



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

"He Who Humbles Himself Shall Be Exalted"

22ND SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME - 31st 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 from **September 20th at 10:00 am** and every Tuesday and Thursday after that date at 6:30pm in the Pastoral Centre. Interested couples can register at the Parish Office.

Marriage Enrichment Weekend: Save the date. The Marriage Enrichment Weekend will take place on October 3-5, 2025. Information on venue and cost in subsequent announcement.

A vacancy exists for a Parking Lot Attendant for the Diocesan Car Park on Church Street, St. John's. Interested applicants can apply in writing to the Chancery's email at dsjbchancery@gmail.com. Transportation is an asset. Further details are published on the Diocesan website - diocesesjb.org.

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.

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.

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 Centre. This is for all Catechetical groups. **Parents, please take note.**

A Thanksgiving Mass for the Celebration of the 150th Anniversary of the foundation of the Society of the Divine Word, SVD will take place on Monday, 8th September 2025 at Holy Family Cathedral at 6pm. Let us give thanks with the Society of the Divine Word as they continue to "witness to the Light, from Everywhere, for Everyone."

"THE GOOD NEWS IS FOR EVERYONE"

The sick and the possessed have received from Christ the grace and peace of God. They are witnesses to the Good News of God being preached to them not in words but in deeds. Jesus has brought the Good News of salvation, a message that is communicated in miracles of liberation and healing. Having received this living Word of the Good News, the people want to hold on to it, but they misunderstand how this is achieved. They think that they can only do this by stopping Jesus from leaving. Others do the same after Christ's resurrection, begging him to stay with them, but each time Jesus goes elsewhere, because the Good News is for everyone. We are not to keep the Gospel to ourselves, but be instruments of Christ, bringing his active, living Word into the lives of others, so that they too can experience his enduring power and presence. The Gospel will bear fruit in our lives while it also grows in the lives of others. Thus, Saint Gregory the Great teaches in his Pastoral Rule that care of others is proof of our love of Christ.

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION *24th August, 2025*

Cathedral	1st	2nd
Saturday 6:00 pm	\$2,347.49	\$1,086.80
Sunday 7:00 am	\$2,340.70	\$570.94
9:00 am	\$1,517.38	\$448.66
Hispanic	-	-
Out Stations		
Potters	\$477.50	\$65.25
Parham	\$1,115.00	\$327.75
Villa	\$794.20	\$288.25
Diocesan Schools	\$155.00	-

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)

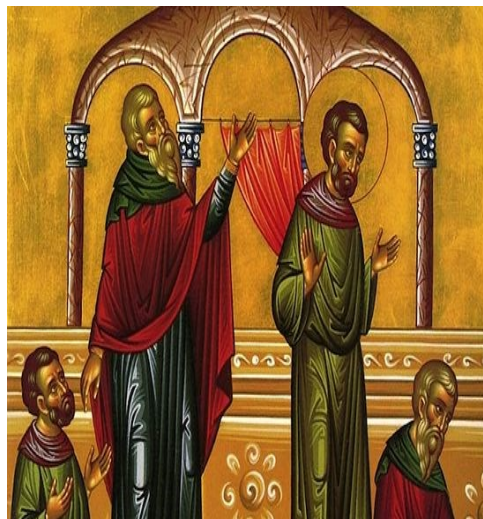
Father in heaven, may the faith you have given us in your Son, Jesus Christ, our brother and the flame of charity enkindled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit, reawaken in us the blessed hope for the coming of your Kingdom. May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope, a yearning for the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

"He Who humbles Himself Shall Be Exalted"

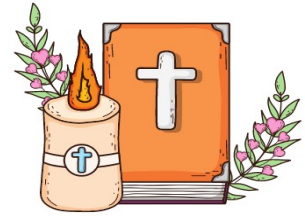
Only those who are really great can afford to be humble. Humility stands actually for truth. There is a story about an actor who wanted a famous photographer-friend to shoot him and instinctively assumed the pose of a character in one of his movies. The photographer had to remind him: *"I want a picture of you!"* The actor had trouble being himself in front of a camera. He was always acting.

It is well-adjusted persons who can honestly be themselves always and everywhere. Such persons do not need status symbols, neither do they have any desire to keep up with their neighbors. They have no need to prove themselves, for "good wine needs no bush."

Humble parents have no pretensions. They know that they are loved and respected by their children for what they are. They can afford to apologize for mistakes, since it is human to make them. Humble persons give in easily when the other proves that he or she is right. One cannot be an expert in all fields. As a Christian virtue, humility is rooted in God. Christians know that all they are and have constitute a gift of God. Hence, they are in constant need of God. Jesus is the sublime example of humility and that is why he can speak about it, as he does in today's Gospel.



LECTIO DIVINA



"Christ & His Word Are The Fire That Enlightens & Purifies.."

Read: Sirach teaches us to act with discretion and humility. Hebrews describes Christ as the Mediator of the New Covenant that admits us to the heavenly Jerusalem. Jesus teaches his ambitious guests that they are to act humbly, and to honour those who are pushed to the margins.

Reflect: Sirach says that the wise person "reflects on proverbs," but pride has made those invited to dinner in today's Gospel to forget to reflect on Sirach's words, "the greater you are, the more you should humble yourself". The guests are trying to show their greatness by jostling for the place of honor, not realizing that they lose that honor in their zeal to grab it from someone else. Jesus reminds us that no matter how accomplished or successful we are, we should always acknowledge our limitations and the dignity of others. Therefore, we are not to presume to take the place of honour when we are the guest, and we are to invite others who are often neglected.

