

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SERVING YOU!
MINISTERS' SCHEDULE

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

PLEASE VOLUNTEER TO SERVE WHENEVER POSSIBLE

CANTORS: Allan Harrigan	Dr. Gloria Callwood	Melita Etienne
	Felicinne Marcillin	
LECTORS: Helena Enrique	Alma Wells	Julia Johnson
Keith Steele	Jalila Thomas	Ursula Prosper
EUCH MIN: Dolores Velazquez	Bridget Toussaint	Franklin Howe
	Rose Labadie	Antoinette Howe

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.*

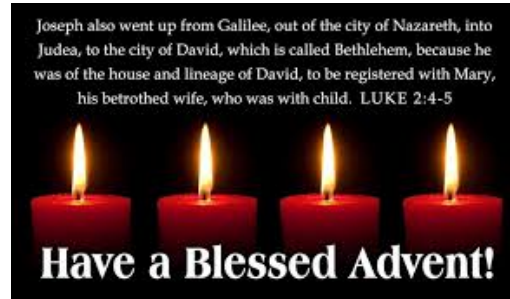
You are practicing Peacefulness when you ...

- *Create inner peace with daily reflection or prayer.
- *Use peaceful language even when you are angry.
- *Speak gently and respectfully.
- *Avoid harming anyone.
- *Appreciate differences.
- *Find peaceful solutions to every problem.

Affirmation:

I am peaceful. I use peaceful words and find fair solutions when differences arise. I find my innerpeace and let it carry me gently through the day.

WEEKLY ADVERTISEMENTS



Have a Blessed Advent!



TOYOTA OF ST. THOMAS
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Charlotte Amalie
St. Thomas, VI 00802

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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

D'Moi Industrious, Chris Matthew, Nicholas Stevenson Jah'Hil Victorine, Breanna Antoine, Brent Biscoe, Robert Smith, Ty'Ron Wills, Tomy Romero-Seas, Kernizean Casey, Tevin Peters, Kenlon Angol, Anthony Lewis, Lola Pierre, Dieudonne Sanon, Sherian Francis, Morris Lionel, Brenday Leonard, Leanna Jn Francois, Wayne Serieux, Barbara Sonny, Ilma Gumbs, Beverly Blyden, Lena Williams, Shirlin Browne, Veronica Casimir, Carol Victorine, Leon Casey, June Giff, Allan Harrigan, Enid Blyden.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY
Sean & Tamika Williams - Dec. 11



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

Holy Family Catholic Church Welcomes You!

2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT - Dec. 10, 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 10, 2017

Mon.: Isaiah 35: 1 - 10; Luke 5:17 - 26
Tue.: Zech. 2:14 - 17; Luke 1:26 - 38
Wed.: Isaiah 40:25 - 31; Matthew 11:28 - 30
Thur.: Isaiah 41:13 - 20; Matthew 11:11 - 15
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 61:1 - 2a, 10 - 11
1 Thessalonians 5:16 - 24
John 1:6 - 8, 19 - 28

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

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

INTRODUCTION TO THE LITURGY OF THE DAY!

FIRST READING: Isaiah 40:1 - 5, 9 - 11

Speaking for God, Isaiah said, " 'Comfort, give comfort to my people,' says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and proclaim to her that her service is at an end."

SECOND READING: 2 Peter 3:8 - 14

Peter wrote that God does not want anyone to perish but wants all to repent, for the day of the Lord comes like a thief in the night.

GOSPEL READING: Mark 1:1 - 8

Fulfilling what Isaiah foretold, John appeared in the desert as a messenger making ready the way of the Lord and proclaiming a baptism of repentance.

Our God is a compassionate God and each Scripture passage we hear today reminds us of this. The people of Isaiah's time are living in exile, but Isaiah assures them that the Lord has not abandoned them. The author of Second Peter assures Christians that God is patient, allowing time for all to come to repentance. In Mark's Gospel, John the Baptist proclaims forgiveness from God through baptism. As we face difficulties in life, let us remember that we are not alone: our compassionate God is always ready to comfort and forgive.

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday Mass (Sunday Observance):

5:00 PM: Phillip Marcellin (deceased).

Sunday Masses:

7:30 AM: God's blessings, guidance and protection for Jamila and Jadauni Lettsome and Jalila Thomas rb The Thomas family.

Birthday blessings for Rose Labadie rb Her family.

10:00 AM: Lister Warrington (deceased) rb The Warrington family.

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

Daily Masses:

Mon. Dec. 11, 7:00 AM: *St. Damasus*
Deacon Clement Danet (deceased).

