# **PRIESTLY ANNIVERSARY MASS**

Archbishop Charles Dufour invites you to celebrate his 55th anniversary of priestly ordination on Tuesday, August 12th at 6pm at Stella Maris Church. Homilist will be Fr. Carl Clarke and serving Deacon Mr. Joe Fong. Come out and join him in celebrating this milestone.

### ANNUAL PILGRIMAGE TO MORANT BAY

The pilgrimage to Our Lady of the Assumption Church, Morant Bay, St. Thomas will take place on Sunday, August 17th from 9:30am—2:30pm. General Parking at Joong's Supermarket Car Park on Murrays Ave. close to the church. We look forward to seeing as many parishioners as possible at the pilgrimage.

## **CYM FAMILY FUN DAY & CAKE SALE**

The Youth Commission of the Archdiocese of Kingston in collaboration with the Catholic Youth Movement will be hosting a Family Fun Day, on Saturday, August 23rd at the Emmet Park, St. George's College from 9:30am - 4:00pm. Cost for entry is \$ 500.00 . For more details you can contact 876 410-7315 or Email:cymjamaica@gmail.com

# **NEXUS 24TH ANNIVERSARY CONCERT**

Nexus Performing Arts Company of Jamaica present their 24th Anniversary Concert Season, to be held on Friday, August 22nd, Saturday, August 23rd at 8:00 pm and Sunday, August 24th at 5:00 pm at the Stella Maris Church Hall. Cost for entry is General \$ 3,000.00, Student \$2,500.00. Part proceed in aid of the Stella Maris Church Choir. We look forward for your support.



# Stella Maris Church Community

62 Shortwood Road, P.O. Box 1285 Kingston 8, Jamaica W.I. Phone: 925-9520 / 905-1391 or (Digicel) 361-1700 Fax: 905-1575 Email: stellamaris@cwjamaica.com Website: www.stellamarischurch.com



Pastor: Rev. Fr. Richard Brown Associate Pastor: Fr. Jude Akagha Deacon: Mark Hitchener

Church Council Chair : David de Morasse Finance Chairperson : Neville LynFatt

MASS TIMES: Sunday 7:00 a.m. and 9:00 a.m. Tuesday – Saturday 6:00 p.m.

RECONCILIATION: Appointment/Announced

# Emancipation/Independence



Year C - August 3, 2025

# Today's Readings

1st Reading: 2nd Reading: Gospel Reading:



Deut. 10:17-22 Heb. 11:8-16 Mt. 5:43-48

**Response:** My soul, give praise to the Lord, I will sing to the Lord all my life.



# **Gospel Reflection**

The call of the gospel can be very challenging. Today's gospel reading is probably one of the most challenging passages in all of the gospels. Jesus calls on his disciples not only to love our neighbour, which is a call or command to be found in the Old Testament. He also calls on them, on us, to love our enemy, which goes beyond anything to be found in the Old Testament.

Many of us might be hard pushed to think of someone who could be described as our enemy. We might struggle to identify an enemy. Yet, we may be able to think of people who have hurt us or who damaged us in some way. We are not likely to have warm feelings towards such people.

When Jesus calls on his disciples to love their enemy, he is not talking about warm feelings or feelings of any kind. Jesus is talking about the will rather than feelings. At the very least, Jesus is calling on his disciples to wish their enemies well, all that is good. In the gospel reading, Jesus identifies one expression of such love as prayer, praying for our enemy, praying for those who have hurt us and who have given us good reason to dislike them.

'Love your enemy and pray...' Jesus suggests that to pray for those who persecute us is to do something that has a divine quality to it. It is to give expression to the love of God which goes out to all, even to those who least deserve it.

# Fr. Martin's Gospel Reflections





# Happy Birthday



# 3rd August

Matthew Bitter♦Madison Lumsden♦Harry Smith♦
4th August

Abigail DaCosta ♦ Alexis Delisser ♦ Malik Garcia ♦ Marlon Chuck ♦ Madeline Jones ♦ Melissa Wilson Eve Palomino Lue ♦ Natalya Wilson ♦

### 5th August

Gordon Bradshaw ♦ Peta-Kaye Chin ♦ Darrin Riettie 6th August

Ruth Ho Shing♦Simone Khouri♦Karen Lee♦ Lindsey Rambana♦Michaela Thomas♦ Jordan Vaz♦

# 7th August

Peter Chang ♦ Kailey Chin ♦ Stephanie Christian ♦ 8th August

Paula McLeod-Allison ♦ Kevin Soltau ♦ 9th August

Jessica Mullings♦



3rd August ❖ Brandon & Tara McKoy

5th August ❖Donald & Valerie Baugh

<u>6th August</u> ❖Charles & Andrea Phillipps

7th August ❖Ian & Dawn Lawson

#### NATIONAL CATECHIST DAY

The National Catechist Day will be held on Saturday, September 20th at the Mercy Hall in Mandeville from 8:30am—3:30pm. The theme for the day: "Catechists, Pilgrims Of Hope Nourished By The Word Of God And The Eucharist." Please mark your calendars and make every effort to attend.

# INDEPENDENCE DAY

There will be no evening Mass here at Stella Maris Church on Wednesday, August 6th as we celebrate our Independence. There will be Mass at 7:30am at the Convent.

