

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SERVING YOU!
MINISTERS' SCHEDULE

9:00PM 7:30AM 10:00AM

CANTORS: Adult Choir Dr. Gloria Callwood Marguerite Rene

LECTORS: Agnes Nicholas Rita Brady Bermudez Suzanne Adrien
M'Kell Descartes Noreen Joseph Mona Bedminster

EUCH MIN: Dolores Velazquez Felicinne Marcillin Annette Daly
Alma Wells

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, Maggie Dolphin, Bishop Thomas, Eleanor Jackson-Thomas.

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

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 Honor when you ...

**Guide your life by your virtues.*

**Can be trusted to keep your promises.*

**Avoid doing things that make you feel ashamed.*

**Respect the rules you want to live by.*

**Do what you believe is right no matter what.*

**Set a good example for others.*

Affirmation:

I am honorable. I keep my agreements and treat others with respect. I care about doing the right thing.

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)

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. **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.**

FUNERAL MASSES

Funeral Masses at Holy Family Church are held on the designated day at 9:00 a.m. If you would like a different time please contact the pastor. Tributes and solos are done before the Mass. Please keep your prelude activities to the minimum. **Funerals are NOT held on Wednesdays and on weekends (Saturdays and Sundays). Lectors of Holy Family Church will do the readings. Thank you for your cooperation.**

**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, January 18, 2017
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**

Atherleah Bruno, Darryl Hendrickson, Dylan Hendrickson, Dale Hendrickson, Jr., Cedrick Heyliger, Monet Petersen, Jai Jones, Brandon Bryan, Davina Foster, Misterlyne Satine, Aaron Clarke, Roy Stout, Fernando Henley, Khalid Merchant, Eurose Conseillant, Monique George, Eric Blake, Jr., Roberto Monsanto, Celestina Lapena, Curtis Abraham, Meredith Johnson, Lillian Feliciano, Emanuel Jn-Bapatiste, Joseph Toussaint, Sarah Jones, Marguerite Henderson, Jose Velazquez.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Kemon & Genet Henry - Dec. 26
Atherley & Lorine Bruno - Dec. 27
Audi & Adelia Henneman - Dec. 28
Daryl & Sheryl Griffith - Dec. 29
Thomas & Ruthine Johnson - Dec. 29
Windel & Heidrun William - Dec. 29

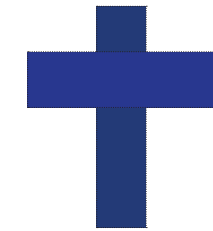


Lord, bless our parishioners who celebrate their special day this week. Amen!

**Holy Family Catholic Church
Welcomes You!**

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD - Dec. 25, 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 December 25, 2016**

Mon.: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Matt. 10:17-22
Tue.: 1John 1:1 - 4; John 20:1a and 2 - 8
Wed.: 1 John 1:5 - 2:2; Matt. 2:13 - 18
Thur.: 1 John 2:3 - 11; Luke 2:22 - 35
Fri.: Sirach 3:2 - 6, 12 - 14; Col. 3:12 - 21
Matthew 2:13 - 15, 19 - 23

Sat.: 1 John 2:18 - 21; John 1:1 - 18
NEXT SUNDAY:
SOLEMNITY OF MARY,
MOTHER OF GOD

Numbers 6:22 - 27
Galatians 4:4 - 7
Luke 2:16 - 21

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

INTRODUCTION TO THE LITURGY OF THE DAY!

FIRST READING: Isaiah 9:1 - 6

“For a child is born to us, a son is given us,” prophesied Isaiah. “They name him Wonder-Counselor, God-Hero, Forever, Prince of Peace. His dominion is vast.”

SECOND READING: Titus 2:11 - 14

God’s grace appeared in the savior Christ Jesus, offering salvation to all people. Paul told Titus that the appearance of Christ trains us “to live temperately, justly and devoutly.”

GOSPEL: Luke 2:1 - 14

Mary gave birth to her firstborn and laid him in a manger. The angel of the Lord appeared to shepherds nearby to tell them the good news. An angelic choir sang, “Glory to God in the highest.” During the Advent season we have contemplated the three “comings” of Christ: in history, at the end-times, and into our hearts. Today we celebrate the Nativity of the Lord - His coming in history - as fully as we can. In celebrating the Nativity, we fervently pray that our dear Lord will also be born in our hearts. Then we, like the Blessed Mother, can share his presence with the world around us.

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday Mass (Sunday Observance):

9:00 PM: Birthday blessings for Khalid Merchant rb His family.

Birthday blessings for Lorraine Vialet rb Her family.

11:00 PM: God’s blessings and healing for Holy Family parishioners.

Sunday Masses:

7:30 AM: God’s blessings, guidance, protection and success for the New Year for Danny, Trevor and Brendon James rb Their mother.

10:00 AM: Governor Alexander A. Farrelly (d) rb Viola E. Smith.

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



Daily Masses:



Mon. Dec. 26, 6:00 PM: *St. Stephen - Feast*
God’s blessings, guidance and protection for the Charles family.

