

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	Ruthine Johnson
	Felicinne Marcillin	
LECTORS: Margarita Smith	Agnes Nicholas	Suzanne Adrien
Antoinette Floyd	Allison Callwood	Yvonne Freeman
EUCH MIN: Olga McBean	Rose Labadie	Michelle Stout
	Lauren Thomas	



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, Baby Elizabeth Dolphin, Mary Lewis.

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, Veronica Sealey, Gerard Henry, Ruthine Johnson, Grace Thompson, Andrea Victorine, Josephine James, Stanislaus Livepool, Rosette Harley.

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 Commitment when you ...

**Think before you make a promise.*

**Keep every agreement you make.*

**Make decisions confidently.*

**Go the extra mile.*

**Give 100% to everything you do.*

**Are faithful to people you care about.*

Affirmation:

I commit to my decisions. I keep my agreements. I give my all. I am a faithful friend.

WEEKLY ADVERTISEMENTS

PISTARCKLE Theater
Tillett Gardens, St. Thomas, USVI
in appreciation of our wonderful neighbors at
Holy Family
We are happy to offer Holy Family Congregation
10% off the price of any event
at Pistarckle Theater!
Please call (340) 227-8451 for the discount.
Find our event listings at
www.pistarckletheater.com



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. Sharpen my vision so that I can see beyond 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 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 Doute
Mona Bedminster
Felicia Felix
Fr. Neil Scantlebury (Pastor)
Fr. Kerly François (Assoc. Pastor)

Thank you for sewing !!!

Le Bleu
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St. Thomas, VI 00803

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PARISH CELEBRATION

Birthdays

Iona Vanterpool, Ruth DeMouy-Hunt, Leah Quetel, Bruce Bertrand, Janine Lewis, Terrence Webbe, Laurie Velazquez, Stella Saunders, Victoria Greenaway, Shavciu Alexander, Eli Santiago, Olivia Najawicz, David Willie, Survanna Isidore, Francis Sampson, Lia Fabian, Myrtha Duverney, Cory Bryan, Alinda Sebastian, Antonio Vanterpool.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

Timothy & Laouvanie Jno Baptiste - May 4

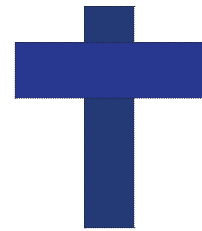


Lord, bless our parishioners who celebrate their special day this week. Amen!

Holy Family Catholic Church
Welcomes You!

5th Sunday of Easter - April 29, 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

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
Holy Hour: 6PM - 7PM

Sacrament of Reconciliation
Saturday: 3:15 PM to 3:45 PM

Readings for the Week of April 29, 2018

Mon.: Acts 14:5 - 18; John 14:21 - 26

Tue.: Gen. 1:26-2:3; Matthew 13:54 - 58

Wed.: Acts 15: 1- 6; John 15:1 - 8

Thur.: 1 Cor. 15:1 - 8; John 14:6 - 14

Fri.: Acts 15:22 - 31; John 15:12 - 17

Sat.: Acts 16:1 - 10; John 15:18 - 21

NEXT SUNDAY:
6th Sunday of Easter

Acts 10:25 - 26, 34 - 35, 44 - 48

1 John 4:7 - 10

John 15:9 - 17

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



5th Sunday of Easter



INTRODUCTION TO THE LITURGY OF THE DAY!

FIRST READING: Acts 9:26 - 31

Saul went back to Jerusalem, but the disciples were afraid of him. Barnabas told them how the Lord had conversed with Saul and how he suffered in the name of Jesus. Then they welcomed and protected Saul.

SECOND READING: 1 John 3:18 - 24

“Let us love not in word or speech but in deed and truth.” If our hearts do not condemn us, we can have confidence that God will grant our requests.

GOSPEL READING: John 15:1 - 8

Jesus said, “I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in me and I in him will bear much fruit.” Everyone else “will be thrown out like a branch and wither.”

St. Paul makes his first appearance in Jerusalem since his conversion and many of the disciples are wary of him. But Paul shows that he is in Christ and Christ is in him. As we hear in the Gospel, this is what Jesus asked of his disciples.

He promised that they would bear much fruit. As we listen to the readings today, let us consider how we too are asked to remain in Jesus and how we can bear fruit.

MASS INTENTIONS



Saturday Mass (Sunday Observance):



5:00 PM: God’s guidance and protection for Keshon Smith rb A friend.

Sunday Masses:

7:30 AM: Birthday blessings for Nathoalie Antoine rb Her family.

10:00 AM: Hermacin St. John (**deceased**) rb Eve Ogiste.

5:00 PM: God’s healing, deliverance and blessings for the Haitian community.

Daily Masses:

Mon. Apr. 30, 7:00 AM: **St. Pius V**
God’s blessings for the children and grand children of Eve Ogiste.

Birthday blessings for Ruth Hunt rb Her family.

Tues. May 1, 7:00 AM: St. Joseph the Worker - Feast
Souls in purgatory rb Eve Ogiste.

7:00 PM: God’s blessings and guidance for St. Joseph Workers.

Wed. May 2, 7:00 AM: **St. Athanasius**
God’s blessings for the benefactors of St. Vincent de Paul.

Thurs. May 3, 7:00 AM: **Sts. Philip & James, Apostles - Feast**
Rose & Richard Cook (**deceased**) rb Estelle Farro.

Fri. May 4, 7:00 AM: **Blessed Ceferino Gimenez Malla**
Birthday blessings for Joanna Alfred rb Her family.

Birthday blessings for Vincent W. Rawlings rb Cleopha Rawlings.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SECOND COLLECTION: This week’s second collection goes towards the **Bishop’s Appeal**. Next week’s second collection will go towards **Catholic Home Mission**. As always we thank you for your generosity.

