# WE LOOK FORWARD TO SERVING YOU! MINISTERS' SCHEDULE

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

CANTORS: Allan Harrigan Dr. Gloria Callwood Marguerite Rene

**LECTORS:** Candace Bryan **Bridget Toussaint** Young Vincentian

Young Vincentian Ruth Smith Rita Brady-Bermudez

EUCH MIN: Dolores Velazquez Franklin Howe Rose Labadie Felicinne Marcillin Antoinette Howe





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

**HOSPITAL:** Rita Thompson.

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

AT HOME: Rita Ledee, Rose Celestine, Margarita Feliciano, Martina Lewis, Olivia Gumbs, Ann Bedminster, Medina Scatliffe, 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, Grace Thompson, Baby Elizabeth Dolphin, Andrea Victorine, Josephine James.

**SEAVIEW:** 

MASSAC: Margarita Knight.

LUCINDA MILLIN:

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 Helpfulness when you ...

Affirmation: \*Notice when someone needs help.

\*Do a service without being asked.

\*Give people whtat they need, not always what they want. Service. I care for

\*Listen to someone who needs to talk.

\*Care for your own needs.

\*Ask for help when you need it

I am helpful. I look for ways to be of others and myself. I look for helpful ways to make a difference.

# **WEEKLY ADVERTISEMENTS**

# **OFFICE HOURS**

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

**Tuesday - Friday** 

7:30 AM - 4:00 PM

PENTECOST RALLY: "Watch & Pray" NATIONAL PARK, Ball Park, Cruz Bay, St. John June 4, 2017 3:30 PM **SPEAKER: Sister Mary Baptiste** JOIN US! Sponsor: CCR STT/STJ

## PRAYER FOR EASTER

Lord Jesus, you have risen to new life! Give me new eyes with which to recognize your presence in the world around me. Sharper mv vision so that I can see bevond the ordinary events of each day and into the extraordinary reality of your grace. Brighten my view of the world with renewed hope in the coming of your Kingdom. Soften my gaze so that I can view others with the kind of tenderness and compassion you showed to so many. May each day of this Easter season provide glimpses of your glory. In your name I pray. 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 vour 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, August 17, 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**

Frederick Fahie, Ka'Deem Moses, La'Ron Henry, Jose Hernandez, Jose Velazquez, Mary Windel, Kenneth Sablon, Omari Henry, Keniyah Meyers, Tristan Alcorta, Scott Love, Lorelee Hendricks.

#### **WEDDING ANNIVERSARY**

Roy & Noreen Stout - May 31 Richard Jr., & Gloria Callwood - Jun. 2



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

# Holy Family Catholic Church Welcomes You!

Ascension of the Lord - May 28, 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





# 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 Neil Scantlebury

Associate Pastor Reverend Kerly François

Interim Deacon Rev. Mr. Evans Doway

Administrative Assistant Ms. Allison Charles

<u>Sacristan</u> 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 Boyoni

St. Thomas VI 00802

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

# 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 May 28, 2017

Mon.: Acts 19:1 - 8; John 16:29 - 33

Tue.: Acts 20:17 - 27; John 17:1 - 11a

Wed.: Zep. 3:14 - 18a; Luke 1:39 - 56

Thur.: Acts 22:30; 23:6 - 11; John 17:20 - 26

Fri.: Acts 25:13b - 21; John 21:15 - 19

Sat.: Acts 28:16 - 20, 30-31; John 21:20 - 25

# **NEXT SUNDAY:** PENTECOST SUNDAY

Acts 2:1 - 11

1 Corinthians 12:3b - 7, 12 - 13

John 20:19 - 23

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



# **Ascension of the Lord**



# INTRODUCTION TO THE LITURGY OF THE DAY!

FIRST READING: Acts 1:1 - 11

\*Jesus promises they will soon be baptized with the Holy Spirit.

