

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	Margurite Rene
<b>LECTORS:</b> Margarita Smith	Hilda Celestine	Carmen White
Ruth Smith	Rita Brady Bermudez	Felicita Richards
<b>EUCH MIN:</b> Candace Bryan	Rose, Felicinne	Franklin Howe
Olga McBean	Allison & Lauren	Antoinette Howe

*Thank you for sewing !!!*



*Please pray for the members of our body who are sick or suffering. . .*

**HOSPITAL:** Margarita Feliciano, Ophelia Bannis.  
**OFF ISLAND:** Bertina Lestrade, Altagracia Padilla, Emile Joseph, Enid Blyden, Isabel Dublin, Mary Lewis, Philomen Baron, Ruthine & Thomas, Johnson, Maggie Dolphin, Cryil Eugene, Joe Toussaint, Roserita Laparol, Eugenie England, Sonia Herbert.

**AT HOME:** Rita Ledee, Rose Celestine, Martina Lewis, Olivia Gumbs, Ann Bedminster, Bernice Knight, Claudy Brutus, Vernelle Gumbs, Evelyn Simon, Veronica Sealey, Gerard Henry, Grace Thompson, Andrea Victorine, Josephine James, Stanislaus Livepool, Meraldo C. Gonzales, Baby Elizabeth Dolphin, Cynthia Johnrose, Josephine Philbert, Iona Vanterpool, Josefina Donastorg, Hilare Alfred, Owen Johnrose.

**SEAVIEW, MASSAC, LUCINDA MILLIN - NO ONE 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**

**HOLIDAY MASS TIMES  
CHRISTMAS EVE NIGHT**

**CAROLS - 8:00 P.M.**

**MASS - 9:00 P.M. AND 11:00 P.M.**

**CHRISTMAS DAY  
9:00 A.M.**

**OLD YEAR'S NIGHT**

**HOLY HOUR - 8:00 P.M.**

**MASS - 9:00 P.M. AND 11:00 P.M.**

**NEW YEAR'S DAY  
9:00 A.M.**

**OFFICE HOURS**

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

**Tuesday - Friday**

**8:00 AM - 4:00 PM**



TOYOTA OF ST. THOMAS  
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St. Thomas, VI 00802

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Fax: (340) 715-3161

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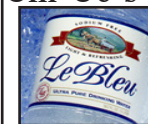
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God First, Family Second, Career Third



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**PARISH CELEBRATION**

**Birthdays**

*K'Ante Jackson, Keemoy Henry, Wilson Daniel, Dominick Hodge, Josiah Jules, Kymani Dolphin, Lornnesha Henley, Christopher Scott, Rakhanalli Claxton, Kheana Fahie, Tiffanie Quetel, Tamica Pierre, Sharon Davis, Pamela Lewis, Aron Joseph, Carol Hodge, Stacy Steele, Julie Najawiez, Marilene Lionel, Lois Riveria, Joseph St. Thomas, Lucina Ferdinand, Norma Gimenez.*



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

**FUNERAL MASSES**

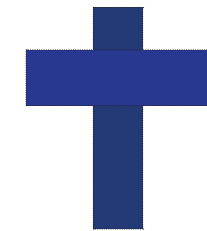
**Funeral Masses at Holy Family Church** are held on the designated day at 9:00 a.m. If you would like a different time please contact the pastor. Tributes and solos are done before the Mass. Please keep your prelude activities to the minimum. **Funerals are NOT held on Wednesdays and on weekends (Saturdays and Sundays). Lectors of Holy Family Church will do the readings. Thank you for your cooperation.**

**Holy Family Catholic Church**

**Welcomes You!**

**1st Sunday of Advent - Dec. 1, 2019**

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

**In Residence**  
Rev. John Fewel

**Deacon**  
Rev. Mr. Peter Laurencin  
Rev. Mr. Frank Kearney

**Administrative Assistant**  
Mrs. Allison Callwood

**Sacristan**  
Mr. Ryan John

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

**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

**Masses:**  
Saturday 5:00 p.m. (Creole)  
and  
Every **LAST Thursday**  
at 5:00 p.m.

**Online giving or donation  
can be made through our  
website at:  
www.holyfamilystt.com**

**WEEKEND MASSES**

**Saturday: 5:00 PM**  
**Sunday: 7:30 AM; 10:00 AM &  
5:00 PM Creole Mass**

**WEEKDAY MASSES**

**Monday - Friday: 7:00 AM**  
**Wednesday: OLPH Novena before the  
7:00 AM Mass followed by  
Adoration after the mass to 5:00 PM**  
**Friday: Holy Hour 6PM - 7PM**

