

Pastor's Message



Love and Peace!

Today's readings are all about the human sense of justice contrasted with the extravagant grace

of a merciful and compassionate God. God rewards us, not in the measure of what we do, but according to our need and His good will.

In the first reading, the prophet Isaiah reminds the exiles in Babylon that their God is more merciful than they are, and more forgiving. He is ready to pardon the infidelity which has resulted in their exile. Their merciful God will bless them with material and spiritual blessings. Hence, Isaiah exhorts them, and us, to seek the Lord and to put aside evil ways that we may receive His mercy and forgiveness. Today's Responsorial Psalm (Ps 145) reminds us that, although "the Lord is just in all his ways," He is at the same time "gracious and merciful."

In the second reading, Paul offers himself as an example of total submission, aided by God's grace, to His will. Paul is ready to live continuing his mission, or to die and join the Lord, whichever is God's will. In today's Gospel, Jesus tells us the strange parable of a landowner who hired laborers at five different times during the course of one day to work in his vineyard, but paid the same living wage for a full day's work to all of them. This story presents God (the landlord), whose love and generosity to all of us demonstrates the difference between God's perspective and ours. God looks at us, sees our needs and meets

those needs generously and mercifully. It's never too late for God.

A full wage is offered to each of us, whether one has served Him for a whole lifetime, or has turned to Him only at the eleventh hour. This story of the landlord's love and generosity represents God's love and generosity to us. We share our blessings with others, we tap into the inexhaustible Divine supply. The parable also shows the mercy, compassion, and generosity of a gracious and forgiving God in allowing the later-called Gentiles as well the first-called Jews, His Chosen People, to enjoy the same eternal bliss of His Heavenly Kingdom.

LIFE MESSAGES:

- We need to follow God's example and show grace to our neighbor. When someone else is more successful than we are, let us assume that person needs it. When someone who does wrong fails to get caught, let us remember the many times we have done wrong and gotten off free. We must not wish pain on people for the sake of fairness, nor rejoice in ...

... *For the complete homily, please visit our website at:-*
<http://strichardsjamaica.com/information/homily>

September Birthdays!

Erica	Bancroft-Wilson
Dannielle	Bardowell
Tanza	Bowen
Peter	Brammer
Katherine	Brown-Thompson
Carlton	Carey
Marcia	Chin-See
Paulette	Duncan
Nicholas	Dunn
Paul	Dunn
Paul	Dunn Jr.
Gregory	Dunn
Alex	Fraser
Sheryl	Garriques-Lloyd
Abrianna	Gayle
Kimani	Gilchrist
Ballen	Gonzales
Zayna	Goodison
Christina	Grant
Sandra	Hart
Britanny	Hart
James	Ho-On
Khloe	Lee
Gary	Lewis
Rosemarie	McHugh-Thomas
Ralston	McKenzie
Peggy	Parkes
Debbie-Ann	Pryce-Hoo Fung
Donovan	Reid
Michelle	Robinson-Lewis
Marcele	Sawyers
Beryl	Whiteman

Happy anniversary to Deacon Lloyd and Lois Saunders celebrating 56 years of marriage

Church Council

Nominations will be open on 18th October and election of new Council members is scheduled to take place on 22nd November 2020. Have you considered your nominee? If you are interested in working with the election committee, please contact Fr. Xavier at the Rectory.

Virtual Conference

The International Catholic Stewardship Council (ICSC) will host a Virtual Conference which is scheduled between 28th September and 9th October, 2020. Persons who are interested should submit their names to Mrs. Carine Bennett at the Chancery (876) 927-9915.

Funeral



The Funeral Mass for St. Richard's parishioner, Mr. **Calvin Chin Yee** will be at 10am at the church on Saturday 3rd **October** 2020. Let us continue to keep his family members in our prayers.

Family Life Commission: Pre-Cana Sessions

The next scheduled Pre Cana sessions are **October 30, 31; November 1, 2020 and November 27, 28 and 29, 2020**. Parishioners with weddings slated for January through to April 2021 are encouraged to apply for one of these sessions.

Laity Training Programme

St. Michael's Theological College Invites you to participate in a 14 week Hebrew Scripture/ Old Testament course on Tuesday September 8, 2020 from 6:00 pm to 8:00 via the Zoom platform. Please contact St. Michael's at **876-977-4206** or e-mail stmtc2909@gmail.com

Bake Sale

As mentioned a few weeks ago, Dahlia Campbell will be holding a bake sale to raise money to cover a medical procedure for her daughter. The bake sale will take place on Sunday, October 11 after Mass. Tickets go on sale next Sunday, **September 27th** for \$1,000. For more information or if you would like to contribute, please contact Dahlia at 876-467-2519 or Lorna Clarke at 876-815-9709. Thank you for usual support!

PAVING PROJECT

Parishioners are advised that a project has started to rehabilitate the road and parking surfaces of the property at St. Richard. The work may eventually introduce some inconvenience beginning this week and should take approximately two weeks to be completed. The areas targeted include behind the church building, currently being used by the Infant school, the main church yard and the open area across from St. Thomas Aquinas Hall.

MASS ATTENDANCE

SATURDAY MASS - Suspended due to new Curfew Hours

MORNING MASS – Suspended (You may call Fr. Xavier for special needs)

SUNDAY – Mass begins at St. Richard's at 8:00AM
and Our Lady of Lourdes at 11:00AM

SUNDAY SCHOOL (Children) will restart in October on a date to be announced

This WEEK's SCHEDULE – September 2020

SUNDAY 27th

- St. Richard's Mass – 8:00AM (Live Streamed)
- Divine Mercy Prayer – 9:45AM
- Sunday School – **Restart**
- OLL Mass – 11:00AM

Sunday school will resume on Sunday October 11, 2020. Classes will be held virtually for the time being. Parents of new and returning students are asked to send an email confirming their child to: strichardssundayschool@hotmail.com or contact Colleen Grant (via WhatsApp only) at (876) 342-2541.

St Richard of Chichester & Our Lady of Lourdes Communities

St. Richard's

Sunday Mass: 8:00AM

Sunday School: 10:30am – 11:30AM

Adoration: Tuesdays 6:30PM

Prayer Meetings: Tuesdays 7:00PM

Our Lady of Lourdes Sunday Mass: 11:00AM

25th Sunday of Year A

Is 55:6-9

"My thoughts are not your thoughts"

PS 145:2-3, 8-9-17-18

"The Lord is close to all who call him;
who call on Him from their hearts"

Phil 1:20c-24

"Life to me is Christ"

Mt 20:1-16

"Why be envious because I am
generous.."



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