

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SERVING YOU!  
**MINISTERS' SCHEDULE**

**6:00PM                      7:30AM                      10:00AM**

<b>CANTORS:</b> Allan Harrigan	Dr. Gloria Callwood	Marguerite Rene
<b>LECTORS:</b> Candace Bryan Ruth Smith	Noreen Joseph Allison Charles	Young Vincentian Young Vincentian
<b>EUCH MIN:</b> Dolores Velazquez	Bridget Toussaint Felicinne Marcellin	Franklin Howe Antoinette Howe

*Thank you for sewing !!!*

*Please pray for the members of our body who are sick or suffering. . .*

**HOSPITAL:**

**OFF ISLAND:** Defy Francoise, Bertina Lestrade, Altagracia Padilla, Emile Joseph, Joseph Archer, Clementina Abraham, Lorna Greig, Rita Brady Bermudez, Maggie Dolphin, Bishop Thomas, Eleanor Jackson-Thomas.

**AT HOME:** Rita Ledee, Rose Celestine, Margarita Feliciano, Martina Lewis, Olivia Gumbs, Ann Bedminster, John Joseph, Marie Santana, Medina Scatliffe, Lilian Francis, Bernice Knight, Philomen Baron, Joyce McPherson, Claudy Brutus, Grace Thompson, McLean Fontain (Sparrow), Vernelle Gumbs, Berecia Reid, Evelyn Simon, Mary Lewis, Veronica Sealey, Isabel Dublin, Gerard Henry, Theresa Felix, Mary Antoine.

**SEAVIEW:**

**MASSAC:** Margarita Knight.  
**LUCINDA MILLIN:** Rita Thompson.  
**EBENEZER HOME:** Cleota Hill.

*And all the sick and suffering in our community!*



PLEASE REMEMBER TO PRAY for the repose of the souls of loved ones who have been called home by our Savior. *If you or your loved one is going into the hospital, please contact the office so that you/they may receive the sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick.*

*You are practicing Understanding when you ...*

*\*Concentrate and pay close attention.*

*\*Reflect on the meaning of things.*

*\*See the whole picture.*

*\*Resist distractions.*

*\*Put yourself in other people's shoes.*

*\*Forgive others and yourself when you make mistakes.*

**Affirmation:**

*I have an understanding mind. I see truth about things. I have an understanding heart. I have empathy for other people's feelings.*

**WEEKLY ADVERTISEMENTS**

**OFFICE HOURS**

**Mondays - 10:00 AM  
to 4:00 PM**

**Tuesday - Friday**

**7:30 AM - 4:00 PM**

**HOLY FAMILY FINANCE COUNCIL**

Alicia Douté	Yasmine Haynes
Jean Dragin	Anneta Heyliger
Claudia Winston	Dan Hurley
John T. Williams	
Rev. Neil Scantlebury (Pastor)	

**HURRICANE PRAYER**

God our Father, all the elements of nature obey Your commands. Keep us safe from the danger of hurricanes and all other natural disasters. Let us always feel the presence of Your love. May we be secure in Your protection and turn our fears into praise of Your goodness. Grant this through Christ our Lord. Amen!

**O God, I believe, I adore, I hope and I love you, and I ask pardon for those who do not believe, do not adore, do not hope and do not love you. Amen.**

*HURRICANE SEASON: JUNE 1 TO NOVEMBER 30:*

**PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

God our Father, all the elements of nature obey Your commands. We praise and thank You for Your protection during the hurricane season. We ask You again to guide us through a new year free of earthquakes, floods and other natural disasters. Bless our families and bring peace to all nations. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

**HOLY FAMILY  
PARISH COUNCIL**

*Monthly meeting is normally held on the third Wednesday of the month.*

Eubald René (Chairman)  
Yasmine Haynes (Secretary)  
Bridget Toussaint  
Jennifer Johnson  
Christian Douté  
Mona Bedminster  
Felicia Felix  
**Fr. Neil Scantlebury (Pastor)**  
**Fr. Kerly François (Assoc. Pastor)**

**NEXT MEETING**

**Wednesday, December 7, 2016  
at 6:30 pm in Lower Columban Hall.**

**Le Bleu  
ULTRA PURE BOTTLED WATER**

Chi-Co's Distributing, Inc  
Lindberg Bay #18  
P.O Box 302250  
St. Thomas, VI 00803  
340-776-5894 / Fax: 340-776-5854



