



St. Michael's Cathedral

Services

for

The Fourth Sunday in Lent: Year C

Sunday, March 30, 2025

7:00 A.M. & 9:00 A.M.

"To be a guiding light of Christ's grace, justice, freedom and love".

**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.

Organist/Choirmaster

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

Organist

Mr. Eric Cobham, B.Sc., BMus.

Administrative Assistant

Ms. Armel M. Marshall, B.Sc.; Cert SM; Cert HRM

Vergers

Mrs. Chloe Grant

The Fourth Sunday in Lent: **YEAR C**

7:00 A.M. ~ Holy Eucharist

President and Preacher:

The Rev'd Gregory Gibson, B.A., CIM

9:00 A.M. ~ Sung Eucharist

President: The Rev'd Canon George Knight

Preacher: The Rev'd Gregory Gibson, B.A., CIM

Lay Eucharistic Minister: Dr. Sherlock Bradshaw

ORDER OF WORSHIP

THE PREPARATION

Organ Prelude

The Opening **Hymn ~ 413**

Guide me, O thou great Redeemer,
pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but thou art mighty,
hold me with thy powerful hand:
bread of heaven,
feed me now and evermore.

Open now the crystal fountain
whence the healing stream doth flow;
let the fiery cloudy pillar
lead me all my journey through:
strong deliverer,
be thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan,
bid my anxious fears subside;
death of death, and hell's destruction,
land me safe on Canaan's side:
songs and praises
I will ever give to thee.

Opening Sentence "**Lent**"

Page 98

Be imitators of God as beloved children. And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave Himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God. *Ephesians 5:1, 2*

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.

Let us pray.

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that He may live in us, and we in Him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

First Lesson: **Joshua 5:9-12**

Lectors: 7:00 A.M. ~ Ms. Marlene Barrow

9:00 A.M. ~ Ms. Margaret Aimey

A reading from the Word of God written in the Book of Joshua, the fifth chapter, beginning at the ninth verse.

The LORD said to Joshua, "Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt." And so that place is called Gilgal to this day.

While the Israelites were camped in Gilgal they kept the passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho. On the day after the passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year.

LECTOR: The Word of the Lord.

ALL: **Thanks be to God.**

- 1 **H**appy are they whose transgressions are forgiven,
* and whose sin is put away!
- 2 Happy are they to whom the LORD imputes no
guilt, * and in whose spirit there is no guile!
- 3 While I held my tongue, my bones withered away,
* because of my groaning all day long.
- 4 For your hand was heavy upon me day and night; *
my moisture was dried up as in the heat of
summer.
- 5 Then I acknowledged my sin to you, *
and did not conceal my guilt.
- 6 I said, " I will confess my transgressions to
the LORD." *
Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.
- 7 Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to
you in time of trouble; *
when the great waters overflow, they shall not
reach them.
- 8 You are my hiding-place;
you preserve me from trouble; *
you surround me with shouts of deliverance.
- 9 "I will instruct you and teach you in the way that
you should go; *
I will guide you with my eye.
- 10 Do not be like horse or mule, which have no
understanding; *
who must be fitted with bit and bridle,
or else they will not stay near you."
- 11 Great are the tribulations of the wicked; *
but mercy embraces those who trust in
the LORD.

12 Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the LORD; *
shout for joy, all who are true of heart.

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: **2 Corinthians 5:16-21**

Lectors: 7:00 A.M. ~ Mr. Victor Small

9:00 A.M. ~ Mrs. Juno Burrows

A reading from the Word of God written in the Second Letter of Paul to the Corinthians, the fifth chapter, beginning at the sixteenth verse.

From now on, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

LECTOR: The Word of the Lord.

ALL: **Thanks be to God.**

The Gradual **Hymn** ~ 119

Lord Jesus, think on me,
and purge away my sin;
from earthborn passions set me free,
and make me pure within.

Lord Jesus, think on me,
with many a care opprest;
let me thy loving servant be,
and taste thy promised rest.

Lord Jesus, think on me,
nor let me go astray;
through darkness and perplexity
point thou the heavenly way.

Lord Jesus, think on me,
that, when the flood is past,
I may the eternal brightness see,
and share thy joy at last.

*Words: Synesius of Cyrene (c373-c414),
from translation: Allen W. Chatfield (1808-1886)*

The Holy Gospel: Luke **15:1-3, 11b-32**

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

GOSPELLER: The Lord be with you.

ALL: **And also with you.**

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

ALL: Glory to Christ Our Saviour.

