



**Saint Thomas
Diocese**

Holy Family Catholic Church

394-213 Hidden Valley, St. Thomas
U.S. Virgin Islands 00802
Telephone: (340) 775-1650
Website: www.holyfamilystt.com
Email: holyfamilyusvi@gmail.com



**Holy Family
Church**



Mass Schedule

Monday No Mass
Tuesday – 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. Modeste Digwou

Admin. Assistant: Ms. Carmen A. White

Accountant: 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."

TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
AUGUST 20, 2023

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MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, August 19

6:00 PM – **Jana Camine** → Birthday blessings rb the family

SUNDAY, August 20

7:30 AM – **Wende Rouse** → Birthday blessings rb the Children of Mary

– **Vashanti Francis** → Birthday blessings rb her grandma & family

10:00 AM – **the Louis family** → God's blessings & protection

5:00 PM → NO MASS

MONDAY, August 21 → NO MASS

TUESDAY, August 22

7:00 AM – **Carva Moore** → Birthday blessings rb her mother, children, and home circle

WEDNESDAY, August 23

7:00 AM – **Deacon Ronan Sarmiento** → God's continued blessings, guidance & protection

– **Miranda Jones** → Birthday blessings rb the Johnson family

THURSDAY, August 24

7:00 AM † **Susan Speights** → Repose of Soul rb the Rouse family

FRIDAY, August 25

7:00 AM – **Clothilde Pharoah** → God's help & protection rb Clothilde

SATURDAY, August 26

6:00 PM – **Irene Morris** → Birthday blessings

– **Lizette Antoine** → Birthday blessings rb her mother

– **Olga & Alvin McBean** → 61st wedding anniversary

SCRIPTURE READINGS OF THE WEEK

SUNDAY:

Is 56:1, 6-7

Rom 11:13-15, 29-32

Mt 15:21-28

MONDAY: (no Mass)

Jgs 2:11-19

Saint Pius X, Pope

Mt 19:16-22

TUESDAY:

Jgs 6:11-24a

Queenship of the

Mt 19:23-30

Blessed Virgin Mary

WEDNESDAY:

Jgs 9:6-15

Mt 20:1-16

THURSDAY:

Rv 21:9b-14

Feast of Saint Bartholomew, Apostle

Jn 1:45-51

FRIDAY:

Ru 1:1, 3-6, 14b-16, 22

Mt 22:34-40

SATURDAY:

Ru 2:1-3, 8-11; 4:13-17

Mt 23:9b, 10b

NEXT SUNDAY:

Is 22:19-23

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

Rom 11:33-36

Mt 16:13-20

PRAY FOR THE SICK & SHUT-INS

OFF ISLAND: Jeaniyah Andrew, Helen Bruney, Eugenie England, Juliana George, Olivia Gumbs, Thomas Johnson, Mary Lewis, Veronica Sealey, Joseph Toussaint

AT HOME: Carol Baron, Philomen Baron, James Bellot, Rose Celestine, Baby Elizabeth Dolphin, Maggie Dolphin, John George, Meraldo C. Gonzales, Vernelle Gumbs, Gerard Henry, Mercedes Hodge, Cynthia Johnrose, Owen Johnrose, Pauline Jolly, Bernice Knight, Rita Ledee, Cleopha Rawlings, Evelyn Simon, Keith Steele, Paquita Steele, Anthony Stridiron Sr., Kathleen Thompson, Iona Vanterpool, Maitland (Grace) Wattley.

EBENEZER HOME: Cleota Hill.

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

Church Attendance: 296 persons attended Holy Mass last weekend.

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

Last Weekend's Offerings

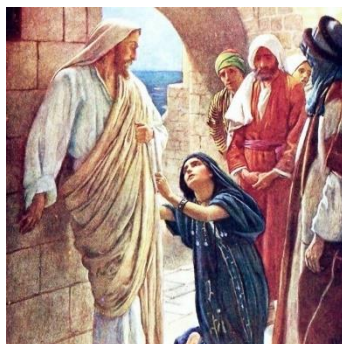
OFFERING: \$3,661.50

CHILDREN'S OFFERING: \$37.00

SECOND COLLECTION: \$970.82

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

Thank you for your generosity!



SECOND COLLECTION FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST

Restoration Fund August 5-6

Bishop's Appeal August 12-13

Property Insurance August 19-20

Security Fence August 19-20

Capital Improvements August 26-27

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 **August 19th to August 25th** for the Repose of Soul of **Philip Marcellin**, requested by his wife, Felicine.

Altar Flowers: Parishioners are encouraged to assist in beautifying the church by sponsoring flowers for any special event that you or a family member may be celebrating. Please contact the office of your intent.

