

St. Elizabeth News

Vol. II - Issue XII
December 2021

May the passion of Christ be ever in our hearts.

St. Elizabeth Catholic Church

5 Ransford Avenue, Kingston 5 – Jamaica, West Indies - In the Province of St. Paul of the Cross

NEW YEAR'S MESSAGE

So here we are again about to close another year. A lot has happened in 2021 which we did not anticipate. We, however, look to the New Year with the hope that it will be a much better than 2021.

As we continue to grapple with this COVID-19 virus and its new variants, let us be thankful to God, and let us follow the example of Jesus, who himself always was thankful to His Father. As we say thanks for his protection in surviving another year, especially with this COVID-19 which continues to be a danger to human life and activity, our hope for this New Year is obviously the eradication of this deadly pandemic so that we can experience good health and resume normal interaction.

As we pause and look back at the recently celebrated Advent and Christmas season when we took the time out to share with the less fortunate, and to share the message of our Saviour, we are reminded that we are our brother's keeper. We need to use 2022 as the year that we take the time to look out for each other. Let us be responsible in the way we protect ourselves and others in curtailing the spread of the virus. Let us show and spread more love during 2022 and pray that our example of loving as Christ loves us will spread and radiate through all who we come in contact with.

Every New Year, we have new hope and plans we want to achieve in our lives as individuals, a community of faith, and a nation. We hope for good health, success, and progress in this New Year. Let us not only hope and pray these for ourselves, but also for our neighbour.

Let us, in 2022, adopt a theme of "LOVE OF OUR NEIGHBOUR". As Christians, we are called to be loving. Jesus says, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: You shall love your neighbour as yourself."

MAY CHRIST ABIDE IN YOUR HEARTS IN THE NEW YEAR 2022 AND ALWAYS

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Interview by Britthney Watts



Kyle Pratt

Kyle Pratt has made a name for himself, being a part of a club with only few members - that is the club of students who would have topped the Caribbean in CSEC Mathematics which he did at Fourth Form. He then went on to become the valedictorian for Campion college in Fifth Form and now in his final year at upper Sixth Form, he is now the head boy and is getting ready to move on to university.

Please enjoy knowing more about Kyle and his role as head boy and what he looks forward to achieve in the future.

HEAD BOY: KYLE PRATT



It is my honour to have been selected as the head boy of THE Campion College. At the time- I must say- I felt rather excited but nervous: Am I ready for this responsibility? I thought. Nonetheless, I trust the decision my peers and teachers have made and will serve to the absolute best of my ability.

In my year of service, I intend to demonstrate, with my team, that even in these trying times, Campionites can learn, adapt and evolve in ways we never previously thought possible.

BW: What made you decide to run for head boy?

KP: Funny enough, it isn't a position you run or campaign for, instead, you are selected in a vote that considers the opinion of every facet of the school body. You are, however, given the option to decline the role. I accepted the role mostly because I trust the judgment and decision of my peers and superiors and believe that I have the capacity to do well in the position.

BW: Were you expecting to be selected?

KP: No, I am part of a team of 12 senior prefects, of which there are 6 boys. Any of these boys, I feel, could have made a suitable head boy. At times, it was even difficult to guess who might get the role.

BW: What are some goals that you would like to achieve as head boy?

KP: My primary goal as head boy is to demonstrate that amidst unprecedented opposition/circumstance, the school is still able to not only adapt current systems, but to create better ones that can persist as the new and improved norm for the overall good of the school. Along with this, I intend to maintain the standards set before me and especially in this time, increase the overall school spirit of the students.

BW: Other than being head boy/ star student what else do you do in your spare time?

KP: I enjoy playing basketball and exercising. I also love going out with my friends, playing video games and watching YouTube.

Kyle was accepted to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) to pursue his degree. He answered a few questions about MIT for us.

BW: Why did you choose MIT? What do you plan to study?