All the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to Jesus. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them."

So Jesus told them this parable:

"There was a man who had two sons. The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.' So he divided his property between them. A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands."' So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. Then the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his slaves, 'Quickly, bring out a robe--the best one--and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his

feet. And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate.

"Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. He replied, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.' Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. But he answered his father, 'Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!' Then the father said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.'"

GOSPELLER: The Gospel of Christ.

ALL: Praise to Christ our Lord.

The Sermon: The Rev'd Gregory Gibson, B.A., CIM

The Nicene Creed

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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: 7:00 A.M. ~ Ms. Donnah Russell, J.P.
9:00 A.M. ~ Ms. Danita Layne**

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

God of love, we pray for your church: For Michael, our Diocesan Bishop; for wisdom and discernment in the selection of the next Archbishops of the Church in the Province of the West Indies and for the Province of Canterbury, Church of England; for the Province of the Anglican Church of the Congo; for all lay and ordained ministers; and for all who seek you in the community of the faithful. Equip us with compassion and love, to carry out your work of reconciliation in the world.

Silence.

God of love,

Hear our prayers for the church.

God of freedom, we pray for our nation and for the civil parish of St. Thomas as it climaxes this month's celebration of 'We Gatherin'; and all the nations of the world, specifically Ukraine, Sudan, South Sudan, Palestine, Haiti, and Trinidad and Tobago: For peace and unity across barriers of language, colour, and creed; for elected and appointed leaders, that they would serve the common good. Inspire all people with courage to speak out against hatred, to actively resist evil. Unite the human family in bonds of love.

Silence.

God of freedom,
Hear our prayers for the world.

God of justice, we pray for the earth, your creation entrusted to our care: For the animals and birds, the mountains and oceans, and all parts of your creation that have no voice of their own. Stir up in us a thirst for justice that protects the earth and all its resources, that we may leave to our children's children the legacy of beauty and abundance that you have given us.

Silence.

God of justice,
Hear our prayers for the earth.

God of peace, we pray for the communities of our diocese: especially for the Anglican presence in the civil parish of St. Thomas: the Parish Priests, namely The Rev'd Peter Boxill at Holy Innocents and The Rev'd Audrey Griffith at the Parish Church of St. Thomas. For our local leaders; for our schools and workplaces; for our neighbourhoods and homes. Kindle in every heart a desire for equality, respect, and opportunity for all. Give us courage to strive for justice and peace among all people.

Silence.

God of peace,
Hear our prayers for our communities.

God of mercy, we pray for all in any kind of need or trouble:

For those whose lives are closely linked with ours, especially persons who will be celebrating a birthday this week: namely Xenia A. Watson, Coral E. Riley, Ricardo A. Rollock, Bernadette Farquhar; and those connected to us as part of the human family. For refugees and prisoners; for the sick and suffering, the lonely and despairing; for those facing violence; for all held down by prejudice or injustice. Awaken in us compassion and humility of spirit, as we seek and serve Christ in all persons.

Silence.

God of mercy,

Hear our prayers for all who are in need.

God of grace, we pray for those who have died, especially Mildred Cox-Inniss, and The Rev'd Stephanie-Ann Wedderburn; for the faithful in every generation who have worked for justice; for prophets who called us to racial reconciliation; for martyrs who died because of hatred; and for all the communion of saints. Make us faithful to your call to proclaim your Good News, by word and example, and bring us at last into the glorious company of the saints in light.

Silence.

God of grace,

Hear our prayers for those who have died.

May Almighty God have mercy on us grant us courage and conviction, and strengthen us to love others who are unlike

us. May God, the Holy and Undivided Trinity, make us compassionate in our actions and courageous in our works, that we may see Christ's Beloved Community in our own day. **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. (*1 John 1:8,9*)

A period of silence shall be kept.

PRESIDENT:

Let us therefore confess our sins.

FORM B

Page 124

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.

The Greeting of Peace “B”

Page 125

PRESIDENT:

If you are offering your gift at the altar, and there remember that your brother or sister has something against you.

ALL:

Leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift.

PRESIDENT: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

ALL: And also with you.

HYMN OF FELLOWSHIP: “Let there be peace on earth”

Let there be peace on earth
And let it begin with me
Let there be peace on earth
The peace that was meant to be
With God our Creator
Children all are we
Let us walk with each other
In perfect harmony.

