

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SERVING YOU!
MINISTERS' SCHEDULE

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

CANTORS: Allan Harrigan	Dr. Gloria Callwood	Marguerite Rene
LECTORS: Yasmine Haynes Chris Doute	Noreen Joseph Jalila Thomas	Families for Christ Families for Christ
EUCH MIN: Dolores Velazquez Olga McBean	Felicinne, Alma, Catherina & Rose	Eubald Rene Marguerite Rene

Thank you for sewing !!!

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

HOSPITAL: John Joseph.

OFF ISLAND: Defy Francoise, Bertina Lestrade, Altagracia Padilla, Emile Joseph, Joseph Archer, Clementina Abraham, Maggie Dolphin, Bishop Thomas, Elizabeth Dolphin.

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

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 Friendliness when you ...

**Like yourself and know you have a lot to offer.*

**Smile and greet people courteously.*

**Get to know people and let them get to know you.*

**Show care when a friend needs you.*

**Are friendly to people who look and act differently.*

**Make someone new feel welcome.*

Affirmation:

I am friendly. I show an interest in others by being warm and courteous. I am a loyal friend. My friendship is a worthy gift.

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 FOR LENT

Lord Jesus, by your cross and resurrection you have set us free. During this Lent, lead us by your Holy Spirit to live more faithfully in Christian freedom. Through prayer, increased charity and the disciplines of this sacred season, draw us closer to you. Purify the intentions of our hearts so all our Lenten observances give you praise and glory. Grant that through our words and actions, we may be faithful messengers of the Gospel message to a world in need of hope and your mercy. 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, March 15, 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**

Evelyn Simon, Veronica Sealy Zephaniah Jean Jacques, Timaeya Benjamin, Caristina Pickering-Gerard, Malon Angol, Melita Etienne, Giftus Johnson, Adeline Dorval, Jr. Rene Vante, Monique Dorcelly, Alison Johnson, Tara DeLugo, Elison Etienne, Clement Hendricks, Glenn Philbert, Clifton Johnson, Iler Philemond, Ziska Joseph, Apollon Vanel, Jacinta Sablon, Marlina Wallace, Keith Steele, Victor Baly.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

Lucius & Monique Dorcelly - Mar. 7
Lucius & Antoinette Cherrie - Mar. 8
Manuel & Carmen Saldinas - Mar. 9
Balvin & Shirlin Browne - Mar. 10



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

**Holy Family Catholic Church
Welcomes You!**

1st Sunday of Lent - March 5, 2017

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
Facebook: Holy Familyvi
EMERGENCY CONTACT
(340) 513-8262



**MAKE
THESE
40 DAYS
HOLY**

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 March 5, 2017**

Mon.: Lev. 19:1 - 2, 11 - 18; Matt. 25:31 - 46

Tue.: Isaiah 55:10 - 11; Matthew 6:7 - 15

Wed.: Jonah 3:1 - 10; Luke 11:29 - 32

Thur.: Esther C:12, 14 - 16, 23 - 25;
Matthew 7:7 - 12

Fri.: Ezekiel 18: 21 - 28; Matthew 5:20 - 26

Sat.: Deut. 26:16 - 19; Matthew 5:43 - 48

**NEXT SUNDAY:
2nd Sunday of Lent**

Genesis 12:1 - 4a
2 Timothy 1:8b - 10
Matthew 17:1 - 9

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

INTRODUCTION TO THE LITURGY OF THE DAY!

FIRST READING: Genesis 2:7 - 9; 3:1 - 7

The Lord God created Adam and Eve and set them in the garden of Eden. They had all they needed, but the serpent tempted them, and they disobeyed God's command.

SECOND READING: Romans 5:12 - 19

Just as though Adam's disobedience all became sinners, through Christ's obedience all shall become just.

