

# St Francis of Assisi Church

tel: 422-2431 e-mail: [stfrancis04@gmail.com](mailto:stfrancis04@gmail.com)

SUNDAY MASSES: Saturday 5pm, Sunday 8 & 10.30am.

(Confessions are available after each Sunday Mass)

WEEKDAYS: Monday no Mass, Tuesday to Friday 7am, Saturday 8am

Thursday 6-7pm - Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament



## NEWSLETTER

## 13<sup>th</sup> August 2017

# The Assumption of Our Lady into Heaven

celebrated this year on Saturday/Sunday

To prepare for Sunday Mass (the Assumption) it is a good idea to read and give thought to the readings and gospel in your missal or Bible. Here are some questions to ponder.

**First Reading** [Apocalypse 11:19; 12:1-6, 10] The dragon tried to destroy the child, but the child was taken straight up to God. Is there a dragon trying to destroy Christ in my life? Go straight to God.

**Second Reading** [1 Corinthians 15:20-2] Christ has destroyed death: my dying will be the beginning of a new wonderful life.

**Gospel** [Luke 1:39-56] I don't have to be a saint to be able to say with Mary "My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord."

IN CELEBRATING THE ASSUMPTION OF OUR LADY we are celebrating the fact that Jesus has put an end to death. Dying is not the end of everything but the beginning of a wonderful life. After Mary had come to the end her life on earth her body was taken up to heaven and became alive again. What makes this so significant is not just what happened to Mary. The fact that she is alive physically instead of just being spiritual without the body, helps us to realise that one day we too will be alive physically. Our bodies may corrupt in the grave or be cremated but one day like Mary we will be alive again physically with a body that you can see and recognise and hug and speak to.

Pope Francis calls Our Lady the Mother of Hope. Even though she had so many tragedies in her life she could always say, "My soul glorifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour." Even after the anxiety of losing her child and spending three days searching for him not knowing if she would see him alive again, she did not lose hope. As St Elizabeth said, "She believed that the promise made to her by the Lord would be fulfilled." Even after the experience of seeing the people of Nazareth itself trying to lynch her son, she did not lose hope. Even after this seeing Jesus her son, her little boy, murdered in such a terrible way, she knew that this was not the end.

Now she is united with him for ever. The Celtic poet Blathmhac (c. 750) tells that when our Lord had returned to heaven and "when the household of heaven welcomed their true heart, Mary, your beautiful Son broke down in tears in their presence." When we die we do not cease to be human.

On this great feast day, let us ask Mary to obtain for us that wonderful gift of hope, that we may believe that the promises made to us will be fulfilled and that one day we will be united with her and with Christ and with those whom we love who have gone to God before us.

## From Bishop Jason

In the Diocese of Bridgetown, we are celebrating the feast of the Assumption of Our Lady this Sunday. This year we also celebrate 100 years of the Apparitions of Our Lady of Fatima. This is a special anniversary and I would like each Catholic and each family to give a special gift to Our Lady of at least one decade of the rosary.

This Sunday also, seminarian Kirt Prospère will be accepted as a candidate for Priesthood at the opening Mass of CAINCO. Please pray for him. Pray also for our young campers and the staff at CAINCO.

## CARIFESTA XIII

**CELEBRATORY MASS** Bishop Jason has given his blessing for the Diocese to host a Celebratory Mass at the Cathedral at 11a.m on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> August, specifically for participants of CARIFESTA and the Diocese family. Wearing national dress is welcome.

**CONTEMPLATIVE EVENING here at St Francis** On Thursday, August 17, we will have a contemplative evening (6-8pm) centred on **Our Lady Untier of Knots** with exposition of the Blessed Sacrament as our contribution to Carifesta.

**ART EXHIBITION** All artists in the Diocese are invited to display their original works of art in an exhibition at the Cathedral Hall immediately after the Celebratory Mass for CARIFESTA XIII at St Patrick's Cathedral on the 20th August 2017.

Exhibits should be no larger than 48 inches x 48 inches and must have wire or string affixed to the back so that they are ready to be hung on the wall. If you are interested in having your work displayed, please contact Louis Parris at [louis@caribsurf.com](mailto:louis@caribsurf.com) or Cathy Alkins at [cjm\\_alkins@yahoo.com](mailto:cjm_alkins@yahoo.com), no later than the 13th August 2017. Let's showcase our creativity!

**BISHOP JASON PRESENTS** a paper at the Carifesta Symposium at the Cave Hill Campus from 19<sup>th</sup> -23<sup>rd</sup> CHALLENGE AND OPPORTUNITY OF TECHNOLOGY TO CARIBBEAN CULTURE AND IDENTITIES Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> August 3:30 – 4:30 pm at the Cave Hill Campus

**COLLECTIONS** Last week's collection came to **\$2,695.16.**

**CONGRATULATIONS** to Matthew Forde, our faithful altar server, who has been selected for the under-15 West Indies cricket team and is currently representing the West Indies in England.

## TRAINING DAY FOR CATECHISTS AND SUNDAY-SCHOOL TEACHERS

SATURDAY AUGUST 26<sup>TH</sup> 9 am to 3 pm

at Our Lady Queen of the Universe Catholic Church, Black Rock,

All Catechists and Sunday School teachers are asked to make a special effort to attend this training session.

**DIACONATE ORDINATIONS** Stephen Foster and George Waithe will be ordained deacons on **September 2** at **10 am** in the Cathedral.

**Please would you pray for these people who are ill :** Kenneth Miller, Annie Bend, Veronica Tavernier,, Carlos Phillips, Phillip Alleyne, Lucille Alleyne, Joan Mahon, Mervin Mahon, Carolina Restrepo, Marie Edmund, Carlyle Glean, Taylor Pluna, Peter-Xavier Iweze, Lourdes Rouco, John Griffith, Teresa Hodge, Shimisha Butcher, David Gittens, Annie Bromham, Michael Faul, Alison Howard, Noel Shirley, Natari Edwards, Carol Rowe, Marie Conibert, Jane Fontelle, Aurelija Vasilevskiene, Anna Teelan and Joyce Blennman.

All services held in St Francis Church may be viewed on the Internet: <http://iwcpinc.com/portfolio-view/church-st-francis/>

A shortened form of Fr Michael's homily can be found in the Advocate on Sunday

and after the Sunday on: *Michael A J Barrow Youtube*

## LOOKING AHEAD . . . . .

**"Our Blessed Mother in Scripture"** Monday August 21<sup>st</sup>,

From Monday August 21st at 10:30 a.m. and every Monday thereafter until the end of the year, Mrs. Barbara Taylor will lead a Bible Study course entitled: "Our Blessed Mother in Scripture" at the St. Dominic's Pastoral Centre

**CURSILLO WEEKEND - October 19<sup>th</sup> to Sunday October 22<sup>nd</sup>**

The Cursillo Movement is inviting all Cursillistas to renew their Cursillo Weekend by attending Cursillo De Cursillo from Oct 19th - 22nd 2017 at Marian Retreat House Verdun.

*For further information call:* Marion Clarke -2482519 or Jackie James - 2404432 /6221781 or Elva Hall – 4286090 or Susan Marshall – 4220115