Let peace begin with me
Let this be the moment now
With every step I take

Let this be my solemn vow
To take each moment
And live each moment
In peace eternally
Let there be peace on earth
And let it begin with me.

Words: Jill Jackson; Melody: Sy Miller (1945)

THE MINISTRY OF THE SACRAMENT

The Offertory Hymn ~ 504

JUST as I am, without one plea
but that thy blood was shed for me,
and that thou bidst me come to thee,
O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am, though tossed about
with many a conflict, many a doubt,
fightings and fears, within, without,
O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind;
sight, riches, healing of the mind,
yea, all I need, in thee to find,
O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am, thou wilt receive,
wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve:
because thy promise I believe,
O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am (thy love unknown

has broken every barrier down),
now to be thine, yea, Thine alone,
O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am, of that free love
the breadth, length, depth, and height to prove,
here for a season, then above,
O Lamb of God, I come.

Words: Charlotte Elliot (1789-1871)

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 you thanks, Father almighty, everlasting God: *(Go to page 128)*

For you bid your faithful people cleanse their hearts, and prepare with joy for the Paschal feast; that, fervent in prayer and in works of mercy, and renewed by your Word and Sacraments, they may come to the fullness of grace which you have prepared for those who love you. *(Go to page 131)*

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!**

(Please sit or kneel as able)

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING “B”

Page 135

PRESIDENT:

Holy and gracious Father,
all creation rightly gives you praise.
All life, all holiness, comes from you

through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord,
whom you sent to share our human nature,
to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you,
the God and Father of all.

We therefore bring you these gifts,
and we ask you to make them holy
by the power of your Spirit,
that they may become the Body and Blood of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ,
who offered Himself in obedience to your will,
the Perfect Sacrifice for all mankind.

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."

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.
Do this, whenever you drink it,

For the remembrance of me."

ALL:

When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim the death of Christ until He comes again.

PRESIDENT:

Father, calling to mind the death your Son endured for our salvation;

His glorious Resurrection and Ascension;

His continual intercession for us in heaven;

and looking for His coming again in glory,

we offer you, in thanksgiving,

this holy and life-giving sacrifice.

Look with favour on your Church's offering,

and grant that we who eat and drink these holy gifts

may be filled with your Holy Spirit

and become one body in Christ,

and serve you in unity, constancy and peace.

May He make us a perpetual offering to you and enable us,

in communion with blessed Mary

and the whole company of heaven,

to share in the inheritance of your Saints.

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 "C"

Page 145

PRESIDENT:

This is the true bread which comes from heaven.

ALL:

Whoever eats this bread will live forever.

THE COMMUNION

(All baptized members of the Church, as inspired, may come to the altar and receive Holy Communion)

The Invitation “Form “C”

Page 146

PRESIDENT:

Draw near and receive the Body and Blood of our Saviour Jesus Christ with faith and thanksgiving.

ALL:

We do not presume to come to this your table, most merciful Father, trusting in our own righteousness, but only in your boundless mercy. We are not even worthy to gather up the crumbs under your table. But you are the Lord ever the same, ever merciful. Grant therefore, Lord of grace and love, that we may so eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ and drink His blood, that with bodies and souls made clean from every stain of sin 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 Hymns ~ 162 & 463

We sing the praise of him who died,
of him who died upon the cross;
the sinner's hope let men deride,
for this we count the world but loss.

Inscribed upon the cross we see
in shining letters, 'God is love;'
he bears our sins upon the tree;
he brings us mercy from above.

The cross! It takes our guilt away;
it holds the fainting spirit up;
it cheers with hope the gloomy day,
and sweetens every bitter cup.

It makes the coward spirit brave,
and nerves the feeble arm for fight;
it takes its terror from the grave,
and gilds the bed of death with light:

The balm of life, the cure of woe,
the measure and the pledge of love,
the sinner's refuge here below,
the angel's theme in heaven above.

Words: Thomas Kelly (1769-c1854)

Hymn ~ 463

Come, thou fount of every blessing,
tune my heart to sing thy praise!
Streams of mercy never ceasing,
call for songs of loudest praise.

Teach me some melodious sonnet,
sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise the mount! Oh, fix me on it,
mount of God's unchanging love.

Here I find my greatest treasure;
hither, by thy help, I've come;
and I hope, by thy good pleasure,
safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger
wandering from the fold of God;
he, to rescue me from danger,
interposed his precious blood.

