



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

"Jesus Christ, a Sign that is Opposed"

THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD - 2nd FEBRUARY, 2025 - 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

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

**HFC Liturgical Dance Group & The
Xclamation Mas Troupe** will host a Cake
Sale on Sunday 2nd February, 2025
immediately after the 9:00 am Mass.
Please support.

COLOURS OF LOVE

will be held at **INDIES GREENS**

on

February 14th, 2025

From 8:00 PM

Tickets cost \$175.00

and can be purchased at

Exotic Antigua, Party Paradise,

OLPH Parish Office

HFC Pastoral Centre

The next marriage preparation class
will be held in March 2025. Interested
couples can collect a registration form
at the Pastoral Centre or at Tyrells
Office.

JUBILEE NEWS



FIRST PILGRIMAGE – ONE PARISH MASS

On Sunday 9th February there will be
ONE Mass at 9:00 am. There will be
NO Mass at 7:00 am or at the out
stations (Potters, Parham and Villa).
Mass will be celebrated on Saturday
8th February at 6:00pm. All the
parishes in the Diocese will have their
first "Pilgrim of Hope" pilgrimage on
that day. We will celebrate with a
Parish procession beginning at the
historic St Joseph's Cathedral on
Church Street to Holy Family
Cathedral (our Sacred Site).

The procession starts at 8:30 am.
There will be shuttle buses for
persons desirous of parking at
HFC and be shuttled to the starting
point. The first shuttle will leave at
8:00 a.m., the last one leaving at
8:25 a.m. Transportation during
the procession will be available for
the elderly and persons unable to
walk.

JUBILEE OF ARMED FORCES, POLICE, AND SECURITY PERSONNEL

We are delighted to extend a heartfelt
invitation to those members of our
community to join us in
celebrating with the Universal
Church the Jubilee of Armed
Forces, Police, and Security
Personnel, February 8 – 9. On this
significant day, we acknowledge
the invaluable service and
sacrifices made by the men and
women in these professions.
Catholics around the world will
offer prayers for the well-being
and protection of armed forces,
police, and security personnel.
Your presence at our pilgrimage
and Liturgical celebration would
not only be a profound testament
to your commitment and service
but also a wonderful opportunity
for us to express our gratitude and
solidarity with you.

JUBILEE BRANDED T- SHIRTS

Please ensure that you collect your
t-shirts from the Pastoral Centre
during the week, Monday 3rd –
Friday 7th between 10:00 am to
4:00 p.m. For those who did not
purchase a shirt, wear something
green on Sunday.

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION 26th JANUARY, 2025

Cathedral	1st	2nd
Saturday	\$1,520.94	\$ 514.00
Sunday 7:00 am	\$1,033.59	\$ 248.63
9:00 am	\$2,999.57	\$1,079.57
Out Stations		
Potters	\$ 328.40	\$ 64.00
Parham	\$ 910.00	\$ 263.00
Villa	\$ 980.23	\$ 378.55
Diocesan Schools	\$ 135.00	

Thanks for your Generosity

The Fruits of the Jubilee: The Jubilee Year is an invitation to embark on a spiritual journey. That journey can entail a physical aspect, like a pilgrimage, but more importantly, it is a call to an interior renewal of the heart. It is a time to reflect, seek God's mercy, and renew our commitment to faith, hope, and love.

Ways to Celebrate: - Make a pilgrimage – Engage in Acts of Mercy – Receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation – Participate in Special Liturgies – Deepen Your Faith – Spread Hope and Unity.

Jubilee Celebration in February:

8 - 9 Jubilee of Armed Forces, Police and Security Personnel
15-18 Jubilee of Artists
21-23 Jubilee of Deacons

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

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, Bernard Mckennon.

The Legion of Mary will host Adoration to the Blessed Sacrament every Friday immediately after the 12:15pm Mass until 7:00pm in Holy Family Cathedral chapel. All are invited.

From the Chancery:

Bishop Robert A. Llanos along with the Faith Community of the Diocese of St. John's-Baseterre extends special welcome to Fr. Arnold Francis who will be on sabbatical in Antigua for the year 2025. During this period, Fr. Francis will engage in selective ministry in the diocese and will be housed at Mt. Tabor Retreat Centre. We wish Fr. Francis a restful, productive and peace-filled sabbatical.

Gospel Reflection:

The old Simeon and prophetess Anna recognize Jesus as the Messiah due to their pure eyes and simple faith. They live in prayer and accept the Father's will, allowing them to see the richness of new times. On the other hand, Mary accepts that God's love becomes the gifts of Jesus Christ, offered on the Cross. In Jesus, they both recognize God's presence and solidarity with everyone of us.

"For ... my eyes have seen your salvation."

Read: Christ is the glorious light of the world. The Lord is entering his Temple. He is recognized by Simeon and Anna, but his light and glory go unseen by most people.

Reflect: Imagine the scene of the crowds of people: the sacrifices, the smoke, the sounds, the smells. And amid all this commotion, two people enter with their baby boy. Perhaps there were others that day doing the same thing. And yet, when Mary and Joseph enter, carrying the baby Jesus, Simeon recognizes that this is the child he has been waiting for, and he cries to God in joy, "Now, O Lord, you can dismiss your servant in peace, for ... my eyes have seen your salvation." The long-awaited Saviour had arrived, but most eyes didn't spot him. Why did Simeon and Anna see him? Because they were dedicated to looking for him. They had consecrated their lives to God, and they were alert to the promptings of the Holy Spirit.

