

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SERVING YOU!
MINISTERS' SCHEDULE

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

PLEASE VOLUNTEER TO SERVE WHENEVER POSSIBLE

CANTORS: Adult Choir	Dr. Gloria Callwood	Marguerite Rene
LECTORS: Ruth Smith	Pierre Joseph	CCD Student
Olga McBean	Lafwa Rolle	CCD Student
EUCH MIN: Dolores Velazquez	Lauren Thomas	Mona Bedminster
	Rose Labadie	

Thank you for serving !!!



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, 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 Joyfulness when you ...

**Look inside for happiness.*

**Enjoy whatever you are doing.*

**Feel good about doing what is right.*

**Find creative ways to enjoy your time.*

**Have a good sense of humor.*

**Feel an inner peace even when things are tough.*

Affirmation:

I am thankful for the joy I feel inside. I enjoy my work and my play. I appreciate the gifts this day holds for me.

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
Estate 10 #3 New Quarter
Charlotte Amalie
St. Thomas, VI 00802

Cell: (340) 514-5927
PH: (340) 715-3132
Fax: (340) 715-3161

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PARISH CELEBRATION

Birthdays

Emperor Leerdam, Isaiah Cazaubon, Dominik Burman, Robert Smith, Ty'Ron Wills, Tomy Romero-Seas, Bria Bruney, Kernizean Casey, Sherian Francis, Andre Smith, Akim Commodore, Jamilla Thomas, Gerard Castor, Jo-Anne Winston, Donovan Isaac, Brenday Lyn Leonard, Julia Frederick, Moses Birmingham, Ilma Gumbs, Cleo Hamilton.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

*Rolland & Alicia Gorge - Dec. 17
Moses & Kishma Birmingham - Dec. 18
Julian & Rosebud Labadie - Dec. 18
Riviere & Adriana Casimir - Dec. 23*



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

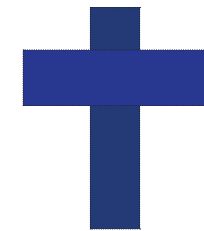
FUNERAL SERVICES/MASSES

Funeral Masses at Holy Family Church are held on the designated day at 10:00 a.m. If you would like a different time please contact the pastor. Tributes and solos are done before the Mass at 9:00 a.m. 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!**

3rd Sunday of Advent - Dec. 15, 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. 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 15, 2019**

Mon.: Numbers 24:2 - 7, 15 - 17a;
Matthew 21:23 - 7

Tue.: Gen. 49:2, 8 - 10; Matthew 1:1 - 17

Wed.: Jeremiah 23: 5 - 8; Matthew 1:18 - 25

Thur.: Judges 13:2-7, 24 - 25a Luke 1:5- 25

Fri.: Isaiah 7:10 - 14; Luke 1:26 - 38

Sat.: Songs 2:8 - 14; Luke 1:39 - 45

**NEXT SUNDAY:
4th Sunday of Advent**

Isaiah 7:10 - 14

Romans 1:1 - 7

Matthew 1:18 - 24

3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

INTRODUCTION TO THE LITURGY OF THE DAY!

FIRST READING: Isaiah 35:1 - 6a, 10

The deserts exult and burst into flower. The hills ring with joyful song. The feeble grow strong; the frightened take courage. The Lord comes to save us.

SECOND READING: James 5:7 - 10

“Be patient until the coming of the Lord,” said the author of the letter of James. “The Judge is standing before the gates.” Take the prophets as your models in facing hardship. They spoke in the Lord’s name.

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 11:2 - 11

John sent his disciples to ask Jesus, “Are you the one who is to come, or should we look for another?” Jesus answered them affirmatively, pointing to the blind who see, the lame who walk, the lepers who are cured, and the poor who hear from Him good news of hope.

Isaiah sings a song of rebirth today, describing Israel after the exile. Flowers bloom, disabilities are healed, and sorrow turns to joy. The letter of James counsels us to be patient during this transformation. In the Gospel, Jesus reminds John’s disciples that he has done just what Isaiah prophesied. What’s more, the kingdom of heaven promises greatness for all. As we listen to God’s word, let us rejoice, for we know that God is with us.

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday Mass (Sunday Observance):

5:00 PM: Birthday blessings for June Gloria Giffit rb Her family.

Sunday Masses:

7:30 AM: Birthday blessing for Dominik Burman rb Grandma and Poppop Freeman.

10:00 AM: Birthday blessings for Amalia Davis rb The Rene family.

5:00 PM: God’s continued blessings for the Haitian community.

Daily Masses:

Mon. Dec. 16, 7:00 AM: *St. Adelaide*
Rudy Blanchard (*deceased*) rb The children of Mary.