SECOND READING: Ephesians 1: 17 - 23

•God has put all things under the feet of Christ, exalted as head of the church.

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 28:16 - 20

"Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations."

"Why are you standing there looking at the sky?" asks the angel of the disciples who have just witnessed the Ascension. Indeed, they could ask us the same question. Listening to the Word of God today, let us focus on God's invitation to continue Christ's mission in the world. What do these sacred scriptures ask of you now, this week?

# He Has Ascended, Alleluia!



# **MASS INTENTIONS**



### **Saturday Mass (Sunday Observance):**

6:00 PM: Rose & Richard Cook (d) rb Estelle Farro.

#### **Sunday Masses:**

7:30 AM: God's guidance, protection and deliverance for Stacy Matthew rb Her mother.

10:00 AM: God's blessings, guidance and protection for Abigail Peters rb Her family.

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

#### **Daily Masses:**

Mon. May 29, 6:00 PM: *Blessed Eugene de Moazenod*God's blessings and healing for Bishop Elliott Thomas.

Tues. May 30, 7:00 AM: *St. Joan of Arc*Emile Stridiron (d) rb The Johnson and Stridiron families.

Wed. May 31, 7:00 AM: *Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary to Elizabeth* God's blessings for Holy Family parisioners.

Thurs. Jun 1, 7:00 AM: *St. Justin*Emanuel Jackson (d) rb The Rouse family.

Fri. Jun 2, 7:00 PM: *Sts. Marcellinus & Peter* Deceased parishioners of Holy Family.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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

ETERNAL CANDLE: This week the Eternal Candle is burning for birthday blessings and success and deliverance for Tracey Joseph requested by her mother, Francesca Alcendor. You can request Eternal Candle for your loved ones' birthdays or any special occasions.

BISHOP'S APPEAL: Thank you to all who have already contributed to the Bishop's Appeal 2017! We need more help in order to reach our goal. Please give a brochure to a friend. Our schools, Catholic Charities and evangelization efforts need everyone's support! For your convenience, you may choose to make a pledge now and spread your donation over several months. Donations may be made in the form of cash, check or credit card. Checks should be made payable to "Diocese of St. Thomas." Please see the brochure for further information. "Love what Jesus loves. Jesus loves the poor."

**SYMPATHY:** On behalf of Holy Family parishioners, Rev. Kerly François and Rev. Neil Scantlebury extend sincere sympathy to the family of **Robert Ledee**, who died on **Saturday**, **May 20**, **2017**. The funeral Mass for the late **Robert Ledee** was held on **Friday**, **May 26**, **2017** at Holy Family Church. May his soul and the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen.

**OFFICE CLOSED**: Please note that the church office will be closed ALL day on <u>Monday, May 29, 2017</u>, in observance of Memorial Day. Please be guided accordingly.

**SYMPATHY:** On behalf of Holy Family parishioners, Rev. Kerly François and Rev. Neil Scantlebury extend sincere sympathy to the family of **Edmond Benjamin**, who died on **Thursday**, **May 18**, **2017**. The funeral Mass for the late **Edmond Benjamin** will take place on **Tuesday**, **May 30**, **2017** at 10:00 a.m. at Holy Family Church. May his soul and the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen.

**SYMPATHY:** On behalf of Holy Family parishioners, Rev. Kerly François and Rev. Neil Scantlebury extend sincere sympathy to the family of **Clifford Bertie John**, who died on **Saturday**, **May 20**, **2017**. The funeral Mass for the late **Clifford Bertie John** will take place on **Friday**, **June 2**, **2017** at 10:00 a.m. May his soul and the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen.

*FAMILIES FOR CHRIST:* Family Sunday is every first Sunday of each month starting with Families for Christ meeting at 9:15 a.m. in Lower Columban Hall followed by family mass at 10:00 a.m. All are welcome. Interest volunteers please contact Sheryl Griffith at 352-348-6979. Please be guided accordingly.