KP: From the research I have done of the school and anecdotes from friends, I found that the personalities of the people at MIT are ones that I would mesh well with. In addition to this, the heavy emphasis on STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics), as well as the diversity to branch into additional fields of study, was very appealing to me. I have been exposed to an "MIT- esque" environment in the form of the SPISE summer programme and it was a learning environment that I fell in love with and performed well in.

BW: Do you plan on attending or have you received other offers, or are you awaiting offers from other institutions?

KP: No, I applied to MIT on early action - meaning you apply earlier and get your decision earlier. In this case, I got my acceptance before the deadline for the applications to other schools on my list, so I did not apply anywhere else.

BW: Do you plan to partake in any extracurricular activities?

KP: At MIT, I plan to continue playing basketball. This is the only thing I am sure that I will do. The school offers a wide variety of extracurricular activities and I want to keep myself open to new experiences; however, I will likely try to get involved in some form of student government and archery seems rather appealing to me as well.

BW: How do you think your faith has assisted you in being where you are now?

KP: My faith has played a significant part in guiding my life decisions. My Christian values have poised me to act in a certain way to be a functional and positive influence on my communities. This is one of the most important qualities one can have - that of giving - and I am confident that this has played no small part in selection as head boy and in my admittance to MIT.

BW: In the next ten years, where would you like to see yourself?

KP: In the next 10 years, if still not in school or research and academia, I would like to see myself involved in the start-up or early stages of a Biotech firm.

BW: Is there anything you would like to say to encourage other young persons who may read this interview?

KP: In life, expose yourself to new experiences and try to find the things you enjoy doing, or better yet, something you are passionate about. Stick with that thing, set goals, and work towards them. Over time your circumstances, ideals, and passions may change, but above all else, do what you enjoy because above all else your first priority is your happiness.

We thank Kyle for answering these questions for us and stay tuned, as we feature another youth/young adult in St. Elizabeth Parish.

SYNODAL MEETING



The Archdiocese of Kingston Synodal Team hosted a meeting on Saturday, December 4, 2021 at Stephanie Hall, Holy Childhood.

The meeting was to sensitize representatives from the various parishes who will be facilitating at the churches' synodal consultations.

CHOOSING FACILITATORS

Good facilitators have participants engaging with one another in meaningful dialogue on the given topic or question. The facilitator is not the centre of conversation but rather a guide for conversation. It is important to select and train excellent facilitators for this listening process.

The theme of the upcoming 16th Synod of Bishops is: **“For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation and Mission.”** Synodality indicates walking together and listening to one another, but above all to the Holy Spirit. To deepen this essential characteristic of the Church, the upcoming Synod is unlike any previous one. It starts with, and involves all the faithful at local Churches across the world, promising to listen to all, especially to lay people. That is why this Synod is a 2-year process, starting from October 10, 2021 to October 2023.

SYNOD SONG - JOURNEYING TOGETHER IN CHRIST

Fr. Thomas Waweru of the Diocese of Mandeville, Jamaica has written a song for the Synod entitled "Journeying Together in Christ" (see pages 14 & 15 for music and lyrics).

You can contact Fr. Thomas for his permission to use this song.



BAPTISM OF JESSE CHIN



Alan and Sherine Chin with daughter Rebecca and newly baptized son, Jesse.

Alan and Sherine Chin's son, Jesse Chin was baptised at Mass on Sunday, December 12, 2021.

Friends and families of baby Chin were present for the celebration and to be a witness to his baptism. It is always a joy when we have a new addition to the church family.



The Roman Catholic Church considers baptism, even for an infant, so important that "parents are obliged to see that their infants are baptised within the first few weeks.

"Baptism gives children the grace and assistance to grow in the faith as they get older".

Feast of the Holy Family



Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph was held on Sunday, December 26, 2021. It was also the occasion where Marriage Vows were exchanged. Father Award and Deacon Gordon were pleased with the attendance at Mass as the pandemic has affected persons coming out for Mass, however, the couples present for the exchange of vows were only a few.

