



Adore Him

St. Michael's Cathedral
Services
for
The First Sunday after Christmas

Sunday, December 26th, 2021
9:00 A.M.

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

Diocesan Bishop

The Rt. Rev'd Michael B. St. John. Maxwell, M. A.

Dean

The Very Rev'd Dr. Jeffrey D. Gibson

Precentor

The Rev'd Canon George Knight, B.Min.

Assistant Priest

The Rev'd Stephanie-Ann Wedderburn, B. Sc; B.A.

Organist/Choirmaster

Mr. John F. Bryan, B.Sc., BMus.

Organist

Mr. Eric Cobham, B.Sc., BMus

Vergers

Mrs. Chloe Grant

Assistant Vergers

Ms. Harriet Lowe



The First Sunday after Christmas: **YEAR C**

9:00 A.M. ~ Sung Eucharist

President: The Rev'd Canon George Knight

Preacher: The Very Rev'd Dr. Jeffrey D. Gibson

Lay Eucharistic Minister: Mrs. Valdine Browne



AND MAY THE LORD BLESS US ALL

ANNOUNCEMENT

Emergency Management (COVID-19) Churches (No. 24) Directive, 2021

The following protocols will be enforced: Attendance is limited to a maximum of one hundred and thirty-five (135) persons, (Nave 83; Balcony 27; Sanctuary/Chancel 16; and Lady Chapel 9); Temperature checks upon arrival and signing of the Register; Wearing of Masks above the Nose and under the Chin; Designated Seating; the Use of an Offering Box; Physical Distancing- Six (6) feet apart; No physical exchange of the Greeting of Peace; Sanitization of Hands before entering the Cathedral and before Communion.

The cooperation of everyone is required

ORDER OF WORSHIP

THE PREPARATION

Organ Prelude

The Opening **Hymn ~ 60**

Angels, from the realms of glory,
wing your flight o'er all the earth;
ye who sang creation's story,
now proclaim Messiah's birth:

Refrain

*Gloria in excelsis Deo,
Gloria in excelsis Deo.*

Shepherds, in the field abiding,
watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with man is now residing,
yonder shines the infant Light:

Refrain

Sages, leave your contemplations;
brighter visions beam afar;
seek the great Desire of Nations;
ye have seen his natal star:

Refrain

Saints before the altar bending,
watching long in hope and fear,
suddenly the Lord, descending,

in the temple shall appear.

Refrain

Though an infant now we view him,
he shall fill his Father's throne,
gather all the nations to him;
every knee shall then bow down:

Refrain

Words: James Montgomery (1771-1854)

Opening Sentence "***General***" Page 100

I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving and call upon the Name of the Lord. I will fulfil my vows to the Lord in the presence of all His people. *Psalm 116:15-16*

THE INVOCATION Page 101

PRESIDENT:

Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

ALL:

And blessed be His Kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

ALL:

Blessed Lord and Father, we have assembled in your Name and in fellowship with one another. Enable us by your grace to offer the sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; to proclaim and respond to your holy word. Teach us to pray for your

world and your Church. Grant that we, confessing our sins, may worthily offer to you our souls and bodies as a living sacrifice and eat and drink of your spiritual food in this Holy Sacrament. Amen.

All: Amen.

COLLECT FOR PURITY

Page 101

ALL:

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your Holy Name, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE KYRIES

Page 102

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

Page 102

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to His people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One;
you alone are the Lord:
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

The Collect: *“First Sunday after Christmas Day”* Page 159

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

First Lesson: Isaiah 61:10 – 62:3

Lector: Ms. Donnah Russell

A reading from the Word of God written in the Book of Isaiah, the sixty-first chapter, beginning at the tenth verse.

I will greatly rejoice in the LORD,
my whole being shall exult in my God;
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,
as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

For as the earth brings forth its shoots,
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to
spring up,
so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise
to spring up before all the nations.

For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,
and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest,
until her vindication shines out like the dawn,
and her salvation like a burning torch.

The nations shall see your vindication,
and all the kings your glory;
and you shall be called by a new name
that the mouth of the LORD will give.

You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of
the LORD,
and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

LECTOR: The Word of the Lord.

