



**Saint Thomas
Diocese**

Holy Family Catholic Church

394-213 Hidden Valley, St. Thomas
U.S. Virgin Islands 00802
Telephone: (340) 775-1650
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**Holy Family
Church**

I. What is Lent:



- ♦ **Lent is a forty-day liturgical season that initiates the most sacred part of the Christian year.**
- ♦ **Lent begins on Ash Wednesday and concludes on the Great Vigil of Easter.**
- ♦ **Sundays are not included in the forty-day count because every Sunday is a joyful celebration of our Lord's resurrection.**
- ♦ **During Lent, Christians meditate on the great paschal mystery -- the salvation God won for us sinners by the suffering, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.**

Mass Schedule

Monday through Friday.....7:00 a.m.
Saturday (**Vigil**).....6:00 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. Robert Kenfack Ngnintedem

PAROCHIAL VICAR

Rev. Kerly François

Admin. Assistant: 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 Mr. Austin Walters
Mr. Julio Comperè

Office Hours:

Mon – Fri: 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 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."

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT
FEBRUARY 26, 2023

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MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, February 25

6:00 PM – **Joel Clement Giff** → Birthday blessings rb the Giff family
 – **Fleur Richards** → Birthday blessings rb her mother, Urelco Jean Baptiste

SUNDAY, February 26

7:30 AM – **Patsy Grell** → Health, healing, & God's continued blessings rb her family
 – **Richey Placide** → Birthday blessings rb his father, Matthew Placide
 10:00 AM – **Elrina René, Caitlin Roberts, Kathleen René-Grant, Hènvile Alexander, Raenay Grant, & Kaeson Grant-Roberts** → Birthday blessings rb the René family
 5:00 PM – **Claudi Conseillant** → Birthday blessings rb his wife, Nadia Juste
 – **Anthony Estime** → Birthday blessings rb Silia Erilis

MONDAY, February 27

7:00 AM † **Agnes Jno-Baptiste, Thomas Desir, Darnley Norville, & Englebert Joseph** → Repose of Souls rb the René family

TUESDAY, February 28

7:00 AM † **Elma Casimir** → Repose of Soul rb Maynor Eusebe

WEDNESDAY, March 1

7:00 AM – **The Rouse Family** → God's continued blessings

THURSDAY, March 2

7:00 AM † **Josefina Donastorg** → Repose of Soul

FRIDAY, March 3

7:00 AM – **Thomas Casimir** → Birthday blessings rb the Casimir family

SATURDAY, March 4

6:00 PM † **Lloyd Casimir** → Repose of Soul rb the Casimir family
 † **Kenneth Soodeen** → Repose of Soul rb Aunt Mary & children

SCRIPTURE READINGS OF THE WEEK

SUNDAY:	Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7 Rom 5:12-19 Mt 4:1-11
MONDAY:	Lv 19:1-2, 11-18 Mt 25:31-46
TUESDAY:	Is 55:10-11 Mt 6:7-15
WEDNESDAY:	Jon 3:1-10 Lk 11:29-32
THURSDAY:	Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25 Mt 7:7-12
FRIDAY:	Ez 18:21-28 Mt 5:20-26
SATURDAY:	Dt 26:16-19 Mt 5:43-48

NEXT SUNDAY:

2nd Sunday of Lent

Gn 12:1-4a
2 Tm 1:8b-10
Mt 17:1-9

PRAY FOR THE SICK & SHUT-INS

HOSPITAL:

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

AT HOME: Carol Baron, Rose Celestine, Baby Elizabeth Dolphin, John George, Rolland George, Meraldo C. Gonzales, Olivia Gumbs, Vernelle Gumbs, Gerard Henry, Mercedes Hodge, Cynthia Johnrose, Owen Johnrose, Pauline Jolly, Bernice Knight, Rita Ledee, Cleopha Rawlins, Veronica Sealey, Evelyn Simon, Keith Steele, Paquita Steele, Kathleen Thompson, Mildred Turbe, Iona Vanterpool,

EBENEZER HOME: Cleota Hill.

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

Church Attendance: 344 persons attended Holy Mass last weekend.

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

Last Weekend's Collections

OFFERING: \$4,068.00

CHILDREN'S OFFERING: \$85.00

SECOND COLLECTION: \$1,124.02

SECURITY FENCE: \$2,962.00

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

Thank you for your generosity!



SECOND COLLECTION FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY

Black & Indian Mission February 4-5
 Bishop's Appeal February 11-12
 Property Insurance & Security Feb. 18-19
 Restoration Fund February 22
 Operation Rice Bowl February 22
 Capital Improvements February 25-26
 Restoration Fund March 4-5

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 **February 25th to March 3rd** for God's continued blessings and protection for **Grace Mason**.

Altar Flowers: There will be no altar flowers during Lent.

Bishop's Appeal 2023, Week 1: On February 22nd, the Church throughout the world began the holy season of Lent with Masses on Ash Wednesday. Lent is a special time when we repent of our sins by our contrition. It is a special time when we show our love for God by giving alms. Share your blessings this Lent with those who need your help by supporting the poor and needy through the annual Bishop's Appeal.

