

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

5:00PM                      7:30 AM                      10:00AM

**PLEASE VOLUNTEER TO SERVE WHENEVER POSSIBLE**

|                                |                     |                     |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| <b>CANTORS:</b> Allan Harrigan | Dr. Gloria Callwood | Marguerite Rene     |
|                                | Felicinne Marcillin |                     |
| <b>LECTORS:</b> Yasmine Haynes | Noreen Joseph       | Families for Christ |
| Helena Enrique                 | Agnes Nicholas      | Families for Christ |
| <b>EUCH MIN:</b> Olga McBean   | Lauren, Alma,       | Eubald Rene         |
| Dolores Velazquez              | Catherina & Danna   | Marguerite Rene     |

*Thank you for sewing !!!*

**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, Bishop Thomas, Theresa Felix, Isabel Dublin, Francis John.  
**AT HOME:** Rita Ledee, Rose Celestine, Margarita Feliciano, Martina Lewis, Olivia Gumbs, Ann Bedminster, Medina Scatliffe, Bernice Knight, Philomen Baron, Claudy Brutus, McLean Fontain (Sparrow), Vernelle Gumbs, Evelyn Simon, Mary Lewis, Veronica Sealey, Gerard Henry, Ruthine Johnson, Grace Thompson, Baby Elizabeth Dolphin, Andrea Victorine, Josephine James.

**SEAVIEW:**  
**MASSAC:**  
**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.*

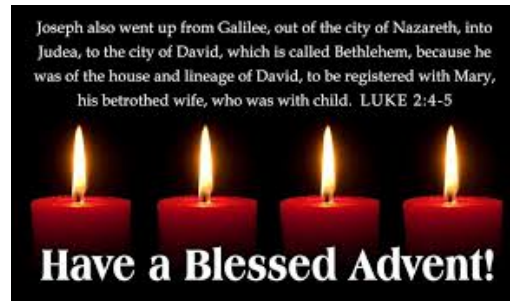
**You are practicing Tolerance when you ...**

- \*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**



**Have a Blessed Advent!**



**TOYOTA OF ST. THOMAS**  
Estate 10 #3 New Quarter  
Charlotte Amalie  
St. Thomas, VI 00802

Cell: (340) 514-5927  
PH: (340) 715-3132  
Fax: (340) 715-3161

**VICTOR A. BENOIT**  
Sales Associate

**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)**

*Thank you for sewing !!!*

**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**

*K'Ante Joseph, Keemoy Henry, Wilson Daniel, Immanuel Christian, Maiké Caracciolo, Josiah Jules, Jordan Archer, Kymani Dolphin, Lornnesha Henley, Rakhanalli Claxton, Kheana Fahie, Tamica Pierre, Pamela Lewis, Aron Joseph, Carol Hodge, Julie Najawiez, Vernon Caracciolo, Vanessa Harrigan, Lucina Ferdinand, Rose Labadie.*



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

**Holy Family Catholic Church Welcomes You!**

**1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT - Dec. 3, 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.**

**Pastor**  
Reverend Neil Scantlebury

**Associate Pastor**  
Reverend Kerly François

**Administrative Assistant**  
Mrs. Allison Callwood

**Sacristan**  
Mr. Ryan John

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

**Volunteers**  
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 December 3, 2017**

Mon.: Isaiah 2: 1 - 5; Matthew 8:5 - 11  
Tue.: Isaiah 11:1 - 10; Luke 10:21 - 24  
Wed.: Isaiah 25:6 - 10a; Matthew 15:29 - 37  
Thur.: Isaiah 26:1 - 6; Matthew 7:21, 24 - 27  
Fri.: Gen. 3:9 - 15, 20; Ephs. 1:3 - 6, 11 - 12; Luke 1:26 - 38  
Sat.: Isaiah 30:19 - 21, 23 - 26; Matthew 9:35 - 10:1, 5a, 6 - 8

**NEXT SUNDAY: SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

Isaiah 40:1 - 5, 9 - 11  
2 Peter 3:8 - 14  
Mark 1:1 - 8

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

## FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

### INTRODUCTION TO THE LITURGY OF THE DAY!

**FIRST READING: Isaiah 63:16b - 17, 19b; 64:2 - 7**

Isaiah prophesied, "All our good deeds are like polluted rags; we have all withered like leaves ... We are the clay and you are the potter: we are the work of your hands."

**SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1:3 - 9**

Paul wrote, "God is faithful, and by Him you were called to fellowship with His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. You are not lacking in any spiritual gifts as you wait for the revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ."

**GOSPEL READING: Mark 13:33 - 37**

Jesus said, "Be watchful! Be alert! You do not know when the time will come ... Watch, therefore" whether at sunset, midnight, cock crow, or sunrise. "Watch!"

We hear a lot about waiting today. With the Chosen People in exile, Isaiah humbly prays for God's saving presence. Feeling abandoned, the psalmist sings, "Let us see your face and we shall be saved. "St Paul assures the Christians in Corinth that they have what they need from God as they wait for Christ's coming in glory. Finally, in Mark's Gospel, Jesus advises His disciples to be on the watch, like servants waiting for their master to return.

### MASS INTENTIONS

#### Saturday Mass (Sunday Observance):

5:00 PM: God's continued healing for Francis John rb A parishioner.

#### Sunday Masses:

7:30 AM: Holy Spirit's guidance for Eve Ogiste rb Eve Ogiste.

10:00 AM: God's blessings and guidance for Holy Family parishioners.

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

#### Daily Masses:

Mon. Dec. 4, 7:00 AM: **St. John Damascene**  
Kathy Farro (deceased) rb Estelle Farro.

Tues. Dec. 5, 7:00 AM: **St. Sabas**  
Birthday blessings for Lornnesha Henley rb Her family.

Wed. Dec. 6, 7:00 AM: **St. Nicholas**  
Birthday blessings for Jahmeal Hodge rb Her grandmother,  
Cleopha Rawlings.

Thurs. Dec. 7, 7:00 AM: **St. Ambrose**  
Eugene Farro (deceased) rb Estelle Farro.

Fri. Dec. 8, 7:00 AM: **The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary**  
Frances Cills (deceased) rb Alma Wells.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

**ETERNAL CANDLE:** This week the Eternal Candle is burning *for birthday blessings for Francesca Alcendor*. You can request the Eternal Candle for your loved ones' birthdays or any special occasions.

**SYMPATHY:** On behalf of Holy Family parishioners, Rev. Kerly François and Rev. Neil Scantlebury extends sincere sympathy to **Kenneth Thomas** and family on the passing of his mother, **Iris Eugenie Adams Thomas**, who died on **Sunday, November 12, 2017**. The funeral service for the late **Iris Eugenie Adams Thomas** took place on **Monday, November 27, 2017**, at Christ Church Methodist. May her 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 extends sincere sympathy to **Addison Martin** and family on the passing of his mother, **Joyce Maria Martin**, who died on **Thursday, November 23, 2017**. The funeral mass for the late Joyce Maria Martin will take place on **Thursday, December 7, 2017**, at Holy Family Church. May her 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 extends sincere sympathy to **Lauren Thomas** and family on the passing of her brother, **Llewellyn Reed, Sr.**, who died on **Monday, November 20, 2017**. The funeral service for the late **Llewellyn Reed, Sr.**, will take place on **Thursday, December 7, 2017**, in St. Croix. May his soul and the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen.

**ALL HANDS VOLUNTEERS:** All Hands Volunteers are here to help us rebuild our hope. They are offering free clean up assistance, debris removal and clean up, roof tarping and chainsaw work. Please call them at 340-643-1572.

