

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	Mona Bedminster
	Felicinne Marcillin	
<b>LECTORS:</b> Keith Steele	Agnes Nicholas	Lola Warrington
Ruth Smith	Rita Brady-Bermudez	Dr. A. Thomas
<b>EUCH MIN:</b> Olga McBean	Rose, Alma, Catherina & Danna	Eubald Rene 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, 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 Diligence when you ...*

- \*Pay careful attention to what you are doing.*
- \*Do thing step by step.*
- \*Practice to the point of excellence.*
- \*Give your absolute best to whatever you do.*
- \*Work hard.*
- \*Don't give up.*

**Affirmation:**

*I am diligent. I work hard. I work carefully. I can be trusted to do a good job.*

**WEEKLY ADVERTISEMENTS**

**OFFICE HOURS**

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

**Tuesday - Friday  
7:30 AM - 4:00 PM**



TOYOTA OF ST. THOMAS  
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**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**

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**PARISH CELEBRATION**

**Birthdays**

*Serenity Mathurin, Caroline Love, Chayne Caracciolo, J'Lane Rhymer, Emalie Abraham, Richard Badeau, Neil Jno Baptiste, Jernel Raul, Chrislene Vanel, Nicole Ferrari, Jonthaw Harrigan, Marilyn Ann Henderson, Suzanne Pariall, Henrique Foy, Josian Dyer, Kevin Babis, Trevor Monsanto, Hilaire Alfred, Julian Labadie, Lydia Rivere.*

**WEDDING ANNIVERSARY**

*Dave & Greselda Anderson - Jan. 11*



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

**Holy Family Catholic Church Welcomes You!**

**THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD - Jan. 7, 2018**

P.O. Box 502218, St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands 00805  
Tel: (340) 775-1650  
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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 January 7, 2018**

Mon.: Isaiah 42: 1 - 4, 6-7; 1 John 5:1 - 9  
Mark 1:7 - 11  
Tue.: 1 Samuel 1:9 - 20; Mark 1:21 - 28  
Wed.: 1 Sam. 3:1-10, 19-20; Mark 1:29 - 39  
Thur.: 1 Samuel 4:1 - 11; Mark 1:40- 45  
Fri.: 1 Sam. 8:4 - 7, 10-22a; Mark 2:1 - 12  
Sat.: 1 Samuel 9:1 - 4, 17 - 19; 10:1  
Mark 2:13 - 17

**NEXT SUNDAY:  
2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time**

1 Samuel 3:3b - 10, 19  
1 Corinthians 6: 13c - 15a, 17 - 20  
John 1:35 - 42

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



## EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

### INTRODUCTION TO THE LITURGY OF THE DAY!

#### FIRST READING: Isaiah 60:1 - 6

Darkness covers the earth, and heavy clouds hang over the people. But the light has come, and the glory of the Lord shines bright.

#### SECOND READING: Ephesians 3:2 - 3a, 5 - 6

In Christ Jesus, Gentiles and Jews are co-heirs of the family fortune and co-sharers in the saving promise.

#### GOSPEL READING: Matthew 2:1 - 12

The magi from the east followed the star until it stopped still over the house. They entered, found the child with Mary, prostrated themselves, and did Him homage.

Today's readings reflect the joy of today's event - the Epiphany of the Lord. Isaiah sings of the promise of post-exilic Jerusalem, receiving people and treasures from all nations. The author of Ephesians proclaims that in Christ Jesus we are all members of the same body, that Jew and Gentile alike have received the promise of salvation. The faraway magi in Matthew follow the star of Bethlehem and pay homage to the newborn king.

### MASS INTENTIONS

#### Saturday Mass (Sunday Observance):

5:00 PM: Jeanette Stridiron (deceased) rb The Stridiron & Johnson families.

#### Sunday Masses:

7:30 AM: Birthday blessings for Patsy Grell rb Her family.

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

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

#### Daily Masses:

Mon. Jan. 8, 7:00 AM: *The Baptism of the Lord*  
God's guidance and protection for Clyde de Jean Charles  
rb Mona Bedminster.

Tues. Jan. 9, 7:00 AM: *St. Adrian of Canterbury*  
Eugene Farro (deceased) rb Estelle Farro.

Wed. Jan. 10, 7:00 AM: *St. John the Almsgiver*  
Elva Gravesande (deceased) rb Her family.

Thurs. Jan. 11, 7:00 AM: *Blessed Bernard of Corleone*  
God's protection and blessings for Holy Family church cleaners.

Fri. Jan. 12, 7:00 AM: *St. Marguerite Bourgeoys*  
Birthday blessings and God's continued healing, guidance and  
protection for Roger Charles rb His family.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**SECOND COLLECTION:** This week's second collection goes towards the *Renovation Fund*. 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 birthday blessings for Jennifer I. Johnson*. You can request the Eternal Candle for your loved ones' birthdays or any special occasions.