**Sacrament of Reconciliation**  
**Saturday: 4:15 PM to 4:45 PM**  
**Fourth Wednesdays - 4:00PM to 6:00PM**

**Readings for the Week  
of December 1, 2019**

Mon.: Isaiah 4:2 - 6; Matthew 8:5 - 11  
Tue.: Isaiah 11:1 - 10; Luke 10:21 - 24  
Wed.: Isaiah 25:6 - 10a; Matthew 15:29 - 37  
Thur.: Isiah 26:1 - 6; Matthew 7:21, 24 - 27  
Fri.: Isaiah 29:17 - 24; Matthew 9:27 - 31  
Sat.: Isaiah 30:19 - 21, 23 - 26;  
Matthew 9:35 - 10:1, 5a, 6 - 8

**NEXT SUNDAY:  
2nd Sunday of Advent**

Isaiah 11:1 - 10  
Romans 15:4 - 9  
Matthew 3:1 - 12

## 1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

### INTRODUCTION TO THE LITURGY OF THE DAY!

#### FIRST READING: Isaiah 2:1 - 5

On that day, "they shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks" prophesied Isaiah. "One nation shall not raise the sword against another." He went on: "Come, let us walk in the light of the Lord."

#### SECOND READING: Romans 13:11 - 14

Paul urged the Romans: "It is the hour now for you to awake from sleep. For our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed." Let us put on the "armor of light. Put on the Lord Jesus Christ."

#### GOSPEL READING: Matthew 24:37 - 44

Matthew's Jesus said that the Son of Man will come at an hour no one can expect. Therefore, all people must stay awake, keep a watchful eye, and be prepared. Today's readings emphasize that we are called to do more during Advent than just wait for the Lord's coming. We are called to act. Isaiah calls all people to come in peace and light to the mountain of the Lord. St. Paul encourages the Romans to live in the light, conducting themselves appropriately. Jesus warns His disciples that the Second Coming could occur at any time and they must be prepared. Let us prepare right now by listening attentively to the word of God.

### MASS INTENTIONS

#### Saturday Mass (Sunday Observance):

**5:00 PM:** God's deliverance and protection for Marie Renal rb Marie Renal.

#### Sunday Masses:

**7:30 AM:** Birthday blessings for Loraine Cranston rb Maureen Petersen.

**10:00 AM:** God's protection and healing for Francesca Alcendor rb Francesca Alcendor.

**5:00 PM:** God's blessings for the Haitian community.

#### Daily Masses:

Mon. Dec. 2, 7:00 AM: **St. Bibiana**  
Birthday blessings for Jahmeh rb Cleopha Rawlings.

Tues. Dec. 3, 7:00 AM: **St. Francis Xavier**  
Gene Farro (*deceased*) rb Estelle Farro.

Bernice Galloway (*deceased*) rb The Children of Mary.

Wed. Dec. 4, 7:00 AM: **St. John of Damascus**  
God's guidance, deliverance, protection and freedom for Robertson Moore rb His sister and mother.

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

Fri. Dec. 6, 7:00 AM: **St. Nicholas**  
Birthday blessings for Vincent Benjamin, Jr. rb Cleopha Rawlings.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

Thank you for your generous support last week for the collection for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development! As a parish, we raised **\$1,126.53** to support those who live on the margins and in poverty in the United States. If you missed the collection, it's not too late to give! Visit [www.usccb.org/nationalcollections](http://www.usccb.org/nationalcollections), and click on "How to Give" on the left.

**ETERNAL CANDLE:** This week the Eternal Candle is burning for *God's continued guidance for Fr. Neil Scantlebury and Fr. Kerly Francois*. You can request the Eternal Candle for your loved ones' birthdays or any special occasions.

**ADVENT SEASON:** Please note that during the Advent Season there will be **NO FLOWERS** in the church and **NO GLORIA AND NO COMMUNION HYMN**. Please be guided accordingly. Thank you.

**BREAKFAST SALE:** The Dominica Association of St. Thomas will host a breakfast sale on **Saturday, December 14, 2019**, in Holy Family parking lot, from 7:00 a.m. to 12 noon. All breakfast proceeds go toward Holy Family Church. Thank you for your usual support.