SYMPATHY: On behalf of Holy Family parishioners, Rev. Kerly François and Rev. Neil Scantlebury extend sincere sympathy to the family of John Baptist Joseph, who died on Wednesday, May 17, 2017. The funeral Mass for the late John Baptist Joseph will take place on Tuesday, June 6, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. May his soul and the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen.

FATHER'S DAY BUFFET LUNCHEON: The St. Joseph Workers will be honoring three (3) fathers at their 11th Annual Father's Day Buffet Luncheon on <u>Sunday</u>, <u>June 18</u>, <u>2017</u>, at Holy Family Columban Hall at 1:00 p.m. The honorees are **Arden Shillingford**, **Anthony Legrand and John Donaie**. Donation: **Adult \$45.00** and <u>children under age 12 pay \$25.00</u> at the door.

# LITURGY AND WORD

The Acts of the Apostles presents the ascension as the final leave taking of Jesus after having appeared to his disciples for a period of forty days. But in his Gospel Luke presents the ascension taking place on the Easter Sunday itself for he writes, "Jesus then led them out as far as Bethany, and lifting up his hands he blessed them. While he blessed them, he parted from them, and was carried up into heaven" (Lk 24:50-51). Scripture scholar Joseph Fitzmyer says why Luke has two different versions of the ascension is something we shall never know. There is no doubting the fact that the glorification of Jesus took place immediately after his death The appearances of Jesus that lasted for forty days according to Luke, took place from heaven where he was seated by his Father. The apostles who were shattered after the sudden departure of Jesus needed to be strengthened in their faith. The appearances of the risen Jesus accomplished this purpose. Jesus came to establish the rule of God. He took all necessary steps towards the realization of this plan. He chose the group of disciples who were always with him. Through miraculous signs of healing and elaborate teaching he drew himself closer to the people who recognized the divine power working through him. But the religious and the political authorities saw him as a threat and so eliminated him using the most brutal and mental torture. The reward for a work comes at the completion of it. The Pasqual events consist of the passion, death, resurrection, ascension and the heavenly enthronement of Jesus. What is the significance of the Feast

of the Ascension for a believer today? How does it affect the believer's life? We live in a world that is result and reward oriented. Nobody may be willing to work if there is no return from it, monetary reward included. But what reward does spiritual life offer? Jesus says, "Truly, truly, I say to you, he who hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life" (Jn5:24) Eternal life is the ultimate reward for a spiritual person. God does not want us to suffer for suffering's sake. But human life involves suffering in diverse ways. Married couple waiting eagerly for the birth of a healthy and intelligent child may receive a physically weak or mentally retarded child. What do we do when we face such a reality? Reject the child? By no means! This child should be brought up with much more affection than a normally healthy child.

## 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: 466

<u>Last Weekend's collections</u> FIRST COLLECTION: \$6,022.80

SECOND COLLECTION:

Catholic Comm. Camp.: \$1,433.74

Our Bishop's Appeal contribution now amounts to \$19,876.00, 50% 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

Here lies the challenge and the cross. The reward and glory will depend on how the hapless child is showered with love and affection by parents and the community around it.

Most families will have elderly (parents, grandparents) and sick members around them. How do we care for them? Minimum care, that too with grumbling? By no means! Our parents and grandparents have done more than what was required for the welfare of their children. They should be given the best care possible and if they are lonely or alone frequent visits and adequate medical care should be given to them. This is the cross we have to carry. The good health and the time that God gives are not meant for selfish or personal satisfaction. Nothing will go unrewarded! Let the limitations not subdue us, let us ascend them!

Today is also the World Communications Day. The Church has fittingly chosen the Feast of the Ascension as the Communications Day. What do we communicate? We need not break our head searching for answers; it is readily available for it is given by Jesus himself at the time of his ascension: "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations ... teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, to the close of the age" (Mt 28:20). May the Holy Spirit whose outpouring we await assist us!

Have a Blessed Sunday!