

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	CCD Choir
	Felicinne Marcellin	
LECTORS: Helena Enrique	Jalila Thomas	CCD Student
Olga McBean	Lafwa Rolle	CCD Student
EUCH MIN: Dolores Velazquez	Bridget Toussaint,	Mona Bedminster
	Allison Callwood	

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.

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, Stanislaus Livepool.

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 Tact when you ...

**Are careful about the feelings of others.*

**Stop yourself from teasing or embarrassing others.*

**Tell the truth kindly and gently.*

**Decide if it is better tell the truth or keep silent.*

**Keep unpleasant or critical thoughts to yourself.*

**Treat people who are different as you would treat any one.*

Affirmation:

I am tactful. I think before I speak. I am diplomatic even when I feel strongly. I tell the truth kindly and gently.

WEEKLY ADVERTISEMENTS

**COLUMBAN HALL
BUY A BRICK CAMPAIGN**

Engrave your name in the history of Holy Family Parish:

By purchasing an engraved brick paver you may honor a loved one - by remembering an anniversary, birthday, graduation, new birth, in thanksgiving, or in memory of; also, to commemorate a special event, or the name of your business. You will provide a permanent display of your family history for generations to come.

For your gift of \$75.00, you may include THREE (3) lines of up to TWENTY (20) mixed upper and lower case characters (including spaces and punctuations) on an engraved 4 inch x 8 inch PAVER around the floor of the Holy Family Statute. Place your order today. For additional information, please call 340-775-1650.

Engrave your name in the history of Holy Family Church. Place your order today. Proceeds from this activity benefit the Restoration Fund of Holy Family Church which will allow us to enhance, upgrade and air condition our church. For additional information, please call 340-775-1650.

PRAYER DURING LENT

Lord Jesus, by the suffering and death You endured on the cross, You brought peace to a sinful world and gave humankind the gift of reconciliation. Teach me self-denial that I might follow Your example and trust in Your wisdom. Increase my faith, hope and charity so that I may turn hatred to love and conflict to peace. Strengthen me against evil, console me through adversity, and forgive my sins against the unity of Your family. Make me love others just as You love me. Give me a perfect heart to receive Your blessings, that I may bring forth fruit in patience and live my life as a true reflection of Your gospel message of salvation. I submit myself to Your holy will and follow You on the path of repentance so that I may rise to new life with You. 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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Lindberg Bay #18
P.O Box 302250
St. Thomas, VI 00803

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PARISH CELEBRATION

Birthdays

Evan Fahie, Amya Hodge, Keithford Francis, Mackadis Smith, Kristel Cabo, Jacky Raphael, Rousselande Augustin, Ketura Mitchel, Davion Smith, Joseph Harding, Jennifer Pacquette, Ingrid Khan, Wade Monroe, Emmanuel Mahautiere, Allan Bryan, Pamela Charles, Gail Steele, Fritznold Bredy, Theresa Fahie, Gloria Etienne, Jose Encarnacion, Gabrielle George.



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

**Holy Family Catholic Church
Welcomes You!**

5th Sunday of Lent - March 18, 2018

P.O. Box 502218, St. Thomas,
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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

Deacon
Rev. Mr. Evans Doway

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 & 5:00 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 March 18, 2018

Mon.: 2 Samuel 7:4 - 5a, 12 - 14 a, 16; Romans 4:13, 16-18, 22; Matt. 1:16, 18-21, 24a
Tue.: Numbers 21:4 - 9; John 8:21 - 30
Wed.: Dan. 3:14-20, 91-92, 95; John 8:31-42
Thur.: Genesis 17:3 - 9; John 8:51 - 59
Fri.: Jeremiah 20:10-13; John 10:31-42
Sat.: Ezekiel 37:21 - 28; John 11:45 - 56

**NEXT SUNDAY:
PALM SUNDAY**

Isaiah 50:4 - 7
Philippians 2:6 - 11
Mark 14:1 - 15:47

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

5TH OF SUNDAY LENT

INTRODUCTION TO THE LITURGY OF THE DAY!

