

Making Barbados Work Better



## MEMORANDUM

**FROM:** PERMANENT SECRETARY, PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE

**TO:** Permanent Secretary  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade

**DATE:** October 12, 2018 **Ref. No.** 144 (2018) Vol. I

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**SUBJECT:** Year for Participation of the Diaspora, 2020

The year 2020 has been designated by the Prime Minister as the year for the Barbadian diaspora to be recognised and for them to be invited to return to their ancestral homes.

2. The concept involves a full year of celebrations commencing in the north and culminating in St. Michael for Independence. Each parish will be assigned a month during which Barbadians overseas originating from that parish would be especially invited to return home to participate in those celebrations.

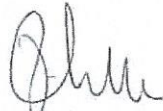
3. Community groups, Churches and individuals will be encouraged to plan and execute a wide range of activities featuring traditional, music, sports, food and other social events.

4. Each parish would be asked to select a basket of local ingredients including a protein which would be used to prepare recipes in the given month. From these recipes, a signature dish would be sent forward to be entered in a national 'throw down' in December 2020.

5. The month of December will see the culmination of the celebrations at the national level. Overseas based Barbadians would be invited to return home and participate in a celebration of a Bajan Christmas. An elevated 'Christmas in Queen's Park' is expected to be a highlight on the Calendar of events.

6. As you would appreciate, early notification is necessary to facilitate interested persons arranging their vacation leave and travel plans accordingly. You are therefore being requested to alert missions in order that the information can be disseminated among the diaspora. A copy of the Schedule is attached for your information.

7. Your assistance is appreciated.



**Juliet Clarke (Ms.)**  
*for Permanent Secretary*

JC:sg

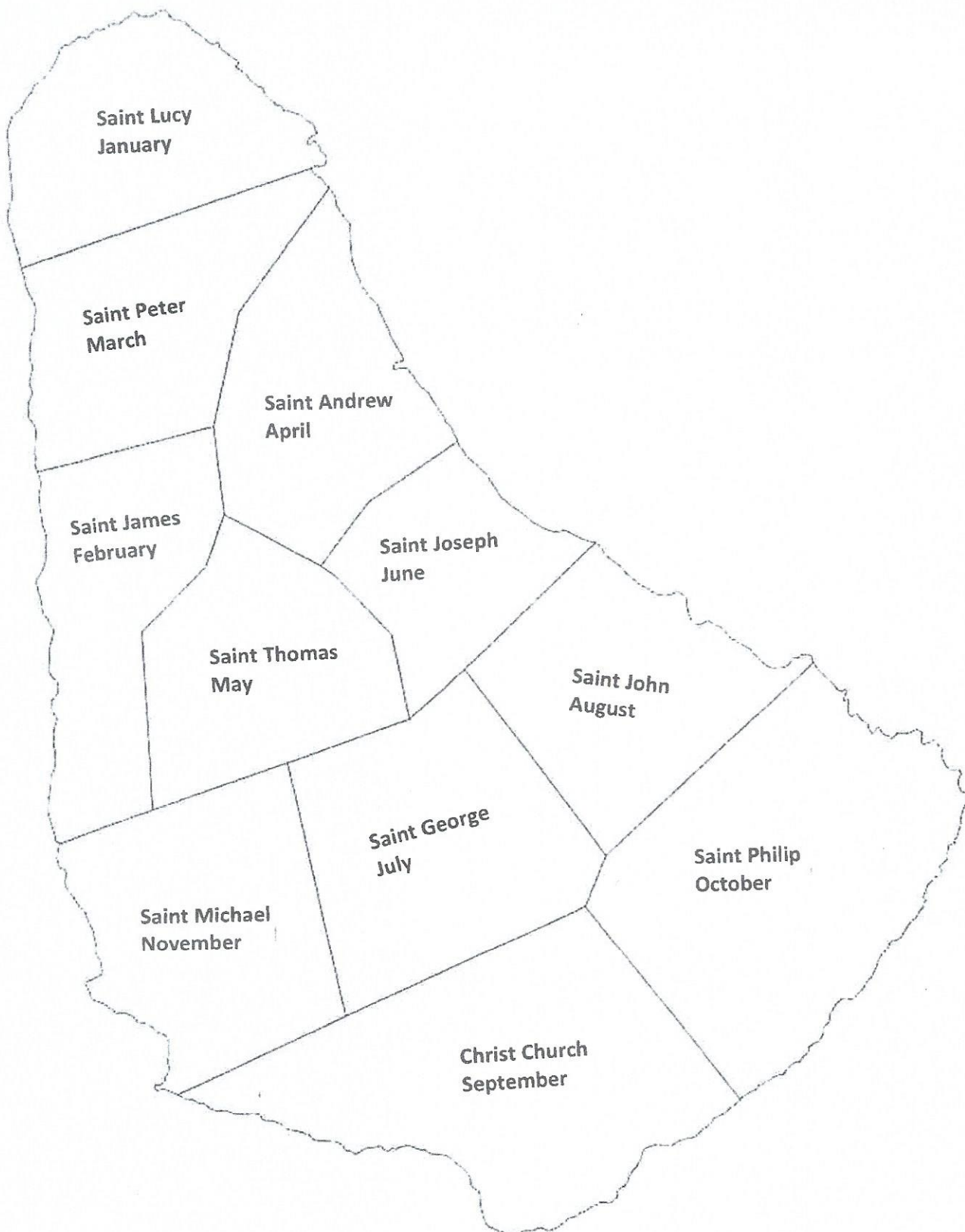
Attach.

## **CONCEPT**

### **“HOMECOMING 2020 - YEAR OF PARTICIPTION OF THE BARBADIAN DIASPORA”**

This theme of “Homecoming” connotes a journey back to our homeland for a celebration among family and friends, who await us with wide open arms. Where fond memories of growing up are rekindled and reflected on. It is an opportunity for traditional culture and local foods to be shared and enjoyed.

When the celebrations draw to a close overseas based Barbadians bid a fond farewell as they return to their adopted homes, inspired, heartened and refreshed with the underpinning of their cultural heritage.... until the next time.



**"HOMECOMING 2020 – YEAR OF THE BARBADIAN DIASPORA"**