednesday 13th August

Deuteronomy 34: 1-12

Psalm 66: 1-3, 5 & 8, 16-17

Matthew 18: 15-20

St. Pontian, pope, and St. Hippolytus, priest, martyrs

Thursday 14th August

Joshua 3: 7-10, 11, 13-17

Psalm 114: 1-6

Matthew 18: 21-19:1

St. Maximilian Mary Kolbe, Priest & Martyr

Friday 15th August

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

Psalm 45: 10-12, 16

1 Corinthians 15: 20-27

Luke 1: 39-56

Solemnity of the Assumption of The Blessed Virgin Mary

Saturday 16th August

Joshua 24: 14-29

Psalm 16: 1-2 & 5, 7-8, 11

Matthew 19: 13-15

Blessed Virgin Mary

St. Roch, St. Stephen of Hungary

WHAT THE FIRST READING SAYS TO ME

"The night of the passover...": the author refers to the night of the Exodus from bondage in Egypt. It was known centuries earlier by "our fathers," Abraham, Isaac, Jacob. How? By their faith in a saving God. Whatever happens to human beings, faith in God assures them that somehow God will step in with his loving care.

This passage is a poem on faith. As believers, we feel happy with the sure knowledge of a loving God who cares. "See, the eyes of the Lord are upon those who fear [have filial respect for] him, upon those who hope for his kindness".

WHAT THE SECOND READING SAYS TO ME

"By faith Abraham obeyed...; he went out, not knowing where he was to go." His journey was apparently "without benefit of declaration." However, faith in God made his journey meaningful. The sacred writer himself suggests the application of this ancient tradition to our own life situation: "They desire a better homeland, a heavenly one."

We are pilgrims who go through the valley of darkness. Faith in a destiny makes the journey meaningful. Abraham's faith was tested. So will yours be! Faith implies an element of doubt, just as love does. You cannot always possess it peacefully. Like love, faith must be fostered by communication, i.e., meditative prayer!

WHAT THE GOSPEL SAYS TO ME

Jesus encourages us to "desire a better homeland, a heavenly one" (Second Reading). "Do not be afraid... your Father is pleased to give you the kingdom."

But be prepared! "Gird your loins and light your lamps" like the Jews about to leave Egypt! The moment you least expect it, you could be summoned to take "that loath journey," from which there is no return (Every-man)

Saint of the Day - August 15th, 2025

The Story of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

On November 1, 1950, Pope Pius XII defined the Assumption of Mary to be a dogma of faith: "We pronounce, declare and define it to be a divinely revealed dogma that the immaculate Mother of God, the ever Virgin Mary, having completed the course of her earthly life, was assumed body and soul to heavenly glory." The pope proclaimed this dogma only after a broad consultation of bishops, theologians and laity. There were few dissenting voices. What the pope solemnly declared was already a common belief in the Catholic Church.

We find homilies on the Assumption going back to the sixth century. In following centuries, the Eastern Churches held steadily to the doctrine, but some authors in the West were hesitant. However by the 13th century there was universal agreement. The feast was celebrated under various names—Commemoration, Dormition, Passing, Assumption—from at least the fifth or sixth century. Today it is celebrated as a solemnity.

Scripture does not give an account of Mary's assumption into heaven. Nevertheless, Revelation 12 speaks of a woman who is caught up in the battle between good and evil. Many see this woman as God's people. Since Mary best embodies the people of both Old and New Testaments, her assumption can be seen as an exemplification of the woman's victory.

Furthermore, in 1 Corinthians 15:20, Paul speaks of Christ's resurrection as the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.

Since Mary is closely associated with all the mysteries of Jesus' life, it is not surprising that the Holy Spirit has led the Church to believe in Mary's share in his glorification. So close was she to Jesus on earth, she must be with him body and soul in heaven.



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