

Holy Family Catholic Church Welcomes You!

1st Sunday of Lent - Feb. 18, 2018

P.O. Box 502218, St. Thomas, E-mail: holyfamilyvi@msn.com Website: www.holyfamilystt.com



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.

Reverend <u>Pastor</u> Neil Scantlebury

<u>Associate Pastor</u> Reverend Kerly François

Administrative Assistant Mrs. Allison Callwood

<u>Sacristan</u> Mr. Ryan John

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

<u>Volunteers</u> Ms. 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

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday: 5:00 PM Sunday: 7:30 AM; 10:00 AM & 4:00 PM Creole Mass

WEEKDAY MASSES Monday: 7:00 AM

Tuesday - Thursday: 7:00 AM Wednesday: OLPH Novena before the 7:00 AM Mass Friday: Mass at 7:00 AM

Sacrament of Reconciliation Saturday: 3:15 PM to 3:45 PM

Readings for the Week of February 18, 2018

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 C12:, 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 22:1 - 2, 9a, 10-13, 15 - 18 Romans 8:31b - 34 Mark 9:2 - 10

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

1ST OF SUNDAY LENT

INTRODUCTION TO THE LITURGY OF THE DAY! FIRST READING: Genesis 9:8 - 15

•After the great flood, God told Noah of the covenant between heaven and earth. Never again would a flood destroy the earth. To mark this covenant, the Lord set up a rainbow in the sky.

SECOND READING: 1 Peter 3:18 - 22

As the ark saved a chosen few in Noah's day, so does baptism by faith save God's chosen today. Baptism is "an appeal to God for a clear conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ."

GOSPEL READING: Mark 1:12 - 15

The Spirit sent Jesus to the desert to fast and pray for forty days. Afterwards, Jesus appeared in Galilee proclaiming "the kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, •and believe in the gospel.'

•God's covenant with humanity is the major theme running through the Old Testament readings this Lent. Today we hear God establish this covenant with Noah. God promises that never again will humanity be wiped out like it was in the flood. The writer of 1st Peter links the water washing clean the earth with our sins being washed away in baptism. In the Gospel, Jesus emerges from the desert to preach the good news with a message of urgency:"This is the time ..."

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday Mass (Sunday Observance):

5:00 PM: God's deliverance and guidance for Marie Renal rb Marie Renal.

Sunday Masses:

7:30 AM: Birthday blessings and God's continued blessings and protection for Mark Charles rb His family.

> Birthday blessings for Quaime Alexander & Kathleen Rene rb The Rene family.

10:00 AM: God's protection for Felix Renal rb His mother.

Birthday blessings for Grace Mason rb Grace Mason.

4:00 PM: God's continued blessings and guidance for the Haitian community.

Daily Masses:

Mon. Feb. 19, 7:00 AM: St. Barbatus Gerson Eusebe (deceased) rb His family.

Tues. Feb. 20, 7:00 AM: St. Margaret of Cortona Birthday blessings for Victor Benoit.

Wed. Feb. 21, 7:00 AM: St. Peter Damian God's protection and protection for Shynessa Xavier.

Thurs. Feb. 22, 7:00 AM: Chair of St. Peter In honor of the Holy Face of Jesus rb Carolyn Peternel.

Fri. Feb. 23, 7:00 AM: St. Polycarp God's healing and blessing for Lanell Herbert.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SECOND COLLECTION: This week's second collection goes towards the St. Vincent de Paul Society. Next week's second collection will go towards **Operation Rice Bowl**. As always we thank you for your generosity.

ETERNAL CANDLE: This week the Eternal Candle is burning for God's protection, deliverance and guidance for Marie Renal. You can request the Eternal Candle for your loved ones' birthdays or any special occasions.

ADORATION: Adoration to the Blessed Sacrament resumed on Wednesday, January 31, 2018, after the 7:00 a.m. mass to conclude at 5:00 p.m. Come and present your prayers and petition to the Lord. Please remember it is quality time with you and God and respect the presence of others who are spending time with Jesus.

LENT: *During Lent*:

1. Holy Hour and Stations of the Cross are on Fridays at 6:00 p.m.

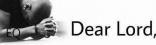
- 2. Those 18 to 59 years of age are to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.
- 3. Those 14 years and older are to abstain from eating meat on Ash Wednesday and all Fridays in Lent
- Pray for peace in the world and in our families.
- Pray for God's blessings and protection against the attacks of evil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

REGLIOUS EDUCATION: There will be a meeting for all parents of CCD students this *Sunday, February 18, 2018*, after the 10:00 a.m. mass. Please make every effort to attend. Thank you.

