



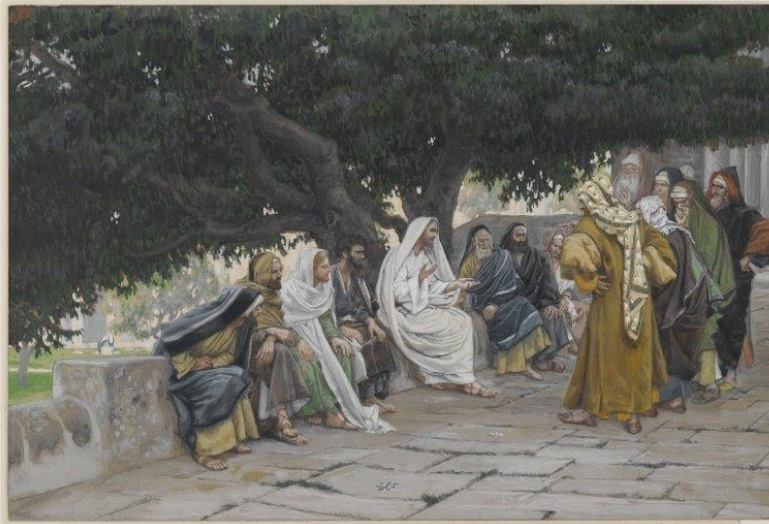
**Saint Thomas  
Diocese**

# 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

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."

**THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**  
**OCTOBER 29, 2023**

# THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

## OCTOBER 29, 2023

### WEEKLY REFLECTION

**First Reading:** Exodus 22:20-26

**Responsorial Psalm:** Psalms 18:2-3, 3-4, 47, 51

**Second Reading:** 1 Thessalonians 1:5c-10

**Gospel:** Matthew 22:34-40

Reflection for the 30<sup>th</sup> Sunday in ordinary time year A

{The Pharisee's question about the greatest commandment is an opportunity for Christ to return to the foundation of the Law. The commandment to love God and neighbor becomes a criterion of discernment in relation to the multitude of obligations that have been added over time. Christ's teaching is liberating in this respect. It also sheds light on our own questions and discussions with Christ. It sheds light on some of our present difficulties and gives us a fundamental orientation to apply in each particular situation.}

Brothers and sisters,

Last Sunday, the trap set for Jesus by the Pharisees and scribes concerned the tax due to Caesar; today, it concerns the Great Commandment. Why is this so? Because the Pharisees, in their zeal to implement the whole law, formulated numerous commandments, all taken from the law and the prophets, which were to define how to be a faithful Jew. Over 613 commandments to keep. Many who heard this preaching on the countless commandments might have been a little lost. By asking Jesus which commandment was the greatest, the Pharisees wanted to test him against their own teaching.

Jesus' answer was something new: the two commandments Jesus recalled were quotes from Scripture. All Jews know by heart, and so do we Christians, **"love the Lord your God with all your strength, with all your heart and with all your mind" and "love your neighbor as yourself."** What's new is to take these two commandments, love of God and love of neighbor, as a criterion of discernment against the multitude of things that were detailed by the commandments of the Pharisees, to the point that no one - could be sure of really carrying out all the commandments.

How can we say, as Saint John repeats in his first epistle, that "we love God whom we do not see, if we do not love the brothers he gives us and whom we see"? Here's a criterion for discernment. I can call myself a Christian, a disciple of Christ, faithful to God, but am I a Christian, a disciple of Christ and faithful to God in my behavior with the men and women around me, with strangers, especially with those who are the most deprived and abandoned in our world?

These two commandments, love of God and love of our brothers and sisters, bring together, sum up and summarize all the law and all the prophets. All the situations into which existence throws us, all the opportunities or difficulties we face, cannot be resolved simply by detailed commandments. They can only be solved by the fundamental orientation of love for God and for our brothers and sisters, which makes us choose and build the best, or least worst, solutions for every situation we find ourselves in.

Let us pray to the Lord that the controversies recounted in the Gospel may shed light on the controversies we ourselves harbor in our hearts, and help us to understand how obedience to God, the law and the prophets is fulfilled in love for our brothers and sisters.

By Rev Fr. Modeste Digwou

### SCRIPTURE READINGS OF THE WEEK

**MONDAY:** (no Mass) Rom 8:12-17; Ps 68:2 & 4, 6-7ab, 20-21; Lk 13:10-17

**TUESDAY:** Rom 8:18-25; Ps 126:1b-2ab, 2cd-3, 4-5, 6; Lk 13:18-21

**WEDNESDAY:** *Solemnity of All Saints*

Rv 7:2-4, 9-14; Ps 24:1bc-2, 3-4ab, 5-6;  
1 Jn 3:1-3; Mt 5:1-12a

**THURSDAY:** *Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Souls)*

Wis 3:1-9; Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6; Rom 6:3-9;  
Jn 6:37-40

**FRIDAY:** Rom 9:1-5; Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20; Lk 14:1-6

**SATURDAY:** *Saint Charles Borromeo, Bishop*

Rom 11:1-2a, 11-12, 25-29;  
Ps 94:12-13a, 14-15, 17-18; Lk 14:1, 7-11

**NEXT SUNDAY:** *31<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time, year A*

Mal 1:14b-2:2b, 8-10; Ps 131:1, 2, 3;  
Rom 11:1-2a, 11-12, 25-29; Lk 14:1, 7-11

### MASS INTENTIONS

**SATURDAY, October 28<sup>th</sup>**

6:00 PM † **John Milton Giffit** → Repose of Soul rb the family  
† **Everad Joseph & Maria René** → Repose of Souls  
rb the René family