ALL: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 147:13-21

Page 662

13 Worship the LORD, O Jerusalem;
praise your God, O Zion;

- 14 For he has strengthened the bars of your gates;
he has blessed your children within you.
- 15 He has established peace on your borders;
he satisfies you with the finest wheat.
- 16 He sends out his command to the earth,
and his word runs very swiftly.
- 17 He gives snow like wool;
he scatters hoarfrost like ashes.
- 18 He scatters his hail like bread crumbs;
who can stand against his cold?
- 19 He sends forth his word and melts them;
he blows with his wind, and the waters flow.
- 20 He declares his word to Jacob,
his statutes and his judgments to Israel.
- 21 He has not done so to any other nation;
to them he has not revealed his judgments.
Hallelujah!

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.

Second Lesson: Galatians 3:23-25; 4:4-7

Lector: Ms. Donna Russell

A reading from the Word of God written in Paul's Letter to the Galatians, the third chapter reading from the twenty-third to the twenty-fifth verse, and then the fourth chapter, beginning at the fourth verse.

Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian.

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

LECTOR: The Word of the Lord.

ALL: **Thanks be to God.**

The Gradual **Hymn** ~ 73

Joy to the world, The Lord is come;
let earth receive her King;
let every heart prepare him room,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven, and heaven, and nature sing.

Joy to the world, the Saviour reigns;
let us our songs employ:
while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat, the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow,
nor thorns infest the ground:
he comes to make his blessings flow
far as the curse is found,
far as the curse is found,
far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace,
and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness
and wonders of his love,
and wonders of his love,
and wonders, and wonders, of his love.

*Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748),
Based on Psalm 98, alt.*

The Holy Gospel: John 1:1-18

Gospeller: The Rev'd Stephanie-Ann Wedderburn

GOSPELLER: The Lord be with you.

ALL: And also with you

A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to John, the first chapter, beginning at the first verse.

ALL: Glory to Christ Our Saviour

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

GOSPELLER: The Gospel of Christ.

ALL: Praise to Christ our Lord.

The Sermon: The Very Rev'd Dr. Jeffrey D. Gibson

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,

maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is seen or unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
one in Being with the Father.
Through Him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
He came down from heaven:

by the power of the Holy Spirit
He was born of the Virgin Mary,
and became man.
For our sake He was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
He suffered, died and was buried.
On the third day He rose again
in fulfilment of the Scriptures;
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the
dead, and His kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father.
With the Father and the Son He is worshipped and
glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. **Amen.**

INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

Intercessors: Mr. Victor Small, Church Army

LEADER:

INTERCESSION FORM “B”

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LEADER:

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;

ALL: That we all may be one.

LEADER:

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and
humbly serve you.

ALL: That your Name may be glorified by all people.

LEADER:

We pray for all Bishops, Priests, and Deacons;

**ALL: That they may be faithful ministers of your Word
and Sacraments.**

LEADER:

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the
nations of the world;

ALL: That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

LEADER:

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

ALL: That our works may find favour in your sight.

LEADER:

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

ALL: That they may be delivered from their distress.

LEADER:

Give to the departed eternal rest;

ALL: Let light perpetual shine upon them.

LEADER:

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

ALL: May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

LEADER: Let us pray for our needs and those of others.

Silence may be kept.

ALL:

Almighty God, to whom our needs are known before we ask, help us to ask only what accords to your will; and the good things which we dare not, or in our blindness cannot ask, grant us for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ACT OF PENITENCE

Page 123

PRESIDENT:

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just, and will forgive our sins, and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

A period of silence shall be kept.

PRESIDENT:

Let us therefore confess our sins.

FORM B

ALL:

Most Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves; we have not loved ourselves as we ought. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us, that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your name. *Amen.*

THE ABSOLUTION

Page 124

PRESIDENT:

Almighty God have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

ALL: Amen.

PRESIDENT:

We are the Body of Christ. By the one Spirit we were all baptised into one Body, and have all been made to drink of the one Spirit.

ALL:

Let us then pursue the things that make for peace and build up the common life.

PRESIDENT:

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

ALL: And also with you.

THE MINISTRY OF THE SACRAMENT

The Offertory **Hymn ~ 83 (vs. 2 & 6 omitted)**

Of the Father's love begotten
ere the worlds began to be,
he is Alpha and Omega,
he the source, the ending he,
of the things that are, that have been,
and that future years shall see,
evermore and evermore.