Tues. Dec. 17, 7:00 AM: *St. Olympias*
God’s protection and guidance for Philip St. Luce rb His mother,
Francesca Alcendor.

Wed. Dec. 18, 7:00 AM: *Blessed Anna Rosa Gattorno*
Christalia Wellington (*deceased*) rb The Children of Mary.

Thurs. Dec. 19, 7:00 AM: *Blessed Urban V*
Marie and Blaize Alcendor (*deceased*) rb Francesca Alcendor.

Fri. Dec. 20, 7:00 AM: *St. Dominic of Silos*
Rose and Richard Cook (*deceased*) rb Estelle Farro.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SECOND COLLECTION: This week’s second collection goes towards the *Christmas Flowers*. Next week’s second collection goes towards the *Bishop’s Appeal*. As always we thank you for your generosity.

ETERNAL CANDLE: This week the Eternal Candle is burning *in thanksgiving to God for favors and blessings received, requested by Allison Callwood*. You can request the Eternal Candle for your loved ones’ birthdays or any special occasions.

ADVENT SEASON: Please be reminded 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.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT: The Religious Education Program will be hosting a Christmas concert this **Sunday, December 15, 2019**, at **3:00 p.m.** in Upper Columban Hall. Thank you for your usual support to our Religious Education Program.

SYMPATHY: On behalf of Holy Family parishioners, Rev. Kerly François, Deacon Frank Kearney and Rev. Neil Scantlebury extend sincere sympathy to *Joan Alfred* and family on the passing of her husband, *Hilaire Alfred*, who died on **Tuesday, December 3, 2019**. The funeral service for the late Hilaire Alfred, will take place in **Dominica** on **Thursday, December 19, 2019**. A memorial mass for *Hilaire Alfred* will take place at Holy Family Church on **Thursday, January 16, 2020**. May his soul and the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen.

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

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

CHURCH DECORATION: We will be decorating the church for Christmas this **Friday, December 20, 2019** from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. “Many hands make light work.” Thank you in advance.

FOOD FOR THE POOR: Next weekend we will collect non-perishable items for our less fortunate brothers and sisters within our community. As always, we thank you for your generosity and may God continue to bless you and your family abundantly. Once again, thank you.

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.**

FUNERAL SERVICE/MASS: Please note that effective **January 1, 2020**, the cost for funerals will be **\$300.00** for registered Holy Family members and **\$500.00** for persons who are not members of Holy Family Church. This price raise is in keeping with the other Catholic churches in St. Thomas. Please be guided accordingly.

HOLY FAMILY REGISTRATION FORM: Forms are available at the entrance of the church. Persons who are not registered members of Holy Family church and wish to register as members of Holy Family Church, please find registration forms at the entrance of the church. Thank you for your understanding.

LITURGY AND WORD

The third Sunday of Advent is traditionally called Gaudete Sunday. Gaudete is the Latin word meaning “rejoice.” This Sunday is so named because “Rejoice” is the first word in the entrance antiphon for today’s Mass taken from Philippians 4:4,5: “Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice! The Lord is near.” Some people mark this Sunday on their Advent wreath with a pink candle instead of a purple candle. This Sunday is a joyful reminder that our salvation is near.

This week’s Gospel Reading continues our Advent reflection on the person and message of John the Baptist. Last week we heard John speak about his relationship to the coming Messiah, Jesus. This week, we hear Jesus’ message to John the Baptist, now in prison, about the signs of the kingdom found in Jesus’ ministry and Jesus’ assessment of John’s role in the Kingdom of God.

The Gospel of Matthew tells the story of John’s arrest in chapter 14:3-12. In today’s Gospel, John sends word to Jesus from prison, asking if Jesus is the Messiah for whom he has been waiting. Jesus responds by pointing to the miracles that he has worked and invites John and the other hearers to make their own determination. In his next breath, however, Jesus praises John for his role in preparing the way for Jesus. Then Jesus says that all of those who work for the Kingdom of God will be as great as John and even greater.

Jesus’ message to John about the signs of the kingdom being performed recalls the salvation described by the prophet Isaiah. This passage is a reminder that the beginning of salvation is already mysteriously present to us, but also yet to be fulfilled. Salvation is already in our midst as manifest in the miraculous deeds of Jesus and in the Church. But salvation is also to be fulfilled in the coming reign of God. Even as we observe our world today, we can find glimpses of God’s work among us. Even more, we help to prepare the way for

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: **405**

Last Weekend’s collections

FIRST COLLECTION: \$4,449.00

Retired Religious Fund: \$1,356.35

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

God’s kingdom by our words and our deeds. This message is indeed a cause for rejoicing.



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**.