**SUNDAY, October 29<sup>th</sup>**

7:30 AM – **Oliver "Bobby" Williams** → Guidance &  
protection rb his wife, Viola Williams  
10:00 AM † **Mary-Ann Joseph** → Repose of Soul rb the René  
family  
5:00 PM † **Haitian community** → God's continued blessings

**MONDAY, October 30<sup>th</sup>** → NO MASS

**TUESDAY, October 31<sup>st</sup>**

7:00 AM † **Kathleen Thompson** → Repose of Soul  
† **Mauritzer Gumbs** → Repose of Soul

**WEDNESDAY, November 1<sup>st</sup>**

7:00 AM – **7 am Early Risers** → God's guidance &  
protection rb Viola

**THURSDAY, November 2<sup>nd</sup>**

7:00 AM – **Ann Greaux** → Birthday blessings rb her children  
& grandchildren

**FRIDAY, November 3<sup>rd</sup>**

7:00 AM – **Jerome Bute** → Birthday blessings rb the René  
family

**SATURDAY, November 4<sup>th</sup>**

6:00 PM – **Pauline Ottley** → Birthday blessings rb the Rouse  
family

**The Month of November is dedicated to the  
deceased and the all the souls in Purgatory.  
Let us pray for them.**

# 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 **October 28<sup>th</sup> to November 3<sup>rd</sup>** for God's blessings and protection for **Anthony Renal**, requested by his mother, Marie Renal.

**Altar Flowers:** Today's Altar Flowers are sponsored by **Sonia Herbert**. Thank you for beautifying the church.

**Catechesis for Adults and Youth Ages 12 and Up:** Do you believe that God loves you as you are? Would you like to deepen your faith? Come and listen, **Tuesdays and Fridays**, beginning **October 24, 2023, 6 pm** at Columban Hall.

**The Month of November** is dedicated to praying for the souls in purgatory and the deceased. A register is available at the entrance to the church. Everyone can register their departed already, so let's not wait until the last minute.

- Among other things, we encourage everyone to register for a mass for the deceased on November 2 at a special rate of \$5. Just fill out the envelope and put your money in it and drop it off at the Church office or hand it to one of the sacristans.

**All Saints & All Souls Schedule:** Masses on **Wednesday, November 1** (Solemnity of All Saints) and **Thursday, November 2** (Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed) will be at **7:00 AM** and **6:00 PM** on both days.

**Dominican Independence:** The Dominican Association of St Thomas will be celebrating Dominica's Independence with a service at Holy Family Catholic Church on **November 12, 2022**, at 12:00 pm. The celebrant will be Monsignor William John-Lewis.

## **Restoration:**

- The security fence account is now empty. We need your extra effort to put up the iron grids on the walls and the 3 gates.
- We are still waiting for those who have pledged to donate a toilet to complete the work of the bathroom. Please drop off your donation at the Church office or with the priest, Father Modeste.

**Sacristy:** A volunteer is needed to assist and reinforce the vestry team of the sacristy.

**Job Vacancy:** Catholic Charities of the VI has an opening for a Case Manager. Multilingual and knowledge of different resources available in the community is a plus. Please submit resume to [info@catholiccharitiesvi.org](mailto:info@catholiccharitiesvi.org), or call the main office at 340-777-8518.

**Office Closure:** The church office will be closed **all day on Wednesday, November 1, 2023**, in observance of Liberty Day/D. Hamilton Jackson Day.

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

# 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.

# Announcements, continued

**Monthly Liturgical Master Schedule:** The Liturgical Master Schedule for November can be picked up in the sacristy or the rear of the church.

**Necrologium:** The Funeral Service for **Nathan Ken Liverpool** will be held at Holy Family Church at 10:00 AM on **Friday, November 3, 2023**. Our sincere sympathy and condolences to his mother, **Sonia Etienne**, and family. Nathan died at the age of 22. May his soul and the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace.



## Pray For the Sick & Shut-ins

**OFF ISLAND:** Signorah Baron, Helen Bruney, Eugenie England, Juliana George, Rose George, Olivia Gumbs, Thomas Johnson, Mary Lewis, Veronica Sealey, Joseph Toussaint

**AT HOME:** Carol Baron, François 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  
Restoration Fund ..... November 4-5

## 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:** 296 persons attended Holy Mass last weekend.

### STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

Last Weekend's Offerings, October 21 – 22

OFFERING: \$3,078.17

6:00 PM: \$487.00      7:30 AM: \$1,261.00

10:00 AM: \$1,146.17      5:00 PM: \$184.00

CHILDREN'S OFFERING: \$13.00

SECOND COLLECTION: \$1,713.00

SECURITY OFFERING: \$243.00

FENCE CHALLENGE: \$913.00

Weekday Offerings: \$72.00

10/18: \$21.00      10/27: \$51.00

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

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• Tutu Park Mall, St. Thomas, USVI

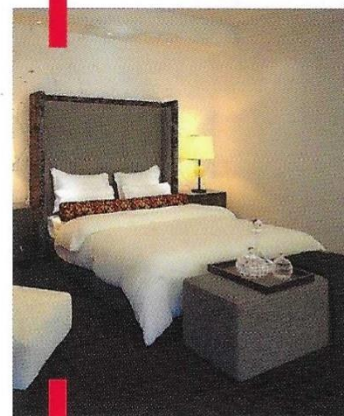
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