

Diocese of Barbados



**A Memorial Eucharist in Celebration of
the Life and Ministry of
The Most Rev'd Drexel Wellington Gomez**



January 24, 1937 - October 14, 2025

Former Bishop of Barbados (1972-1992)

**Former Diocesan Bishop of The Diocese of
The Bahamas & The Turks and Caicos Islands
(1996-2008)**

**Former Archbishop of The Church in
The Province of The West Indies (1998-2008)**

**The Cathedral Church of
St. Michael and All Angels Bridgetown**

**Saturday, January 24th, 2026
4:30 p.m.**

President

The Right Rev'd Michael B. St. J. Maxwell,
Bishop of Barbados

Dean

The Very Rev'd Dr. Jeffrey D. Gibson,
Dean the Cathedral Church of St. Michael & All Angels

The Preacher

The Rev'd Canon Noel A. Burke,
Rector of St. David

Intercessor

The Ven. Dr. Von E. Watson,
Archdeacon of Barbados

Deacon of the Liturgy

The Rev'd Re-Shan A. White, Assistant Curate,
The Cathedral Church of St. Michael & All Angels

The Gospeller

The Rev'd Reudon A. T. Eversley,
Honorary Assistant Curate, St. Joseph and St. Aidan

Lectors

Canon Elenor I. Lawrence, Provincial Secretary

Mr. Ivan N. Jessamy, Former Registrar of the Diocese of
Barbados

Organist and Master of Choristers

Mr. John F. Bryan

ORDER OF PRECESSION

Acolyte/ Crucifer / Acolyte

Choir

Altar Servers

Ordinands

Visiting Clergy

The Diocesan Clergy

The Rural Deans

Acolyte / Crucifer / Acolyte

Server

The Deacons of the Word and Liturgy

The Diocesan Registrar

The Chapter Crucifer

The Cathedral Chapter

The Dean's Verger

The Dean

Server

The Bishop's Chaplain

The Bishop

ORDER OF WORSHIP

THE PREPARATION

ORGAN PRELUDE

OPENING PRAYER

ORGAN VOLUNTARY ... *the entrance of the Servers, Choir, Clergy, Dean and Chapter and Bishop.*

INTROIT – In Remembrance (E. Daley) by the Cathedral Choir

IN MEMORIAM – The Dean

THE OPENING HYMN - 689 CPWI

In our day of thanksgiving one psalm let us offer

For the saints who before us have found their reward;
When the shadow of death fell upon them, we sorrowed,
But now we rejoice that they rest in the Lord.

In the morning of life, and at noon, and at even,
He called them away from our worship below;
But not till His love, at the font and the altar,
Had girt them with grace for the way they should go.

These stones that have echoed their praises are holy,
And dear is the ground where their feet have once trod;
Yet here they confessed they were strangers and pilgrims,
And still they were seeking the city of God.

Sing praise, then, for all who here sought and here found him,
Whose journey is ended, whose perils are past;
They believed in the Light; and its glory is round them,
Where the clouds of earth's sorrow are lifted at last.

OPENING SENTENCE

“I am sure that neither death nor life, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.” **Romans 8:38-39**

COLLECT FOR PURITY

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

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

THE GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

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: For the Departed

The President: The Lord be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

Let us pray,
Almighty God, we remember before you today your faithful servant Drexel Wellington; and we pray that, having opened to him the gates of larger life, you will receive him more and more into your joyful service, that, with all who have faithfully served you in the past, he may share in the eternal victory of Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

(Please sit)

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 25:6-9

Lector: Canon Elenor Lawrence, Provincial Secretary,
*Lay Canon, The Cathedral Church of St. George, Guyana, the
Diocese of Guyana and Cayenne*

A reading from the Word of God written in the Book of the prophet Isaiah, the twenty-fifth chapter, beginning at the sixth verse.