Oh, to grace how great a debtor
daily I'm constrained to be!
Let thy goodness, like a fetter,
bind my wandering heart to thee:
prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,
prone to leave the God I love;
here's my heart, oh, take and seal it,
seal it for thy courts above.

Words: Robert Robinson (1735-1790), alt.

THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER “B”

Page 148

**Eternal God and Heavenly Father,
we thank you for feeding us,
with the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you, and all persons in you,**

with gladness and singleness of heart,
through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*

THE BLESSING “*Lent*”

Page 150

PRESIDENT:

Christ give you grace to grow in holiness, to deny yourselves, take up your cross, and follow Him; and the Blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Recessional **Hymn ~ 690**

Jerusalem the golden,
with milk and honey blest,
beneath thy contemplation
sink heart and voice opprest.
I know not, O, I know not
what joys await us there,
what radiancy of glory,
what bliss beyond compare.

They stand, those halls of Sion,
all jubilant with song,
and bright with many an angel,
and all the martyr throng;
the Prince is ever with them,
the daylight is serene,
the pastures of the blessed
are decked in glorious sheen.

There is the throne of David;
and there, from care released,
the shout of them that triumph,
the song of them that feast;
and they, who with their Leader
have conquered in the fight,
for ever and for ever
are clad in robes of white.

O sweet and blessèd country,
the home of God's elect!
O sweet and blessèd country
that eager hearts expect!
Jesu, in mercy bring us
to that dear land of rest;
who art, with God the Father
and Spirit, ever blest.

*Words: Bernard of Cluny (fl c1200-c1250), from Urbs Syon aurea, Latin;
translation: John Mason Neale (1818-1866), and
Editors of Hymns Ancient and Modern.
Translation © Hymns Ancient and Modern (admin. Hope Publishing Co.)*

THE DISMISSAL

Page 152

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 FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

First Reading: Joshua 5:9-12

Comment: *“Israel eats bread and grain, the produce of the land”*

The Old Testament reading tells of **the first Passover kept by the Israelites after they had crossed over the Jordan River into the promised land.** Now that they can eat the produce of the countryside, there is no longer need for the miraculous manna of the wilderness. This happens at Gilgal, a name meaning *wheel*, which suggests the wordplay as God declares the reproaches of the people to be *rolled* away.

Psalm 32

A thanksgiving for the forgiveness of sin.

Second Reading (The Epistle): 2 Corinthians 5:16-21

Comment: *“The mystery and ministry of reconciliation”*

In this passage, **Paul celebrates the new perspective that comes in Christ, and God’s reconciling work in Christ that now makes its appeal to others through his disciples.** Those who are united to Christ are part of a new order of creation. For our sake Christ experienced the consequences of human sin that we might have a right relationship with God. Now we are ambassadors of this message of reconciliation.

The Holy Gospel: Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

Comment: *“The parable of the prodigal father and the repentant son”*

Our gospel is **the parable of the prodigal son, his elder brother, and their loving father.** Hearers are meant to participate in the story by experiencing how it feels to be these individuals. One notices that the wastrel son thinks his father will only take him back if he promises to work hard and form a legalistic relationship with him. But what is the father to do when he sees his long-lost son coming down the road? How is the elder son to react to his brother’s joyous welcome? The parable closes by leaving that last question to us.

CATHEDRAL NEWS

1. **FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP:** The ministry, mission and maintenance of the Cathedral is supported primarily by its members’ contributions weekly and monthly. However, contributions are appreciated from anyone. An invitation is extended to all visitors and well-wishers to support the financial needs 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.

2. **INITIAL OFFERING:** A total of (\$3,221.00) has been received for the Initial Offering. Sincere thanks to all.

Members who have not made their offering as yet are asked to do so as soon as possible.

“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)

3. BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATIONS - CATHEDRAL REVITALIZATION 2024 and BEYOND: Mission – Ministry - Maintenance - Money.

- I. This campaign aims to revitalize the Cathedral’s heritage; to strengthen congregational vitality; and to build the Church for tomorrow. All are invited to get involved and to recommend the programme to others, especially persons who were nurtured in this sacred place.

- II. **DONATION CARDS:** Please note that Cards are still available for members to solicit donations from family, friends and well-wishers to support the Cathedral. Your continued generosity and kind cooperation would be greatly appreciated.

- III. **MINISTRY:** Opportunities are available for members to serve the Cathedral as **Lay Eucharistic Ministers** (primarily to administer communion to the Shut-in); **Servers** (to prepare the Sanctuary for worship, maintaining and caring for the sacred vessels, altar linens, and vestments, and assisting the clergy; and **Audio Technicians** (to assist, set up and monitor the sound equipment during services). Interested persons are asked to contact The

Dean. Please note that training will be provided for each ministry.