Pray: Pray before the Blessed Sacrament, meditating on the reality before you. Think of what you have "come near": Christ himself in the presence of the angels.

Act: Volunteer to help at a homeless Centre or soup kitchen or devote greater attention to a neighbour who needs some help.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday 31st August

First Reading

Sirach 3: 17-18, 20, 28-29

Responsorial Psalm

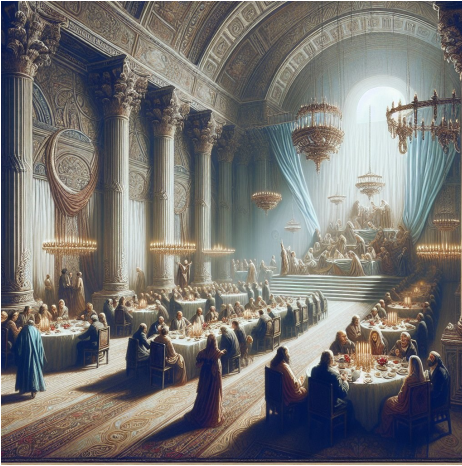
Psalm 68: 4-7, 10-11

Second Reading

Hebrews 12: 18-19, 22-24

Gospel

Luke 14: 1, 7-14



"Do Not Choose The Best Seat."

Monday 1st September

1 Thessalonians 4: 13-18

Psalm 96: 1, 3-5, 11-13

Luke 4: 16-30

Tuesday 2nd September

1 Thessalonians 5: 1-6, 9-11

Psalm 27: 1, 4, 13-14

Luke 4: 31-37

Wednesday 3rd September

Colossians 1: 1-8

Psalm 52: 10, 11

Luke 4: 38-44

St. Gregory the Great, pope & doctor

Thursday 4th September

Colossians 1: 9-14

Psalm 98: 2-6

Luke 5: 1-11

Friday 5th September

Colossians 1: 15-20

Psalm 100: 1-5

Luke 5: 33-39

Saturday 6th September

Colossians 1: 21-23

Psalm 54: 3-4, 6 & 8

Luke 6: 1-5

Blessed Virgin Mary

WHAT THE FIRST READING SAYS TO ME

"Humble yourself..., and you will find favor with God." The writer of Sirach is a keen observer of his fellow humans. People addicted to pride, full of pretensions, are like actors who constantly play the roles of other characters but never their own. They cannot be great in God's eyes. Humble persons know that they depend entirely on God. "God, in your goodness, you have made a home for the poor [me]."

WHAT THE SECOND READING SAYS TO ME

The Old Testament imagery for the greatness of God consists of clouds, fire, storm, angels, blasting trumpets, thunder and lightning. This imagery is lavishly used at the manifestation of God on Mount Sinai. People were warned not to break through toward the Lord in order to see him. They might be struck down.

The author of Hebrews refers to this theophany (manifestation of God) and compares it with the theophany on Mount Zion, located in heaven, where we will see God without trembling and fear. But coming to this mountain in heaven, meeting God there face to face and partaking in his banquet is granted only to the humble, as today's Gospel teaches us.

WHAT THE GOSPEL SAYS TO ME

Jesus relates a parable and an exhortation to his host. The parable is not just a lesson in good table manners. Rather, it refers to the Messianic Banquet of the end-time. Attendance depends on the invitation of God. And only those who are humble and in need of salvation will be there.

Are you self-sufficient or in need of God? The exhortation to the host suggests that our acceptance of fellow humans now has something to do with our own acceptance at the Messianic Banquet later.

Saint of the Day - September 3, 2025 *Saint Gregory the Great's Story*

Saint Gregory the Great was the prefect of Rome before he was 30. After five years in office he resigned, founded six monasteries on his Sicilian estate, and became a Benedictine monk in his own home at Rome.

Ordained a priest, Gregory became one of the pope's seven deacons, and also served six years in the East as papal representative in Constantinople. He was recalled to become abbot, but at the age of 50 was elected pope by the clergy and people of Rome.

Gregory was direct and firm. He removed unworthy priests from office, forbade taking money for many services, emptied the papal treasury to ransom prisoners of the Lombards and to care for persecuted Jews and the victims of plague and famine. He was very concerned about the conversion of England, sending 40 monks from his own monastery. He is known for his reform of the liturgy, and for strengthening respect for doctrine. Whether he was largely responsible for the revision of "Gregorian" chant is disputed.

Saint Gregory the Great lived in a time of perpetual strife with invading Lombards and difficult relations with the East. When Rome itself was under attack, he interviewed the Lombard king.

His book, Pastoral Care, on the duties and qualities of a bishop, was read for centuries after his death. He described bishops mainly as physicians whose main duties were preaching and the enforcement of discipline. In his own down-to-earth preaching, Gregory was skilled at applying the daily Gospel to the needs of his listeners. Called "the Great," Gregory has been given a place with Augustine, Ambrose, and Jerome, as one of the four key doctors of the Western Church.

An Anglican historian has written: "It is impossible to conceive what would have been the confusion, the lawlessness, the chaotic state of the Middle Ages without the medieval papacy; and of the medieval papacy, the real father is Gregory the Great."



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