On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-matured wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-matured wines strained clear. And he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the sheet that is spread over all nations; he will swallow up death for ever. Then the Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the LORD has spoken. It will be said on that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us. This is the LORD for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

LECTOR: The Word of the Lord.

ALL: **Thanks be to God.**

(Please remain seated)

PSALM 130 - *De profundis*

- 1 Out of the depths have I called to you, O LORD;
LORD, hear my voice; * let your ears consider well
the voice of my supplication.
- 2 If you, LORD, were to note what is done amiss, *
O Lord, who could stand?
- 3 For there is forgiveness with you; * therefore you shall
be feared.
- 4 I wait for the LORD; my soul waits for him; *
in his word is my hope.
- 5 My soul waits for the LORD,
more than watchmen for the morning, *
more than watchmen for the morning.
- 6 O Israel, wait for the LORD, *
for with the LORD there is mercy;
- 7 With him there is plenteous redemption, *
and he shall redeem Israel from all their sins.

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: 1 Corinthians 15:50-58

Lector: Mr. Ivan Jessamy, *Former Registrar of the Diocese of Barbados*

A reading from the Word of God written in Saint Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians, the fifteenth chapter, beginning at the fiftieth verse.

What I am saying, brothers and sisters, is this: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

Listen, I will tell you a mystery! We will not all die, but we will all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. For this perishable body must put on imperishability, and this mortal body must put on immortality. When this perishable body puts on imperishability, and this mortal body puts on immortality, then the saying that is written will be fulfilled: "Death has been swallowed up in victory." "Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?" The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Therefore, my beloved, be steadfast, immovable, always excelling in the work of the Lord, because you know that in the Lord your labour is not in vain.

LECTOR: The Word of the Lord.

ALL: **Thanks be to God.**

(Please stand, as able)

GRADUAL HYMN - 700 CPWI

Lord, pour thy Spirit from on high,
and thine ordained servants bless;
graces and gifts to each supply,
and clothe thy priests with righteousness.

Within thy temple when they stand,
to teach the truth as taught by thee,
Saviour, like stars in thy right hand,
let all thy Church's pastors be.

Wisdom, and zeal, and faith impart,
firmness with meekness, from above,
to bear thy people in their heart,
and love the souls whom thou dost love.

To watch, and pray, and never faint,
by day and night their guard to keep,
to warn the sinner, cheer the saint,
to feed thy lambs, and tend thy sheep.

So, when their work is finished here,
may they in hope their charge resign;
so, when their Master shall appear,
may they with crown of glory shine.

THE HOLY GOSPEL: John 5:24-27

Gospeller: The Rev'd Reudon A. T. Eversley

GOSPELLER: The Lord be with you.

ALL: **And also with you**

A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to John, the fifth chapter, beginning at the twenty-fourth verse.

ALL: Glory to Christ Our Saviour.

Very truly, I tell you, anyone who hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and does not come under judgment but has passed from death to life. “Very truly, I tell you, the hour is coming and is now here when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God, and those who hear will live. For just as the Father has life in himself, so he has granted the Son also to have life in himself, and he has given him authority to execute judgment because he is the Son of Man.

GOSPELLER: The Gospel of Christ.

ALL: Praise to Christ our Lord.

(Please sit)

THE SERMON: The Rev'd Canon Noel A. Burke

(Please stand, as able)

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.**

(Please sit or kneel)

INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

Intercessor: The Ven. Dr. Von E. Watson, Archdeacon of Barbados

Let us pray:

Almighty God, you have knit your chosen people together in one communion, in the mystical body of your Son, Jesus Christ our

Lord: Give to your whole Church in heaven and on earth your light and your peace.

ALL: Hear us, Lord.

May all who have been baptized into Christ's death and resurrection die to sin and rise to newness of life, and may we with Him pass through the grave and the gate of death to our joyful resurrection.

ALL: Hear us, Lord.

Grant to us who are still in our pilgrimage, and who walk as yet by faith, that your Holy Spirit may lead us in holiness and righteousness all our days.

ALL: Hear us, Lord.

