



## HOLY MASSES

**Sundays:**  
(Saturday evening) Vigil 6.30pm,  
7.00, 10.30am & 6 pm

**Tuesday – Friday:** 6.30 am  
**Saturdays & Holidays:** 7am

**Confessions:** before and after Masses  
*if possible and by appointment*

**Baptisms:**  
*Call to make an appointment*

**Online Masses**  
St Dominic Barbados



## Office hours

**Monday:** 7.30 – 12

**Tuesday:** 7.30 – 2 pm

**Wednesday:** 7.30 – 12

**Thursday:** 7.30 – 12, 3-5

**Friday:** 7.30 – 12

Priests are available during office  
hours or by appointment

**Office is closed:**  
on bank holidays & weekends, and  
sometimes we may be out of the  
office. (Please call before coming)

Parish Priest - Fr. Andy Nyga SAC  
& Deacon Rev. Stephen Foster



### St. Dominic's Church

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YouTube—St Dominic Barbados

# St. Dominic's Roman Catholic Church National Shrine of Divine Mercy



Barbados

1st Sunday of Advent  
December 3, 2023 # 754 Year A



## Metanoia

### Gospel

Mark 13:33-37

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Be on your guard, stay awake, because you never know when the time will come. It is like a man travelling abroad: he has gone from home, and left his servants in charge, each with his own task; and he has told the doorkeeper to stay awake. So stay awake, because you do not know when the master of the house is coming, evening, midnight, cockcrow, dawn; if he comes unexpectedly, he must not find you asleep. And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake!'



## ADVENT DEC 2023

**Penitential Service: Dec 22 - 6pm to 8pm**

### CHRISTMAS NOVENA

*Dec 16 to 24 at 6.15 am (weekdays 6.15am, weekend 7am)*

*Visiting the sick Dec 5 to Dec 15*

**Sun 24 VIGIL (Sat 23rd) 6.30 pm, 7am, 10.30am (Sunday Masses)**

## CHRISTMAS DEC 2023

**Sun 24 : 4 pm & 6.30pm CHRISTMAS VIGIL MASSES**

**11.00PM CHRISTMAS CAROLS 12.00 MIDNIGHT MASS**

### Mon 25 THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

**( NO 7.00 AM MASS) CHRISTMAS Solemnity - 10.30am & 6pm**

**Tue 26 St. Stephen – 7.00am Mass (Boxing Day)**

**SUN 31 FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY** - Special Blessing for Families and Individuals after each Mass - Vigil ( Sat 30) 6.30 pm, Sun: 7am, 10.30am,

## NEW YEAR 2024

**Sun 31 Dec: 6pm New Year's Vigil Mass, NO MIDNIGHT MASS**

**Mon 1 Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God -  
7am, 10.30am, 6pm [Holyday of Obligation]**

**SUN 7 THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD** - Blessing of chalk  
Vigil 6.30pm Sun Mass, 7am, 10.30am, 6pm

We are a Catholic community committed to welcoming our brothers and sisters, celebrating the Eucharist, receiving the Sacraments, spreading the Good News, passing on our Catholic faith and Traditions, promoting devotion to Divine Mercy and assisting the poor and less privileged in our community. As the National Shrine of Divine Mercy we encourage fuller participation in the Divine Mercy devotions in order to strengthen our Catholic faith, to experience the healing grace and mercy of God and to be merciful to others as Jesus.



## Our prayers:

### ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL PRAYER

"Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil; May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; And do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the power of God, thrust into hell Satan and all evil spirits who wander through the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen."



### PRAYER OF ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI:

"Lord, make me an instrument of your peace; where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is discord, union; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; and where there is sadness, joy.

"O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled, as to console; to be understood, as to understand; to be loved, as to love; for it is in giving that we receive, it is in pardoning that we are pardoned, and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life." Amen.

### Prayer for vocations

Heavenly Father raise up holy vocations to the priesthood, to keep the faith alive and guard the memory of your Son Jesus, through the preaching of His word and the celebration of His Sacraments.

