



**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
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**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-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
OCTOBER 8, 2023

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WEEKLY REFLECTION

First Reading: Is 5:1-7

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 80:9, 12, 13-14, 15-16, 19-20

Second Reading: Phil 4:6-9

Gospel: Mt 21: 33-43

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

In the Bible, the vineyard is a symbol of well-being, prosperity and peace. It is a place of happiness, where the covenant between God and man is fully lived out. When people remember a time of tranquility and peace, they evoke the vine:

So when Christ mentions the vine, we expect a story of peace and prosperity. But in today's text, those in charge of the vineyard are only thinking of killing to seize property that doesn't belong to them.

The first important element in this story is that God puts us in charge, entrusting us with his vineyard. He wants us to be his partners. So it's good to ask ourselves what we're doing with the Lord's vineyard. What's happening to the world God has entrusted to us? How am I living in my Christian community? These are pertinent questions for each and every one of us responsible for our land. Our quality of life is affected by all these problems.

As in today's parable, we can believe that we are the owners of the world entrusted to us, and do everything we can to keep the fruits for ourselves in a selfish way, without thinking of others and without worrying about what we will leave to future generations.

Many believe that by getting rid of God, the vineyard will belong to them. That's what Adam and Eve did when they followed the serpent's advice: "You will be like God... you will take God's place... you will be gods." Many are convinced that God is cumbersome, that they don't need him. He has no place in public life, in the world of politics and business. The Gospel, on the other hand, reveals that the more God is present, the more we will be able to create a world of peace, brotherhood and love.

In the parable of the vinedressers, God invites us to take responsibility for building a better world. This responsibility is not just for governments and community leaders, but for each and every one of us. God entrusts us with our family, our children and grandchildren, our world of work and leisure. We must give an account of our stewardship. The fruits of our talents and efforts, the time we are given, the money and goods we possess - all these must serve the well-being of all.

The sin of the vinedressers in the parable is to want to appropriate fruit that does not belong to them. They want to manage the land for their own profit and gain. Reflecting on what's happening in our world today, we realize that since the time of Jesus, no progress has been made in terms of selfishness and irresponsibility! Nothing new under the sun!

The message of today's parable is that God has entrusted us with the world we live in, for the good of all. It's up to us to respond to this invitation with all the talents we've been given.

By Rev Fr. Modeste Digwou

SCRIPTURE READINGS OF THE WEEK

MONDAY: (no Mass)	Jon 1:1-2:1-2, 11 Lk 10:25-37
TUESDAY:	Jon 3:1-10 Lk 10:38-42
WEDNESDAY:	Jon 4:1-11 Lk 11:1-4
THURSDAY:	Mal 3:13-20b Lk 11:5-13
FRIDAY:	Jl 1:13-15; 2:1-2 Lk 11:15-26
SATURDAY:	Jl 4:12-21 Lk 11:27-28
NEXT SUNDAY: <i>28th Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	Is 25:6-10a Phil 4:12-14, 19-20 Mt 22:1-14

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, October 7th

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

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

SUNDAY, October 8th

7:30 AM **Joseph & Bridget Toussaint** → Anniversary blessings rb The Toussaint Family

– **Ruselle Henry** → Birthday blessings rb Her Mother & Family

10:00 AM **Karen, Marie Rose, Luhan & Vernique** → Birthday blessings rb The Louis Family

– **Michelle Stout** → Birthday blessings rb Her Family

– **Allison Callwood** → Birthday blessings rb The Rene Family

5:00 PM † **Louissimene Cadet** → Repose of Soul rb Kesner Cadet

MONDAY, October 9th → NO MASS

TUESDAY, October 10th

7:00 AM † **Deacon Austin Medina** → Repose of Soul rb The Children of Mary

WEDNESDAY, October 11th

7:00 AM **Ade Warrington** → Birthday blessings rb His grandmother, Lola Warrington

THURSDAY, October 12th

7:00 AM † **Deacon Leonard Monsanto** → Repose of Soul rb The Children of Mary

FRIDAY, October 13th

7:00 AM † **Cyril "Mezzon" Battiste, Mauritzer Gumbs, John Henley** → Repose of their Souls

SATURDAY, October 14th

6:00 PM † **Deacon Roy Bruney** → Repose of Soul rb The Children of Mary

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 7th to October 13th** For **Rita Brady-Bermudez**. Birthday Blessings and thanking God for his mercies and peace.

Altar Flowers: Today's Altar Flowers are being sponsored by Viola Williams for **Oliver & Marva Williams** on their birthdays. Thank you for beautifying the church.

Month of the Holy Rosary: October is the Month of the Rosary and parishioners are invited to join the members of The Children of Mary in reciting the Rosary 20-minutes before each Mass. In addition during the month of October the 7:00 AM Friday Masses will be celebrated at the Shrine.

The Haitian community will pray the Rosary at the Shrine every Thursday at 5:00 PM during this Rosary month All parishioners are invited to participate.

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.

Church Closure: The Church office will be closed on Monday, October 9, 2023 in observance of VI/Puerto Rico Friendship Day. Please be guided accordingly.

Prayer Group: will not be meeting tomorrow Monday, October 9, 2023 due to the holiday. Parishioners will be informed of Deacon Cassius Mathurin new presentation date.

Mass for the Sick will be held the last Friday of every month at 6:00 PM with the Haitian community and the Charismatic Renewal Ministry.

Life in the Spirit Seminar: Parishioners are reminded of the upcoming **7-Week Life in the Spirit Seminar** being held in conjunction with Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, to begin on Monday October 16, 2023 and end on Monday, December 4, 2023. If you have not already registered, please do so now. Registration forms are available in the rear of the Church

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: 402 persons attended Holy Mass last weekend.

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

Last Weekend's Offerings Oct 1th

OFFERING: \$3,256.75

6:00 PM: \$536.00 7:30 AM: \$1117.00

10:00 AM: \$685.75 5:00 PM: \$189.00

SECOND COLLECTION: \$631.00

Weekday Offerings: \$158.50

9/20: \$31 9/25: \$77.50 9/27: \$50

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

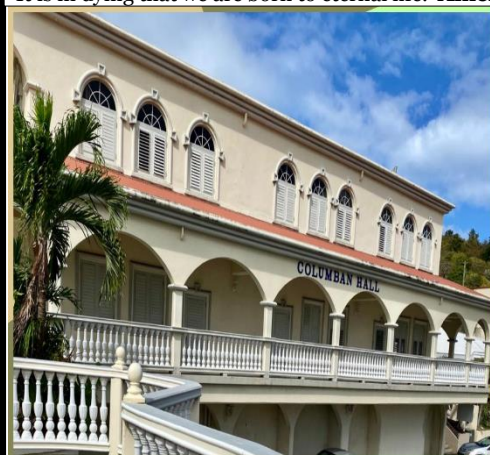
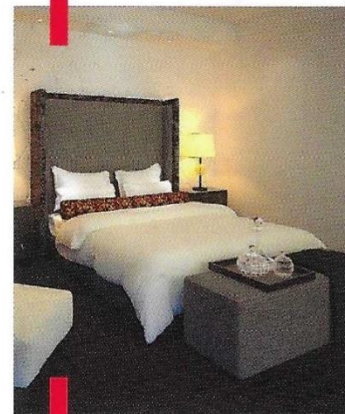
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*Perfect Banquet Hall
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**HOLY FAMILY
COLUMBAN HALL**

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