



**Saint Thomas
Diocese**

Holy Family Catholic Church

394-213 Hidden Valley, St. Thomas
U.S. Virgin Islands 00802

Telephone: (340) 775-1650; Fax (340) 775-1750

Website: www.holyfamilystt.com

Email: holyfamilyusvi@gmail.com



**Holy Family
Church**



Mass Schedule

Monday through Friday.....7:00 a.m.
Saturday (**Vigil**).....5:00 p.m.
Sunday: 7:30 a.m & 10:00 a.m. English
5:00 p.m. Creole/French

Devotions

Holy Hour

Wednesday following Holy Mass

Novena Holy Mass to O.L.P.H.

Wednesday..... 7:00 a.m.

Novena Holy Mass to Sacred Heart

First Friday..... 7:00 a.m

CHURCH DIRECTORY

PASTOR

Rev. Boniface-Blanchard Twaibu

PAROCHIAL VICAR

Rev. Kerly François

Deacon

Rev. Mr. Evans Doway

Parish Secretary: Ms. Carmen A. White

Parish Account.: Ms. Penrose Gardiner

Religious Ed. Director: Ms. M. René

Music Director: Mr. Francis Callwood

Sacristans

Ms. Francesca Alcendor Ms. Silia Erilis

Ms. Beulah Babulal Ms. Viola Williams

Mr. Julio Compere Mr. Austin Walters

Office Hours:

Mon through Fri: 9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m

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.

Faith and Scripture

We are a Roman Catholic family united in the Grace and peace of Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, and we are a parish who believe and live the word of God as the truth that shepherds us.

Family and Service

We believe family relationship is important and vow to do all we can to champion Christian family values.

Worship and Sacrifice

We build the Kingdom of God's Love by proclaiming His Words, spreading Catholic Devotions, celebrating the Sacraments, and sharing the Eucharist; we surrender our lives to Christ as a sacrifice of praise, laying down our lives as He did.

Summary

We promise to preach what we practice and practice what we preach:

"Love God and love your neighbor as yourself."

**GAUDETE SUNDAY
DECEMBER 12, 2021**

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MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, December 11

5:00 PM. - Frances Matthew: Birthday blessings/ Her husband Matthew.

SUNDAY, December 12

7:30 AM. + Lesford Smith, Christie Smith, Herbert Smith & Royston Jno-Baptiste: Repose of soul/ Joan A. Smith Jno-Baptiste.

10:00 AM. - Chris René & Amalia Davis: Birthday blessings/ The René family.

5:00 PM. + Dorvillier Cétoute, Hylophene Etienne, Toutoune Labady & Bertanie Etienne: Repose of soul/ Kettelie Etienne.

MONDAY, December 13

7:00 AM. + Milue Casimir: Repose of soul/ Her family.

TUESDAY, December 14

7:00 AM. - June Gloria Giffit: Birthday blessings/ Her daughter & granddaughter

WEDNESDAY, December 15

7:00 AM. + Kathleen Farro: Repose of soul/ Estelle Farro.

THURSDAY, December 16

7:00 AM. + Rev. Thomas Hoke: Repose of soul / Mountaineer Priests Association.

6:00 PM. - *Advent Penitential Service*

FRIDAY, December 17

7:00 AM. - Rose Labadie: Thanksgiving, guidance & protection.

SATURDAY, December 18

5:00 PM. - Dominic Berman: Birthday blessings/ Grandma & Poppop.

SCRIPTURE READINGS OF THE WEEK

SUNDAY: Zep 3:14-18a
Phil 4:4-7
Lk 3:10-18

MONDAY: Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a
Saint Lucy, Virgin and Martyr Mt 21:23-27

TUESDAY: Zep 3:1-2, 9-13
Saint John of the Cross, Mt 21:28-32
Priest and Doctor of the Church

WEDNESDAY: Is 45:6c-8, 18, 21c-25
Lk 7:18b-23

THURSDAY: Is 54:1-10
Lk 7:24-30

FRIDAY: Gn 49:2, 8-10
Mt 1:1-17

SATURDAY: Jer 23:5-8
Mt 1:18-25

PRAY FOR THE SICK & SHUT-INS

HOSPITAL:

OFF ISLAND: Bertina Lestrade, Enid Blyden, Isabel Dublin, Mary Lewis, Philomen Baron, Cyril Eugene, Eugenie England, Helen Bruney, Maggie Dolphin.