(Please see photos below)

The feast of The Holy Family is a day on which Catholics worldwide celebrate Jesus's earthly family—The Divine Son of God, Jesus, his mother the Virgin Mary, and his foster-father Joseph. It is also a day on which we celebrate our own families. The Gospels tell us very little about the life of the Holy Family—they speak of the early years of the Holy Family, including the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem, the flight into Egypt, and the finding of Jesus in the temple. Even without a lot of detail, however, we can still learn a lot about family living from scripture. Just how does one live out the Church in the family? St. Paul gives us some advice on family life in Colossians 3:12-17:

¹² - Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.

¹³ - Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.

¹⁴ - And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

¹⁵ - Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful.

¹⁶ - Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts.

¹⁷ - And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

We believe as Catholics that the Holy Family of Jesus is the model on which our families should be based. Our family life is holy when we incorporate our faith into our home life. We extend this belief to our vision of our place in the community and world.

PRATT FAMILY READING



DEACON PREACHING



COUPLES EXCHANGING MARRIAGE VOWS



FAMILIES



CYNTHIA SIMMONDS RETIRES FROM ST. ELIZABETH BASIC SCHOOL



Mrs. Cynthia Simmonds went off in 2021 on her well-deserved retirement.



Chairman, Fr. Richard Award, Principal, Mrs. Mary Richards and staff of the St. Elizabeth Basic School bid farewell to Mrs. Simmonds on Thursday, December 16, 2021 at a small get-together. The presentation of a basket was made to her, however, a proper function will be held at a later date.

Mrs. Simmonds started out at St. Elizabeth Basic School as a volunteer. She was offered employment in 1979 by Fr. Charles Dougherty C.P to be the cook where she would prepare meals for the staff and children.

The school had a big party for her in 2009 in recognition of her thirty years of service to the school. A plaque and purse was presented to her as gifts.

During her time at the school she has served five (5) principals.

Sr. Agnes

Mrs Johnson

Mr. Rookwood

Mrs Wedderburn

Mrs. Richards

Bon voyage Mrs. Simonds and all the best on your retirement and future endeavours.

CATHOLIC YOUTH MOVEMENT (CYM)



CYM Annual Consultation was held virtually on Saturday, November 27, 2021.

Election of Officers for the two year period 2022-2024 was the main item on the agenda.

Results of the election are as follows:

PRESIDENT

Amanda Mingoes - Holy Cross

SECRETARY

Antonio Campbell - Good Shepherd

TREASURER

Oshane Morrison - St. Pius X

PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER (PRO)

Taquai Brooks- St. Joseph

VICE PRESIDENT

Onieka Palmer - Good Shepherd

ASSISTANT SECRETARY

Michelle Anderson- Good Shepherd

ASSISTANT TREASURER

Cashique Brown - St. Richard

ASSISTANT PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER

Jada Sampson - St. Richard

Congratulations to the new executive. We pray that God will be there to guide and protect them every step along the way for the two years.

Prepared by Richard Gunn

Pope Francis' 2022 Monthly Prayer Intentions January For True Human Fraternity

We pray for all those suffering from religious discrimination and persecution; may their own rights and dignity be recognized, which originate from being brothers and sisters in the human family.



“Pain and suffering have come into your life, but remember pain, sorrow, suffering are but the kiss of Jesus — a sign that you have come so close to Him that He can kiss you.”