O that birth for ever blessed!
When the Virgin, full of grace,
by the Holy Ghost conceiving,
bare the Saviour of our race,
and the Babe, the world's Redeemer,

first revealed his sacred face,
evermore and evermore.

O ye heights of heaven, adore him;
angel-hosts, his praises sing;
powers, dominions, bow before him,
and extol our God and King:
let no tongue on earth be silent,
every voice in concert ring,
evermore and evermore.

This is he whom seers and sages
sang of old with one accord;
whom the writings of the Prophets
promised in their faithful word;
now he shines, the long-expected:
let creation praise its Lord,
evermore and evermore.

Now let old and young men's voices,
join with boys' thy name to sing,
matrons, virgins, little maidens
in glad chorus answering;
let their guileless songs re-echo,
and the heart its praises bring,
evermore and evermore.

Christ, to thee, with God the Father,
and, O Holy Ghost, to thee,
hymn and chant, and high thanksgiving
and unwearied praises be,
honour, glory, and dominion,
and eternal victory,

evermore and evermore.

*Words: Aurelius Clemens Prudentius
(348-413), from Corde natus ex parentis,
Latin; translation: John Mason Neale (1818-1866),
And Henry Williams Baker (1821-1877)*

THE OFFERTORY PRAYER “B”

Page 126

PRESIDENT AND PEOPLE:

Father, we offer you these gifts which you have given us: this bread, this wine, this money. With them we offer ourselves, our lives, and our work, to become through your Holy Spirit a reasonable, holy, and lively sacrifice. As this bread and wine become the Body and Blood of Christ, so may we and all your people become channels of your love; through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

Page 126

PRESIDENT: The Lord be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

PRESIDENT: Lift up your hearts.

ALL: We lift them up to the Lord.

PRESIDENT: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

ALL: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

PRESIDENT:

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks, Father almighty, everlasting God: Because you gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be

born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfect Man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become your children.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

ALL:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might;
heaven and earth are full of your glory,
Hosanna in the highest!
Blessed is He who comes
in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest!**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING “A”

Page 131

PRESIDENT:

All Holy and glorious Father,
our Creator God,
we give you thanks
because in your loving wisdom
you brought all things into being,
and are truly worthy of praise
from every creature you have made.

Again and again
we have turned away from you;
yet in every age your steadfast love
has called us to return,
to live in union with you:
for it is your eternal purpose
to put new life into all things
and make them holy.

Through your Son, Jesus Christ
who took our human nature upon Him
you have redeemed the world
from the bondage of sin:
and by the power of your Holy Spirit
you have gathered a people to yourself,
to make known in every place
His perfect offering which He made
to the glory of your Name.

Hear us, therefore, Father,
through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord;
And grant that these gifts of bread and wine
may be unto us His Body and Blood.

For, on the night He was betrayed
He took bread,
and when He had given thanks to you,
He broke it and gave it to His disciples
and said: "Take this, and eat it:

This is my Body which is given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.”

And after supper
He took the cup of wine:
and when He had given thanks,
He gave it to them and said:
“Drink this, all of you:
This is my Blood of the New Covenant,
which is shed for you and for many
for the forgiveness of sins.
Whenever you drink it,
do this for the remembrance of me.”

PRESIDENT:

Let us proclaim the mystery of our faith.

ALL:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

PRESIDENT:

And so, Heavenly Father,
rejoicing in His Holy Incarnation;
His Blessed Passion and His Perfect Sacrifice
made once for all upon the Cross;
His Mighty Resurrection from the dead;

His Glorious Ascension into heaven;
and looking for His Coming in glory;
we offer to you this Bread and this Cup.

We pray that you will accept this sacrifice of
praise and thanksgiving;
and grant that all who eat and drink of the Body and Blood
of your Son, our great High Priest,
may be renewed by your Holy Spirit,
and be one Body, one Spirit, in Him.

Let faith and love increase in us.
Unite us with all Bishops,
all other ministers of your Word and Sacraments,
and with the whole people of God,
living and departed,
whom you have made for yourself.

Confirm us in holiness,
that we may be found ready to join the company
of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Holy Apostles,
and all your saints,
when our Lord Jesus Christ comes again:
Forever giving you thanks and praise
through Him for whom all good things do come.