**CHURCH CLEANING:** **Saturday, December 14, 2019** has been set aside for the cleaning of our church for the Christmas season from 7:00 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." Thank you in advance.

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

**CHRISTMAS CONCERT:** The Diocesan Youth Ministry and CCD Programs present to you, an annual Christmas gathering on **Sunday December 15, 2019**, at Upper Columban Hall from 3:00 p.m. The program is entitled "**THE CHRISTMAS TREE**." Donation: Adults - \$10.00 and children 12 years and under \$5.00. Tickets are available from the church office.

**CONFESSIONS:** Holy Family church will have confessions on **Wednesday, December 18, 2019**, from **4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.** Please be guided accordingly.

**HOLY FAMILY FEAST DAY:** The Feast of the Holy Family is **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29, 2019. PARISHIONERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO WEAR THEIR HOLY FAMILY T-SHIRT/POLO SHIRT (if you have one) TO MASS THAT WEEKEND TO CELEBRATE THE FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY.**

**CASH RAFFLE:** Sts. Peter & Paul School is happy to announce the start of our Annual Cash Raffle. First prize is \$10,000, second is \$2,500 and third prize is \$1,000.00. Who couldn't use a little extra cash? Raffle drawing will take place at the Annual International Night Dinner on **February 15, 2020**. Tickets are \$10 each. Anyone who purchases a FULL BOOK FOR \$100 receives 1 ticket free. Tickets are available from students, at church offices and at the school office. Call 774-2199 for more information.

### PROTECTION OF CHILDREN

The Diocese of St. Thomas in the Virgin Islands is committed to protecting children from all harm. If you have knowledge of any member of the clergy or other church worker who may have abused a minor, please contact the diocesan child protection coordinator, **Callista Julien** at **340-772-4214**.

### LITURGY AND WORD

**UNIVERSAL PEACE (Isaiah 2:1-5)** This oracle from Isaiah firmly establishes Yahweh's role as the universal King. It upholds the choice of Zion as Yahweh's abode and the place of his special protection. Zion is the goal of pilgrimage of the nations. The oracle visualizes the fact that Yahweh's rule will be accepted by all for they say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord ...that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths" (Isa 2:3). This means that Yahweh's ways are recognized as the right one. Isaiah also speaks about universal peace. All these presuppose a universal recognition of God and subjection to his judgement. Universal peace is achieved in a living society of men and women, brought about by God himself, in which there are no more barriers of language, race and class. Jesus worked towards the establishment of such a community where each one is loved and respected.

**SALVATION IS NEAR (Romans 13:11-14)** An essential aspect of Paul's teaching in Romans is that salvation is a process that is completed only when the people are delivered from the outpouring of God's wrath on the last day. This day comes progressively nearer as the present age runs its course and casts its light into the time in which we now live. Christ, by his passion, death and resurrection, exaltation and heavenly intercession, has inaugurated this new age. Salvation is at hand, and Christians must respond to the time in which they live with vigilant conduct. Hence Paul's appeal to the Christians is that they must refrain from those actions that are characteristics of the darkness. We are to surround ourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ in such a way that all we do is done through him and for him, and we are not even to give thought to any of those sinful desires, such as revelling and drunkenness, quarrelling or jealousy.

### 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: **386**

#### Last Weekend's collections

**FIRST COLLECTION: \$3,794.75**  
**Catholic Campaign for HD: \$1,126.53**

**Our Bishop's Appeal contribution for 2019 amounted to \$36,488.00, 91% 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

**BE PREPARED! (Matthew 24:37-44)** Christmas is not just a commemorative celebration of the birthday of Jesus; it has much deeper implications. For it is also a time of preparation for the Lord's future coming, the date and time of which are not revealed to us. The gospel of today uses several images to emphasize the suddenness of the coming of the Son of Man. The first image Jesus uses is that of the flood at the time of Noah. The men of Noah's day were careless in the things that pertained to God. The lesson is that if the time is unknown, people will be caught unprepared. The point of the "two men in the field" and the "two women at the mill" comparisons is about the division that will be caused at the Son Man's coming. Two people are doing the same task from which one will become part of God's kingdom, and the other will be left behind. Since the precise time of the Lord's coming is not known, the only fitting attitude is constant vigilance.

