

Let us Pray

Father, your Son accepted our sufferings to teach us the virtue of patience in human illness. Hear the prayers we offer for our sick brothers and sisters. May all who suffer pain, illness or disease, realize that they are chosen to be saints and know that they are joined to Christ in his suffering for the salvation of the world. Amen. **Paul Barnett Sr., Rosemary Black, Guy-Phillipe Berlin, Donnalee Colebrooke, Jaqueline da Costa, Sonia Darville, Patricia Deane, Carol & Sylvia Edgecombe, Michael Farrington, Patricia Higgs, Hartman Johnson, Monique Johnson, Daphne Kerr, Edward Kerr, Patricia Knowles, Paula Lundy, Ida Major, Dellareese McPhee, Drucilla Moss, Vanessa Moss, Agatha Pratt, Martha Roberts, Kyandre Sands, Jayde Smith, Mable Smith, Lucinda Symonette, John Tucker, Anastina Wilson and Jacinta White, the imprisoned, the homebound, the hospitalized and persons in the Geriatrics Hospital. (If you, or a member of your family ill, or if you know of a parishioner that is ill, please notify the parish office).**

Daily Scripture Reading

18 December 2023 – Monday

1st Reading: *Jeremiah 23:5-8*

Resp Ps: 72: 1-2, 12-13, 18-19

Gospel: *Matthew 1:18-25*

19 December 2023 – Tuesday

1st Reading: *Judges 13: 2-7, 24-25a*

Resp Ps: 71: 3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17

Gospel: *Luke 1: 5-25*

20 December 2023 – Wednesday

1st Reading: *Isaiah 7: 10-14*

Resp Ps: 24: 1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6

Gospel: *Luke 1:26-38*

21 December 2023 – Thursday

St. Peter Canisius, Priest, Doctor

1st Reading: *Songs 2: 8-14 or Zephaniah 3:14-18a*

Resp Ps: 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21

Gospel: *Luke 1:39-45*

22 December 2023 – Friday

1st Reading: *1 Samuel 1:24-28*

Resp Ps: *1 Samuel 2:1,4-5, 6-7, 8abcd*

Gospel: *Luke 1:46-56*

23 December 2023 – Saturday

St. John of Kanty, Priest

1st Reading: *Malachi 3:1-4, 23-24*

Resp Ps: 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14

Gospel: *Luke 1:57-66*

Happy Birthday Greetings to: Keith Ellis (Today)

Eleanor Clarke, Theresa Saunders, Decadia Fernander, Charlotta Rahming, Frederick White (Mon) Cheryl Albury, Simone Cambridge, Ethan Chea, Zamir Williams, Teko Rolle (Tues) Samantha Fox, Dion Miller, Aaron Robins, Justin Higgs (Wed) Rickai Decius, Claudezino Davis, Teisha Miller, (Thurs) Frances Armbrister, Diego Gonsalves, Clothilda Lewis, Nicole Tucker, Carol Morley (Fri) Samiah Ferguson (Sat) and all celebrating this week!

~Commentators&Lectors~

Third Sunday of Advent – 17th December

7:00am	Vann Gaitor	1st Reader
	Bryant Collie	2nd Reader/Commentator
9:00 am	Ashton Butler	1st Reader
	Anthony Butler	2nd Reader/Commentator

Fourth Sunday of Advent—24th December

9:00am	Gabrielle Pintard Newry	1st Reader
	Letitia Ellis	2nd Reader/Commentator

The Nativity of the Lord 24th December - Vigil Mass

10:00pm	Arthur Seymour	1st Reader
	Daria Adderley	2nd Reader/Commentator

Mass of Christmas - Christmas Day 25th December

9:00 am	Deline Gittens	1st Reader/Commentator
	Nathan Gittens	2nd Reader

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph 31st December

9:00 am	Bursel Woods	1st Reader
	Dedrie Woods	2nd Reader Commentator

The Jesse Tree is at the back of the Church. Please take a tag if you can and purchase a much needed item. The items donated are taken to the prison inmates, the Nazareth Centre, the Willamae Pratt School for girls and the Simpson Penn School for boys. Thank you.