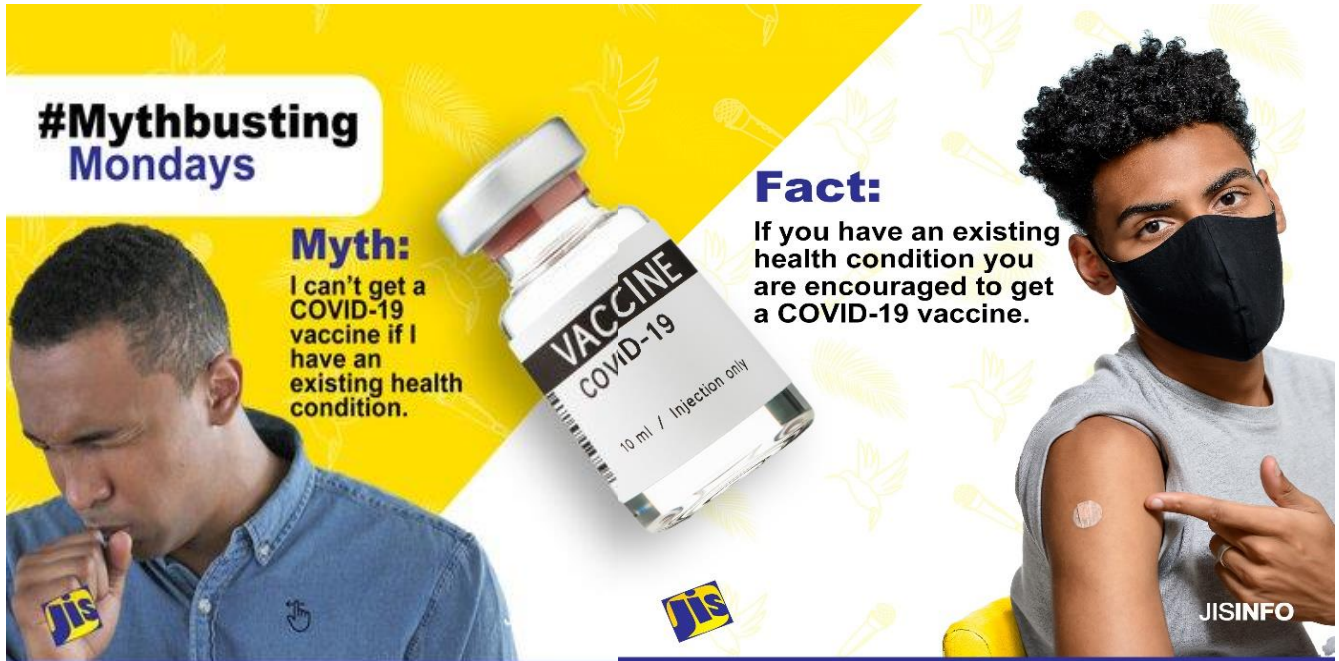
St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta

Get vaccinated and get back to life

#Mythbusting Mondays

Myth: I can't get a COVID-19 vaccine if I have an existing health condition.

Fact: If you have an existing health condition you are encouraged to get a COVID-19 vaccine.



Yes, if you have an existing health condition you can get a COVID-19 vaccine. Adults with certain underlying medical conditions are at increased risks for severe illnesses from the virus; therefore, vaccines are recommended.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FR. AWARD



- Fr. Richard Award C.P. is 81 –

On December 22, 2021 Fr. Award celebrated his 81st birthday. We give God thanks for his forty one (41) years' service as an ordained priest and for his thirty six (36) years of missionary work here in Jamaica.

CHOIR CHRISTMAS SOCIAL

Christmas is a time for gathering some friends together and eating some good food. That is reason enough to get together.

Members of the choir had their Christmas social on Saturday, December 16, 2021 upstairs the Rectory.



Pastor, Fr. Richard Award was present to share with the members.

It was a well spent afternoon and we are looking forward to when we can all gather for another occasion of this nature.

MARKETING MAVERICK

SIX LITTLE STORIES WITH LOTS OF MEANINGS

- Once all villagers decided to pray for rain. On the day of prayer, all the people gathered, but only one boy came with an umbrella. **That is faith**
- When you throw babies in the air, they laugh because they know you will catch them. **That is trust**
- Every night we go to bed without any assurance of being alive the next morning, but still we set the alarms to wake up. **That is hope**
- We plan big things for tomorrow in spite of zero knowledge of the future. **That is confidence.**
- We see the world suffering, but still, we get married and have children. **That is love.**
- On an old man's shirt was written a sentence's am not 80 years old; I am sweet 16 with 64 years of experience. **That is attitude.**

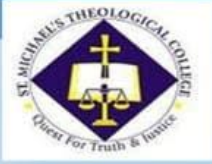
[MarketingMaverick.In](#)

ARCHDIOCESE OF KINGSTON

WILL YOU ANSWER GOD'S CALL?

