



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

"Ask and You Shall Receive"

17TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME - 27th July, 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

REGISTRATION FOR CATECHETICAL GROUPS:

Over the years, recurring patterns have highlighted the value of engaging parents prior to 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 end, registration will be initiated at the end of two mandatory parents' sessions to be held in September. This is for all Catechetical groups. Details will be given in subsequent announcements.

YOUTH LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE:

The AEC Youth Leadership Conference is being held in Jamaica from July 20th – 27th. Twelve youth leaders and one priest from our Diocese are in attendance with other youth leaders from across the region, currently immersed in specialized training sessions designed to strengthen leadership skills, deepen community engagement, promote decision-making and plan for a comprehensive youth ministry programme.

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

FIND YOUR VOICE, FIND YOUR PASSION - A workshop for teenagers -

This workshop will equip you with the tools to grow, inspire, and lead: Speak with confidence and clarity, unlock your leadership potential, explore your passion and purpose, and connect with like-minded peers. Date: August 20 - 25, 2025 Venue: St. Lwanga Youth Centre. Get ready to take on the new school year with confidence. Registration will be open soon.

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.

WE ARE IMPATIENT PEOPLE - 28th July, 2025

Today's parables all describe how the presence of God's Kingdom can seem very slight or might even go unnoticed, and yet, its capacity to transform a person or situation is immense, just as a small amount of yeast transforms the dough or a small seed becomes a tree to give birds shade and shelter. This change takes time, and so we need patience to see the effects of God's grace at work in our lives. But we are impatient people. The Israelites have no patience, and so, while waiting for Moses to return from the mountain, they decide to make a god out of gold so that they can worship something they can see and control. They couldn't even wait for Moses to return with the Law of God before rejecting the Lord and fashioning a calf of molten metal. If they didn't have the patience to wait to receive the Law, they wouldn't have the perseverance to see that Law bear fruit in their lives either. Do we have the patience to wait on the Lord and on his grace or are we too quick to forget his wonders?

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION 20th July, 2025

Cathedral	1st	2nd
Saturday 6:00 pm	\$2,118.20	\$ 763.05
Sunday 7:00 am	\$1,784.85	\$ 617.29
9:00 am	\$1,818.88	\$ 541.49
Hispanic	-	-
Out Stations		
Potters	\$ 307.00	\$ 87.25
Parham	\$ 318.35	\$ 133.01
Villa	\$ 924.04	\$ 350.98
Diocesan Schools	\$ 180.00	-

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)

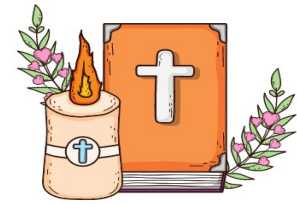
Father in heaven, may the faith you have given us in your Son, Jesus Christ, our brother and the flame of charity enkindled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit, reawaken in us the blessed hope for the coming of your Kingdom. May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope, a yearning for the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

Ask and You Shall Receive

Parents often display a remarkable patience in smilingly listening to the talk of their little children. And the little ones not only ask questions, they also ask for favors. Parents listen, but do they always grant what the little ones ask? Of course not! The horizons of children are limited. Often they ask for favors that would hurt them. Prudent parents show their real love by never giving children more freedom or favors than they are able to handle at any moment in life. However, whether one is a teenager or an adult, it takes humility to admit that one's horizon is limited. Yet when we think of the infinite wisdom and love of the heavenly Father, in faith we should be able to admit that he knows better whatever is best for us. It is in this context that we should see our prayer of petition. Does it make sense to pray for a beloved one who has terminal cancer? Should we pray in a seemingly hopeless marriage situation? Today's First Reading and Gospel teach us to pray with perseverance but also offer some insights on what to expect from our prayer of petition.

Fear Of The People - You shall not wrong one another but you shall fear God. This command is at the heart of today's readings King Herod is haunted by what he has done to John the Baptist, and so he thinks that John has risen from the dead when he hears about a preacher performing miracles. Herod has sinned by marrying his brother's wife and he was angered by John's public criticism, even to the point of wanting to kill him. Yet, it was not his fear of the people. He was more concerned about keeping his throne than saving his soul. Herodias, however, had no fear of the consequences and so used Herod's foolishly extravagant oath as an occasion to have John beheaded. Now Herod's deeds are surfacing in his conscience as he realizes the gravity of his wrongdoing. In contrast to Herod's actions, Moses hears that respect for God and his Law is the fundamental reason for mutual respect between the people. God commands that our dealings with others bring fairness and freedom, and not injustice and oppression. We are to remember the Lord and do no wrong.

LECTIO DIVINA



"Ask and You Will Receive.:

Read: Abraham is persistent in his pleas for mercy from God for the innocent few of Sodom and Gomorrah. Jesus teaches the disciples to pray the Lord's prayer and to persevere in their requests. Saint Paul says that, for believing in the power of Christ, we had risen to new life through Baptism.