AT HOME: Deacon Peter Laurencin, Rita Ledee, Rose Celestine, Martina Lewis, Olivia Gumbs, Bernice Knight, Vernelle Gumbs, Evelyn Simon, Veronica Sealey, Gerard Henry, Grace Thompson, Andrea Victorine, Josephine James, Stanislaus Liverpool, Meraldo C. Gonzales, Baby Elizabeth Dolphin, Cynthia Johnrose, Iona Vanterpool, Josefina Donastorg, Owen Johnrose, Sonia Herbert, Ophelia Bannis, Lola Warrington, Kathleen Thompson, John George, Roserita Laparol, Irene Morris, Joe Toussaint, Mercedes Hodge.

Geri Care Senior Residential Home:

EBENEZER HOME: Cleota Hill.

(Please call the Church Office to add or remove names to/from this list)

MASS ATTENDANCE –December 4 & 5, 2021

Saturday 5:00pm 48/ **Sunday** 7:30am 75/ 10:00 a.m. 61/ 5:00pm 55/
Total 239

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

Last Weekend's collections

FIRST COLLECTION: \$3900.31

SECOND COLLECTION: \$1381.00

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

SECOND COLLECTION FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER

Renovation Fund December 04-05
Retirement Fund December 11-12
Christmas Flowers December 18-19
Music Ministry December 25-26

Announcements



Seven Days Sanctuary Lamp Devotion

The Sanctuary Lamp which burns in the Sanctuary of our church, the reminder of the Lord's Presence in the Most Holy Eucharist, will burn from December 12th to December 18th for birthday blessings for June Gloria Giff.

Preparation of Self for Holy Mass

The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass is the highest catholic prayer. The celebration of Mass makes present for us the mystery of Christ's passion, death and resurrection. It follows that personal preparation is important before the beginning of Holy Mass. For this reason, parishioners are urged to accommodate this moment of self preparation before Holy Mass by making an effort to attend Holy Mass **in time**, that is early enough and to engage in silent meditation and personal prayer. Personal prayer promotes and improves our participation in the liturgy. Kindly, let us refrain ourselves from socializing before Holy Mass. We thank you for your consideration.

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Saturday: 5:00 p.m.: Pierre Joseph/ Sunday: 7:30 a.m.: Vincia St. Jean/10:00 a.m.: Jeanyiah Andrew/ 5:00 p.m.: Antony Le Grand

Parish Advent Penitential Service

Our Parish Penitential Service will be held this Thursday, December 16th at 6:00 p.m. The Penitential service will start with the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament followed by individual confessions. Let us fill in the valley of our sins with the mercy of God through the Sacrament of Penance. Fr. John Mark and Fr. Serapio will join us to hear confessions.

Altar Servers' Rite of Installation

Congratulations to our newly installed Altar servers. We thank Ms. Claudelle Mathurin for accepting to serve as the coordinator of Altar Servers' Society in our Parish. She will be assisted by Ms. Nehemie Lénéus and Mr. Austin Walters. Thank you all and may God bless your ministry.

Choir Rehearsal

Our weekly Choir rehearsal resumes this Tuesday, December 14 at 7:00 p.m. in preparation for the Solemnity of the Nativity of our Lord.

Lectors' Meeting

All lectors: existing members and newly enrolled are required to attend an important meeting **on Wednesday, December 15 at 6:30 p. m.** in the Church! Kindly contact the Church Office, if you are unable to attend.

Youth Mass

Youth Mass will be held next Sunday. All our youths are required to attend the 10:00 a.m Holy Mass. Parents, we still rely on your support.

