



*Give thanks
to the
Lord*

*because he
is good.*

—PSALM 106:1

**The Cathedral Church of
Saint Michael and All Angels
The Diocese of Barbados**

Diocesan Bishop

The Right Rev'd Michael Bruce St. J. Maxwell, MA.

Dean

The Very Rev'd Dr. Jeffrey D. Gibson

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Assistant Priest

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Ms. Armel Marshall, B.Sc., Cert SM: Cert HRM

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Mrs. Chloe Grant

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Ms. Harriet Lowe

The Sixth Sunday of Easter ~ Rogation Sunday

SUNDAY, MAY 17th, 2020

The Cathedral is closed; however, members are asked to pray the Office of Morning Prayer, at home with their household.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Christ, our Passover, has been sacrificed for us. Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia! **1 Corinthians 5:7**

Versicles & Responses

V. Hear us, O Lord,

R. **For your mercy is great.**

V. We will exalt you, O God our Saviour,

R. **And praise your name forever and ever.**

V. Glory to the Father and to the Son: and to the Holy Spirit;

R. **As it was in the beginning is now: and shall be forever. Amen.**

Prayer of Intent

Let us pray

Father, we come together in the Name of your Son Jesus Christ, our Redeemer, to offer you our worship, praise and thanksgiving. To you belong all power and glory. You are the source of all goodness. Let our worship bear witness to your peace and saving power. Through your Spirit may we ever rejoice in the abiding presence of our risen and ascended Lord. Amen.

INVITATORY

Christ our Passover *Pascha nostrum*

1 Corinthians 5:7-8; Romans 6:9-11; 1 Corinthians 15:20-22

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us;
so let us celebrate the feast,
not with old leaven of corruption and wickedness:
but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

Christ once raised from the dead dies no more:
death has no more dominion over Him.
In dying He died to sin once for all;
in living He lives to God.

See yourselves therefore as dead to sin:
and alive to God in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Christ has been raised from the dead:
the first fruits of those who sleep.
For as by man came death:
by man has come also the resurrection of the dead;
for as in Adam all die:
even also in Christ shall all be made alive.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning is now and shall be for ever. Amen.

The Confession & Absolution

The Minister says:

Lord, we pray to you for the forgiveness of our sins.

Silence may be kept.

Minister and people, together say:

Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honour and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

All:

Grant merciful Lord, to your faithful people pardon and peace, that they may be cleansed from all their sins, and serve you with a quiet mind: through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Psalm 66:7-18 *Jubilate Deo*

- 7 Bless our God, you peoples;
make the voice of his praise to be heard;
- 8 Who holds our souls in life,
and will not allow our feet to slip.
- 9 For you, O God, have proved us;
you have tried us just as silver is tried.
- 10 You brought us into the snare;
you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.
- 11 You let enemies ride over our heads;
we went through fire and water;
but you brought us out into a place of
refreshment.
- 12 I will enter your house with burnt-offerings
and will pay you my vows,
which I promised with my lips
and spoke with my mouth when I was in trouble.
- 13 I will offer you sacrifices of fat beasts
with the smoke of rams;
I will give you oxen and goats.

- 14 Come and listen, all you who fear God,
and I will tell you what he has done for me.
- 15 I called out to him with my mouth,
and his praise was on my tongue.
- 16 If I had found evil in my heart,
the Lord would not have heard me;
- 17 But in truth God has heard me;
he has attended to the voice of my prayer.
- 18 Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer,
nor withheld his love from me.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and shall be for ever. Amen

First Lesson: Acts 17:22-31

22 Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, 'Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. ²³For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, "To an unknown god." What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. ²⁴The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, ²⁵nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. ²⁶From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, ²⁷so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. ²⁸For "In him we live and move and have our being"; as even some of your own poets have said, "For we too are his offspring."

²⁹Since we are God's offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. ³⁰While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.'

The Word of the Lord

The Song of Moses *Cantemus Domino*
Exodus 15:1-3, 6, 11,13, 17-18

Especially suitable for use in the Easter Season

I will sing to the Lord, for His glorious triumph;
the horse and the rider he has hurled into the sea.
The Lord has become my strength and refuge;
the Lord Himself has become my Saviour.
He is my God and I will praise Him;
my father's God and I will exalt Him.
The Lord Himself is a mighty warrior;
the Lord, the Lord is His Name.

Your right hand, O Lord, is majestic in power;
your right hand, O Lord, shatters the enemy.
Who is like you, O Lord, among the gods,
holy, awesome, worker of wonders?

In steadfast love you led your people,
you guided your redeemed with your great strength.
You brought them in safety to your holy place,
and planted them firm on your own mountain
You brought them into your own house.
The Lord shall reign for ever and ever.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and shall be for ever. Amen.