**DONATIONS:** The **La Resulta Assisted Living Facility** is seeking donations of the following items: Clorox, Pine-Sol, Fabuloso, paper towels, toilet cleaners, dish liquid, mops, brooms dust pans, pull ups and diapers. Every little bit goes a long way. Please call 340-201-4172 for more information. Thank you.

**NOTE:** *The reception of Holy Communion, in Catholic teaching, indicates an agreement of faith, on the recipient's part, with the Catholic doctrine of Jesus' real presence in this sacrament. Catholics observe a Eucharistic fast of one hour prior to receiving communion. Therefore, it is inappropriate to have any food, candy, gum, etc., in your mouth while in church. Thank you for your cooperation!*

**Having shared in the Eucharist, you are compelled to go and work for peace and justice, thereby building God's Kingdom now.**

With the holidays fast approaching, it would be nice if we can send Bishop Thomas a Christmas card. Thank you. His address is as follows:

**Most Reverend Elliott G. Thomas**  
**c/o Jeanne Jugan Residence**  
**186 Highland Avenue**  
**Somerville,**  
**MA 02143-1595**

## LITURGY AND WORD

With the beginning of the season of advent we begin a new liturgical year. The term "advent" is an anglicized version of the Latin word "adventus," meaning "coming." Advent is a time of expectant waiting and preparation for the celebration of the Nativity of Jesus at Christmas.

The first reading of today contains the lament of the Israelites in despair as they return from exile. The exiles who return to their homeland after the exile do not find the conditions favorable for their settling down. They face much hostility from the Jews and the Gentiles who live in that area. It is at this juncture that Third Isaiah comes to them with a message of renewed hope. The exiles think that God is still angry with them. That is why they ask God, their Father and redeemer, to rend the heavens and come down. They also acknowledge their sins, "Behold, we have sinned; in our sins we have been a long time." They also ask the crucial question, "Will we be saved?" Of course, God saves his people, but the final act of God's saving does not happen during the lifetime of the people who cry to him. The generation that returns from exile with the hope of finding acceptance in their homeland, in fact face much adversity. Their cry reaches God, but it takes another five hundred years for God to send his Son to redeem the people. This fact takes us back to the theme of Advent, which is waiting in expectation. God the Father's sending his Son into the world is a historical event that will take place much later. Jesus' coming has a precise purpose: turning the minds and hearts of the people back to God. But his life and mission is not a cakewalk. He has to die in order to win friends for God. The theme of waiting in expectation comes into sharp focus in the gospel of today. Through the parable of the doorkeeper Jesus calls our attention to vigilance. Jesus speaks of a man who going on a journey after having entrusted his house to his servants warned the doorkeeper to keep watch. Obviously, he did not reveal the time of his return. His coming could be in the evening, or in midnight, or at cock-crow, or in the morning. According to Jewish reckoning of time, the first watch begins around 6:00 p.m., the second at 9:00 p.m., the third at mid-night, and the fourth around 3:00 a.m. The watchman at the time of Jesus, as is today, is a paid employee and his duty is to watch. He should not be found sleeping during working hours. As with other

## 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: **353**

### Last Weekend's collections

**FIRST COLLECTION: \$5,725.21**

**SECOND COLLECTION:**

**Catholic Education: \$907.20**

**Our Bishop's Appeal contribution now amounts to \$28,693.00, 72% 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

parables, this parable also contains a lesson. This is an eye-opener for us as we begin the new liturgical year. We can never let ourselves fall into slumber or lose sight of our goal which is union with Christ our Lord.

On 3rd August 2016 a bridge on the Goa Mumbai highway collapsed on account of which two buses and a couple of four wheelers and two wheelers plunged into the surging Savitri river at the middle of the night. The drivers could not see the collapsed bridge as it was night. Accidents like this do happen on a regular basis and lives are lost. Physical lives may be lost due to natural or accidental causes which are painful enough, but losing eternal life is the biggest tragedy. It is here that our faith comes to our rescue. God saves us, but we must cooperate with God. During this season of Advent let us dedicate our lives to God so that he can save us.