Reflecting on the Word Rejoice in the Lord, Always!

It is a time for rejoicing: "The Lord is near! The earth rejoices in hope of the Savior's coming and looks forward with longing to his return at the end of time." We again encounter John the Baptist echoing Isaiah's oracle: "Make straight the way of the Lord!" This time it appears alongside Paul's ringing exhortation: "Rejoice always, never cease praying, render constant thanks." It also appears—quite significantly—alongside two passages that speak of salvation for the lowly. The First Reading has Isaiah tell of being sent "to bring glad tidings to the lowly, to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and release to the prisoners." The Responsorial Psalm is Mary's song from the first chapter of Luke: "The hungry he has given every good thing, while the rich he has sent empty away." The Alleluia follows this with a rewording of Isaiah: "The Spirit of the Lord ... sent me to bring Good News to the poor." The message of today's liturgy is clear. The salvation we await with joy will liberate both the individual and the community, and its special focus will be the poor and lowly, not the rich and powerful. "As the earth brings forth its plants ... so will the Lord God make justice." Jesus comes so that our community might no longer bear the scars of poverty and oppression but might instead "be preserved whole and entire, spirit, soul, and body." As a leaven in the world, the Church is called to participate in human affairs and to recognize in the poor, the afflicted, and the oppressed the presence of the Lord summoning the Christian community to action. US Bishops, Resolution on the Pastoral Concern of the Church for People on the Move, 1976: 5 Gerald Darring

Dates and Times to Remember

Tuesday 19th December Parish Advent Penance Service 7.00pm

4th Sunday of Advent 24th December/Christmas Eve One Mass 9am & 9pm Carols led by Cantors followed by Mass.

Christmas Day Monday, 25th December 9am Mass

St. Stephen Proto Martyr Tuesday, 26th December 8am Mass (Boxing Day)

New Year's Eve 31st December Mass @ 9am, 10pm Holy Hour, 11pm Vigil Mass (Mary Mother of God)

New Year's Day 1st January 2024 Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God 8am Mass

Wedding Anniversaries

Kimani & Dominique Braithwaite celebrating their 13th on Monday 18th

Brandon & Terronique Demeritte celebrating their 2nd on Monday 18th

Lester & Deline Gittens celebrating their 25th on Tuesday 19th

Joseph & Stayci Anthony celebrating their 16th on Thursday 21st

Eldridge & Insa Frith celebrating their 39th on Friday 22nd

Third Sunday of Advent

The third Sunday of Advent is Gaudete Sunday and is meant to remind us of the joy that the world experienced at the birth of Jesus, as well as the joy that the faithful have reached the midpoint of Advent.

PREPARING FOR THE BIRTH OF JESUS IN YOUR SOUL

The most important BIRTHDAY in the history of humanity is the birthday of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

1. Clean the stable. If we are not living in the state of grace, then nothing happens spiritually in our lives; we are like a dead branch hanging from a withering tree. Why not have the courage, trust, and humility to prepare yourself to make the best Sacramental Confession in your life. Clean the inner stable of your soul of all the dirt, cobwebs, smut, and debris that belongs in the moral trash-bin. Sweep clean your inner life so that Jesus can be born in you with joy this Christmas.

2. Silence. We need this to hear the gentle breeze of God's voice talking in the depths of our hearts. May the words of the young Samuel resonate in our hearts: "Speak, O Lord, for your servant is listening." (1 Sam 3:10)

3. Bible meditation. The Church warmly and insistently exhorts her children to have the Bible, the Word of God, in their hands for meditation. You can meditate upon the Biblical Readings used in the Mass as your Daily Bread!!!