Second Lesson: John 14:15-21 *“The Promise of the Holy Spirit”*

15 ‘If you love me, you will keep my commandments. 16And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you for ever. 17This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you. 18 ‘I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. 19In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. 20On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. 21They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.’

The Word of the Lord

Benedictus Luke 1:68-79

Blessed are you, Lord the God of Israel;
You have come to your people and set them free.
You have raised up for us a mighty Saviour, born of the
house of your servant David.
Through your holy prophets
You promised of old to save us from our enemies
from the hands of all who hate us.
To show mercy to our forebears, and to remember your holy
covenant.
This was the oath you swore to our father Abraham: to set
us free from the hands of our enemies,
Free to worship you without fear, holy and righteous before
you all the days of our life.

And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High:
for you will go before the Lord to prepare the way,
To give God's people knowledge of salvation by the
forgiveness of their sins.

In the tender compassion of our God: the dawn from on high
shall break upon us,

To shine upon those who dwell in darkness and the shadow
of death, and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy
Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and shall be
forever. Amen.**

The Apostles' Creed

Officiant and People together, all standing

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead.

On the third day He rose again.

He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

THE PRAYERS

V. The Lord be with you.

R. **And also with you.**

The Minister shall say:

Let us pray.

ALL:

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name;
your kingdom come;
your will be done
on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

**Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours now and forever. **Amen.****

THE SUFFRAGES "A"

V. Lord, reveal your love among us;

R. **That we may know the joy of your salvation.**

V. Grant peace within and among all nations;

R. **And teach our leaders wisdom.**

V. Endow your Church with faithfulness;

R. **And her servants with knowledge and true godliness.**

V. Defend, O Lord, the rights of the poor and the oppressed;

R. **That your justice may be known among all people.**

V. Lord, renew your Spirit within us;

R. **That in us and through us your will may be done.**

The Collect of the Day ~ *“The Sixth Sunday of Easter”*

O God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as surpass our understanding. Pour into our hearts such love towards you, that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

A Collect for Protection

O God, the lover of unity and author of peace, to know you is eternal life; to serve you is perfect freedom. Defend us your servants from all assaults of the enemy, that we may trust in your defence and not fear the power of any adversary; through Jesus Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

A Collect for Sunday

O God, you make us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of your Son our Lord. Give us this day such blessing through our worship of you, that the week to come may be spent in your favour; through Jesus Christ our Lord. ***Amen***

The Reflection

Special Intentions for today: for the ongoing acknowledgement of the presence of Christ with his Church through the Spirit; for unity within the fellowship of the Church, currently dispersed; for congregations to grow in love as communities of faith; and for deliverance and healing in the midst of the novel Coronavirus COVID-19 pandemic.

Prayer of Dedication

Almighty God, we thank you for the gift of your Holy Word.
May it be a lantern to our feet,
A light to our paths,
And a strength to our lives.

Take us and use us to love and serve all persons
in the power of the Holy Spirit and in the Name of your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Grace

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and
the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us evermore. **Amen.**

V. The Lord be with you.

R. And also with you.

V. Let us bless the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

THE BLESSING ~ *“Ascension to Eve of Pentecost”*

Christ our King, make you faithful and strong to do His will,
that you may reign with Him in glory; and the blessing of God
the Father be upon you this day and forever more.



The Sixth Sunday of Easter YEAR A

First Lesson: Acts 17:22-31

Comments ~ *“Paul’s message to the Athenians”*

This lesson is **Paul's address in a public forum to the curious citizens of Athens.** The apostle has arrived in the intellectual and cultural center of the Greek world. The author of Acts has him deliver a kind of sample sermon for a pagan audience. Troubled by their worship of many gods. Paul uses their altar dedicated to an unknown god as an opportunity to tell them of the one true Lord of heaven and earth, and of the time of judgement and the man the Lord raised from the dead.

Psalm 66:7-18

A hymn of praise and thanksgiving to God, who rules in majesty and delivers the people.

Second Lesson: 1 Peter 3:13-22

Comments ~ *“The days of Noah, a sign of baptism”*

This reading offers **guidance for all Christians, counseling a readiness to suffer patiently for doing what is right.** The First Letter of Peter was written at a time when Christians in Asia Minor were experiencing persecution. The author has given advice to particular groups of people and now urges all disciples to live together in love and humility, always being willing to speak in defense of their Christian hope. They should keep their consciences clear, and, if they do suffer, they are to remember how Christ, the just one, died for the unjust.