Way of the Cross: Fridays at 6:00 p.m. The Way of the Cross is one of the most profound church devotions and exercises of piety during Lent. Please make it your Lenten resolution to attend the Way of the Cross every Friday and to fulfil your Sunday obligation by attending Holy Mass. Various members of our Parish Ministries will be leading the Way of the Cross.

- February 24: Lectors and Parish Council
- March 3: Children of Mary and Sons of Abraham
- March 10: Haitian and Dominican communities
- March 17: St. Joseph Workers and Ushers
- March 24: Sacristans and Mass servants
- March 31: St. Vincent de Paul and Prayer Group
- April 7: CCD and Adult Choir

OLPH Lenten Mission: Our Lady of Perpetual Help is hosting a Lenten Mission **from March 6 – 8, 2023 at 6:00 P.M.** The guest speaker is Father John Paul Mary from EWTN. Please come out and listen as we prepare for Easter.

The 250th Jubilee Committee is announcing that they are taking orders for 250th Jubilee T-Shirts the weekends of **February 25/26** and **March 4/5**. Jubilee Committee members will be available to take orders after the masses. Payment is due at the time the order is placed. Please contact the church office for additional information.

First Holy Communion: Our First Holy Communion Celebration will take place on **Pentecost Sunday, May 28, 2023**.

Confirmation: His Lordship Jerome Feudjio, Bishop of the Diocese of Saint Thomas in the Virgin Islands will convey the sacrament of Confirmation at Holy Family on Sunday, **Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ, Sunday, June 4, 2023**.

Non-Perishable Food Items: Non-perishable food items will be collected **this weekend** at each Holy Mass during offertory. Proceeds will benefit Catholic Charities and shut-ins of our Parish. We thank you for your generosity.

Church announcements must be submitted to the Church Office via email by Tuesday.

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)'s 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 now available. However, 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,

First Reading

Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7: Eve and Adam eat from the tree that was forbidden to them by God.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 51:3-4,5-6,12-13,17: A prayer for mercy

Second Reading

Romans 5:12-19: Through the obedience of Jesus, many will be made righteous. (shorter form: Romans 5:12,17-19)

Gospel Reading

Matthew 4:1-11: Jesus fasts for 40 days in the desert and is tempted by the devil.

In each of the three Synoptic Gospels (Mark, Matthew, and Luke), after Jesus' baptism by John, Jesus is reported to have gone to the desert to fast and pray for 40 days. In each case, while in the desert, Jesus is tempted by the devil.

Matthew and Luke give more detail than Mark does, but each one tells how the devil tempts Jesus in the desert. In Matthew, as in Luke, the devil presents three temptations to Jesus. The devil tempts Jesus to use his power to appease his hunger; he tempts Jesus to put God's promise of protection to the test;

and he offers Jesus all of the kingdoms of the world if Jesus will worship the devil. In each case, Jesus resists the temptation, rebuking the devil with words from Scripture.

The account of Jesus' temptation in the desert is filled with allusions and parallels to the Old Testament, including the story of the people of Israel. The Israelites spent 40 years wandering in the desert in Exodus, for example, and Jesus spends 40 days in the desert. As the Israelites were tempted during the Exodus, so too is Jesus tempted.

Each temptation offers insight into both God and the human condition. Jesus' rejection of the temptations shows that he will not put God to the test. Grounding himself on the word and authority of Scripture, Jesus rebukes the devil, confident in God's protection and faithfulness.

As we start our journey through Lent, our Sunday readings call us to adopt the same confidence that Jesus had in the face of temptation: God's word alone will suffice; God's promise of protection can be trusted; God alone is God.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Anima Christi

Soul of Christ, sanctify me. Body of Christ, save me.
Blood of Christ, inebriate me. Water from the side of Christ, wash me.
Passion of Christ, strengthen me. O good Jesus, hear me.
Within Thy sacred wounds hide me. From the wicked enemy defend me.
In the hour of my death call me and bid me come to Thee that with Thy Saints I may praise Thee forever and ever. **Amen.**

Prayer of St. Francis

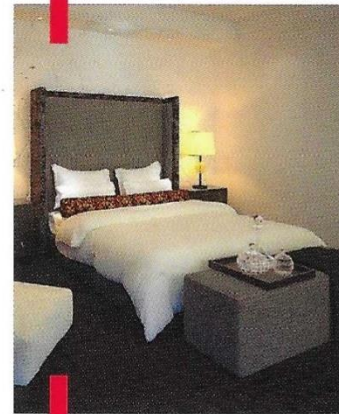
Lord, make me an instrument of Thy peace,
Where there is hatred, let me sow love, Where there is injury, pardon,
Where there is doubt, faith, Where there is despair, hope,
Where there is darkness, light, Where there is sadness, joy.
O divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to
Console, to be understood as to understand, to be loved as to love.
For it is in giving that we receive,
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
It is in dying that we are born to eternal life. **Amen.**

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