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 31:31 - 34

God says, "I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel ... I will place my law within them and write it upon their hearts; I will be their God, and they shall be my people ... I will forgive their evildoing and remember their sin no more."

SECOND READING: Hebrews 5:7 - 9

When Jesus was in the flesh, he prayed constantly to God. Through his prayer and obedience, Jesus became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him.

GOSPEL READING: John 12:20 - 33

Jesus told His followers: "Unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat ... And when I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw everyone to myself."

In the first reading, Jeremiah preaches the new covenant, when the law of the Lord is internalized and written upon the hearts of all who believe. With a new heart, we will have knowledge and obedience of God's will. John describes this knowledge and obedience in Jesus, who realizes that, like the grain of wheat, He must die to this world in order to produce much fruit. It is fitting then, to ask God in the responsorial psalm, "Create a clean heart in me ... and a will spirit sustain in me."

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday Mass (Sunday Observance):

5:00 PM: Marcel Jno Lewis (deceased) rb Mona Bedminster.

Sunday Masses:

7:30 AM: Anniversary blessings for Francis & Henrietta John Baptist

10:00 AM: God's guidance and protection for Ade Warrington rb
His grandmother.

God's continued blessings, guidance and protection for the children and grandchildren of Claudy & Yvonne Brutus rb Yvonne Brutus.

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

Daily Masses:

Mon. Mar. 19, 7:00 AM: **St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary**
Birthday blessings for Mary Stridiron rb The Johnson and Stridiron families.

Tues. Mar. 20, 7:00 AM: **St. Cuthbert**
God's blessings for Holy Family CCD teachers and volunteers.

Wed. Mar. 21, 7:00 AM: **St. Serapion**
Continued blessings, guidance and protection for the children and grandchildren of Jennifer Johnson.

Thurs. Mar. 22, 7:00 AM: **St. Deogratias**
Birthday blessings for Pamela Charles and Ziaire Henry rb
Their family.

Fri. Mar. 23, 7:00 AM: **St. Toribio de Mogrovejo**
God's blessings & guidance for Holy Family parishioners.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SECOND COLLECTION: This week's second collection goes towards the *purchase of Easter flowers*. 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 long life for Anthony Renal, requested by Marie Renal*. You can request the Eternal Candle for your loved ones' birthdays or any special occasions.

BISHOP'S APPEAL: "Where there is a need, there is the Bishop's Appeal." Your gift to the Bishop's Appeal helps Catholic Charities to provide needed assistance to a fast-growing segment of our community, THE HOMELESS. Please give generously to this year's Appeal so that we can supply needed medicines and doctor visits for our impoverished and infirmed homeless in our community.

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. Thank You! **"Failure Always Looks for an Excuse, Success Always Looks for a Way, You Are Our Way to Success!"**

BAPTISM CLASS: Baptism class commenced on **Monday March 5, 2018**, at **6:00 p.m.** in Lower Columban Hall, in Fr. Kerly's office and will continue every Monday in March. 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.

ADORATION: Adoration to the Blessed Sacrament resumed on **Wednesday, January 31, 2018**, after the 7:00 a.m. mass to conclude at 5:00 p.m. Come and present your prayers and petition to the Lord. Please remember it is quality time with you and God and respect the presence of others who are spending time with Jesus.

CONFESSIONS: In preparation for the Triduum, Holy Family church will have its penance service on **Wednesday, March 21, 2018**, available from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. and on **Thursday, March 22, 2018** at Sts. Peter & Paul Cathedral from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

EASTER EGG HUNT: St. Vincent de Paul Society is sponsoring the usual Easter egg hunt on **Easter Sunday** after the 10:00 a.m. mass, however, they are kindly asking parishioners to kindly assist them in getting gifts for the children. Any help will be greatly appreciated. You may drop off the gifts at the church office during this coming week. Thank you and God bless you always.