**PARISH CELEBRATION**

**Birthdays**

*Showana Bellevue, Kenda Marcellin, Nadisha John Lewis, Jose Santiago, Elaine Jean Baptiste, Albert Richards, II, Carol Casimir, Jn Friznel Bellevue, Rae Rouse, Angela Royotte, Julia Dubois, Antoinette Floyd, Olivia Williams, Nirisi Griffith, Dominick Hodge, Josiah Jules, Christopher Scott, Tiffanie Quetel, Tamica Pierre, Sharon Davis, Stacy Steele, Marilene Lionel, Joseph St. Thomas, Norma Gimenez.*



*Lord, bless our parishioners who celebrate their special day this week. Amen!*

**Holy Family Catholic Church  
Welcomes You!**

**1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT - Nov. 27, 2016**

P.O. Box 502218, St. Thomas,  
U.S. Virgin Islands 00805  
Tel: (340) 775-1650  
Fax: (340) 775-1750  
E-mail: holyfamilyvi@msn.com  
Website: www.holyfamilystt.com  
**EMERGENCY CONTACT**  
**(340) 513-8262**



**MISSION STATEMENT**

**The Church of the Holy Family exists to Nurture and advance Christ's Eucharistic Unconditional Love to all, through Love of God and neighbor.**

**Pastor**  
Reverend Neil Scantlebury

**Associate Pastor**  
Reverend Kerly François

**Administrative Assistant**  
Ms. Allison Charles

**Sacristan**  
Mr. Ryan John

**Musicians**  
Mr. Francis Callwood  
Mr. Verne Callwood  
Mr. Desmond Simmonds  
Mr. Ade Warrington

**Volunteers**  
Mrs. Jennifer Johnson  
Mr. Richard Callwood, III

**CHANCERY: BISHOP'S OFFICE**

(340) 774-3166

**Venerable Pierre Toussaint  
Catholic Chapel**

4B-B Estate Bovoni  
St. Thomas VI 00802

**Saturday: 4:00 p.m.**  
**- (Spanish)**  
**6:00 p.m. - (Creole)**  
**Thursday: 6:00 p.m.**  
**(Creole)**

**When you enter THE CHURCH talk to GOD;  
when you leave - talk to each other!**

**WEEKEND MASSES**

**Saturday: 6:00 PM**  
**Sunday: 7:30 AM, 10:00 AM &  
6:00 PM Creole Mass**

**WEEKDAY MASSES**

Monday: 6:00 PM  
Tuesday - Thursday: 7:00 AM  
Wednesday: OLPH Novena before the  
7:00 AM Mass followed by  
Adoration after the mass to 5:30 PM  
Friday: Holy Hour - 6:00 PM  
Mass at 7:00 PM  
**Sacrament of Reconciliation**  
Saturday: 5:15 PM - 5:45 PM  
or by appointment.

**Readings for the Week  
of November 27, 2016**

Mon.: Isaiah 4:2 - 6; Matthew 8:5 - 11

Tue.: Isaiah 11:1 - 10; Luke 10:21 - 24

Wed.: Romans 10:9 - 18; Matthew 4:18 - 22

Thur.: Isaiah 26:1 - 6; Matthew 7:21, 24 - 27

Fri.: Isaiah 29:17 - 24; Matthew 9:27 - 31

Sat.: Isaiah 30:19 - 21, 23 - 26;  
Matthew 9:35 - 10:1, 5a, 6 - 8

**NEXT SUNDAY:  
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

Isaiah 11:1 - 10  
Romans 15:4 - 9  
Matthew 3:1 - 12

## FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

### INTRODUCTION TO THE LITURGY OF THE DAY!

#### FIRST READING: Isaiah 2:1 - 5

On that day, "they shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks" prophesied Isaiah. "One nation shall not raise the sword against another." He went on: "Come, let us walk in the light of the Lord."

#### SECOND READING: Romans 13:11 - 14

Paul urged the Romans: "It is the hour now for you to awake from sleep. For our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed." Let us put on the "armor of light. Put on the Lord Jesus Christ."