With Him and in Him and through Him,
by the power of the Holy Spirit,
we worship you, Father Almighty,

with all who stand before you in earth and heaven,
in songs of everlasting praise:

ALL

**Blessing and honour and glory and power
be yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Page 144

PRESIDENT:

As our Saviour has taught us, so we 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 BREAKING OF THE BREAD "A"

Page 145

PRESIDENT:

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

ALL:

Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.

THE COMMUNION

The Invitation “A”

Page 145

PRESIDENT:

My brothers and sisters in Christ, draw near and receive His Body, which He gave for you, and His Blood, which He shed for you. Remember that He died for you, and feed on Him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

ALL:

Grant gracious Lord that we may so eat the flesh of your Dear Son Jesus Christ, and drink His blood, that we may evermore dwell in Him and He in us. Amen.

THE AGNUS DEI

Page 147

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:
grant us peace.**



**The Administration of Communion/Spiritual
Communion**

The Communion Hymn ~ 81

O come, Redeemer of mankind, appear,
thee with full hearts the Virgin-born we greet;
let every age with rapt amazement hear
that wondrous birth which for our God is meet.

Not by the will of man, or mortal seed,
but by the Spirit's breathed mysterious grace
the Word of God became our flesh indeed,
and grew a tender plant of human race.

Lo! Mary's virgin womb its burthen bears;
nor less abides her virgin purity;
in the King's glory see our nature shares;
here in his temple God vouchsafes to be.

From his bright chamber, virtue's holy shrine,
the royal Bridegroom cometh to the day;
of twofold substance, human and divine,
as giant swift, rejoicing on his way.

Forth from His Father to the world he goes,
back to the Father's face his way regains,
far down to souls beneath his glory shows,
again at God's right hand victorious reigns.

With the Eternal Father equal, thou
girt with our flesh dost triumph evermore,
strengthening our feeble bodies here below
with endless grace from thine own living store.

How doth thy lowly manger radiant shine!
On the sweet breath of night new splendor grows;

so may our spirits glow with faith Divine,
where no dark cloud of sin shall interpose.

All praise and glory to the Father be,
all praise and glory to his only son,
all praise and glory, Holy Ghost, to thee,
both now, and while eternal ages run.

*Words: Ambrose of Milan (339-397),
From Veni Redemptor gentium, Latin;
Translation: David Thomas Morgan (1809-1886)*

THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER “A” Page 147

ALL:

Almighty Father, we thank you for feeding us with the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ. May we who share His Body live His risen life; we who drink His cup bring life to others; we upon whom your Spirit shines gives light to the world. Help us to continue in faithful witness to your Word, so we and all your children shall be free, and the whole earth live to praise your Name, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE BLESSING “Christmas” Page 149

Christ, who by His incarnation gathered into one, all things earthly and heavenly, fill you with His joy and peace; and the Blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

ALL: Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Recessional **Hymn** ~ 91

While shepherds watched their flocks by night,
all seated on the ground,
the angel of the Lord came down,
and glory shone around.

‘Fear not,’ said he (for mighty dread
had seized their troubled mind);
‘Glad tidings of great joy I bring
to you and all mankind.

‘To you in David’s town this day
is born of David’s line
a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord;
and this shall be the sign:

‘The heavenly Babe you there shall find
to human view displayed,
all meanly wrapped in swathing bands,
and in a manger laid.’

Thus spake the seraph; and forthwith
appeared a shining throng
of angels praising God, who thus
addressed their joyful song:

‘All glory be to God on high,
and to the earth be peace;
good will henceforth from heaven to men
begin and never cease.’

Words: Nahum Tate (1652-1715)

PRESIDENT:

Go in peace and serve the Lord.

ALL

In the name of Christ. Amen.

Organ Postlude

(Worshippers are invited to sit silently and listen to the voluntary, however, those who wish to leave at this point may do so quietly.)



The First Sunday after Christmas Day ~ Year C

First Reading: Isaiah 61:10—62:3

Comment: *“Clothed in garments of salvation”*

In our Hebrew Bible **reading the prophet joyfully responds on behalf of all God’s people to the Lord’s promises for a redeemed Jerusalem.** He is a messenger to those who are poor and have suffered many troubles. Now he feels himself clothed in salvation and integrity, like a bridegroom or bride. In the sight of all people, this nation shall become like a fresh garden. The prophet will not keep silence until the deliverance of Jerusalem is known throughout the world.