REFURBISHING OF PEWS: Please be aware that the refurbishing our pews have started. Please bear with us as some of the pews are corded off. Thank you for your understanding. God bless.

PENTECOST RALLY: The Pentecost Rally will take place on **Sunday, May 20**, 2018, at Winston Wells Ball Park. The theme will be "A New Pentecost - "More Fire" — Acts 2. Sponsored by Catholic Charismatic Renewal STT/STJ. Please save the date.

A Prayer For The Coming Week



Prepare me for the coming week. Take away my worries and my regrets Recharge my soul and renew my hope. Please go before me, clear the way and protect me. Bring the right people into my life and move the wrong people out the way. Guide me with your love

and give me your joy.

In Jesus' Mighty Name, I Pray.

Amen"

A "covenant" is an agreement enacted between two parties in which one or both make promises under oath to perform or refrain from certain actions stipulated in advance. "Covenant" in the Bible is a major concept used to describe the relationship between God and Israel. As such, the covenant is the instrument constituting the rule of God, and therefore it is a valuable lens through which one can recognize and appreciate the biblical ideal of religious community. The idea of a covenant between a god and a king is well attested through the history of the ancient Near East. Therefore, the notion of a covenant was not foreign to the Israelites, rather it was well known to them. It is thus not surprising that the Lord used the covenant to give expression to his dealings with his people. In today's First Reading God makes a covenant with Noah. Biblical tradition mentions two covenants contracted between God and Noah (Gen 6:18; Gen 9:8-17). It is clearly called a covenant, with a certain obligation on Noah and certain promises from the Lord. This is a prelude to biblical covenants where the promise plays an important role.

The covenant with Noah is made at a critical juncture in the history of humankind because it came at the time of the re-establishment of humankind after the flood (Gen 9:17). God promises in this covenant not to destroy humankind again by a deluge and as a sign of the covenant he places the rainbow in the clouds. This first covenant includes all living creatures but especially concerns our human family, for its sign will be the rainbow, symbolic of the archer's bow. It is hung in the sky never to take aim at the whole earth and its people again. This is supported by the reaffirmation that God will always remember and save, just as Noah experienced so dramatically. In the Second Reading, Peter says that Christ has triumphed over evil. The author depicts Christ as the victor, the one who has conquered all the powers of evil. He achieved his glory through suffering. Therefore the Christian has the certainty of the final victory as he sets Christ the Lord in his heart. Peter also recalls the story of the flood in a nutshell. He says that only eight persons were saved. According to Justin Martyr the number eight is a symbol of the resurrection. Christians are saved by "passing through" the water of baptism. In this sense, the water of baptism is a counterpart of the water of the flood. Finally, Christians by baptism share the victory of Christ over all hostile spirits. The gospel of today speaks of the temptation of Jesus. The newly baptized Christian must be ready, like his Lord, to face immediately the onset of the tempter. According to biblical scholar Vincent Taylor, "An imaginative element is present in the references to the wild beasts and the angels, but the basic idea that Jesus was tempted is bound up with his conception of Messiahship and is historical.'

LITURGY AND WORD

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: 446 Last Weekend's collections FIRST COLLECTION: \$4,920.89 Black & Indian Mission: \$1,673.33

Our Bishop's Appeal contribution now amounts tô \$34,357.00, 86% of our goal of \$40,000.00. As always we thank you for vour continuous contribution towards our Bishop's Appeal. Once again, thank you.



Wild beasts may be mentioned to emphasize the loneliness of the place. If you happen to travel to these places, for hours you may feel no sign of life, except the scorpions and vipers which your passage startles, in the distance a few wild goats or gazelles, and at night the wailing of the jackal and the hyena's howl. A further explanation is that the presence of wild beasts is traditionally associated with Old Testament pictures of evil powers. It may even be that there is an implicit contrast between Adam and the victorious Messiah. We do not know what ideas the first Christians read into the narrative, but it is probable that, while the language is pictorial and imaginative, the ideas are religious and theological.

In Judaism of Jesus' time, the "kingdom of God" referred primarily to God's future display of power and judgment, to the future establishment of God's rule over all creation. It is said to have drawn near. God's kingdom will demand a reorientation of life, hence the call to repentance. What message does today's celebration offer us? The flood was a stepping stone to new life. Something new emerged after the flood. A new creation began with the coming of Jesus. Cooperation with God's plan is the vital point.

