



## 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

### INTRODUCTION TO THE LITURGY OF THE DAY!

**FIRST READING: Isaiah 56:1, 6 - 7**

The holy mountain, the temple of the Lord, is “a house of prayer for all people.”

**SECOND READING: Romans 11:13 - 15, 29 - 32**

God’s love and mercy are gratuitous; we are all recipients of the benefits of Christ’s life, death, and resurrection.

**GOSPEL READING: Matthew 15:21 - 28**

The Canaanite woman displayed an extraordinary confidence that Jesus would hear and answer her. She possessed an undaunted and persistent faith in the Messiah of Israel.

God’s grace in the world is boundless and always has been. Isaiah tells the Israelites that foreigners will be brought to God’s holy mountain to worship, to pray, and to celebrate. Paul refers to himself as “apostle to the Gentiles,” bringing news of God’s mercy to all. Jesus heals the daughter of the Canaanite woman who persists in her pursuit of him. Let us listen to God’s word and contemplate the boundaries we are called to break down.

### MASS INTENTIONS

#### Saturday Mass (Sunday Observance):

**5:00 PM:** Birthday blessings for Anthony Stridiron, Sr. rb The Johnson and Stridiron families.

#### Sunday Masses:

**7:30 AM:** Phillip Marcellin (*deceased*) rb His wife.

**10:00 AM:** Birthday blessings for Vivian Rene rb The Rene family.

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

#### Daily Masses:

Tues. Aug. 18, 7:00 AM: **St. Jane Frances de Chantal**  
Gene Farro (*deceased*) rb Estelle Farro.

Wed. Aug. 19, 7:00 AM: **St. John Eudes**  
Birthday blessings for Janna Cammie rb Urelca Jn Baptiste.

Thurs. Aug. 20, 7:00 AM: **St. Bernard**  
God’s continued blessings and protection for Ursula Prosper and family.

Fri. Aug. 21, 5:00 PM: **St. Pius X**  
Rose and Richard Cook (*deceased*) rb Estelle Farro.

**BE SAFE! WEAR A MASK! WASH YOUR HANDS!**

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**PLEASE REMEMBER TO WEAR YOUR MASKS AT ALL TIMES AND SOCIAL DISTANCING IS STILL IN EFFECT.**

**ETERNAL CANDLE:** This week the Eternal Candle is burning for **Phillip Marcellin deceased, requested by his wife, Felicinne Marcellin.** You can request the Eternal Candle for your loved ones’ birthdays or any special occasions.

**CASSI HILL:** In lieu of our annual Cassi Hill procession and in observance of The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, this **Sunday, August 16, 2020,** devotion will take place after the 7:30 a.m. mass and the 10:00 a.m. respectively. Please be guided accordingly. Our Lady of Cassi Hill, pray for us.

**CONFIRMATION:** Please be informed that the Sacrament of Confirmation will be conferred on **SUNDAY, AUGUST 30, 2020.** **Please note the change of date.** Thank you.

**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.

**DEVOTIONAL CANDLES:** Please be reminded that blue and red globes are provided for you to place your candles. If the globes are all filled, please refrain from putting your candles on the shelf of our Blessed Mother and the shelf of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

**SYMPATHY:** On behalf of Holy Family parishioners, Rev. Kerly François and the Deacons, Rev. Msgr. Jerome Feudjio extends sincere sympathy to Yvonne Brutus and family on the passing of her husband, **Claudy Brutus,** who died on **Saturday, August 1, 2020.** The funeral service for the late **Claudy Brutus,** will take place on **Thursday, August 27, 2020,** at 10:00 a.m. **Viewing will be at Hurley’s Funeral Home on Wednesday, August 26, 2020, from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.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 the Deacons, Rev. Msgr. Jerome Feudjio extends sincere sympathy to Jose Encarnacion, Sr. and family on the passing of his son **Jose Encarnacion, Jr.,** who died on **Tuesday, August 4, 2020.** The funeral service for the late **Jose Encarnacion, Jr,** will take place on **Friday, September 4, 2020,** at Holy Family church at 10:00 a.m. 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.

**MEDIA MINISTRY:** We are seeking young interested volunteers to join the Media Ministry please contact Mr. Francis Callwood at 340-998-6403.

**FUNERAL SERVICE:** To continue to adhere to the guidelines issued by the CDC and the Department of Health, and with that in mind, we must emphasize that our funeral services are for registered active parishioners only and is limited to ten (10) immediate family members. We would, however, assist any family with the burial at the cemetery. Please be guided accordingly.

### 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

#### **Meditation**

**Do you ever feel “put-off” or ignored by the Lord?**

This passage (**Matthew 15:21**) describes the only occasion in which Jesus ministered outside of Jewish territory. (Tyre and Sidon were fifty miles north of Israel and still exist today in modern Lebanon.) A Gentile woman, a foreigner who was not a member of the Jewish people, puts Jesus on the spot by pleading for his help. At first Jesus seemed to pay no attention to her, and this made his disciples feel embarrassed. Jesus does this to test the woman to awaken faith in her.

#### **Jesus first tests the woman’s faith**

What did Jesus mean by the expression “throwing bread to the dogs”? The Jews often spoke of the Gentiles with arrogance and insolence as “unclean dogs” since the Gentiles did not follow God’s law and were excluded from God’s covenant and favor with the people of Israel. For the Greeks the “dog” was a symbol of dishonor and was used to describe a shameless and audacious woman. There is another reference to “dogs” in Matthew’s Gospel where Jesus says to his disciples, “Do not give to dogs what is holy” (**Matthew 7:6**). Jesus tests this woman’s faith to see if she is earnest in receiving holy things from the hand of a holy God. Jesus, no doubt, spoke with a smile rather than with an insult because this woman immediately responds with wit and faith - “even the dogs eat the crumbs.”

#### **Seek the Lord Jesus with expectant faith**

Jesus praises a Gentile woman for her faith and for her love. She made the misery of her child her own and she was willing to suffer rebuff in order to obtain healing for her loved one. She also had indomitable persistence. Her faith grew in contact with the person of Jesus. She began with a request and she ended on her knees in worshipful prayer to the living God. No one who ever sought Jesus with earnest faith - whether Jew or Gentile - was refused his help. Do you seek the Lord Jesus with expectant faith?

### 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: **188**

#### Last Weekend’s collections

**FIRST COLLECTION: \$3,402.40**

**Thank you for your weekly contribution. We pray God’s continued blessings upon you and your family. Once again, thank you for your generosity.**

### LITURGY AND WORD

#### **Daily Quote from the early church father.**

After our Lord departed from the Jews, he came into the regions of Tyre and Sidon. He left the Jews behind and came to the Gentiles. Those whom he had left behind remained in ruin; those to whom he came obtained salvation in their alienation. And a woman came out of that territory and cried, saying to him, ‘Have pity on me, O Lord, Son of David!’ O great mystery! The Lord came out from the Jews, and the woman came out from her Gentile territory. He left the Jews behind, and the woman left behind idolatry and an impious lifestyle. What they had lost, she found. The one whom they had denied in the law, she professed through her faith. This woman is the mother of the Gentiles, and she knew Christ through faith. Thus on behalf of her daughter (the Gentile people) she entreated the Lord. The daughter had been led astray by idolatry and sin and was severely possessed by a demon.” (**excerpt from INTERPRETATION OF THE GOSPELS 58**)

**“Lord Jesus, your love and mercy knows no bounds. May I trust you always and pursue you with indomitable persistence as this woman did. Increase my faith in your saving power and deliver me from all evil and harm.”**