



**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

PARISH ADMINISTRATOR

Rev. Fr. Modeste Digwou

Emergency: (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-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
OCTOBER 1, 2023

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WEEKLY REFLECTION

First Reading: Ezekiel 18:25-28

Responsorial Psalm:

Second Reading: Philippians 2:1-11

Gospel: Matthew 21:28-32

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

In truth I tell you tax collectors and prostitutes are making their way into the Kingdom of God before you. Beloved brothers and sisters, on this 26th Sunday of Ordinary Time, the Lord calls us into service in the vineyard. The Gospel text shows us our reality in response to the call that God has made on our lives. Some originally said no then had a change of heart. Others said yes but did nothing. The question is what is your response?

In today's first reading the Prophet Ezekiel explains that when the upright abandons uprightness and does wrong and dies, he dies because of the wrong which he himself had done. We may think this word is for those who are outside of the church, exactly how the Pharisees thought!

Jesus says John the Baptist came to you to show you the way of uprightness. He practiced and preached the conformity to the will of God is what makes a person upright. You and I are clothed in the poverty of human weakness, and often rely on our own desires and will, but faith is to trust in someone else's authority. As Christians we are called to abandon our thoughts and ways to follow the way of the Lord. Which is the way? To put God first period to love the Lord with all your heart, our mind, and our strength, otherwise the tax collectors and prostitutes will enter the Kingdom of God before us. As in our last week's Gospel, the last will be first and the first will be last.

By Rev Fr. Modeste Digwou

SCRIPTURE READINGS OF THE WEEK

MONDAY: (no Mass) Zec 8:1-8
Memorial of the Guardian Angels Mt 18:1-5, 10

TUESDAY: Zec 8:20-23
Lk 9:51-56

WEDNESDAY: Neh 2:1-8
Memorial of Saint Francis of Assisi Lk 9:57-62

THURSDAY: Neh 8:14a, 5-6, 7b-12
Lk 10:1-12

FRIDAY: Bar 1:15-22
Lk 10: 13-16

SATURDAY:
Memorial of Our Lady of the Rosary Bar 4:5-12, 27-29
Lk 10:17-24

NEXT SUNDAY: Is 5:1-7
27th Sunday in Ordinary Time Phil 4:6-9
Mt 21:33-43

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, September 30

6:00 PM **Bishop Jerome Feudjio** → God's continued blessings on his birthday & 33yrs. Priestly Anniversary

SUNDAY, October 1

7:30 AM **†Rev. Kavier** → Repose of Soul rb The Children of Mary

10:00 AM **Eustace E. Rene** → Birthday blessing rb The Rene Family

—**Lucy Jn Marie** → God's blessings & protection rb Viola & Paula

5:00 PM —**Marie Dominique Blaise** → Birthday blessings rb Silia

MONDAY, October 2 → NO MASS

TUESDAY, October 3

7:00 AM **† John Henley & † Kathleen Thompson** → Repose of Soul

WEDNESDAY, October 4

7:00 AM **† Rev. Patrick Cashman** → Repose of Soul rb The Children of Mary

THURSDAY, October 5

7:00 AM **† Elizabeth Michael** → Rest in Peace rb Wende Rouse

FRIDAY, October 6

7:00 AM **Mercedes Hodge** → Birthday blessings rb The Giffit Family

SATURDAY, October 7

6:00 PM **Jaleel & Kaleel Rivera** → Birthday blessings rb The Johnson Family

—**Edilia Valentine & Jane Ann Casey** → In Thanksgiving & Birthday blessings rb Jane Ann



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 30th to October 1st**. Birthday Blessings and God's continued mercy and grace for **Tina Lerchbaumer & Michael McClendon** requested by **Beverly McClendon**

Altar Flowers: Today's Altar Flowers are being sponsored by St. Vincent De Paul Society. Thank you for beautifying the church and may God continue to bless you and your family.