Psalm 147:13-21

A hymn of praise to the Lord, who rules over nature and has shown faithfulness to Jerusalem and God’s people Israel.

Second Reading (**The Epistle**): Galatians 3:23-25, 4:4-7

Comment: *“Children and heirs of God”*

In this epistle lesson, **Paul explains what the role of the law has been and how, in our new relationship of faith, we have become sons and heirs of the Father.** Before the coming of Christ and justification by faith, we were like small children who had to be closely watched. God’s own Son was born a subject of the law. Through him we now are given the status of sons coming into their maturity. We are enabled, through the Spirit of his Son, to call upon God with the same Aramaic word for Father that Jesus is remembered to have used, *Abba*.

The Holy Gospel: John 1:1-18

Comment: *“The word became flesh”*

The gospel opens with **a hymn to the expression of God’s very being, God’s Word, who has now become flesh and lived among us.** Through the Word all things have their life. The Word is the light of all humankind, and was witnessed to by John the Baptist. Although the world made by the Word did not recognise the Word, those who believe in the Word have been given the right to become the children of God.

Bishop of Barbados

The Right Reverend Michael Bruce St. John Maxwell, M.A.

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BISHOP MAXWELL'S CHRISTMAS MESSAGE TO THE NATION

Dear Family of God,

I greet you with the love, joy, peace and hope of Christmas as we begin this season to commemorate and celebrate the Nativity of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, the Light of the World.

Despite all that continues to unfold around us and affect us in our troubled world today, particularly due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and its ripple effects, we as Christians continue to observe and joyously celebrate Christmas because of the good news such a commemoration always has to offer for all phases and stages of life.

This Christian season reminds us and reinforces that the God we serve is not a Creator who simply formed us out of the dust, placed us in this world and left us to navigate our lives without His divine assistance but that He is One who, because of His endless love, is ever mindful of us and deeply

concerned about our wellbeing. It is because of that great love that He came to be One with us in the person of His Son Jesus on that first Christmas morn. On that morn, He was born in a messy stable, in circumstances that were certainly symbolic of the unstable and troubled world and era into which He came. He entered at a time, very similar to ours at present, when there were persons isolated from mainstream society due to incurable diseases or mental and spiritual illnesses, when there was great disparity between the wealthy and the needy, the practice of idolatry, the level of immorality was on the rise and political oppression and greed were the order of the day under the Roman Empire. It was into such a world that Jesus was born in that messy stable to be God's anointed and to offer guidance, deliverance, transformation, peace and hope (that confident expectation of a good future) so long as we rest our lives in Him. In fact, Jesus came to reveal that this is the loving and liberating nature of our God who desires, and will give His all, to change our circumstances in life for the better; but it is for us to receive God's Christmas gift and desire that change as well.

One of the primary reasons we therefore celebrate this season is because of the love God demonstrated in sending His Son, not to condemn or to destroy the world for its waywardness but to offer us the opportunity to reset our lives - to be regenerated or reborn to a newness of life. He has provided the means for us to realign ourselves with our created purpose because for some time this world has been "malfunctioning" due to human error. It is therefore, my friends, incumbent upon us as Christians to celebrate this season even at this time when our world appears to be in disarray, when hope seems to be waning or in some instances lost, because we have the confidence that our God is the same yesterday, today and

forever. He continues to be here with and for us to strengthen, guide, support and deliver us. As He works through His Son and the Holy Spirit for the resetting of our lives, our God empowers us to stand strong and address and overcome the ills of our times and to live in true love for, and at peace with, Him and each other. The word 'RESET' (with which we shall become very familiar in the coming year) when used as an acronym can highlight for us the loving mission of God that commenced that first Christmas morn as He came in Jesus Christ to R - Reach (out to) us, E - Enlighten us (through the Word made flesh), S - Sanctify us (by His sacrificial death), E - Empower us (through His Enabling Spirit) and T - Transform us (through the spiritual renewal of our minds). In Jesus Christ, God has provided the means of erasing our human errors and granting us a reset of our lives to bring forth peace on earth and love and goodwill to be shared among all peoples. That's the gift of Christmas we celebrate at this time!