BIRTHDAYS: Congratulations to all those celebrating their birthdays this week March 30 to April 5, 2025.

- 1 Ms. Xenia A. Watson
- 3 Ms. Coral E. Riley
- 5 Mr. Ricardo A. Rollock
- Dr. Bernadette Farquhar



May God bless and strengthen you.



SICK: Please remember the sick or injured of our Parish and wider community, especially Daphne Browne, Margaret Browne, Colleen Byer, Darwin Clarke, Heather Coward-Downes, Alice P. Hall, Martin Haynes, Beverley Hinds, Jonathan Holder, Marcia Hoyte, Selina Jones, Jeffrey Mascoll, Marlene Moore, Blair Murray, Clyde Outram, Sylvester (Blues) Sargeant, Sheila Sealy, Claudette Sealy, Phyllis Springer, Winifred Trotman, The Rt. Rev'd Dr. Sir Wilfred Wood, Basil Worrell, Ernesta Yarde and George Yearwood.



BEREAVEMENT: We extend sincere condolences to the families of the late:



- Mrs. Mildred Cox-Inniss (Shut-in)
- The Rev'd Stephanie-Ann Wedderburn (Assistant Priest)

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

May the bereaved families know the blessedness of those who mourn.



THEME FOR THE WEEK

“Our Lenten penances are our Passover to better Christian lives.”



CATHEDRAL MINISTRIES

Today, Sunday, March 30, 2025

The Fourth Sunday in Lent

7:00 A.M. ~ Holy Eucharist

9:00 A.M. ~ Sung Eucharist



Wednesday, April 2, 2025

10:00 A.M. ~ A Public Service of Healing



Thursday, April 3, 2025

9:30 A.M. ~ Harrison College Annual Founder's Day Service



EPIPHANY WATERS:

Sincere thanks to all who have placed an order for an Epiphany Water Bottle. Please note that the order has arrived and members may collect theirs as soon as possible. The cost is \$10.00.

Water is always seen in Christian theology as a means of **purification**, and so we ask God to **cleans**e us every time we use holy water. Below is a short prayer that is taken directly from **Psalm 51**, and perfectly summarizes the symbolism found in using holy water to bless ourselves.

Sprinkle me, O Lord, with hyssop, and I shall be cleansed; wash me, and I shall be made whiter than the snow. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

LENTEN PROGRAMME 2025

1. **Diocesan Study: Were You There When They Crucified My Lord? Our History, Our Trauma, Ourselves: Reading the Psalms and the Parables of Jesus In A Barbadian Context.** This six (6) week study is as follows:

Week 1: Our Opportunity to Lament, To Cry for Mercy and to Grow: Psalm 103:13-18; and Luke 18:9-14.

Week 2: Our History, Our Trauma, Ourselves: Psalm 44:9-17; and Luke 15:3-10.

Week 3: Our History, Our Trauma, Ourselves – Eloquent Silence on Intergenerational Trauma in Barbados: Psalm 44:9-17; and Luke 15:11-32.

Week 4: Resisting Normalisation of Traumatic Slavery Imageries: Psalm 139:13-20; and Matthew 25:14-30.

Week 5: Were You There When They Crucified My Lord? Our Calling to Embody and Proclaim God’s Kingdom: Psalm 15:1-5; and Matthew 13:3-7, 24-33.

Week 6: Watchfulness and Cost of Embodying and Proclaiming the Kingdom: Psalm 119:33-40; Psalm 119:105-112; and Matthew 25:1-13.

Please note that the full booklet is available online. If parishioners have not already received the document, it may be sent to them, upon the submission of their WhatsApp numbers or email addresses to the Cathedral’s Office.

- 2. Cathedral’s Self-Denial Cards:** As was done previously, this year parishioners and friends are invited to participate in an act of self-denial, alms-giving and Bible Study under the theme: “Building The Beloved Community”. The Lenten Readings reflect the theme, “Reparations and the Beloved Community: Justice, Peace and Love”. The Self-Denial Cards, which were available from Ash Wednesday, are still available from the Ushers’ desk and the tables in the aisles. Be sure to collect yours today!