May Your Church sustain seminarians and priests in their vocations so that they may faithfully fulfil their mission at the service of the Gospel.

If you would like to receive the newsletter electronically, send an email to: [stdominic.newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:stdominic.newsletter@gmail.com)



SCAN ME

## Mass Intentions

### December 3—9

Vigil: Sat 6.30 pm: 1. Joseph Rodriguez—RIP & Rena Tabal—B'day

Sun 7.00 am: Carlos Lamarche—RIP

10.30 am: Maurice Foster—RIP

6.00 pm: for Parishioners & Visitors

Tue 6.30 am: Jasmine Ladhani & Kathy Figueira—Birthdays

Wed 6.30am Heike Goodwin-Carbon & family—healing & thanksgiving

Thur 6.30 am Eli Brooker & Andrew O'Connor—Birthdays

Fri 6.30 am Marcia & Kevin Fiedtkou—Anniversary

Sat 7.00 am Richard Gordon—RIP



## Feast of the Immaculate Conception December 8



Celebrating God's Preservation of the Blessed Virgin Mary from Original Sin

### The Immaculate Conception: It's About Mary.

by MARK HART

*Why does the Catholic Church... in the middle of Advent, while preparing for Christmas... throw in yet another holy day?*

*Why pause to honour Mary while we're prepping to party with Jesus?*

*What is the Immaculate Conception... and why is it a big deal?*

*God was hoping you would ask.*

**The Immaculate Conception:** First..... The Immaculate Conception is not about the conception of Jesus in Mary's womb. It's about the conception of Mary in her mother's womb years before. While Mary was conceived in the normal, human way through her parents (Joachim and Anne), the Immaculate Conception speaks to the fact that Mary was conceived without the stain of original sin. Immaculate means 'without stain.'

### Why would God preserve Mary from Original Sin?

The quick answer: Because God is God, and He can do anything He wants.

The better answer: The Blessed Virgin Mary was conceived without original sin in order to preserve her as the perfect vessel through which our Lord would become flesh to the world. This does not mean, however, that Mary was not in need of a Saviour. Jesus redeemed Mary, too, but in a unique way. You and I are conceived with the stain of original sin (unleashed in Eden by our ancestors Adam and Eve), and we need Baptism to wash away that stain and cleanse our souls. **The difference is that when Mary was conceived, God intervened and chose to prevent Mary's soul from bearing that stain.**

Now, this is where some Christians point to Romans 3:23, which clearly states: "...all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, they are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus..." And as I mentioned earlier, Mary, herself, proclaims God as her "Saviour" (Luke 1:47). The Catholic Church absolutely agrees with this fact and teaches (in Lumen Gentium, 53 – 56) exactly how Mary "was redeemed by the merits of her Son" (CCC 492). One could say that Mary's redemption was proactive... while Christ's sacrifice removes our sin, it preserved Mary from it.

Picture it like this: you're walking down a path in the forest and you fall into a deep, dark pit. That pit represents original sin. Someone reaches in to pull you out... they are now your "saviour." In Mary's case, before she fell into the pit, God intervened and lifted her over it. He preserved her from the pain (and the stain). This was also a form of saving her — just in a different way.

Even the saints wrestled to get their heads around this truth. St. Augustine, for example, believed it and proclaimed it. St. Thomas Aquinas struggled with it... fearing that it implied that Mary didn't need a Saviour. Over time, however, his continued prayer and humility gave way to a deeper understanding of this truth and its Scriptural roots.....

<http://lifeteen.com/blog/the-immaculate-conception-its-about-mary/>

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### DONATIONS: On-Line information:

**Name:** St. Dominic's Church **Account Type:** Chequeing

**Transit # :** 09616 **Account Number:** 78101019 **Currency:** BBD

**Institution:** FCIB First Caribbean International Bank Ltd. Branch: Rendezvous