CONTACT YOUR PARISH PRIEST/ADMINISTRATOR OR

THE VOCATIONS DIRECTOR
FR. BENJAMIN COMBEY
CELLPHONE: +1(876) 581-5304
EMAIL: BENJAMINELORMNYAMADI@GMAIL.COM



ST. MICHAEL'S THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE



St. Michael's Theological College (SMTC) adjacent to the University of the West Indies (UWI) and the United Theological College of the West Indies (UTCWI) offers a variety of programmes and courses for personal development and growth, and to build up the Church.

Bachelor of Arts in Theology

This Bachelor's Degree (90 credits) awarded by the UWI is fully accredited, and may be pursued full-time (3 years) or part-time. Students choose courses from the disciplines of theology, biblical studies, philosophy, liturgy, ethics, pastoral care, and may also choose electives from the UTCWI and the UWI.

Licentiate in Philosophy (LPhil)

This Licentiate Degree (60 credits) awarded by the UWI is fully accredited, and may be pursued full-time (2 years) or part-time. Students pursue a full philosophy programme including logic, phenomenology, metaphysics, and epistemology, and also study sociology and Biblical Greek.

Entry Requirements

With 2 CAPE subjects, students enter directly into the BA or LPhil programme; with 5 CXC subjects, students do a preliminary year to obtain CAPE-equivalents as they begin the degree programme.

COMING IN SEPTEMBER 2022: St. Michael's will be offering a **BA in Guidance & Counselling**. Interested persons without CAPE may register in January 2022 to do qualifying courses.

The Continuing Adult Religious Education Programme (CAREP)

This is a programme for those who do not have a lot of time, but who wish to go deeper into their Catholic Christian faith. There are no entry requirements, and participants can register either in September or January. Courses are offered on-line in the Old and New Testaments, Theology, Liturgy, Ethics, Church History, and the Social Teaching of the Church. Participants will graduate with an SMTC Certificate after any four courses of their choice.



ST. MICHAEL'S THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE



The Lay Leadership Training Programme (LLTP)

This programme offers practical training in skills to enhance worship and to build up church communities, according to the needs defined in the **Archdiocesan Strategic Pastoral Plan 2020-2030**. A SMTC Certificate will be issued for each skill area. **These courses are offered on-line, and so may be accessed from anywhere in the world.**

To enhance the worship experience the skills offered are:

- ♦ Mass Planning
- ♦ Lector
- ♦ Usher
- ♦ Sacristan, and Special Minister of the Eucharist.

Parish community-building skills offered are:

- ♦ Effective Church Council leadership and membership
- ♦ Effective School Board leadership and membership
- ♦ Skills in Evangelization
- ♦ Ecumenism
- ♦ Catechesis, including RCIA
- ♦ Youth Leadership
- ♦ Spirituality and Prayer Life
- ♦ The Greening of the Church and School

Short Courses on Matters of General Interest

Throughout the year (including in the Summer) short 6-week courses will be offered on topics of general interest. **These courses are offered on-line, and so may be accessed from anywhere in the world.** Please look out for announcements as they come up. Courses to be offered during 2021/2022 include:

- ♦ Synodality: a new way of being Church
- ♦ Understanding the Symbolism in the Mass
- ♦ The role of women in the Church
- ♦ What does the Bible have to say about Reparations for Slavery?
- ♦ Politics and the Church
- ♦ Ethics in Business
- ♦ Economics and Social Justice
- ♦ Justice and Peace in a New Caribbean
- ♦ Laudato Si: The Church and the Jamaican Environment
- ♦ Problems facing the Church in the Caribbean

For enquiries and Registration, contact may be made at St. Michael's Theological College

Phone: (876) 927-1259 or (876) 977-4206. Mondays to Fridays 9am -5pm OR

E-mail: stmtc2909@gmail.com

Our website is: <https://stmtc.edu.jm/>

JOURNYING TOGETHER IN CHRIST

Fr Thomas Waweru
3/12/2021

1. 2.