Tues. Dec. 27, 7:00 AM: *St. John, Apostle & Evangelist - Feast*
Mary Boyce(d) & David Boyce, Jr. (d) rb Irene Morris.

Wed. Dec. 28, 7:00 AM: *The Holy Innocents - Feast*
God’s deliverance, healing and protection for the children of Eve Ogiste rb Eve Ogiste.

Thurs. Dec. 29, 7:00 AM: *St. Thomas Becket*
God’s deliverance and healing for the Bedminster family.

Fri. Dec. 30, 7:00 PM: *Feast of the Holy Family*
Birthday blessings for Vincent Rawlings rb Cleopha Rawlings.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



SECOND COLLECTION: This week’s second collection goes towards the *assisting the poor and those in need*. 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 Marie Renal*. 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.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS: We extend sincere thanks to all who donated or contributed to the purchase of poinsettias this year. We also extend deepest gratitude to those who came out to clean and decorate the church of the Christ season. May the infant child draw each of you closer to Him this Christmas and beyond.

THANK YOU: Rev. Neil Scantlebury and Rev. Kerly François extend sincere thanks to all those who sent them cards and extend Christmas wishes. May God continue to bless you and your family and may the Christ child bring you into a deeper relationship with Him. Once again thank you and God’s continued blessings.

OFFICE CLOSED: Please note that the church office will be closed on Monday, December 26, 2016, ALL DAY. The church office will reopen on Tuesday, December 27, 2016. Please be guided accordingly.

NEW YEAR’S EVE AND NEW YEAR’S DAY MASS SCHEDULE: Please note that on Saturday, December 31, 2016, there will be **NO** 6:00 p.m. mass, However, mass will be celebrated at 9:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m. Holy hour will precede the 9:00 p.m. mass at 8:00 p.m. New Year’s day, Sunday, January 1, 2017, mass will be celebrated at 7:30 a.m., 10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. Creole mass. The church office will be closed on Monday, January 2, 2017. Please be guided accordingly.

NEW YEAR’S LUNCH: The Haitian adult choir will be serving soup at the chapel in Bovoni on Sunday, January 1, 2017, from 12:00 noon.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: CCD Classes will resume on Saturday, January 14, 2017. Please be guided accordingly.

HOLY FAMILY FEAST DAY: The Feast of the Holy Family is Friday, December 30, 2016. **PARISHIONERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO WEAR THEIR HOLY FAMILY T-SHIRT/POLO SHIRT (if you have one) TO MASS ON FRIDAY, DECEMBER 30, 2016 TO CELEBRATE THE FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY.** Our Feast Day fun day will be held on Sunday, January 15, 2017 at UVI Golf Course. Please save the date.

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

There is a beautiful story about a little boy who was looking at various statues in the Christmas Crib. His father was explaining to him the role of the cows, the camels, the lambs, the shepherds, the three wise men, the angels, Mother Mary and St Joseph. Suddenly the boy heard some sound in the sky. Something was moving up there in the sky. He asked his father about it and the father told him that it was an airplane and there were people inside. The little boy asked him, “Daddy, how did the people go up there?” The Father’s answer was quite thought-provoking. He said, “The people don’t go up, the airplane comes down and takes people up there.”

This is what happened on the Christmas day. People did not go up, God came down. He came down like a baby. He came down to the level of the poor, the neglected, the oppressed, the marginalized, the forsaken and the outcasts.

1. This coming down meant Love: “God so loved the world that he sent his only Son so that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.” It was not out of the sense of duty that God came down to us, nor for his own sake. Dr C. S. Lewis speaks of four kinds of loves: affection, friendship, charity and eros. God expressed all these kinds of love through Jesus. Even though a mother may forget her child but God will never forget us (Isa 49:15). Jesus has called his disciples friends (Jn 15:15). God loved us while we were yet sinners (Rom 5: 7). St Paul tells the husbands to love their wives as Christ has loved his Church (Eph 5:25) Fr John Powel speaks of two kinds of loves: Need love and Gift love. God loved the world with gift love – a total self-giving.

2. This coming down meant Sacrifice: God sacrificed the comfort zone of heaven, the honor and reputation of a king and was born of a virgin in simple ordinary cow-shade. He sacrificed his title as a master and served his own followers. He sacrificed his title as a teacher when he pointed to the

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: **463**

Last Weekend’s collections

FIRST COLLECTION: \$5,169.00

SECOND COLLECTION:

Shrine in Washington DC: \$811.40

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

birds of the air and flowers of the field and asked his disciples to learn from them.

3. This coming down meant fellowship: God became one with those who were ostracized. He came down to have a table fellowship with the sinners and the tax collectors. He came down to touch the lepers and dead bodies (daughter of Jairus and son of the widow of Nain). God came down to the level of human beings. Am I ready to come down to the level of my fellow human beings? What are the hurdles in this process? What am I going to do in order to overcome these hurdles?

We wish all our parishioners and the well-wishers a joyful CHRISTMAS. May the Child whose birth you have been awaiting brighten your lives!