The Holy Gospel: John 14:15-21

Comments ~ *“Christ our advocate”*

In our Gospel **Jesus promises his followers that those who love him will be guided by the Holy Spirit and will also see him.** The evangelist presents Jesus in final

conversation with his followers. Soon Jesus will be taken away from them by death, but God will send another Counsellor. The world (that is, Godless society) cannot receive this Spirit of truth nor come to perceive Jesus as still living. Yet those who follow the commandments of love will find new life in intimate association with Jesus and the Father.

CATHEDRAL NEWS

- 1. The Cathedral Church** is now fully closed. However, as the country enters Phase Two, resuming some economic activity, some adjustments were made. As we know, according to the Directive, churches are allowed to be open for weddings (with no more than 6 persons present), funerals (no more than 20 mourners) or the streaming of services (no more than 10 persons, inclusive of the officiant). In addition, they **may** be opened occasionally during the week, between the hours of 7:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. by the sexton/warden/clergy for ventilation/cleaning purposes only but not for any other use by congregants or the general public.
- 2. Confirmation Classes:** Please note that registration for Confirmation Classes has started. It is anticipated that Confirmation will be celebrated in November, as part of the Diocese's "Mission 2020: God's Gathering" initiative. **Electronic sessions will begin very soon.**
- 3. Household Worship:** The Cathedral is closed to public worship; however, members are encouraged to pray the office of Morning Prayer at the regular Sunday service times, 7:00 A.M. and 9:00 A.M., or at a time convenient to the family. The Daily Office can also serve as a personal or family discipline. The Daily Lectionary for the sixth week of Easter begins

on page 750, in the Book of Common Prayer. Note further that this year is Year 2, and the readings for Monday, May 18th, 2020 are Leviticus 25:35-55; Psalm 80; and Matthew 13:1-16.

- 4. Stewardship of Treasure:** During this period when the congregation is not assembling for corporate worship, members are asked to fulfil their individual financial commitments to God, in the mission of the Cathedral, by the regular use of the envelopes which have been issued. The following options are available:
- i. Bring the offering to the Cathedral and lodge it with the Administrative Assistant at the Office on Tuesdays to Thursdays between the hours of 9:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. and Fridays from 10:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. The collection of food items for hampers, care packages or pantries and the distribution thereof, continue. Drop offs of items by congregants should be done only on their assigned days for doing personal business.
 - ii. Write a cheque to St. Michael's Cathedral, place it in the regular offering envelope and then in another envelope addressed to The Dean, St. Michael's Cathedral, Bridgetown, St. Michael for mailing purposes.
 - iii. Make an online payment to the St. Michael's Cathedral, CIBC First Caribbean International Bank, Bridgetown Branch, Account # 27193-02.
 - iv. If none of these three arrangements is convenient, I ask that the offering be set aside, either weekly or monthly, as one would normally

present it, and that the entire package be ready when corporate worship resumes.

Thanks for your kind consideration and generous response, thus far.

5. **Ministry Today:** The following basic ministries will be sustained during the emergency period: Administration (Human Resources, Financial and Property management); Christian Education (Bible study, etc.); Pastoral Services (Prayer, Counsel and Bereavement Support); Social Outreach (Deacon's Cupboard, SMCFA); and Worship (Streaming of services, Family worship, Daily Devotion).
6. **Pentecost Novena:** Members are asked to use Ascensiontide (Friday, May 22 to Saturday, May 30, 2020) as a time for intense prayer for deliverance from the coronavirus pandemic and for the renewal of the universe and all its creatures.

DIOCESAN NEWS

The Opening of Church Offices & Church Halls: Church Offices and Halls may be opened daily, between 7:00 A.M. and 5:00 P.M., only for the receipt of 'tithes and offerings' and the collection of food items for hampers, care packages or pantries and the distribution thereof. Drop-offs of items by congregants should be done only on their assigned days for doing personal business. No other in-person business meetings or counselling sessions or funeral/wedding arrangement sessions are allowed. These will continue to be done via telephone, email or video/audio conferencing.

***Congratulations to all those person celebrating
birthdays this week May 17th ~ May 23rd, 2020***

Mrs. Carmen Boakye-Cofie ~ 18th

Ms. Hyacinth A. Rodgers ~ 18th

Ms. Julianne A. Ifill ~ 19th

Ms. Beverley M. Small ~ 20th

Mr. Lawrence E. Pollard ~ 21st

Ms. Donna M. Russell ~ 22nd

Mr. Leslie Layne ~ 23rd



May God bless and strengthen you.

Theme for the Week

***“God’s loving care for us requires our intimate
attachment to the goals of his mission.”***



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Health Ministry:	Dr. Wendy Sealy
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Flower Guild:	(Vacant)
Guild of St. Raphael:	Mr. Darwin Clarke



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