#### GOSPEL: Matthew 24:37 - 44

Matthew's Jesus said that the Son of Man will come at an hour no one can expect. Therefore, all people must stay awake, keep a watchful eye, and be prepared. Today the Gospel continues its focus on the end-times, carried over from the last Sundays in Ordinary Time. As one of the elements of Advent, pondering the Second Coming helps us to focus on what is important in our lives, and how we are to make ourselves ready for the coming of the Lord. While we know not the day nor the hour, St. Paul counsels us to throw off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light. As Jesus says, "Stay awake!"

### MASS INTENTIONS

#### Saturday Mass (Sunday Observance):

6:00 PM: Birthday blessings for Julia Dubois rb Julia Dubois.

#### Sunday Masses:

7:30 AM: Anniversary blessings for Khalid and Makida Merchant rb Their family.

10:00 AM: Birthday blessings for De Mario Potter rb His grandmother, Carmen White.

6:00 PM: God's continued blessings for the Haitian Community.

#### Daily Masses:

Mon. Nov. 28, 6:00 PM: **St. Catherine Laboure**  
Birthday blessings and God's deliverance for Brian Jn Charles.

Tues. Nov. 29, 7:00 AM: **Blessed Francis anthony of Lucera**  
Vasheo R. Donastorg (d) rb Maria Conception and family.

Wed. Nov. 30, 7:00 AM: **St. Andrew, Apostle - Feast**  
Thanksgiving for God's guidance and deliverance for Joel C. Giff  
rb The family.

Thurs. Dec. 01, 7:00 AM: **St. Edmund Campion**  
Birthday blessings for Benjamin Rawlings rb Cleopha Rawlings.

Fri. Dec. 02, 7:00 PM: **St. Bibiana**  
God's deliverance and healing for Jemmeni Moore rb Her family.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**SECOND COLLECTION:** This week's second collection goes towards *Catholic Education*. Next week's second collection will go towards the *Renovation Fund*. As always we thank you for your generosity.

**ETERNAL CANDLE:** This week the Eternal Candle is burning for *birthday blessings for Alicia Doute requested by the John family*. You can request Eternal Candle for your loved ones' birthdays or any special occasions.

**FOOD FOR THE POOR:** This weekend we will collect non-perishable items for our less fortunate brothers and sisters within our community. As always, we thank you for your generosity and may God continue to bless you and your family abundantly. Once again, thank you.

**ADVENT SEASON:** The Advent Season is here. Please note that during the Advent Season there will be **NO FLOWERS** in the church and **NO COMMUNION HYMN**. Please be guided accordingly. Thank you.

**SAINTS FEST 3:** Sts. Peter & Paul Catholic School is proud to present **SAINTS FEST 3**, on **Saturday, December 3, 2016**, from 12noon to 5pm at Sts. Peter & Paul Catholic School courtyard. Games for the whole family, activities, food and drinks for sale and much more! Come dressed as your patron saint or favorite saint and enter a special contest! Prizes awarded! You don't have to be a child to come dressed as a saint.

**FAMILIES FOR CHRIST:** Families for Christ will meet next **Sunday, December 4, 2016**, after the 7:30 a.m. mass. Please be guided accordingly and all are invited to attend.

**MEETING:** There will be a meeting on **Tuesday, December 6, 2016**, at 7:00 p.m. in the church, for persons who are interested in becoming a lector or Eucharistic Minister.

**HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION:** The Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary will be celebrated on **Thursday, December 8, 2016**, therefore there will be two masses on that day at 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. Please be guided accordingly.

**CHURCH CLEANING:** **Saturday, December 10, 2016**, has been set aside for the cleaning of our church for the Christ season **from 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.** Please come out in full number and let us give our church a good cleaning to welcome the baby Jesus. "Many hands make light work." Also hands and help are need every weekend for the cleaning of the church. Thank you in advance.

**CONFESSIONS:** Holy Family church will have confessions on **Wednesday, December 14, 2016**, from **5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.** Please be guided accordingly.

**CHRISTMAS FLOWERS:** The church is once again kindly asking for donations for poinsettias for decoration during the Holiday Season. Thank you.