Cassi Hill Pilgrimage: Holy Family Parish invites its Parishioners, all Parishes, and the entire community to participate in the 76th Annual Pilgrimage of Our Lady of Cassi Hill. The pilgrimage will take place **this Sunday, August 20, 2023 at 2:00 PM** from the Four Winds Plaza to the Shrine. Thereafter, a closing Mass will be celebrated in the Church at **3:30 PM**. Light refreshments will be served in the lower Columban Hall following the Mass.

Meeting of Ministries: A meeting has been called for leaders of all ministries of the church on **Wednesday, August 23, 2023 at 6:00 PM** in the lower Columban Hall. All leaders are expected to be in attendance.

Leaders are also asked to submit to the church office via email by **August 23, 2023** the dates, time, and location where meetings are held. This information is for security purposes and so we can know who is on the church property at any given time. You are also asked to contact the church office when your ministry will not be meeting. Non-adherence to this directive may result in you not being able to access the property because the gates will be closed. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

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

Baptisms: Baptisms will take place the third Sunday of every month. Preparation for Baptism will be held September 8 and 15 at 6:00 PM in the lower Columban Hall. Interested persons can obtain Baptism forms from the church office.

Religious Education: CCD classes will begin soon. Teachers are needed; interested parishioners should contact the church office.

Necrologium: Holy Family Parish Community extends sincere sympathy to **Wendy Smith Benjamin** and family on the passing of her husband, **Reginald "Ray" Benjamin**, who died on Sunday, August 6, 2023 at age 62. His funeral service will take place on **Monday, August 21, 2023 at 10:00 AM** at Holy Family Church. May his soul and the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen.

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 2 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 the 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.

Necrologium, Continued: Holy Family Parish Community extends sincere sympathy to **Malissa Neille, Jettanyia Gumbs**, and family on the passing of their sister/mother, **Mauritzer Gumbs**, who died on Sunday, July 23, 2023 at age 60. Her funeral service will take place on **Friday, September 1, 2023 at 10:00 AM** at Holy Family Church. May her soul and the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen.

FROM THE Pastor's Desk

Dear God's people, precious members of the Friendliest Parish,

First Reading: *Isaiah 56:1,6-7*
The Lord reveals his salvation to all.

Responsorial Psalm: *Psalm 67:2-3,5-6,8*
All the nations will praise God.

Second Reading: *Romans 11:13-15,29-32*
God's favor to Israel is irrevocable.

Gospel Reading: *Matthew 15:21-28*
Jesus heals the daughter of the Canaanite woman because of her great faith.

Background on the Gospel Reading

Last week we read about Jesus walking on the water and the disciples' confession of faith that Jesus is the Son of God. If we were reading Matthew's entire Gospel, we would have read about Jesus' debate with the Pharisees about Jewish purity laws. Jesus argues that it is not what goes into us that makes us unclean; he is referring to the strict Jewish dietary rules. Instead, our words and our actions—what comes out of us—make us unclean because they emerge from a heart that is unclean.

Knowing about Jesus' debate with the Pharisees helps us to understand today's Gospel. In fact, the story heightens the surprise and shock we feel as we hear Jesus' exchange with the Canaanite woman. The woman, who is not Jewish, approaches Jesus, requesting that he heal her demon-possessed daughter. At first Jesus ignores her; he says nothing. The disciples ask Jesus to send her away, and Jesus agrees, remarking that he was sent to minister to the Jews alone.

The woman persists, paying homage to Jesus, and yet Jesus denies her request again. He even insults her, using a Jewish word of derision for Gentiles, "dog." But the woman cleverly turns Jesus' insult into an affirmation of faith. Only then does Jesus grant her request and heal her daughter.

Jesus' unresponsiveness to this woman may strike us as uncharacteristic or shocking. Yet in Matthew's Gospel, Jesus' ministry is directed primarily to the people of Israel. At only a very few points, such as the one found in today's Gospel, do we find Jesus anticipating the later Christian ministry to the rest of the world.

Behind Matthew's text we can hear this early Christian community's struggle to understand how God's selection of Israel is consistent with two events: Israel's rejection of Jesus and the Gentiles' acceptance of Jesus. Just as Jesus was surprised by the faith expressed by the Canaanite woman, so too the first Christians were surprised that the Gentiles would receive the salvation God offered through Christ.

The faith that the Canaanite woman expresses is an affirmation of and confidence in God's abundant mercy. Yes, salvation comes through Israel, but it overflows for the benefit of all.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

blessed

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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. Suffer me not to be separated from Thee.
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.**

Carlos Owner
Jawad Idheileh

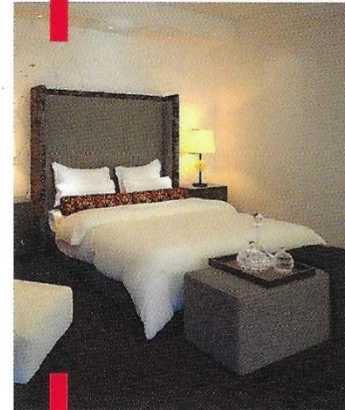
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COLUMBAN HALL**

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