I therefore urge us, my friends, not to lose hope in the face of a world currently in turmoil, heightened by the pandemic, climatic and economic crisis that continue to unfold, because we are reminded in this season that God still comes to us, abides with us, to freely offer in love the resetting of our lives and our world. May this Christmas season be one in which we all sincerely, joyously and graciously celebrate, and accept anew, God's gift of our incarnate Lord to do His work in our lives. May our hearts be always open to be visited, taught, blessed, guided, strengthened and restored by Jesus to a life of righteousness, peace, joy and love; and be assured that our Creator God offers us once again, amid these challenging times, the opportunity to also reset our Church and our Republic to be aligned with His divine purposes.

I wish you, and those near and dear to you, on behalf of my family and myself, a blessed and peaceful Christmas season and God’s continued blessing for the year 2022.

Your Friend and Bishop,

+Michael Barbados

CATHEDRAL NEWS

Financial Stewardship: The ministry of the Cathedral is supported primarily by its members’ contributions weekly and monthly. However, if you would like to support the stewardship of this sacred place, please donate to St. Michael’s Cathedral, Bridgetown, St. Michael.

Friends and well-wishers may write to stmichaelcathedral@caribsurf.com or call 1 246-427-0790 for more details. Meantime, donations can be made through online payments to St. Michael’s Cathedral, CIBC First Caribbean International Bank, Bridgetown Branch, Account # 2719302; Transit # 09606.

Special projects at this time are:

- i. Ash-fall Clean-up (cost: \$15,000.00; donations as at September 30th, 2021: **\$4,961.00**); and,
- ii. Online Ministry – estimate under consideration.

Donations may also be made in marked envelopes and placed in the Offering Box or brought to the Administrative Office. All donations are appreciated.

Gift List: In addition to those monetary gifts, members and well-wishers are also encouraged to donate towards the

Vestments, Paraments and Linens of the Cathedral. The following are needed at this time:

1. Rose Cope and Stole - \$1,200.00
2. Pulpit and Lectern Hangings (Blue/Rose/Purple)
3. Altar Frontals
4. Altar Linens (corporals, purificators, towels)
5. Video Equipment (cameras, cabling and monitors)
6. Trays

Thank you for your generosity and may God bless everyone, as together, we work to be faithful stewards of His bounty.

“Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.” (2 Corinthians 9:7)

FLORAL TRIBUTES:

The Officers and members of the Flower Guild wish to express sincere thanks and appreciation to all persons who made contributions of flowers this Christmastide.

- The Rev'd Stephanie-Ann Wedderburn
- Mrs. Shirley Hurley
- Mrs. Jeanette Rollock, for her birthday.
- Mr. Adrien Jones and Mrs. Beverley Jones in memory of their loved ones.
- Ms. Patricia Collins and Mrs. Tricia Collins for their birthdays.
- The Maxwell Family in commemoration of Major Lubin “Charlie” Maxwell’s birthday.

- Mrs. Velda Alleyne and family, in memory of her son Mr. Jeffrey DaCosta Johnson.
- Ms. Sherry Cumberbatch, in memory of her brother Mr. Ian Storey who died on December 24th, 2000
- Ms. Eula Maureen Linton Linton on the anniversary of her confirmation on 15th December 1962 ~ 59 years ago.



THE DAILY OFFICES: The recitation of Morning and Evening Prayer forms part of the discipline of clergy and laity. The Daily Office can also serve as a personal or family discipline. The Daily Lectionary for Cycle **C** begins on page 737, in the Book of Common Prayer. Note further that this year is Year 2, and the readings for Sunday are Psalms 93 and 96, 1 Samuel 1:1-2, 7b-28; Colossians 1:9-20; for Monday, December 27th, 2021, the readings are Hebrews 2:10-18; Psalms 148, 149 and 150; and Isaiah 41:17-20; and for the rest of the week as follows on page 739.



THEME FOR THE WEEK

“God reveals himself as he reveals his will for us.”



***Congratulations to all those persons celebrating
birthdays this week 26th December to 1st January 2022***

***Ms. Tricia Collins ~ 17th
Ma. Olga E. Marshall ~ 30th
Mr. Wilbur Belle ~ 31st
Mrs. Jeanette Rollock ~ 31st
Ms. Sandra I. Daniel ~ 1st***



May God bless and strengthen you.