**BAPTISM CLASS:** Baptism class will commence on **Monday January 8, 2018**, at 7:00 p.m. in Lower Columban Hall, in Fr. Kerly's office and will continue every Monday in January. Application forms for Baptism can be collected from the church office and should be completed before the start of the program. Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

**SYMPATHY:** On behalf of Holy Family parishioners, Rev. Kerly François and Rev. Neil Scantlebury extend sincere sympathy to *Marie Leo* and family on the passing of her husband, *Anthony Leo*, who died on **Tuesday, December 12, 2017**. The funeral service for the late *Anthony Leo* will take place on **Thursday, January 11, 2018**, at Holy Family church. Viewing will precede the service at 9:00 a.m. 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 *Ella Clarke* and family on the passing of her mother, *Theresa Felix*, who died on **Friday, December 29, 2017**, in Dallas. The funeral mass for the late *Theresa Felix* will take place on **Tuesday, January 16, 2018**, at Holy Family Church. Viewing will precede the mass at 9:00 a.m. 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 Ruth Smith and family on the passing of her sister, *Naomie A. De Gout*, who died on **Wednesday, December 20, 2017**, in Boston. A funeral service for the late *Naomie A. De Gout*, will be held at later date in Boston. May her soul and the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen.

**WORLD MARRIAGE DAY 2018:** All couples who were married in the Catholic Church 20 years or more, in a year ending in a "3" or a "8" (for example - 1988 = 30 years; 1993 = 25 years), will be presented with a certificate signed by the Bishop on the weekend of **February 10 -11, 2018**. **Anyone married 50+ years (1968 or earlier)** are also eligible regardless of the year they were married. **No names will be accepted after Monday, January 29, 2018.**

**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.**



### LITURGY AND WORD

The Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord celebrates the arrival of the Wise Men (Magi) who are looking for the newborn King of the Jews. Traditionally the feast of the Epiphany celebrates the inclusion of the Gentiles in the salvific plan of God for the pagan kings represent the vast humanity that remains alien to God.

The magi are thought to be priests, astronomers, diviners and wise men who also study the world's religious texts. Matthew understands the magi as learned men (probably from Babylon) who understand the stars. They seek the King because they have seen his star at its rising. The idea that the births and the deaths of great figures are accompanied by astral phenomena was widely accepted in antiquity.

The character of Herod at whose palace the Wise Men arrive represents everything that is diametrically opposed to that of the Wise Men. News of the birth of the promised King would certainly trouble Herod who is driven by innate distrust and constant fear of a rival claimant to the throne. We can then understand why the king deals shrewdly with the Wise Men and tries to extract information about the child once they have found him. In this context the massacre of the innocent children becomes credible. Herod wants to eliminate all claimants to his throne. This is the reason why Herod secretly inquires of the magi the actual time of the appearance of the star in order to ascertain the age of the child.

The feast of the Epiphany allows us to reflect on the universality of salvation in Christ. The Old Testament lays the foundation for what the New Testament reveals definitively in Jesus Christ: God wills the salvation of all human beings. In the Old Testament there are clear indications pointing to a universal salvific will, especially in the Book of Genesis. Noah's covenant includes the whole of humankind (Gen 9:8-17); Abraham's covenant promises blessing for all peoples (Gen 18:18); the prophets Isaiah and Jeremiah proclaimed that salvation is for all.

The First Reading from Isaiah is a splendid example of the salvific will of God. Isaiah visualizes a new beginning after the exile. For he says, "nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising." He further says that they will come with gifts such as gold and frankincense. The Wise Men when they come seeking the child Jesus also bring with them these gifts.

### 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: **318**

Last Weekend's collections

**FIRST COLLECTION: \$8,217.98**

**BISHOP'S APPEAL: \$870.27**

*Our Bishop's Appeal contribution now amounts to \$34,357.00, 86% 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

In the New Testament, the idea of a universal salvific will is predominant. It is true that though Jesus is convinced that he is "sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel," still in his powerful deeds and parables he shows that God, the Father of all human beings, is concerned about the salvation of all. In the post-resurrection apostolic preaching, Jesus is proclaimed as the Christ, who mediates the salvific plan of God by his death and resurrection for the salvation of all human beings. Writing to the Ephesians (Second Reading) Paul says that the mystery not made known to the sons of men in other generations but now revealed through Jesus is this: Gentiles are fellow-heirs and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus.

The renewed sight of the star and its identification of the location of the child cause the Wise Men to be overcome with joy. The coming of the Wise Men is the beginning of the fulfillment of the prophecies from the time of the exile that nations will come to the light and kings to the brightness of the rising of faithful Israel, bringing gifts and eager to recognize the God of Israel because God is with them. The Wise Men after having worshipped the child Jesus offer him gold, frankincense and myrrh as gifts (Mt 2:11). Jesus is thus identified as representing true Israel, while the magi represent the other nations.

