

St. James Parish Church

Holetown, St. James, Barbados

TO BE A BEACON RADIATING GOD'S LOVE AMONG ALL PEOPLE



7:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist and Sermon

9:15 a.m. Sung Holy Eucharist and Sermon

THE FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

FEBRUARY 22, 2026

RECTOR: THE REV. CANON BEVERLEY SEALY-KNIGHT

ASSISTANT PRIEST: REV. GRAVENEY BANNISTER

ASSISTANT CURATE: REV. STEVENSON SOBERS

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YVONNE INNISS
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MURA PAYNE
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ORGAN PRELUDE

Organist: Dr. Philip Forde, ARCM, FRCO

OPENING SENTENCES: LENT

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

HYMN FOR THE INTROIT: 406

1. Be thou my guardian and my guide,
and hear me when I call;
let not my slippery footsteps slide,
and hold me lest I fall.
2. The world, the flesh, and Satan dwell
around the path I tread;
O save me from the snares of hell,
thou Quickener of the dead.
3. And if I tempted am to sin,
and outward things are strong,
do thou, O Lord, keep watch within,
and save my soul from wrong.
4. Still let me ever watch and pray,
and feel that I am frail;
that if the tempter cross my way,
yet he may not prevail.

PRESIDENT:

Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

ALL:

And blessed be His Kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

THE PRAYER OF INTENT

ALL:

Blessed Lord and Father, we have assembled in your Name and in fellowship with one another. Enable us by your grace to offer the sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; to proclaim and respond to your holy word. Teach us to pray for your world and your Church. Grant that we, confessing our sins, may worthily offer to you our souls and bodies as a living sacrifice and eat and drink of your spiritual food in this Holy Sacrament. *Amen.*

The following may also be said:

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.

PRESIDENT: Let us pray.

THE COLLECT:

Almighty God, whose blessed Son was led by the Spirit to

be tempted by Satan: Come quickly to help us who are assaulted by many temptations; and, as you know the weaknesses of each of us, let each one find you mighty to save; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE FIRST READING: GENESIS 2:15-17; 3:1-7

God has formed the first human from the dust of the ground and has breathed life into him. God has placed him in his own domain, a land of delight, the Garden of Eden. To eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil is to attempt to gain total knowledge of creation, something God does not intend humans to do.

A Reading from the Word of God, written in the Book of Genesis Chapter 2, beginning at the fifteenth verse.

The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. And the Lord God commanded the man, “You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die.”

Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God say, ‘You shall not eat from any tree in the garden?’” The woman said to the serpent, “We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; but God said,

‘You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.’” But the serpent said to the woman, “You will not die; for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.” So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

The Word of the Lord

The people: *Thanks be to God.*

PSALM 32

A song of thanksgiving for the forgiveness of sins.

1. Happy 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.**

THE SECOND READING - ROMANS 5:12-19

Paul has said that Christians, reconciled to God, will be saved, sharing in the risen life of Christ. Now he contrasts Christ and Adam. Adam was the first human; with Christ there is a new humanity. Both inaugurated eras.

A Reading from the Word of God, written in the Letter of Paul to the Romans, Chapter 5, beginning at the twelfth verse.

As sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned-- sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. Yet death exercised dominion from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sins were not like the transgression of Adam, who is a type of the one who was to come.

But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one man's trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the free gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. And the free gift is not like the effect of the one man's sin. For the

judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brings justification. If, because of the one man's trespass, death exercised dominion through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness exercise dominion in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.

Therefore, just as one man's trespass led to condemnation for all, so one man's act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all. For just as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

The Word of the Lord

***The people:** Thanks be to God.*

HYMN FOR THE GRADUAL: 114

1. Forty days and forty nights
thou wast fasting in the wild;
forty days and forty nights
tempted, and yet undefiled.
2. Sunbeams scorching all the day;
chilly dew-drops nightly shed;
prowling beasts about thy way;
stones thy pillow; earth thy bed.

3. Shall not we thy sorrow share
and from earthly joys abstain,
fasting with unceasing prayer,
glad with thee to suffer pain?
4. And if Satan, vexing sore,
flesh or spirit should assail,
thou, his Vanquisher before,
grant we may not faint nor fail.
5. So shall we have peace divine:
holier gladness ours shall be;
round us too shall angels shine,
such as ministered to thee.
6. Keep, O keep us, Saviour dear,
ever constant by thy side;
that with thee we may appear
at th' eternal Eastertide.

THE GOSPEL - MATTHEW 4: 1-11

Every Israelite was expected to live by the great commandment: "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might". Jesus shows himself to be the ideal Israelite, as he refuses to use his power in self-gratifying ways.

Gospeler: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Gospeler: A Reading from the Holy Gospel

according to Matthew.

All:

Glory to Christ Our Saviour.

Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. The tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." But he answered, "It is written,

‘One does not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes from the
mouth of God.’”

Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written,

‘He will command his angels concerning
you,’
and ‘On their hands they will bear you
up,
so that you will not dash your foot against
a stone.’”

Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'”

Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor; and he said to him, "All these I will give you,

if you will fall down and worship me.” Jesus said to him, “Away with you, Satan! for it is written,

‘Worship the Lord your God,
and serve only him.’”

Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

This is the Gospel of Christ

The people: *Praise to Christ our Lord.*

NRSV

From The Lectionary Page: <http://lectionarypage.net>

THE SERMON

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.***

THE INTERCESSION: FORM D:

7:15 A.M. FIONA HINDS

9:15 A.M. MICHELE HINDS

LEADER: Our Heavenly Father has promised through our Lord Jesus Christ to hear us when we pray in faith. Let us therefore pray for the Church and the World, and let us thank God for His goodness.

Silence may be kept.

LEADER: We pray for the Church of God in every place; especially for this Diocese, our Bishops, Michael, John, Rufus and Wilfred and all the people of God.

ALL: Strengthen your Church to carry forward the work of Christ; that we and all who confess your Name may unite in truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory to the world.

LEADER: We pray for our country and for all the nations of the world, especially Haiti, with its many social and economic challenges; and for all peoples in their various callings.

ALL: Direct this nation and all nations in the ways of justice and truth. Give wisdom to all in positions of public trust and authority; that they may promote the prosperity, godliness and peace of your people everywhere.

LEADER: We pray for our own community, for this parish, for our families, friends, and all who live and work with us.

ALL: Give grace to all our friends and neighbours in Christ, that we may serve Him in one another and grow together in His love.

LEADER: We pray for the poor, the sick, the unemployed, the handicapped; all who have requested our prayers and all who seek the prayers of the Church in their time of trouble.

ALL: Give healing and strength to all who suffer in body, mind or spirit. Give them courage and hope in their troubles and sustain all those who remember and care for them.

LEADER: We commemorate the departed, especially those who have died in your faith.

ALL: We commend all people to your unfailing love, that in them your will may be fulfilled; and we rejoice at the faithful witness of your saints in every age, praying that we may share with them in your eternal kingdom.

LEADER: Accept these prayers, O Lord our God, for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ.

ALL: *Amen.*

THE ACT OF PENITENCE

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)

Let us therefore confess our sins.

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.

THE GREETING OF PEACE

PRESIDENT: We are the Body of Christ. By the one Spirit we were all baptized into one Body, and have all been made to drink of the one Spirit.

ALL: Let us then pursue the things that make for peace and build up the common life.

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

ALL: And also with you.

The President and people shall greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Song of Peace: : Let There Be Peace

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 as our Father
Brothers all are we.
Let me walk with my brother
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
With peace eternally.
Let there be peace on earth,
And let it begin with me.

HYMN FOR THE OFFERTORY: 115

1. Good it is to keep the fast,
Shadowed forth in ages past,
Which our own Almighty Lord
Hallowed by His deed and Word.
2. Moses, while he fasted, saw
God Who gave by him the law;
To Elijah angels came,
Steeds of fire and car of flame.

3. So was Daniel meet to gaze
On the sight of latter days
And the Baptist to proclaim
Blessings through the Bridegroom's Name.
4. Grant us, Lord, like them to be
Oft in prayer and fast with Thee;
Fill us with Thy heavenly might,
Be our Joy and true Delight.
5. Father, hear us through Thy Son,
And the Spirit, with Thee One,
Whom our thankful hearts adore,
Ever and forevermore.

HYMN FOR THE OFFERTORY: 456

1. My hope is built on nothing less
than Jesus' blood and righteousness.
no merit of my own I claim,
but wholly lean on Jesus' name.

Refrain:

On Christ the solid rock I stand,
all other ground is sinking sand;
all other ground is sinking sand.

2. When weary in this earthly race,
I rest on his unchanging grace.
in every wild and stormy gale,
my anchor holds and will not fail.

Refrain

3. His vow, his covenant, and blood
are my defence against the flood.
when earthly hopes are swept away
he will uphold me on that day.

Refrain

4. When the last trumpet's voice shall sound,
O may I then in him be found!
Clothed in his righteousness alone,
faultless to stand before his throne!

Refrain

THE PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERINGS

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:

LENT:

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.

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.

The Congregation kneels as the Eucharistic Prayer continues.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER FORM D:

PRESIDENT:

All glory, praise, and thanksgiving be unto you, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty, Everlasting God, You created the world and all mankind, and of your tender mercy gave your only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon Him, and to suffer death upon the cross, for our redemption. He made there, by His own oblation of Himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation and satisfaction for the sins of the whole world; and He instituted, and in His holy Gospel commanded us to continue, a perpetual memory of His precious death, until His coming again.

Hear us, O merciful Father, we most humbly beseech you; and be pleased to accept, bless and sanctify these gifts and creatures of bread and wine, that they may be for us the Body and Blood of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ.

For, 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".