The Sick:



***Please remember the sick or injured of our
Parish and wider community, especially Mr.
Aldon and Mrs. Margaret Browne, Ms. Elsie
Brunson, Mrs. Colleen Byer, Ms. Eudora
Cooper, Ms. Alice P. Hall, Mr. Jonathan Holder,
Mrs. Olga Holder, Ms. Marcia Hoyte, Ms. Selina
Jones, Mr. Blair Murray, Mrs. Eleanor Small, Ms. Phyllis
Springer, Ms. Winifred Trotman, Mr. Arlington Watson,
Ms. Marcia Watson, and Mr. Ronald Wilkinson.***

**I pray to the Almighty
to bring you healing
and a speedy
recovery...**

**Get Well
Soon...**



Sick & Shut-in



Monica Asgill, Eudine Best, Monte
Blenman, Rodney Bramao,
Elmina Branch-Butler, Elsie Brunson,
Clarissa Carrington, Dorothy Carrington,
Olive Clarke, Gloria Griffith, Ismay
Cave, Mr. Justice Errol Chase, Mildred
Cox-Inniss, Ruby Downes, Muriel Foster,

Gwendolyn Franklyn, Beryl Giles, Olga Holder, Muriel
Hutson, Dorothy Jarvis, Milroy King, Ina Lashley, Olga
Marshall, Ernesta Mayers, Lawrence Mayers, Audrey
Miller, Sheila McCollin, Marlene Moore, Dorothy Morris,
Edise Morris, Ivan Newton, Rosalind Nurse, Elnor
Patterson, Marie Prescott, Sheila Sealy, Veronica Sealy,
Phyllis Springer, Mary Walcott, Joan Walrond, Lucille
Ward, Marcia Watson, Audrey Weekes, Aileen White,
Ezekiel Wood, Ernesta Yarde and Eudora Yearwood.



Bereavement: We extend sincere
condolences to the family of the late Ms.
Margaret Archer, sister of Mrs. Chloe Grant,
Vergers of St. Michael's Cathedral, and aunt
of Mr. Renaldo Grant; and the families of

Mr. Charles Gibson. We thank God for their lives, work, and
witness among us.

May you know the blessedness of those who mourn.



CATHEDRAL MINISTRIES

Today, Sunday December 26th, 2021
The First Sunday after Christmas Day

7:00 A.M. ~ Holy Eucharist

9:00 A.M. ~ Sung Eucharist



Wednesday, December 29th, 2021

10:00 A.M. ~ Holy Eucharist



Friday, December 31st, 2021
11:00 P.M. ~ Watchnight Service



Sunday January 2nd, 2022
First Sunday after Christmas Day

7:00 A.M. ~ Holy Eucharist

9:00 A.M. ~ Sung Eucharist



OFFICERS OF THE CHURCH COUNCIL

Church Warden Emeritus

Mr. Arlington DaCosta Watson, BSM, J.P.

Church Wardens:

Mr. Samuel Maxwell Mr. Victor Sylvester

Secretary: Ms. Donnah Russell

Assistant Secretary: Mrs. Juno Burrows

Treasurer: Mr. David Murray

Assistant Treasurer: Ms. Harriett Clarke

Synod Representatives

Mr. Darwin Clarke

Mr. Samuel Maxwell, J.P.

Dr. Wendy Sealy

Alternative Synod Representative

Ms. Donna Inniss



LEADERS OF ORGANISATIONS AND MINISTRIES

Men's Fellowship:	Mr. John Moore
Mothers' Union:	Mrs. Colleen Byer
Church Army:	Captain Donnah Russell
Woman's Auxiliary:	Vacant
Ushers Guild:	Mrs. Juno Burrows
Outreach Committee:	Mrs. Delores Hinds
Guild of Servers:	Mr. Jerry Alleyne
Health Ministry:	Dr. Wendy Sealy
Sunday School:	Mrs. Harriett Blackman
Flower Guild:	Vacant
Guild of St. Raphael:	Mr. Darwin Clarke



CONTACT US

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<http://www.youtube.com/c/SaintMichaelsCathedralBarbados>

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St. Michael's Row, Bridgetown

Office Hours:

Monday – Friday: 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.

Telephone: 1 (246) 427-0790 (Office)

Telephone: 1 (246) 437-4265 (Dean's Residence)