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 4:1 - 11

After Jesus fasted for forty days and nights in the desert, the devil tempted him in three ways. Through all these, Jesus resisted temptation and remained faithful to the Lord God. When the devil left, angels came and ministered to Jesus. As we begin this Lenten season, we find that all three readings are harmonized. The first reading and the Gospel are tied together by the second reading. St. Paul, in his letter to the Romans, shows how the transgression of Adam and Eve is overcome by the righteousness of Jesus. Listening to these sacred scriptures, let us be grateful for the love of our God, who rescues us from our sinfulness.

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday Mass (Sunday Observance):

6:00 PM: God's continued blessings for Bishop Elliott Thomas rb
The Children of Mary.

Sunday Masses:

7:30 AM: God's deliverance for Sherna Matthew rb Her mother.

10:00 AM: Birthday blessings for Keithford Francis, Jr. rb Velma Henry.

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

Daily Masses:

Mon. Mar. 06, 6:00 PM: **St. Colette**
God's continued blessings for the sick and shut in of Holy Family Church.

Tues. Mar. 07, 7:00 AM: **Sts. Perpetua & Felicity**
Veronica Boyd rb Alma Jones-Davis

Wed. Mar. 08, 7:00 AM: **St. John of God**
Deacon Austin Medina (d) rb The Children of Mary.

Thurs. Mar. 09, 7:00 AM: **St. Frances of Rome**
Veronica Boyd rb Alma Jones-Davis.

Fri. Mar. 10, 7:00 PM: **St. Dominic Savio**
God's continued blessings for guidance for the CCD teachers & volunteers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SECOND COLLECTION: This week's second collection goes towards **Bishop's Appeal**. Next week's second collection will go towards **Bishop's Appeal**. As always we thank you for your generosity.

BISHOP'S APPEAL: The annual bishop's appeal supports four soup kitchens within our diocese. Every day hungry men and women are fed by your charity. By your generous contributions to the Bishop's Appeal, the work continues the ministry for Jesus. We ask you to please take home the brochure and pray about what sacrificial gift you can give to this worthwhile cause. For your convenience, you may choose to make a pledge now and spread your donation over several months. Thank you! "Love what Jesus loves. Jesus loves the poor."

ETERNAL CANDLE: This week the Eternal Candle is burning for **birthday blessings for Clifton Johnson, requested by his mother**. You can request Eternal Candle for your loved ones' birthdays or any special occasions.

FAMILIES FOR CHRIST: Families for Christ will meet this **Sunday, March 5, 2016**, after the 7:30 a.m. mass. Please be guided accordingly and all are invited to attend.

LENT: Lent began with **Ash Wednesday, March 01, 2017**. Now is the time to plan spiritual and corporal works of mercy for Lent.

LENT: During Lent:

1. Holy Hour and Stations of the Cross are on Fridays at 6:00 p.m.
2. Those 18 to 59 years of age are to **fast on Ash Wednesday** and **Good Friday**.
3. Those 14 years and older are to **abstain from eating meat on Ash Wednesday and all Fridays in Lent**
4. Pray for peace in the world and in our families.
5. Pray for God's blessings and protection against the attacks of evil spirits for our parish and our diocese.
6. We are encouraged to attend the Jesus Explosion with our entire family.
7. There will be **NO** altar flowers, **NO** Gloria and **NO** Alleluia, **NO** recessional hymn.
8. We are encouraged to make a good Confession.
9. Give generously to the Bishop's Appeal.
10. Pray the novena of Our Lady the Undoer of Knots that Our Lady will undo the knots of Holy Family Parish, family and ourselves.

ANNUAL YOUTH LENTEN RETREAT: Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church is hosting a youth retreat to take place on **Saturday, March 11, 2017**, at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church from 8:00 am to 3:00 p.m. The guest speaker is Fr. James Holland from Transfiguration Roman Catholic Church. This retreat is for students from 6th to 12th grade. Lunch will be provided. Parents are welcome to join. There will also be an OLPH Lenten Mission on **Monday, March 13th and Tuesday, March 14th** from 6:30 pm to 8 pm. with Fr. James Holland.