Pray: As Christ is consecrated wholly to his Father's will for our salvation, we offer ourselves to his service and to praise him for his mighty works.

Act: On this Day of Prayer for Consecrated Life, pray for more vocations and thank a religious sister or brother you know for their commitment to Christ.

LECTIO DIVINA



This Sunday's Readings

First Reading

Malachi 3: 1-4

Responsorial Psalm

Psalms 24: 7-10

Second Reading

Hebrews 2: 14-18

Gospel

Luke 2: 22-40 / 2: 22-32

***"Here is the light you will reveal
to the nations."***



Readings for Monday to Saturday

Monday 3rd February

Hebrews 11: 32-40

Psalm 31: 20-24

Mark 5: 1-20

St. Ansgar, bishop

St. Blasé, bishop and martyr

Tuesday 4th February

Hebrews 12: 1-4

Psalm 22: 26-28, 30-32

Mark 5: 21-43

Wednesday 5th February

Hebrews 12: 4-7, 11-15

Psalm 103: 1-2, 13-14, 17-18

Mark 6: 1-6

St. Agatha, virgin and martyr

Thursday 6th February

Hebrews 12: 18-19, 21-24

Psalm 48: 2-4, 9-11

Mark 6: 7-13

***St. Paul Miki and companions,
martyr... St. Pedro Bautista,
martyr***

Friday 7th February

Hebrews 13: 1-8

Psalm 27: 1, 3, 5, 8-9

Mark 6: 14-29

Saturday 8th February

Hebrews 13: 15-17, 20-21

Psalm 23: 1-6

Mark 6: 30-34

Blessed Virgin Mary

St. Jerome Emiliani, priest

St. Josephine Bakhita, virgin

WHAT THE FIRST READING SAYS TO ME

The prophet consoles his fellow citizens who are undergoing the disappointments of the reconstruction of their country after the Babylonian exile. The Lord will come! "My messenger," "the Lord," and the "the messenger of the covenant" stand for God. He comes to the temple. This passage introduces us to the theme of the Gospel, in which God, in the Lord Jesus, comes to the temple. The Lord will come refining and purifying, as the Lord Jesus destined for the fall and rise of many in Israel, a sign that will be opposed. Note that Malachi is not against sacrifices as such. He points out that a purified heart is the condition for offering a sacrifice (symbol of self) that pleases God. We should be aware of this when we participate in the sacrificial rites of the Eucharist.

WHAT THE SECOND READING SAYS TO ME

The author points to the fact that Jesus was fully man and as such able to be our high priest, mediator between God and humankind. He had to become like his brothers and sisters "in every way," and in his parents he observed the Jewish law of purification as described in today's Gospel.

WHAT THE GOSPEL SAYS TO ME

Luke describes the Jewish purification rite that the Holy Family observed as another manifestation of our Lord. He is introduced as "the Christ of the Lord," the Anointed King or Messiah, who meets two representatives of his people, Simeon and Anna. The words "he took him into his arms" denote the customary ritual for blessing children, while "you yourself [Mary] a sword will pierce" indicates the pain to be experienced by Mary as the mother of the Redeemer. Are you willing to accept our Lord as controversial? His values, do's and don'ts, are not always those of your friends and associates! Take a stand!

Saint of the Day - 17th January, 2025

Saint Blaise's Story

We know more about the devotion to Saint Blaise by Christians around the world than we know about the saint himself. His feast is observed as a holy day in some Eastern Churches. In 1222, the Council of Oxford prohibited servile labor in England on Blaise's feast day. The Germans and Slavs hold him in special honor, and for decades many United States Catholics have sought the annual Saint Blaise blessing for their throats.

We know that Bishop Blaise was martyred in his episcopal city of Sebastea, Armenia, in 316. The legendary Acts of St. Blaise were written 400 years later. According to them Blaise was a good bishop, working hard to encourage the spiritual and physical health of his people. Although the Edict of Toleration (311), granting freedom of worship in the Roman Empire, was already five years old, persecution still raged in Armenia. Blaise was apparently forced to flee to the back country. There he lived as a hermit in solitude and prayer, but he made friends with the wild animals. One day a group of hunters seeking wild animals for the amphitheater stumbled upon Blaise's cave. They were first surprised and then frightened. The bishop was kneeling in prayer surrounded by patiently waiting wolves, lions and bears.

The legend has it that as the hunters hauled Blaise off to prison, a mother came with her young son who had a fish bone lodged in his throat. At Blaise's command the child was able to cough up the bone.

Agricolaus, governor of Cappadocia, tried to persuade Blaise to sacrifice to pagan idols. The first time Blaise refused, he was beaten. The next time he was suspended from a tree and his flesh torn with iron combs or rakes. Finally, he was beheaded.

Reflection

Four centuries give ample opportunity for fiction to creep in with fact. Who can be sure how accurate Blaise's biographer was? But biographical details are not essential. Blaise is seen as one more example of the power those have who give themselves entirely to Jesus. As Jesus told his apostles at the Last Supper, "If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask for whatever you want and it will be done for you" (John 15:7). With faith we can follow the lead of the Church in asking for Blaise's protection.



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WISHES EVERYONE A VERY
HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR 2025.
THANK YOU FOR ALL OF YOUR SUPPORT OVER THE YEARS.
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