

Daily Readings For The Week

Monday December 18th

Reading 1: **JEREMIAH 23: 5-8**

Responsorial Psalm: **P S. 72{71}: 1-2,12-13,18-19**

Gospel: **MATTHEW 1: 18-25**

Tuesday December 19th

Reading 1: **JUDGES 13: 2-7,24-25**

Responsorial Psalm: **P S. 71{70}: 3-6,16-17**

Gospel: **LUKE 1: 5-25**

Wednesday December 20th

Reading 1: **ISAIAH 7: 10-14**

Responsorial Psalm: **P S. 24{23}: 1-6**

Gospel: **LUKE 1: 26-38**

Thursday December 21st

St. Peter Canisius, priest & doctor.

Reading 1: **SGS. 2: 8-14 or ZEP. 3: 14-18**

Responsorial Psalm: **P S. 33{32}: 2-3,11-12,20-21**

Gospel: **LUKE 1: 39-45**

Friday December 22nd

Reading 1: **1 SAMUEL 1: 24-28**

Responsorial Psalm: **P S. 1SM. 2: 1,4-8**

Gospel: **LUKE 1: 46-56**

Saturday December 23rd

John of Kanty, pastor.

Reading 1: **MALACHI 3: 1-4,23-24**

Responsorial Psalm: **P S. 25{24}: 4-5,8-10,14**

Gospel: **LUKE 1: 57-66**

Announcements

1. A warm Welcome to all our visitors who are worshipping with us for the first time.
2. Happy Birthday and Anniversary to those celebrating their special day this week.
3. Funeral Service for Fay Johnson daughter (Andrea Johnson) will be TODAY @ Universal Church, 108 Hagley Park Rd @ 1:00 pm. Interment - Dovecot.
4. DEACON'S MASS - celebrating the "Feast of St. Stephen" will be held on Tuesday, December 26, 2017 at St's Peter & Paul Church @ 9:00 a.m. All are invited.
5. CHILDREN'S MASS - Sunday, December 31, 2017.

St. E's Basic School Christmas Concert

TODAY

Christmas Day Mass

Monday, December 25, 2017 @ 9:30 a.m.

New Year's Eve & Family Sunday

Sunday, December 31, 2017

Caroling @ 10:30 p.m.

Midnight Mass @ 11:00 p.m.

New Year's Day Mass:

Monday, January 01, 2018 @ 10:30 a.m.

**ANNUAL CHURCH
BRUNCH
TODAY
PLEASE SUPPORT!!!!!!**

Welcome to the Roman Catholic
Community of St. Elizabeth's Church
"A Catholic Community in the Passionist Tradition"



**3rd Sunday
of
Advent**

December 17, 2017

Theme: My Spirit Finds Joy in God My Saviour.



Celebrating the Eucharist

Sundays: 10:30 a.m. Tue, Fri: 8:00 a.m.

Wednesdays: 5:30 p.m.

Rev. Fr. Richard Award, C.P.

Pastor

Desmond Gordon

Deacon

Reach Us At

5 Ransford Avenue, Kingston 5. Jamaica, W.I.

Tel: (876) 926-7248 or 908-0470 Fax: (876) 908-0469

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E-mail: pastor@saintez.org

<https://www.facebook.com/Saintez01>

Office Hours

Monday to Friday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Office is closed on Saturdays & Sundays.

Pastor is available during office hours and by appointment.

The Prophet Isaiah gives us the theme for reflection today: "In my God is the joy of my soul." When that is true in our lives, we are walking the road and we know the truth of these words from the same Prophet: "He has sent me to bring glad tidings to the poor, to heal the broken-hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and release to the prisoners, to announce a year of favor from the Lord and a day of vindication by our God."

This great Prophet Isaiah believed with his whole being that God would send salvation and redemption for His people. Each one of us can have that same trust and confidence in God: God loves us and will bring us salvation. God invites us to live according to His laws and His wisdom—let us walk the way of the Lord!

This is the 3rd Sunday of Advent and called "Gaudete" Sunday in Latin. It is a Sunday of rejoicing. The entrance song for some centuries was always from the Letter to the Philippians: Rejoice in the Lord always! Again, I say, rejoice!

The second reading this Sunday picks up the theme of rejoicing: "Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing." We need to hear both of these realities: rejoice and pray! We can only rejoice always if we are praying without ceasing. God is not asking the impossible of us. We are able to walk through a normal day while keeping Him always in our heart. It is not easy and we shall fail but when we see that God is not in our heart, we can invite Him once more to make us aware of His presence. In that way, we can rejoice and pray all the day long.

The Gospel from Saint John today brings us back to Saint John the Baptist. John the Baptist was a central focus of the Gospel last Sunday and once again is here for us to consider. We should note that John the Baptist is not at all concerned about being considered great or important. His one concern is to point to Jesus Christ: the One who is to come, whose sandal strap he is unworthy to untie.

Saint John the Baptist is a saint of joy because he points always to Jesus Christ, the Savior of the world. We also can become people of joy when our lives point to Jesus our Lord. We don't have to be perfect but we do have to keep pointing to the Lord. Just as in the life of John the Baptist, the more we decrease, the more the Lord may increase. It is a challenge for us to live in such a way that we are always witness to the presence of God and God's love.

The Offertory in the Latin Mass is clear: "Lord, you have blessed your land. You have forgiven the iniquity of your people." It is because God loves us and forgives us that we can rejoice and be glad. It is because Jesus invites us to live His life that our lives can be witnesses to Him. Let us rejoice and be glad this Sunday as we delight in God's love.



The Order of Mass

Gathering: No. 333 "Prepare, The Coming Of The Lord"

Lord Have Mercy

Opening Prayer

First Reading: Isaiah 61: 1-2,10-11

{Ionie Clarke}

Responsorial Psalm: Ps. Lk. 1: 46-50,53-54

Response: My soul rejoices in my God.

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5: 16-24

{Sherine Chin}

Gospel Acclamation: The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring glad tidings to the poor.

Gospel: John 1: 6-8,19-28

Homily

Universal Prayer

Greeting of Peace

Preparation of Gifts: "The Lord Reigns"

Presentation of Gifts: No. 17 "All That We Have"

Hosanna

Memorial Acclamation

Great Amen

Lord's Prayer

Lamb of God

Communion: No. 269 "Now Lord, The Body Of Your Son"

Meditation: "Shine Jesus Shine"

Sending Forth: No. 22 "All You Heavens, Bless The Lord"