JESUS EXPLOSION NUMBER 1: The Diocese of St. Thomas of the Virgin Islands presents Jesus Explosion Number One, which will take place at Columban Hall at Holy Family Church, from **Friday, March 31 to Sunday, April 2, 2017**. The main speaker will be **Fr. Ian Taylor of Trinidad & Tobago**. The theme for the weekend is "**God's Love**" - John 3:16. **The fee is \$20.00 for ages 10 to 21 which includes registration, material, weekend meals and a polo shirt. Adults: 22 and older, registration is \$35.00. Meals and polo shirts are sold separately.** Registration forms are available at all Catholic churches. Accommodations are needed for visitors from Trinidad, Virgin Gorda, Tortola and St. Croix. Volunteers please contact Yvonne Freeman at 340-642-6377.

LITURGY AND WORD

Today we celebrate the first Sunday of Lent. But what is special about Lent? I am one of those who grew up with the idea that Lent is mainly a season of austerity, severity and mourning. Cutting down on food and drink, and giving up some little pleasures of life – that was all special about Lent. Such sacrifices inevitably brought with them a gloomy atmosphere. But lent is NOT a time for mourning. Rather, it is a time to celebrate God's boundless love for us, evidenced in the sacrifice of his Son.

The readings today, lead us to realize that in this life all of us are involved in an ongoing struggle – the struggle between good and evil, between holiness and sin, between death and life. The Word of God today presents to us two ways of coping with this struggle. We are confronted with two contrasting reactions to temptation. Our first parents, Adam and Eve, abandoned the struggle, preferring their own inclinations to the will of God. Jesus, our Savior, on the contrary, resisted temptation, remaining faithful to what God the Father required of him. The focus of the gospel passage is not so much the temptation of Jesus, but the testing of Jesus. The concern of the passage is not whether the devil can lure Jesus into sin, rather, it is an exercise to test what Jesus is made of – is he up to the task ahead of him – does he have the fortitude and strength to undergo the hardship – is he up to the challenge – is he the right man for the job? It looks like a kind of quality control! But it also implies that the devil is working for God in testing Jesus! Could that be true?

We need to turn to the Old Testament for greater light. In the Old Testament, testing refers to the process by which the covenant partner is scrutinized to determine his fidelity to God. We have the story of God testing Abraham by asking him to kill his son Isaac, or God testing the Israelites in the wilderness for forty years after they were liberated from Egypt. In essence, God was testing these people to see if they were worthy.

Let us now take a closer look at what Jesus really went through in the wilderness. What was this testing all about? After Jesus had finished 40 days of fasting and prayer, the devil comes and proposes attractive alternatives to the path the Father had traced for him. The first temptation, to turn stones into bread, was a suggestion to misuse his miraculous power to satisfy his own

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: **455**

Last Weekend's collections

FIRST COLLECTION: \$6,008.90

SECOND COLLECTION:

Catholic Education: \$1,563.79

THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATIONS.

LITURGY AND WORD CONT'D

hunger, to be selfish, to think only of himself and satisfy an immediate urge or need without looking at the bigger picture. The second test is to put God to the test, to see if God is trustworthy. Jesus is taken to the pinnacle of the Temple and told to throw himself down because God would send angels to rescue him. Satan uses this test to see if Jesus will use the divine shield to ensure his own safety. Will Jesus seek to avoid all pain, suffering and hardship? Will Jesus adopt the attitude that he can do foolhardy things throughout his life and not have to worry about the consequences of his actions? The third test was an invitation to have a tie-up with the tempter who could help Jesus to establish an earthly kingdom. Just bow down and worship Satan to enjoy fame, riches, power in this world. But each time Jesus defeats the devil and passes the test by means of the word of God.

We might draw a couple of practical conclusions: a) the temptations that we face in our life, are not meant to induce us to sin but to make us grow stronger in our spiritual life. b) Like Jesus, we too can come out victorious from the onslaughts of Satan with the power of the Word of God.