ETERNAL CANDLE: This week the Eternal Candle is burning for **birthday blessings for Alvin, Olga and Tori, requested by Olga McBean**. You can request the Eternal Candle for your loved ones’ birthdays or any special occasions.

BISHOP’S APPEAL: There is still time to make your gift to the Bishop’s Appeal 2018. We need your help to reach our goal. Please support our Catholic schools, the Bethlehem Houses on St. Thomas and St. Croix, our soup kitchens on all three islands and the evangelization efforts which promote the mission of the local Church.

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!”**

CATHOLIC HOME MISSION: Next week, we will take up the Catholic Home Missions Appeal. Right now, over 40% of dioceses in the United States are considered home mission territory because they are unable to fund the essential pastoral work needed in their communities. Your support of this appeal helps ease the struggle of this diocese. Please prayerfully consider how you can support the appeal. More information can be found at www.usccb.org/home-missions.

ADORATION: Adoration to the Blessed Sacrament has resumed on **Wednesdays**, after the 7:00 a.m. mass to conclude at 5:00 p.m., and on **Fridays** from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Jesus is available for you to spend time with Him.

FEAST OF ST. JOSEPH THE WORKER: All are invited to attend a special mass and procession to the statute of the Holy Family in honor of St. Joseph, on **Tuesday, May 1, 2018**, at 7:00 p.m.

SYMPATHY: On behalf of Holy Family parishioners, Rev. Kerly François, Deacon Doway, Rev. Neil Scantlebury extend sincere sympathy to **Suzanne Adrien** and family on the passing of her cousin, **Andrew Matthew**, who died on **Monday, April 9, 2018**. The funeral service for the late **Andrew Matthew** will take place on **Friday, May 4, 2018**, at Holy Family Church at 11:00 a.m. Viewing will precede the service at 10:00 a.m. May his soul and the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen.

BAPTISM CLASS: Baptism class will commence on **Monday May 7, 2018**, at 7:00 p.m. in Lower Columban Hall, in Fr. Kerly’s office, and will continue every Monday in May. 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 cooperation in this matter.

PENTECOST RALLY: The Pentecost Rally will take place on **Sunday, May 20, 2018**, at Winston Wells Ball Park. It starts with a procession at 3:30 p.m. from Our Lady of Mt. Carmel to the Ball Park. The theme will be “A New Pentecost - “More Fire” — Acts 2. Sponsored by Catholic Charismatic Renewal STT/STJ. Please save the date.



LITURGY AND WORD

After having reflected on Jesus as the Good Shepherd, the gospel of today presents Jesus as the True Vine. The common grapevine is mentioned throughout Scripture, often in a figurative sense. The mountain regions of Judea and Samaria, largely unsuited for grain, were well adapted for vine growing. A vineyard was usually surrounded by a protecting wall of stones or thorny hedges to keep out destructive animals. In every vineyard was a tower for the watchman, a winepress hollowed out of a flat rock, and a vat into which the juice flowed from the vine press. Vines required constant care to keep them productive. They were pruned every spring, and the ground was ploughed and kept free of weeds. Pruned branches were gathered and burned. During the harvest season watchmen were stationed in the towers, and sometimes the whole family of the owner took their residence in booths as a protection against thieves. The harvest season was always one of special happiness. Figuratively, the vine symbolized prosperity and peace among the ancient Hebrews. The vine also symbolized the chosen people, who instead of producing good fruit yielded only wild grapes. What does the symbolism of bearing and not bearing fruit mean? Spontaneously one tends to interpret the imagery in terms of good works and a virtuous life. For John love and keeping the commandments are so much a part of the life coming from faith that one who does not behave in a virtuous manner does not have life at all. True life is committed life. Therefore, a branch that does not bear fruit is not simply a living, unproductive branch, but a dead branch. Some may find this interpretation harsh since it holds out no hope for the unproductive branches; and also in Johannine teachings there is not much room for an intermediate stage: there are only living and dead branches. Augustine captures this dualism in his rhyming Latin epigram: “Aut vitis, aut ignis” (either the vine or the fire). In the atmosphere of the Last Supper Judas may be thought of as a branch that did not bear fruit; he is now a tool of Satan and belongs to the realm of darkness (Jn. 13:2, 27, 30). Jesus provides the unique source of life and fruitfulness. Jesus introduces the Father, the vinedresser who cares for the well-being and fruitfulness of the vine. The metaphor of the vine and the vinedresser is best understood in light of the everyday reality of vines and vine-keeping. Such practices help us

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: **393**

Last Weekend’s collections

FIRST COLLECTION: \$6,154.92

Bishop’s Appeal: \$2,228.00

Our Bishop’s Appeal contribution for 2018 amounted to \$6,150.00, 15% 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

to understand what Jesus is saying about the Father and himself, and ultimately about discipleship. The Father cares for the fruitful branch on the vine, pruning it so that it will become more fruitful, and he destroys the branch that bears no fruit by separating it from the vine. Jesus is the life-giving vine but it’s the Father who promotes growth and decides on the destruction of the unfruitful branches. However, this life-giving bond with the vine must not be taken for granted. The prophecies of the betrayal of Judas and the denials of Peter have shown that the life of union has begun but not perfected. It is not enough to be with him and to have received his word; they must abide in him and he will abide in them. No branch can ever bear fruit if it is separated from the vine, and no disciple will ever bear fruit alone. It is only by mutual abiding, the disciple in Jesus and Jesus in the disciple, that fruitfulness can take place. To bear fruit means the disciples should do something. That “something” has already been summarized in the command to love, which Jesus taught would be the hallmark of his disciples. There is only one mission shared by the Son and his disciples. In this one mission the Father is glorified.