Month of the Rosary: During the month of **October**, all **7:00am weekday Friday Mass** will be celebrated at the Shrine; offering will be collected. All parishioners are invited to participate in reciting the Rosary.

CCD and Youth Ministries: As we celebrate the Memorial of Our Lady of the Rosary, the CCD & Youth Ministries will host the **Public Rosary Rally** on **Saturday, October 7th 9:30am at the Shrine**. Thereafter, First Saturday Mass for the CCD students will be held in the church. All are invited to attend and thank you for supporting our youths.

Hurricane Procession: There will be a hurricane procession around the church on **Sunday, October 8th following the 7:30am Mass**.

Catholic Charities of the VI serves hundreds of hot meals daily through its soup kitchen, street outreach and Bethlehem House Shelter. Help is needed with food trays (9x6' or 6x6") and plastic forks. Please, help the underserved among us. Thank you and may God continue to bless you and your family.

Necrologium: Holy Family Parish Community extends sincere sympathy to the families of:
Vanborne Rehalio Questel, whose funeral service will take place on **Thursday, October 5, 2023** at 10:00 am at Holy Family Church; and
Elsie G. LaRonde, whose funeral service will take place on **Friday, October 6, 2023** at 10:00 am at Holy Family Church.
May their souls and the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen.

Parish Information

Sacrament of Infant 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. Confessions will be on Wednesdays after the exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, and on weekends 15 minutes before each Mass.

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.

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

Pray For the Sick & Shut-ins

OFF ISLAND: Helen Bruney, Eugenie England, Juliana George, Rose 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.

EBENEZER HOME: Cleota Hill.

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

SECOND COLLECTION FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER

Restoration Fund Sept. 30 – Oct. 1
Bishop's Appeal October 7-8
Property Insurance October 14-15
Security Fence October 14-15
World Mission Sunday October 21-22
Capital Improvements October 21-22
Restoration Fund October 28-29

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: 315 persons attended Holy Mass last weekend.

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

Last Weekend's Offerings Sept 24th

OFFERING: \$6312.00

6:00 PM: \$600.00 7:30 AM: \$1604.00

10:00 AM: \$2230.00 5:00 PM: \$195.00

SECOND COLLECTION: \$1209.00

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT: \$101.00

SECURITY FENCE TOTAL: \$373.00

Online giving can be made through our website at:

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

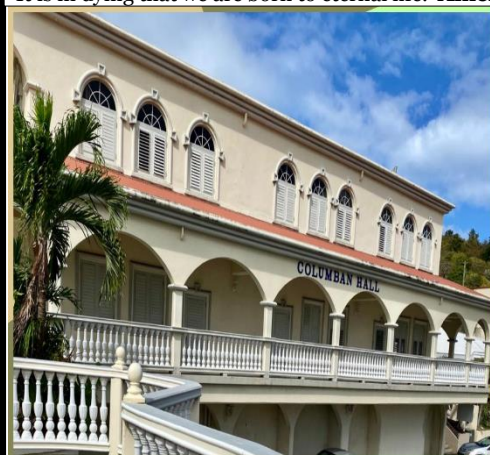
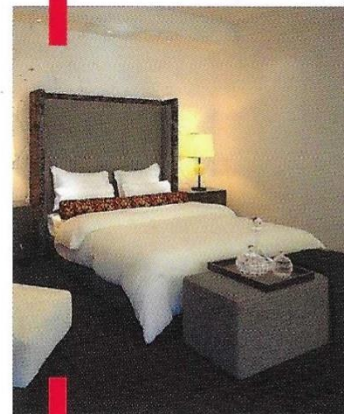
•Anna's Retreat, St. Thomas, USVI

S: 340.693.0016 • C: 340.642.7926

Carlosusvi@yahoo.com

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*Perfect Banquet Hall
For Your Event*

**HOLY FAMILY
COLUMBAN HALL**

213 Anna's Retreat
Saint Thomas, USVI 00802
E-mail: holyfamilyusvi@gmail.com
Website: 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