4. Peace. Is there any person that you are at odds with, that you resent, that you have bitter feelings about? Now is the time to reconcile! Remember what Jesus says: "If you are offering your gift and recognize that someone has something against you, leave your gift at the altar and reconcile with your brother, and then return to offer the gift." (Mt 5:23-24)

5. Conquer laziness. Let us not wait for tomorrow to do what we can do now! Life is short and as the saints are known to say: "Let us work hard in this life and rest forever in heaven." (St Peter Canisius)

6. Eyes opened to the needs of the poor. Examine your daily walk and contacts. Who is that hungry, or poor, or naked, or foreigner, or sick, or imprisoned person that God has placed in your path and is really Jesus.

7. The real gift of Christmas: Jesus himself! James 1:17 Every good thing given and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shifting shadow.

Marriage Renewal Weekend

Marriage Renewal Weekend to be held Friday, February 9 through Sunday, February 11, 2024 at Emmaus Centre, Fox Hill. Please contact the Office of Family Life at 322-8919 or 328-4310/2 for more information

Prayer for the Week

Father Lord, I come to your presence and thank you for this new week. Help me open my heart and ears to what you want to teach me. I thank you for this new day and the opportunity to connect with you and bring Your love into the lives of others. I grasp your hand Father, as you uphold and guide me through this week. Keep your presence with me so I can hear your voice and follow it. Amen.

3rd Sunday of Advent

J V H E A V E N S O G J O Y

I I S R E J U S T N I R R L

D N S P O O F L O W E R S A

P D T H N D R E J O I C E M

A I R U N O N B L I N D I E

T C A N S M F E I K D E A D

I A N G P S U A L G L O R Y

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C O R T I R K I N G D O M T

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E M O O L B R A N S O M E D

E T S I T P A B I U O S S L

C F I G R M E S S E N G E R

GLORY
SPLENDOR
BLOOM
PATIENCE
HUNGRY
SPIRIT
SEEK
BAPTIST
MESSENGER
JOY
LAME
BLIND
KINGDOM
HEAVEN
DEAF
JUST
MUTE
STRANGERS
DEAD
VINDICATION
REDUCE
SING
RANSOMED
FLOWERS

ST. ANSELM'S PARISH

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St. Anselm is a Catholic faith community centered in the Eucharist, seeking to live the love of God through worship, word and service.

"I am baptizing you with water, but one mightier than I is coming."

"Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near." (Philippians 4:4-5)

December 17th, 2023

3rd Sunday of Advent

1st Reading Isaiah 61:1-2a, 10-11

2nd Reading 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

Gospel: John 1:6-8, 19-28

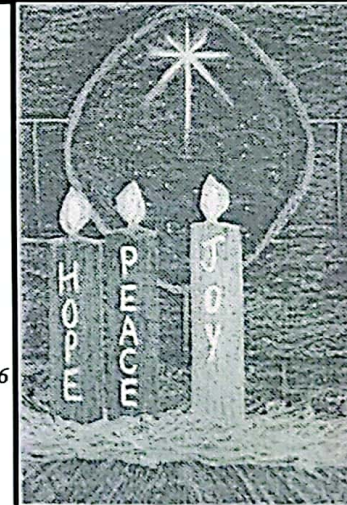
December 24th, 2023

4th Sunday of Advent

1st Reading 2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16

2nd Reading Romans 16:25-27

Gospel: Luke 1:26-38



Most Rev. Patrick C. Pinder, S.T.D., C.M.G. KC*HS, Archbishop of Nassau.

Fr. Noël Clarke, Parish Priest

Rev. Mr. Ricardo Demeritte, Deacon

MASS SCHEDULE:

SUNDAYS: 7.00am & 9.00am

WEEKDAYS: 6.15 am

Wednesdays - Adoration at

5.30pm & Mass follows

HOLIDAYS: 8.00 a.m.

Bible Study Monday 6.15pm—

Virtual (CONFESSIONS:

SUNDAY: by appointment)

BAPTISMS:

Call Parish Office to arrange

A WARM AND LOVING WELCOME TO ALL OUR VISITORS!

Please come again and if you would like to become a member, our contacts are listed above.

To our members, We always thank God for all of you and continually mention you in our prayers!