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:

In faith we acclaim You, O Christ

All: **Dying, You destroyed our death;
Rising, You restored our life;
Christ Jesus, come in glory.**

PRESIDENT:

Now therefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, we your servants with all your holy people, having in remembrance the blessed passion, mighty resurrection, and glorious ascension of your beloved Son, do offer unto your Divine Majesty this Bread of eternal life and this Cup of everlasting salvation, rendering thanks to you for the wonderful redemption which you have made possible for us in Him.

And we beseech you, O Father, to accept upon your heavenly altar this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; and to grant that by the merits and death of your Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in His blood, we and all your whole Church may obtain remission of our sins and all other benefits of His passion.

And we pray that by the power of your Holy Spirit all who shall be partakers of this holy Communion may be filled with your grace and heavenly benediction, and be numbered in the glorious company of your Saints.

And here we offer and present unto you, O Lord, ourselves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy and lively sacrifice. And although we are unworthy to offer unto you any sacrifice, yet we beseech you to accept this, our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits but pardoning our offences;

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be unto you, O Father Almighty, throughout all ages, world without end.

ALL: 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 THE 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 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 INVITATION

PRESIDENT: 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.

HYMN FOR THE COMMUNION: 626

1. We hail thy presence glorious,
O Christ our great High Priest,
o'er sin and death victorious,
at thy thanksgiving feast:
as thou art interceding
for us in heaven above,

thy church on earth is pleading
thy perfect work of love.

2. Through thee in every nation
thine own their hearts upraise,
offering one pure oblation,
one sacrifice of praise:
with thee in blest communion
the living and the dead
are joined in closest union,
one body with one Head.
3. *O living bread from heaven,
Jesu, our Saviour good,
who thine own self hast given
to be our souls' true food;
for us thy body broken
hung on the cross of shame:
this bread its hallowed token
we break in thy dear name.
4. *O stream of love unending,
poured from the one true vine,
with our weak nature blending
the strength of life divine;
our thankful faith confessing
in thy life-blood outpoured,
we drink this cup of blessing
and praise thy name, O Lord.
5. May we thy word believing
thee through thy gifts receive,
that, thou within us living,
we all to God may live;
draw us from earth to heaven
till sin and sorrow cease,

forgiving and forgiven,
in love and joy and peace.

HYMN FOR THE BLESSING: 645

1. Do no sinful action,
speak no angry word:
ye belong to Jesus,
children of the Lord.
2. Christ is kind and gentle,
Christ is pure and true;
and his little children
must be holy too.
3. There's a wicked spirit
watching round you still,
and he tries to tempt you
to all harm and ill.
4. But ye must not hear him,
though 'tis hard for you
to resist the evil,
and the good to do.
5. For ye promised truly,
in your infant days,
to renounce him wholly,
and forsake his ways.
6. Ye are new-born Christians,
ye must learn to fight
with the bad within you,
and to do the right.
7. Christ is your own Master;
he is good and true,
and his little children

must be holy too.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

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

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

ALL: Amen

HYMN FOR THE RECESSION: 425

1. O happy band of pilgrims,
if onward ye will tread
with Jesus as your fellow
to Jesus as your Head!
2. O happy, if ye labour
as Jesus did for men!
O happy, if ye hunger
as Jesus hungered then!

3. The cross that Jesus carried
he carried as your due:
the crown that Jesus weareth
he weareth it for you.
4. The faith by which ye see him,
the hope, in which ye yearn,
the love that through all troubles
to him alone will turn,
5. The trials that beset you,
the sorrows ye endure,
the manifold temptations
that death alone can cure.
6. What are they, but his jewels
of right celestial worth?
What are they but the ladder,
set up to heaven on earth?
7. O happy band of pilgrims,
look upward to the skies,
where such a light affliction
shall win so great a prize.

THE DISMISSAL

PRESIDENT: Go in peace and serve the Lord.

ALL: In the name of Christ. Amen.

ORGAN POSTLUDE

Please feel free to depart during the postlude, mindful of those who remain to listen.

Notices and Announcements

- *The St. James' Church Family would like to extend a blessed welcome to all taking part in this act of worship today.*
- *We offer a very special welcome to all of our visitors, especially those from overseas .*
- *We also pray that this service will be an inspiration to all.*

CONDOLENCES:

Our prayers and sympathies are extended to the family, friends, colleagues and associates of our organist, Dr. Philip Frode and his wife Susan, whose son, Sidney, passed to his rest on Saturday, February 14

May the prayers and support of our church family provide solace in this time of sadness and sorrow.

May Sidney Rest in Peace.

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS:

Our records indicate that the following members are celebrating their birthdays this week. Special greetings are extended to them.

<i>Bannister, Mark (Mr.)</i>	<i>February 23</i>
<i>Brome, Marva (Mrs.)</i>	<i>February 23</i>
<i>Holder, Courtni (Miss)</i>	<i>February 23</i>

St. James Parish Church



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