Prayer Group

Our last week Prayer Meeting's attendance turned out very good. Please join us for praise and worship every Monday at 6:30 p.m. right here in church.

Bulletin announcements must be submitted to the Church Office by Wednesday at noon

Parish Information

Sacrament of Baptism

Fourth Sunday of each month. Please register your children at the Church Office. Present a copy of the child(ren) birth certificate(s). A minimum of 4 classes is required.

Confraternity of Christian Doctrine (CCD) Classes

Classes are held every Saturday during the school year and begin with attendance and instruction in the lower level of Columban Hall at 9:00 a.m.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) Classes

RCIA is the journey of faith by which interested persons become members of the Roman Catholic Church. The program instructs adults to enter into full communion with the Catholic Church through Baptism and/or Confirmation and Holy Communion. To register, please call the church office at (340) 775-1650.

Sacrament of Penance

Confession is the sacrament that allows us to admit our faults and develop humility, but the most profound part is we get to experience Christ's gift of mercy.

Confession is available every day by appointment.

Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick

Please call the church office at (340) 775-1650 whenever a family member or friend is seriously ill or hospitalized.

Funerals

All funeral services begin at 10:00 a.m. No funerals are held on weekends. Arrangements must be made with the Church before funeral arrangements with the funeral home. Viewing in church is suspended until further notice! We encourage viewing at funeral home

Sacrament of Marriage

Please make arrangements with Pastor 6 months before your wedding by calling the church office.

Parish Registration

Parishioners who are 18 years and older are invited to register at the Church Office as well as become active and contributing members. We would like to maintain an up-to-date listing of all Holy Family parishioners. Registration also helps in providing quick services for the request and proof of miscellaneous church letters for individuals, Baptism, Confirmation, etc.

FROM THE Pastor's Desk

My Dear Parishioners,

As we come closer to the feast of Christmas, the church encourages us to rejoice because God is about to fulfill his promise to us. However, this does not mean we have come to the end of our preparation. Instead, it is a way of urging us to be more focused and courageous. It is also a way of assuring us that our preparations shall soon be rewarded.

Today, all our readings exalt us to be joyful as we wait for the Lord's coming. The first reading captures the festive mood of this season and calls us to shout for joy! The reason is simple! Our Lord is coming with lots of good packages like justice, liberation, peace, etc. Above all, he is ready to visit us personally if we dispose of ourselves well.

The psalmist equally taps on the exact string: "Sing and shout for joy for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel. It is indeed a time to cast off all moody or gloomy faces, a time to be cheerful, a time to be radiant, and a time to celebrate joyfully.

Paul, the apostle, understood this very well and so insists: "Rejoice in the Lord always and again I say rejoice!" The joy that Paul speaks of here a very profound sentiment that proceeds from a solid faith in God and his promises to us.

We have our role to play for our joy to be complete. This role is what John the Baptist spelled out in today's gospel. We must be charitable, forgiving, caring, just, modest in all our actions, seek reconciliation and peace. **Blessed Gaudete Sunday to you!**

HOLY FAMILY MINISTRIES & REPRESENTATIVES

- Altar Servers: Claudelle Mathurin, Nehemie Lénés, Austin Walters (TBD)
- Readers: Francis Callwood (TBD)
- Holy Family Adult Choir: Wende Rouse
- EMHC: Mona Bedminster
- Children of Mary: Eubald Rene
- Charismatic Prayer Group: Orville Rouse
- Legion of Mary: Viola Williams
- St. Joseph's Workers: Alma Wells
- Decoration & Cleaning Ministry: Orville Rouse
- Ministry to the Sick: Alicia Douté
- Ministry of Hospitality (Greeters/Ushers): Alma Wells
- Social & Event Planning
- Saint Vincent De Paul Society

Prayer of Thanksgiving following Harrican Season

God our Father, all the elements of nature obey your command. We praise and thank you for your protection during the hurricane season. We ask you again to guide us through a new year free of earthquakes, floods and other natural disasters. Bless our families and bring peace to all nations. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. 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.

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