LENT: During Lent:

1. Holy Hour and Stations of the Cross are on Fridays at 6:00 p.m.
2. Those 18 to 59 years of age are to **fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday**.
3. Those 14 years and older are to **abstain from eating meat on Ash Wednesday and all Fridays in Lent**
4. Pray for peace in the world and in our families.
5. Pray for God's blessings and protection against the attacks of evil spirits for our parish and our diocese.
6. There will be **NO** altar flowers, **NO** Gloria and **NO** Alleluia, **NO** recessional hymn.
7. We are encouraged to make a good Confession.
8. Give generously to the Bishop's Appeal.
9. Pray the novena of Our Lady the Undoer of Knots that Our Lady will undo the knots of Holy Family Parish, family and ourselves.
10. View daily **"Best Lent ever"** on www.dynamiccatholic.com

REFURBISHING OF PEWS: Please be aware that the refurbishing of our pews has started. Please bear with us as some of the pews are corded off. Thank you for your understanding. God bless. Donations are appreciated.

LITURGY AND WORD

We have already encountered the biblical theme of the "covenant" on the First Sunday of Lent. The liturgy of this Sunday places before us the renowned "New Covenant" of Jeremiah. The "New Covenant" appears for the first time in the book of Jeremiah. In the New Testament the phrase "New Covenant" appears in Luke 22:20, 1 Corinthians 11:25; 2 Corinthians 3:6, and twice in the Letter to the Hebrews 8:8-13; 9:15. This short oracle has been justly called "one of the profoundest and most moving passages in the entire Bible."

The New Covenant will be different from the one which previous generations had broken. It will be written on people's hearts, not just on stones, like the Ten Commandments. In other words, we will always carry with us the stipulations of the New Covenant with us and it will become part of our being. Two characteristics of the New Covenant are to be noted. First, people need not be encouraged to know God, because all will know him. Secondly, God will forgive the sins of the people in a new and decisive way.

The belief in a new covenant existed among the Essenes of Qumran, but it was the Christian Church that laid real claim to Jeremiah's promise, establishing the New Covenant finally as its charter of faith. The New Covenant will be more than a renewed Mosaic covenant, such as those formalized in the plains of Moab (Deut 5:2-3; 28:69), at Shechem (Joshua 24), or in Jerusalem at the climax of the Josianic reform (2 Kings 23). It is really a "New" covenant, one that marks a new beginning in divine-human relationship and one which is grounded in a wholly new act of divine grace, i.e., the forgiveness of sins. It is to be noted that, the forgiveness of sins did not undergird the Mosaic covenant, in fact, it played no part at all in the covenant's understanding. The act of divine grace undergirding the Mosaic covenant was the deliverance from Egypt (Exod 20:2; Deut 5:6).

Just to mention what the Fathers of the Church thought about the New Covenant, we have Clement of Alexandria who saw in Jeremiah 31:31-40 an indication that God had implanted his heavenly teaching, or laws, into human minds and hearts. Clement says that old covenants disciplined people with fear, but the New Covenant turns fear into love.

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: **483**

Last Weekend's collections

FIRST COLLECTION: \$6,978.81

Bishop's Appeal: \$1,114.00

Our Bishop's Appeal contribution for 2017 amounted 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

Second Reading says that for Christ the path leading to the priesthood was a path of humility and suffering, a path of effective solidarity with human weakness. His priestly offering consisted of "prayers and supplications", and they were accompanied by a "loud cry" and "tears." Jesus did not pretend to impose his own will on God; instead, he let his Father choose the best solution. This is the reason why he was "heard." The divine solution did not consist in preserving him from death; it transformed his suffering and death into the instrument of definitive victory over evil and over death itself. Christ became the source of eternal salvation and was designated by God a high priest forever. The gospel deals with the "hour" of Jesus. The end of the public ministry is signalled by the arrival of the Greeks which causes Jesus to exclaim, "The hour has come," and he speaks of a grain of wheat that dies in order to bear much fruit. The atmosphere resembles that of Jesus' prayer in Gethsemane on the night before he dies. In both scenes Jesus' soul is troubled/sorrowful. In Mark he prays to the Father that the hour might pass from him, but in John Jesus welcomes the "hour" since this is why he has come. It may be assumed that their quest to see Jesus has been prompted by a desire to learn from him rather than curiosity. Maybe John sees them as examples of the "world" going after Jesus. Jesus' "hour" was the approaching passion. The example of the grain indicates this.