- 3. Welcome:** A cordial welcome is hereby extended to

The Rev'd Gregory Gibson, B.A., CIM. our guest preacher, today. Fr. Gregory was prepared for Confirmation in the Cathedral and was a member of All Souls. He answered the call to the ordained ministry. He graduated from the University of the West Indies and Codrington College; and subsequently served as Priest in Charge of St. Silas and St. Alban, in the Diocese of Barbados, before migrating to the US Virgin Islands. He is currently serving as Priest in Charge of St. Andrew's in The Pines Episcopal Church, Peachtree City, the Diocese of Atlanta, Georgia. Thanks! God's blessing for continued fulfilment in ministry.

- 4. Mid-Lent:** Today, the Fourth Sunday in Lent is called Refreshment, Mothering or Rose Sunday. There is the relaxation of the Lenten fast, hence the name "Refreshment Sunday". Correspondingly, the liturgical colours of the season are replaced with rose, hence the name "Rose Sunday".

**Daily Book of Common Prayer Readings
March 30 – April 5, 2025**

Day	Morning Readings	Evening Readings
The Fourth Sunday in Lent	Psalms 66, 67 Jeremiah 14:1-9, 17-22 Galatians 4:21—5:1	Psalms 19, 46 Genesis 48:8-22 Mark 8:11-21
Monday	Psalm 89:1-18 Jeremiah 16:10-21 Romans 7:1-12	Psalm 89:19-52 Genesis 49:1-28 John 6:1-15
Tuesday	Psalms 97, 99 [100] Jeremiah 17:19-27 Romans 7:13-25	Psalms 94, [95] Genesis 49:29—50:14 John 6:16-27
Wednesday	Psalms 101, 109:1-4(5- 19) 20-30 Jeremiah 18:1-11 Romans 8:1-11	Psalm 119:121-144 Genesis 50:15-26 John 6:27-40
Thursday	Psalm 69:1-23(24-39)31- 38 Jeremiah 22:13-23 Romans 8:12-27	Psalm 73 Exodus 1:6-22 John 6:41-51
Friday	Psalms 95 (Invitatory) & 102 Jeremiah 23:1-8 Romans 8:28-39	Psalm 107:1-32 Exodus 2:1-22 John 6:52-59
Saturday	Psalms 107:33-43, 108:1- 6(7-13) Jeremiah 23:9-15 Romans 9:1-18	Psalm 33 Exodus 2:23—3:15 John 6:60-71 <i>Collect for 5 Lent</i>

SERMON NOTES:

OFFICERS OF THE CHURCH COUNCIL

Church Warden Emeritus

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

Church Wardens:

Mr. Samuel Maxwell, J. P. Mr. Victor Sylvester

Secretary: Ms. Donnah Russell, J.P.

Assistant Secretary: Mrs. Juno Burrows

Treasurer: Mr. David Murray

Assistant Treasurer: Ms. Harriett Clarke

Synod Representatives

Ms. Cyrilene P. Forde

Mr. Darnley King

Mr. Samuel Maxwell, J.P.

Alternative Synod Representative

Ms. Donna Inniss

LEADERS OF ORGANISATIONS AND MINISTRIES

Men's Fellowship:	Mr. John Moore
Mothers' Union:	Mrs. Margaret King-Austin
Church Army:	Captain Donnah Russell, J.P.
Woman's Auxiliary:	Vacant
Ushers Guild:	Mrs. Juno Burrows
Guild of Servers:	Mr. Jerry Alleyne
Health Ministry:	Dr. Wendy Sealy
Sunday School:	Mrs. Harriett Blackman
Flower Guild:	Mrs. Shirley Hurley
Guild of St. Raphael:	Mr. Darwin Clarke

Name: _____ Date: _____

DIRECTIONS:
Find and circle the
vocabulary words
in the grid. Look
for them in all
directions including
backwards and
diagonally.

ANGER
CALF
CELEBRATE
COMPASSION
ELDER
EMBRACE
FAMILY
FATHER
FATTED
FEAST
FORGIVENESS
FOUND
GRUDGE
HOMECOMING
HUMILITY
INHERITANCE
JEALOUSY
LESSONS
LOST
LOVE
MERCY
PARABLE
PRODIGAL
RECONCILIATION
REPENTANCE
RETURN
SINS
SON
WASTEFULNESS
YOUNGER

The Prodigal Son

Word Search



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CONTACT US

<http://www.saintmichaelscathedral.bb>

stmichaelcathedral@caribsurf.com

[Facebook.com/saintmichaelscathedral](https://www.facebook.com/saintmichaelscathedral)

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

Address:

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)