**CHRISTMAS CONCERT:** The Religious Education Program will be hosting a Christ concert on **Sunday, December 18, 2016**, at 5:00 p.m. in Upper Columban Hall. Please save this date and support our children.

**2017 KEYS AND SWORD AWARD BENEFIT!!!!** Join us for the 8th Annual Keys and Sword Award Benefit on **Saturday, February 11, 2017** at the Marriott Frenchman's Reef Grand Ballroom. We look forward to welcoming you. The honorees are **The Knights and Dames of Malta**. **SAVE THE DATE. Tickets can be bought from Jennifer Johnson, Vincia St. Jean, Jean Dragin and the church office.**

### LITURGY AND WORD

How many babies have been born into this world since we began this Eucharistic celebration? It must be thousands of them. How many babies were born since two thousand years? It is up to anyone to calculate. Why then all this hype regarding the commemoration of the one baby on 25th December, and the expectancy for that event by means of a preparation during a period of time called the Advent Season? The reason is just this: the baby is not just an ordinary one and his birth too is associated with events which are extraordinary. The season of Advent is all about hope and expectation. The arrival of a baby into a family is awaited with joy, hope and at times with anxiety. Prophet Isaiah instilled hope in the minds of the people of Israel with the arrival of a king who would bring peace into the land which was suffering due to warring kings. 'Beating the swords into ploughshares and spheres into pruning hooks', mentioned in today's first reading, points to the times when people would live in peace and harmony with each other. When the earthly kings failed to meet the expectations and hope of the people, attention was directed to the 'future king' who would be born in Bethlehem in the land of Judea (Mic 5:2; Mt 2:6). Hope and expectation are to be accompanied by apt preparation for the event. What are we preparing for during Advent? Most people, I suspect, would say, very simply, we're preparing for Christmas, the birth of Jesus. It is true to certain extent. The excitement in the air, the ads in television and newspapers, the decorated malls and shopping centers point to that. But going by the Gospel passage of this Sunday what Advent is also about is something greater and deeper than commemoration of the birth of Jesus. It transcends festivities and celebrations; it even transcends time. What we are waiting for, really, is the end of time. We're waiting for our final judgment, and the concluding event of history. Thus any preparation during the Advent Season involves a call to be watchful. To be ready. To be holy. If waiting for the new born king in the manger need preparation from our part, more so in the case of waiting for the king coming in the clouds of heaven. Advent is the time to repair what is broken, to heal what is hurt. It is the time to remember the work that we need to do on our lives, our spirits, and

### STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

Every week the report on stewardship will include our gifts of time, talent, and treasure. In gratitude to God, we give of our first fruits to help fulfill God's mission of love here on earth.

Attendance: Last Weekend: **429**

Last Weekend's collections

**FIRST COLLECTION: \$4,929.25**

**SECOND COLLECTION:**

**Catholic Campaign: \$1,491.00**

**Our Bishop's Appeal contribution amounted to \$42,948.00, 107% of our goal of \$40,000.00. As always we thank you for your continuous contribution towards our Bishop's Appeal. Once again, thank you.**

### LITURGY AND WORD CONT'D

our hearts. And so we make ourselves ready and clear the way for the Lord who comes. Valleys are to be exalted, crooked ways to be made straight. During this season we wait for our Savior, the prince of peace. We are waiting for Christ. By the celebration of Christmas we remember how that hope came into the world 2,000 years ago, and wait for his return at the end of history. But we also remember, at every Eucharist, that he continues to come into our lives, into our outstretched hands, into our hearts. Christ continues to make himself known to a seeking, struggling world. Thomas Merton once wrote that there are three comings of Christ – when he was born, when he will return at the end of time, and when he comes to us every day. If we are able to see Jesus everyday in one face or another the words of St. Paul in today's second reading comes true: "our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed." Baby and bread are ordinary realities of life, but extraordinary symbols. A new born baby symbolizes hope; bread symbolizes sharing and fellowship. The birth of Jesus symbolized fulfillment of the hope of salvation for the world; we all became sharers of divine life. The Eucharistic bread remains as the ultimate symbol of self-giving. We shall continue to celebrate it 'until he comes' as St. Paul would say (1 Cor 11:26). Thus filled with a sense of hope let us participate in this great mystery and thus prepare ourselves for the coming of the Lord.