



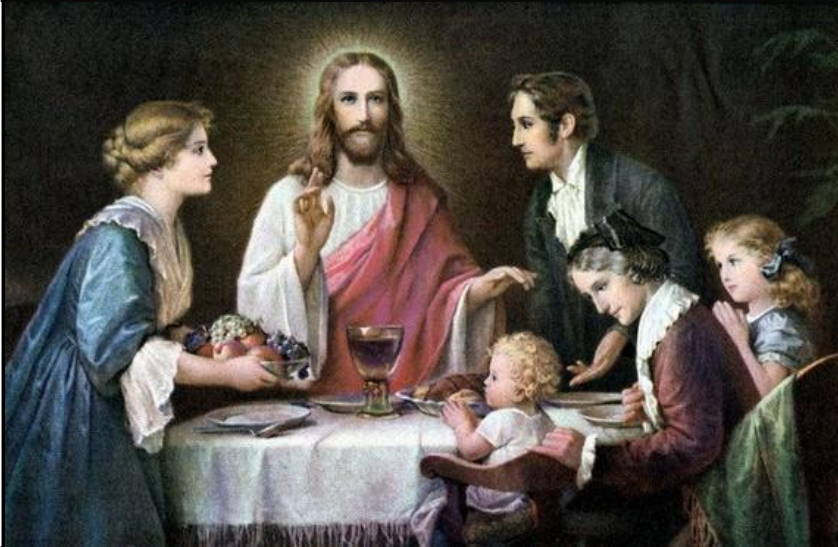
**Saint Thomas  
Diocese**

# Holy Family Catholic Church

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

### PARISH ADMINISTRATOR

Rev. Fr. Modeste Digwou  
(340) 203-0607

**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."

**TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**  
**SEPTEMBER 10, 2023**

# TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

## SEPTEMBER 10, 2023

### WEEKLY REFLECTION

**First Reading:** Ezekiel 33:7-9

**Responsorial Psalm:** Psalms 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9

**Second Reading:** Romans 13:8-10

**Gospel:** Matthew 18:15-20

*Dear Brothers and Sisters,*

The Gospel this Sunday [*23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A*], taken from Matthew, Chapter 18, presents the theme of **brotherly correction within the community of believers**: that is, **how I must correct another Christian when he does what is not good**. Jesus teaches us that, **should my Christian brother commit a sin against me, offend me, I must be charitable toward him and, first of all, speak with him personally**, explain to him what he said or did that was wrong. **What if the brother doesn't listen to me?** Jesus proposes a progressive intervention: first, return and speak to him with two or three other people, so he may be more aware of his error; if, despite this, he does not accept the admonition, the community must be told; and **should he also refuse to listen to the community, he must be made aware of the rift and estrangement that he himself has caused, weakening the communion with his brothers in the faith**.

The approach is one of **sensitivity, prudence, humility, attention towards the one who committed a fault, to avoid wounding or killing the brother with words**.

**The purpose is to help the person realize what he has done, and that through his fault he has offended not only one, but everyone. But it also helps us to free ourselves from anger or resentment which only causes harm.**

To insult is not Christian. Understood? To insult is not Christian.

Actually, **before God we are all sinners and in need of forgiveness. All of us. Indeed, Jesus told us not to judge. Fraternal correction is a mark of the love and communion which must reign in the Christian community**. The same awareness that enables me to recognize the fault of another, even before that, reminds me that I have likewise made mistakes and I am often wrong.

**This is why, at the beginning of Mass, every time, we are called before the Lord to recognize that we are sinners, expressing through words and gestures sincere repentance of the heart**. And we say: "Have mercy on me, Lord. I am a sinner! I confess to Almighty God my sins." And we don't say: "Lord, have mercy on this man who is beside me, or this woman, who are sinners." No! "Have mercy on me!" **We are all sinners and in need of the Lord's forgiveness.**

**May the Virgin Mary help us to make fraternal correction a healthy practice**, so that in our communities, new fraternal relationships, founded on mutual forgiveness and above all on the invincible power of God's mercy, may be instilled.