Reflect: Saint Bonaventure says that "perseverance will win the prize." Today's readings encourage us to think about the importance of persistence in making our petitions to God. Our persistence in asking is a measure of our hope in him. And so, we are not to throw in the towel only after a short while, but persevere in seeking God's help. "Ask and you will receive," says Jesus, but God also tests our resolve and our trust in him. The Lord's prayer includes a petition that God will sustain us and give us what we need this very day. This is one reason why the Lord's prayer is a daily prayer. We persist in asking for God's help each day, that he will grant us what we need today.

Pray: Meditate slowly on the Lord's prayer. Ask the Lord for your greatest need.

Act: Take on a commitment to pray each day for peace, for the spread of the Gospel or for another intention.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday 20th July

First Reading

Genesis 18: 20-32

Responsorial Psalm

Psalms 138: 1-3, 6-8

Second Reading

Colossians 2: 12-14

Gospel

Luke 11: 1-13



"Don't bother me now, the door is locked."

Monday 28th July

Exodus 32: 15-24, 30-34

Psalm 106: 19-23

Matthew 13: 31-35

St. Pedro Poveda, priest & martyr

Tuesday 29th July

Exodus 33: 7-11; 34: 5-9, 28

Psalm 103: 6-13

John 11: 19-27 / Luke 10: 38-42

Sts. Martha, Mary & Lazarus

Wednesday 30th July

Exodus 34: 29-35

Psalm 99: 5-7, 9

Matthew 13: 44-46

St. Peter Chrysologus, bishop & priest

Thursday 31st July

Exodus 40: 16-21, 34-38

Psalm 84: 3-6 & 8, 11

Matthew 13: 47-53

St. Ignatius of Loyola, priest

Friday 1st August

Leviticus 23: 1, 4-11, 15-16, 27, 34-37

Psalm 81: 3-6, 10-11

Matthew 13: 54-58

St. Alphonsus Liguori, bishop & doctor

Saturday 2nd August

Leviticus 25: 1, 8-17

Psalm 67: 2-3, 5, 7-8

Matthew 14: 1-12

Blessed Virgin Mary

St. Eusebius of Vercelli, bishop,

St. Peter Julian Eymard, priest

WHAT THE FIRST READING SAYS TO ME

By relating this tradition concerning Abraham, the sacred writer wants to teach us about the necessity of praying with perseverance. Abraham even bargains with God and God listens. "Lord, on the day I called for help, you answered me".

But does the heavenly Father always grant exactly what we ask? The same psalm continues: "When I called you answered me; you built up strength within me." This may be the answer. God will hear our prayers and certainly give us the strength to handle any situation in life.

WHAT THE SECOND READING SAYS TO ME

Paul resists preachers who want to impose laws of the Old Testament on Christians. We are saved not by observing those laws (such as circumcision), but by God's grace given to us because of Jesus' death on the cross. We have a new life in company with Christ. Do we appreciate that company?

WHAT THE GOSPEL SAYS TO ME

Jesus taught us how to pray. We should address God as Father. We should pray with perseverance. But will we obtain exactly what we ask? Comparing God with our father here on earth, Jesus says: "How much more will the Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him." Remember, the Responsorial Psalm says: "You answered me; you built up strength within me."

God knows best what we really need! Perhaps we need "[his] spirit of wisdom and understanding, [his] spirit of counsel and of strength, [his] spirit of knowledge and of fear [filial respect] of the Lord". If we become filled with God's Spirit and can cope effectively with some difficult situation or obtain the insight to solve a problem, then God has answered our prayer!

Saint of the Day - August 01st, 2025 *Saint Alphonsus Liguori's Story*

Moral theology, Vatican II said, should be more thoroughly nourished by Scripture, and show the nobility of the Christian vocation of the faithful and their obligation to bring forth fruit in charity for the life of the world. Alphonsus, declared patron of moral theologians by Pius XII in 1950, would rejoice in that statement.

In his day, Alphonsus fought for the liberation of moral theology from the rigidity of Jansenism. His moral theology, which went through 60 editions in the century following him, concentrated on the practical and concrete problems of pastors and confessors. If a certain legalism and minimalism crept into moral theology, it should not be attributed to this model of moderation and gentleness.

At the University of Naples, Alphonsus received a doctorate in both canon and civil law by acclamation, at the age of 16, but he soon gave up the practice of law for apostolic activity. He was ordained a priest, and concentrated his pastoral efforts on popular parish missions, hearing confessions, and forming Christian groups.

He founded the Redemptorist congregation in 1732. It was an association of priests and brothers living a common life, dedicated to the imitation of Christ, and working mainly in popular missions for peasants in rural areas. Almost as an omen of what was to come later, he found himself deserted after a while by all his original companions except one lay brother. But the congregation managed to survive and was formally approved 17 years later, though its troubles were not over.

Alphonsus' great pastoral reforms were in the pulpit and confessional—replacing the pompous oratory of the time with simplicity, and the rigorism of Jansenism with kindness. His great fame as a writer has somewhat eclipsed the fact that for 26 years he traveled up and down the Kingdom of Naples preaching popular missions.

He was made bishop at age 66 after trying to reject the honor, and at once instituted a thorough reform of his diocese.



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