Grant to your faithful people pardon and peace, that we may be cleansed from all our sins and serve you with a quiet mind.

ALL: Hear us, Lord.

Grant to all who mourn a sure confidence in your loving care that, casting all their sorrow on you, they know the consolation of your love.

ALL: Hear us, Lord.

Give courage and faith to those who are bereaved, that they may have strength to meet the days ahead in the comfort of a holy and certain hope, and in the joyful expectation of eternal life with those they love.

ALL: Hear us, Lord.

Silence may be kept.

PRESIDENT:

The Concluding Collect: A Prayer on the Birthday of a Departed Loved One.

Gracious God, our days unfold according to your mercy. We remember our brother Drexel Wellington on his birthday, recalling his years among us. Thank you for having given him to us for that time, and help us rejoice in the knowledge that he lives with you now in the fullness of heaven's joy. May our hearts be bound to his continuing love for us as our hopes are bound to you. Strengthen our faith in expectation of that day when we, too, shall come to our eternal rest beside him. We pray in the name of the One in whose death we have our true life, your Son Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God throughout all time. **Amen.**

ACT OF PENITENCE

DEACON:

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.

DEACON:

Let us therefore confess our sins.

FORM A

ALL:

Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, we have sinned against you and one another, in thought, word and deed, and in what we have left undone. We are sorry and repent of all our sins. For your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, forgive us all that is past, and grant that we may serve you in newness of life to the glory of your name. Amen.

THE ABSOLUTION

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.

(Please stand)

THE GREETING OF PEACE - FORM C

PRESIDENT:

The Kingdom of God is justice, peace, and joy, inspired by the Holy Spirit.

ALL:

They who thus serve Christ are acceptable to God and approved by others.

PRESIDENT:

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

ALL: And also with you.

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

(During the singing of this hymn worshippers are encouraged, as inspired, to share tangible expressions such as a hand shake, etc.)



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)

MESSAGE OF CONDOLENCE - The Bishop

RESPONSE – The Gomez Family

THE MINISTRY OF THE SACRAMENT

THE OFFERTORY HYMN 403

LIGHT'S abode, celestial Salem,
vision whence true peace doth spring,
brighter than the heart can fancy,
mansion of the Highest King;
O how glorious are the praises
Which of thee the prophets sing!

There for ever and for ever
alleluia is out-poured;
for unending, for unbroken
is the feast-day of the Lord;
all is pure and all is holy

that within thy walls is stored.

There no cloud nor passing vapour
dims the brightness of the air;
endless noon-day, glorious noon-day,
from the Sun of suns is there;
there no night brings rest from labour,
for unknown are toil and care.

O how glorious and resplendent,
fragile body, shalt thou be,
when endued with so much beauty,
full of health, and strong, and free,
full of vigour, full of pleasure
that shall last eternally!

Now with gladness, now with courage,
bear the burden on thee laid,
that hereafter these thy labours
may with endless gifts be paid;
and in everlasting glory
thou with brightness be arrayed.

Laud and honour to the Father,
laud and honour to the Son,
laud and honour to the Spirit,
ever Three and ever One,
consubstantial, co-eternal,
while unending ages run.

THE OFFERTORY PRAYER

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

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:

PROPER PREFACE - "The Commemoration of the Dead"

Through Jesus Christ Our Lord; who rose victorious from the dead, and comforts us with the blessed hope of life eternal. For to your faithful people, O Lord, life is changed, not ended; and when our mortal body lies in death, there is prepared for us a dwelling place eternal in the heavens.

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)

PRESIDENT

Sovereign Lord and Father,
To you be glory and praise for ever.
In your boundless wisdom
you brought creation into being;
In your great love
you fashioned us in your image;
In your tender compassion
you sent your Son, Jesus Christ, our Saviour,
to share our human nature;
in the power of the Holy Spirit,
He overcame the power of sin and death
and brought your people to new birth
as first fruits of your new creation.