*(Excerpt from the catechesis of Pope Francis's Address on September 7, 2014 during the Wednesday Angelus) By Fr. Modeste D.*

### SCRIPTURE READINGS OF THE WEEK

<b>MONDAY:</b> (no Mass)	Col 1:24–2:3 Lk 6:6-11
<b>TUESDAY:</b> <i>Most Holy Name of Mary</i>	Col 2:6-15 Lk 6:12-19
<b>WEDNESDAY:</b> <i>Saint John Chrysostom, Bishop and Doctor of the Church</i>	Col 3:1-11 Lk 6:20-26
<b>THURSDAY:</b> <i>Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross</i>	Nm 21:4b-9 Phil 2:6-11 Jn 3:13-17
<b>FRIDAY:</b> <i>Our Lady of Sorrows</i>	1 Tm 1:1-2, 12-14 Jn 19:25-27
<b>SATURDAY:</b> <i>Saints Cornelius, Pope, and Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs</i>	1 Tm 1:15-17 Lk 6:43-49
<b>NEXT SUNDAY:</b> <i>24<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	Sir 27:30—28:7 Rom 14:7-9 Mt 18:21-35

### MASS INTENTIONS

#### SATURDAY, September 9

6:00 PM † **George Warrington** → Repose of Soul rb Lola Warrington

#### SUNDAY, September 10

7:30 AM – **Noreen Joseph** → In thanksgiving to God for his blessings on her birthday

10:00 AM – **Marguerite René** → Birthday blessings rb the René family

5:00 PM – **Rodney Badeau** → Birthday blessings rb his mother, Angele

MONDAY, September 11 → NO MASS

#### TUESDAY, September 12

7:00 AM – **Lorraine Giff** → Birthday blessings rb the Giff family

– **Theresa James** → Birthday blessings rb her mother, Carrie

#### WEDNESDAY, September 13

7:00 AM † **Holy Souls in Purgatory** → rb Serge La Place

#### THURSDAY, September 14

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

#### FRIDAY, September 15

7:00 AM – **Gersha Eusebe** → Birthday blessings rb Maynor

#### SATURDAY, September 16

6:00 PM † **Holy Souls in Purgatory** → rb Denise La Place

# 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 **September 9<sup>th</sup> to September 15<sup>th</sup>** for birthday blessings and continued healing for **Omar Renal**, requested by his mother, Marie.

**Altar Flowers:** Parishioners are encouraged to assist in beautifying the church by sponsoring flowers for any special event. Please contact the office of your intent.

**Our Lady of Sorrows:** The 7:00 AM Mass on **Friday, September 15, 2023** will be held at the Shrine. All parishioners are invited to attend.

**Infant Baptisms:** Infant Baptisms will take place the **third Sunday** of every month. The next preparation for Baptism will be held on **Friday, September 15** at **6:00 PM** in the lower Columban Hall. Interested persons can obtain Baptism forms from the church office.

**Hurricane Procession:** There will be a hurricane procession around the church on **Sunday, September 24, 2023**, following the 10:00 AM Mass.

**Holy Archangels Triduum:** There will be a triduum prayer of the Archangels Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael following the 7:00 am Masses from **Wednesday, September 27** through **Friday, September 29, 2023**.

**Restrooms:** We are asking for people with plumbing skills to assist with the building of the new restrooms, and for donations of 3 toilets, 2 urinals, and 2 face basins. Thanks for your generosity.

**Special Collection (Security):** A special collection will be taken up for fencing the property **next weekend** at all Masses. Thank you for your generosity in helping to secure the property.

