

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

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

<b>CANTORS:</b> Allan Harrigan	Dr. Gloria Callwood	Mona Bedminster
<b>LECTORS:</b> Yasmine Haynes Margarita Smith	Noreen Joseph Rita Brady-Bermudez	Families for Christ Families for Christ
<b>EUCH MIN:</b> Dolores Velazquez Olga McBean	Lauren, Rose Felicinne & Allison	Eubald Rene Marguerite Rene

*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 Tolerance when you ...*

*\*Build unity with others who are different from you.*

*\*Are free of prejudice.*

*\*Make others feel included by reaching out in friendliness.*

*\*Don't complain about things that cannot be changed.*

*\*Change yourself instead of trying to change others.*

*\*Accept people the way they are, faults and all.*

**Affirmation:**

*I am tolerant. I appreciate differences. I overlook people's faults. I accept with good grace the things I cannot change.*

**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, 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**

*Lena Williams, Keemoy Henry, Immanuel Christian, Maïke Caracciolo, Breanna Antoine, Jordan Archer, Kymani Dolphin, Lornnesha Henley, Rakhanalli Claxton, Kheana Fahie, Pamela Lewis, Aron Joseph, Leanna Jn Francois, Carol Hodge, Julie Najawiez, Vernon Caracciolo, Vanessa Harrigan, Vallery Thomas, Lucina Ferdinand, Carol Victorine, Louis Lima, Leon Casey, Rosebud Labadie*

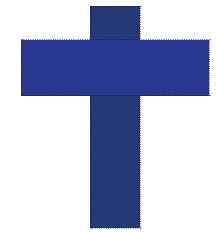


*Lord, bless our parishioners who celebrate their special day this week. Amen!*

**Holy Family Catholic Church  
Welcomes You!**

**2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT - Dec. 04, 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 04, 2016**

Mon.: Isaiah 35:1 - 10; Luke 5:17 - 26

Tue.: Isaiah 40:1 - 11; Matthew 18:12 - 14

Wed.: Isaiah 40:25 - 31; Matthew 11:28 - 30

Thur.: Gen. 3:9 - 15,20; Eph. 1:3 - 6, 11 - 12  
Luke 1:26 - 38

Fri.: Isaiah 48:17 - 19; Matthew 11:16 - 19

Sat.: Sirach 48:1 - 4, 9 - 11;  
Matthew 17:9a, 10 - 13

**NEXT SUNDAY:  
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

Isaiah 35:1 - 6a, 10  
James 5:7 - 10  
Matthew 11:2 - 11

## SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

### INTRODUCTION TO THE LITURGY OF THE DAY!

#### FIRST READING: Isaiah 11:1 - 10

“A shoot shall sprout from the stump of Jesse,” prophesied Isaiah. “The spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him” through wisdom, understanding, counsel, strength, knowledge, and awe in the presence of God.

#### SECOND READING: Romans 15:4 - 9

The Scriptures were written for our instruction, that we might draw encouragement from them and that “we might have hope.”

#### GOSPEL: Matthew 3:1- 12

John the Baptist came as a preacher in the Judean desert: “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!” Many people flocked to him for baptism and conversion to prepare for the one who will baptize with the Holy Spirit and fire. Our first reading today is from Isaiah, describing the peaceable kingdom of God, the day of the Messiah of the Lord. In this kingdom ancient enmities are ended, and enemies live as neighbors. If we have heeded the message of last week’s Gospel, we understand that the best way to make ourselves ready is to live as if this kingdom is already here. What do you hear in today’s sacred scriptures that will help you to live out the presence of God right now?

### MASS INTENTIONS

#### Saturday Mass (Sunday Observance):

6:00 PM: Albert LaRonde (deceased) rb His wife, Carline LaRonde.

#### Sunday Masses:

7:30 AM: Birthday blessings for Kymani Dolphin rb His family.

10:00 AM: Birthday blessings, healing and protection for Francesca Alcendor rb Francesca Alcendor.

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

#### Daily Masses:

Mon. Dec. 05, 6:00 PM: **St. Sabas**

God’s blessings for Ann Josephine Ledee rb Alma Wells and Andrea Victorine.