Tues. Dec. 12, 7:00 AM: *Our Lady of Guadalupe*
Susan King (deceased) rb The Rouse family.

Wed. Dec. 13, 7:00 AM: *St. Lucy*
In thanksgiving to God for favors and blessings received
for Jaleel and Kaleel Rivera.

Thurs. Dec. 14, 7:00 AM: *St. John of the Cross*
Birthday blessings for June Gloria Giffit rb Her family.

Fri. Dec. 15, 7:00 AM: *St. Mary di Rosa*
Alfonso Wells (deceased) rb Alma Wells.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

ETERNAL CANDLE: This week the Eternal Candle is burning *for God's protection and guidance for Anthony Renal requested by his mother*. You can request the 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.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS: The church is once again kindly asking for donations for poinsettias for decoration during the Holiday Season. Thank you.

CHURCH CLEANING: *Thursday, December 14, 2017*, and *Thursday, December 21, 2017*, has been set aside for the cleaning of our church for the Christmas season **from 8:30 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.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT: The Religious Education Program will be hosting a Christmas concert next *Sunday, December 17, 2017*, at 2:00 p.m. in the church. Please save this date and support our children.

CONFESSIONS: Holy Family church will have confessions on *Wednesday, December 20, 2017*, from **4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.** Please be guided accordingly.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES: Catholic Charities is looking for two Case Managers, a Security Officer and a part time Driver. Also if you need assistance with FEMA application or appeal process, please also contact Catholic Charities for more information at **340-642-4787** or **340-998-3809** or visit the Catholic Charities office at 42 Kronprindsens Gade.

HURRICANE ASSISTANCE: The Diocese of St. Thomas has asked for a list of persons who have had severe house damage or have lost their jobs due to Hurricanes Irma and Maria. If you have been affected, please fill out the form at the entrance of the church for **possible** assistance from the Diocese. 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

Advent is a time of preparation for the celebration of the birthday of Jesus, the Son of God and the Saviour of humanity. With the coming of Jesus, God initiated a new beginning in the human history. Ever since God constituted a people for himself, he has been actively involved in their lives, rewarding their good behaviour and punishing their sinful deeds.

The Christmas event which includes his birth, the mission he accomplished and the movement that he began, is the culmination in the God-human relationship that began with the call of Abraham as the book of Genesis teaches us. A major event to which the First Reading of today refers is the Babylonian exile and its aftermath. Babylonian exile lasts for fifty years (586-536 B.C.). Against every expectation, when it seems that the exile would continue, King Cyrus makes the unexpected announcement that all peoples enslaved by Babylonian empire are free to return to their lands. King Cyrus, a non-Israelite, is the one chosen by God to accomplish his will.

Life in Babylon has been hard for the people. It is at this juncture that an anonymous prophet whom we call Second-Isaiah whose oracles are recorded in chapter 40-55 of Isaiah comes to the rescue of the people. This has been a time of darkness and violence, and of extreme abandonment when Israel may have believed its history was ending forever, submerged in the crucible of the great pagan empires. The land has been lost, the people dispersed, the language vanishing and replaced by the Aramaic of the Chaldeans; the Temple has been destroyed, and worship discontinued. A great pagan culture has been displaying its splendour to the Israelites' eyes, magnificently celebrating its gods in the temples of Babylon. To withstand these allurements Israel has only its memory, itself in danger of remaining entrapped in disappointment and nostalgia. The majority, to be sure, live these trials in a state of inner revolt, accusing God of unfaithfulness and helplessness.

But this time has been also, at least for some for whom the message of Second Isaiah has a vital importance, the time when a spiritual awareness unprecedented in Israel arises and develops. Through the oracles of Second Isaiah it becomes clear that at this time some in Israel look squarely at the state of affairs in all its radical starkness, and discover the drama of Israel's history and life. They realize that Israel's sin

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: **361**

Last Weekend's collections

FIRST COLLECTION: \$4,062.25

SECOND COLLECTION:

Renovation Fund: \$1,228.75

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

and unfaithfulness were the cause of its faltering before the Babylonian armies. The exile was the ultimate punishment for abandoning God. Second Isaiah gives the people something to hope for. By his own free decision God is going to bring the exile to an end and restore the divine presence. The servant songs in the Second Isaiah are an indication of this. It takes another five centuries for yet another new beginning in the history of Israel, the sending of God's Son. Mark quotes the passage from Second Isaiah to announce the coming of the Messiah. John the Baptist through his preaching prepares a people ready for the Lord. This new beginning has continued to the present day. Jesus also met the same opposition but he went ahead. We enjoy the benefits of his work.

Happy 2nd week of Advent!