## 5 REASONS WHY WE SHOULD PHYSICALLY ATTEND HOLY MASS

1. Sunday is the day of the Lord.
2. God told us to keep his day holy.
3. To adore God, thank Him, ask Him pardon for our sins.
4. To receive God in Holy Communion as nourishment for our soul if we are in the state of grace.
5. To love God, make Him happy, and as a consequence, be happy ourselves and know that we are loved by him above all.

**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.



## Pray For the Sick & Shut-ins

**OFF ISLAND:** Jeanyiah 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., Iona Vanterpool, Maitland (Grace) Wattley.

**EBENEZER HOME:** Cleota Hill.

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

### SECOND COLLECTION FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER

Restoration Fund ..... September 2-3  
Monthly School Support ..... September 9-10  
Property Insurance ..... September 16-17  
Security Fence ..... September 16-17  
Capital Improvements ..... September 23-24

## Prayer During Hurricane Season

*(To be said after Dismissal)*

God our Father, all the elements of nature obey your command. Keep us safe from the danger of hurricanes and all the natural disasters. Let us always feel the presence of your love. May we be secure in your protection and turn our tears into praise of your goodness. Grant this through Christ our Lord. 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.

**Church Attendance:** 274 persons attended Holy Mass last weekend.

### STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

Last Weekend's Offerings

OFFERING: \$3,768.00

6:00 PM: \$628.00 7:30 AM: \$948.00

10:00 AM: \$2,053.00 5:00 PM: \$0.00

SECOND COLLECTION: \$1,562.76

SECURITY FENCE TOTAL: \$45,745.80

Online giving can be made through our website at:

[www.holyfamilystt.com](http://www.holyfamilystt.com)

Thank you for your generosity!

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

## PATRONIZE OUR ADVERTISERS

### 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

• 6207 Peter's Rest, St. Croix, USVI

• Tutu Park Mall, St. Thomas, USVI

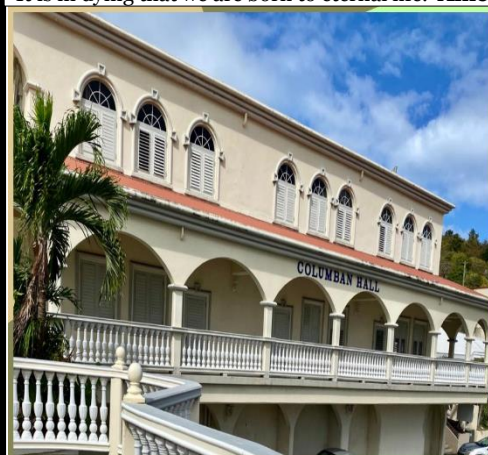
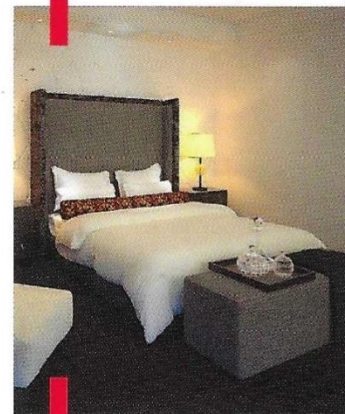
• Anna's Retreat, St. Thomas, USVI

S: 340.693.0016 • C: 340.642.7926

Carlosusvi@yahoo.com

Scan to Visit the Website:

<https://www.CarlosFurnitureUSVI.com>



*Perfect Banquet Hall  
For Your Event*

**HOLY FAMILY  
COLUMBAN HALL**

213 Anna's Retreat  
Saint Thomas, USVI 00802  
E-mail: [holyfamilyusvi@gmail.com](mailto:holyfamilyusvi@gmail.com)  
Website: [www.holyfamilystt.com](http://www.holyfamilystt.com)  
Phone: (340) 775-1650



**CHI-CO'S DISTRIBUTING, INC.**  
Frederick Larsen  
President

8525 Lindberg Bay, Suite 4  
St. Thomas, USVI 00802

Tel: (340) 776-5894  
E-Mail: [chicos@vipowernet.net](mailto:chicos@vipowernet.net)