Soprano
Teach us the way we must go and how we are to pursue it make We
your self home in our hearts guide us the way to our fa ther

Alto
Teach us the way we must go and how we are to pursue it make fa ther We
your self home in our hearts guide us the way to our

Tenor
Teach us the way we must go and how we are to pursue it make fa ther
your self home in our hearts guide us the way to our

Bass
Teach us the way we must go and how we are to pursue it make fa ther
your self home in our hearts guide us the way to our

6

S
ga ther to ge ther in your name so that we may jour ney to ge ther We

A
ga ther to ge ther in your name so that we may jour ney to ge ther We

T
to ge ther in your name in your name so that we jour ney to ge ther We

B
to ge ther in your name in your name so that we jour ney to ge ther We

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10

S want to jour ney with you let no one be left be hind nor stray from the way of truth as

A want to jour ney with you let no one be left be hind nor stray from the way of truth as

T want to jour ney with you let no one be left be hind nor stray from the way of truth as

B want to jour ney with you let no one be left be hind nor stray from the way of truth as

16

S we jour ney to e ter nal life we life

A we jour ney to e ter nal life we life

T we jour ney to e ter nal life life

B we jour ney to e ter nal life life

JOURNYING TOGETHER IN CHRIST

1. Teach us the way we must go and how we are to persue it
make yourself home in our hearts guide us the way to our father

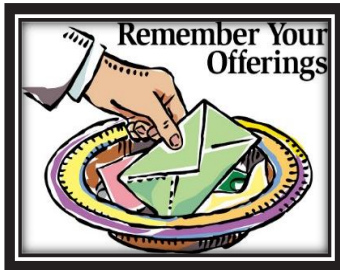
**We gather together in your name so that we may journey together
We want to journey with you let no one be left behind
Nor stray from the way of truth as we journey to eternal life**

2. We are all weak and sinful lets not promote disorder
Do not let our ignorance lead us down to the wrong path
3. The spirit guide us in journey so we may journey together
We pray for our plea be heard our illness also be healed




A Special
THANK YOU


Please remember to give generously to the church.



2 Corinthians 9:6-8

Each of you **should** give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves

a cheerful giver

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT

<i>PAYMENT FROM OVERSEAS VIA WIRE TRANSFER</i>	<i>BANK TO BANK TRANSFER (Jamaican Local)</i>
<p>INTERMEDIARY BANK Name: Bank of America Address: 701 Brickell Avenue Miami FL 33131, USA Swift Code: BOFAUS3M Routing No.: 026009593</p> <p>BENEFICIARY BANK Name: Bank of Nova Scotia Jamaica Limited Branch: Half Way Tree Swift Code: NOSJMKKN Bank Code: 002 Transit: 60145</p> <p>BENEFICIARY Name: Roman Catholic Archbishop (Receiver's name & address – St. Elizabeth Church) Address: 5 Ransford Avenue, Kingston 5, Jamaica W.I. Transit No: 60145 A/C No: 100008818</p>	<p>BANK: Bank of Nova Scotia</p> <p>BRANCH: Half Way Tree</p> <p>NAME: Roman Catholic Archbishop</p> <p>ADDRESS: 5 Ransford Avenue, Kingston 5, Jamaica W.I.</p> <p>TRANSIT NO: 60145</p> <p>ACCOUNT NO: 100008818</p>



We would like to hear from you. Give us a call or send us an email.

(876) 926-7248

pastor@saintez.org

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