On the night that 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

Therefore, Father, according to the command of your dearly beloved Son,

ALL

**We remember His death;
We proclaim His resurrection;
We await His coming in glory.**

PRESIDENT

And we offer you, Father,
our sacrifice of thanks and praise.
Send your Holy Spirit on these gifts of
bread and wine that they may become
the Body and Blood of your Son,
Jesus, our Lord and Redeemer.

As we partake of this holy food of new
and unending life, may your Holy Spirit
establish us as a royal priesthood
with the Blessed Virgin Mary, St. Agnes
and all your sons and daughters who share
in your eternal inheritance;
Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

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 BREAD

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 INVITATION

DEACON: The Gifts of God for the People of God.

ALL:

**Our souls will feast and be satisfied, and we will sing
glad songs of praise to Him.**

THE AGNUS DEI

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 HOLY COMMUNION

COMMUNION MOTET – *Ave Verum Corpus* (K. Jenkins)
The Cathedral Choir

HYMN 607 CPWI

Lord, enthroned in heavenly splendour,
first-begotten from the dead.
thou alone, our strong defender,
liftest up thy people's head.
Alleluia! alleluia,
Jesu, true and living bread.

Here our humblest homage pay we,
here in loving reverence bow;
here for faith's discernment pray we,
lest we fail to know thee now,
Alleluia! alleluia,
thou art here, we ask not how.

Though the lowliest form doth veil thee
as of old in Bethlehem,
here as there thine angels hail thee,
Branch and Flower of Jesse's stem.
Alleluia, alleluia,
we in worship join with them.

Paschal Lamb, thine offering, finished
once for all when thou wast slain,
in its fullness undiminished
shall for evermore remain,
alleluia, alleluia,
cleansing souls from every stain.

Life-imparting heavenly Manna,
stricken Rock with streaming side,
heaven and earth with loud hosanna
worship thee, the Lamb who died,
alleluia, alleluia,
risen, ascended, glorified.

HYMN 599 CPWI

Jesu, gentlest Saviour,
thou art in us now,
fill us with thy goodness,
till our hearts o'erflow.

Multiply our graces,
chiefly love and fear,
and, dear Lord, the chiefest,
grace to persevere.

Oh, how can we thank thee
for a gift like this,
gift that truly maketh
heaven's eternal bliss!

Ah! When wilt thou always
make our hearts thy home?
We must wait for heaven;
then the day will come.

THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER

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 EPISCOPAL BLESSING

The Bishop blesses the people, first saying,

PRESIDENT: Our help is in the name of the Lord.

ALL: The maker of heaven and earth.

PRESIDENT: Blessed be the name of the Lord.

ALL: From this time forth and forevermore.

PRESIDENT: Christ, the Son of God gladden your hearts with good news of His kingdom; and the Blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

ALL: Amen.

THE RECESSIONAL HYMN 374 CPWI

O praise our great and gracious Lord,
and call upon his name;
to strains of joy tune every chord,
his mighty acts proclaim;
tell how he led his chosen race
to Canaan's promised land;
tell how his covenant of grace

unchanged shall ever stand.
He gave the shadowing cloud by day,
the moving fire by night;
to guide his Israel on their way,
he made their darkness light;
and have not we a sure retreat,
a Saviour ever nigh,
the same clear light to guide our feet,
the day-spring from on high?

We, too, have manna from above,
the bread that came from heaven;
to us the same kind hand of love
hath living waters given;
a rock we have, from whence the spring
in rich abundance flows;
that Rock is Christ, our Priest, our King,
who life and health bestows.

O may we praise this blessed food,
and trust our heavenly Guide;
so shall we find death's fearful flood
serene as Jordan's tide,
and safely reach that happy shore,
the land of peace and rest,
where angels worship and adore
in God's own presence blest.

THE DISMISSAL

DEACON: Go in peace and serve the Lord

ALL: In the Name of Christ. Amen

ORGAN POSTLUDE

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