Tues. Dec. 06, 7:00 AM: **St. Nicholas**

Birthday blessings for Lornnesha Henley rb Her family.

Wed. Dec. 07, 7:00 AM: **St. Ambrose**

God’s healing and protection for Roger Charles rb His family.

Thurs. Dec. 08, 7:00 AM: **Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

Birthday blessings for Bernadette Wells rb her family.

Thurs. Dec. 08, 7:00 PM: **Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

Blessed Mother’s protection for Holy Family parishioners.

Fri. Dec. 09, 7:00 PM: **St. Juan Diego**

Birthday blessings for Rose Labadie rb Her family.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

**ETERNAL CANDLE:** This week the Eternal Candle is burning for **birthday blessings for Lornnesha Henley requested by her family**. You can request Eternal Candle for your loved ones’ birthdays or any special occasions.

**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.

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

**SYMPATHY:** On behalf of Holy Family parishioners, Rev. Neil Scantlebury, extends sincere sympathy to Joan McClean and family on the passing of her daughter, **Stephanie V. Sims** who died on **Wednesday, November 23, 2016**. The funeral service for the late **Stephanie V. Sims** will take place at Holy Family church on **Tuesday, December 6, 2016** at 10:00a.m. Tributes will precede the Service at 9:00 a.m. May her soul and the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen.

**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 needed 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 Christmas 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

Today is the second Sunday in our preparation to welcome the Savior who comes. John the Baptist is on the scene. We find him in the desert of Judea. Let us consider the person of John and the message he has for us. John is the last of the great prophets. For a long time people had been without a messenger from God to challenge them with the Word of God. The voice of prophecy was silent. Now, John’s appearance on the scene puts an end to God’s silence. John began his preaching in the wilderness where he lived. Many Pharisees and Sadducees went to receive John’s Baptism. But John was furious at them. We might wonder why John made such bitter attack on them by addressing them as “a brood of wipers.” It may be because the Pharisees, considering themselves perfect, saw no need for change, while for the Sadducees, change was pointless, because they saw no possibility of any life after death. In short, both the groups went to be baptized without having any commitment to change their lives. We have a practical lesson here: Often we too can attend religious celebrations, ceremonies and rituals, go on pilgrimages to holy places, even attend Mass and receive sacraments and recite our prayers—without having the necessary resolve to mend our ways and to change our lives. All these turn out to be fruitless and useless. And John the Baptist would have very severe words also for us. A famous Irish preacher and author, Liam Swords, focuses on the uniqueness of the role played by John the Baptist. It is highly inspiring to command our attention: To start with, he was a “voice crying in the wilderness”. The type of person every age needs and none more than our own. Somebody prepared to speak out; willing to take on the system, the powers-that-be. People who have the courage of their convictions, who dare to confront low standards in high places. Who do “not judge by appearances” but give “their verdict for the poor of the land.” Isaiah knew the type; he was one himself. It was long years of imprisonment for Alexandra Solzhenitsyn and Nelson Mandela. It was the assassin’s bullet for Martin Luther King. It was both for John the Baptist. And it was not surprising. Anyone foolhardy enough to describe the religious establishment of his time as a “brood of vipers” was certain to become a marked man. He didn’t mince his words. And when he

### 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: **477**

#### Last Weekend’s collections

**FIRST COLLECTION: \$6,254.41**

**SECOND COLLECTION:**

**Catholic Education: \$1,223.00**

**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

didn’t mince his words. And when he pointed a finger at the sexual scandals of the government in the person of Herod, he was a condemned man. What makes John the Baptist unique, is that all the fame or notoriety he achieved was not for himself but for another. “The one who comes after me is more powerful than I am and I am not fit to carry his sandals.” History has no other example of people who have yielded centre-stage to another as yet unknown. That extraordinary moment has been immortalized in the Mass, fittingly just before Communion, when the priest lifts up the Host and says “Behold the Lamb of God.” These were the words the Baptist first pronounced when he spotted the unknown Jesus standing in the crowd who had come to hear John preach. His job was to prepare the way for Christ and then make way for him. He is a model for any Christian and for all Christians. Christians should lead others to Christ. And sometimes this may entail taking themselves out of the way. Interference in others’ lives, even with the best of intentions, rarely if ever discovers Christ for them. The reverse is more often the case.

