

Diocese of Saint Thomas

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



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. Julio Comperè

Office Hours: Mon – Fri: 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Mass Schedule

MondayNo 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

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."

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT DECEMBER 3, 2023

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WEEKLY REFLECTION

First Reading: Isaiah 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7 **Responsorial Psalm:** Psalms 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19 **Second Reading:** 1 Corinthians 1:3-9 **Gospel:** Mark 13:33-37

Reflection by Rev Fr Modeste

Beloved brothers and sisters,

With the season of Advent, we begin a new liturgical year, the *Year B*.

The word "*Advent*" means, "*coming*." The first coming of Christ took place two thousand years ago when Christ was born at Bethlehem. Faith tells us that he will come again at the end of the world to judge the living and the dead.

As far as we are concerned Jesus' first coming took place in our lives when as infants we were baptized or when we came to faith in Him.

Jesus comes into our lives to save us. He tirelessly goes on with his work of saving us throughout our lives. As a farmer starts work afresh in his field each morning so does Jesus with us

Individually, Christ comes to us time and again in a variety of ways. There are three particular occasions when His presence in the midst of the Christian community becomes, so to say, more intense — when we gather to pray, when we read the Scriptures and when we celebrate the Eucharist. Our whole life should be a continuous Advent. Beloved brothers and sisters,

John the Baptist the precursor remains the central figure of this Advent season.

Theme of this Sunday is the Vigilant Wait.

The Advent readings invite us to be vigilant, to be ready to receive the Lord who is coming. The first reading says that God is "father" and "redeemer." Nobody is so enslaved by sin that he cannot be freed and "redeemed." Today's gospel tells us that the "redeemer" comes, but we have to be vigilant.

Those who sleep will remain slaves to sin, and will not be ransomed.

The second reading is also on this theme: the Christians of Corinth are held up to us as examples of vigilance.

Advent is a time of spiritual and material preparation for Christmas, a time of penitence, reconciliation and hope. For four Sundays, through the four candles we will light, we will live the four virtues that illustrate the birth of our Savior in this world: love, hope, joy and peace.

Holy Advent season and happy new year to all!

SCRIPTURE READINGS OF THE WEEK

MONDAY: (no Mass) Is 2:1-5; Ps 122:1-2, 3-4b, 4cd-5, 6-7, 8-9; Mt 8:5-11

TUESDAY: Is 11:1-10; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Lk 10:21-24

WEDNESDAY: Is 25:6-10a; Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6; Mt 15:29-37

THURSDAY: Memorial of Saint Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church Is 26:1-6; Ps 118:1 and 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a; Mt 7:21, 24-27

FRIDAY: Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary Gn 3:9-15, 20; Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4;

Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38

SATURDAY: Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6; Mt 9:35–10:1, 5a, 6-8

NEXT SUNDAY: 2nd Sunday of Advent, year B Is 40:1-5, 9-11; Ps 85:9-10-11-12, 13-14; 2 Pt 3:8-14; Mk 1:1-8

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, December 2nd

6:00 PM – Joseph JohnBaptiste & DeGallieire → in appreciation & God's blessings

SUNDAY, December 3rd

7:30 AM – Rose Labadie \rightarrow Birthday blessings rb her family

- Arnold Floyd → Birthday blessings rb the Rouse family
 Shai Poterson → Birthday blessings rb bia
- Shai Petersen → Birthday blessings rb his grandmother, Alinda

10:00 AM – Sharon Davis \rightarrow Birthday blessings rb her family

5:00 PM – Roline Zamor \rightarrow Birthday blessings

MONDAY, December $4^{th} \rightarrow NO$ MASS

TUESDAY, December 5th

7:00 AM **† Lelas Forde Gifft** → Repose of Soul rb the Forde & Gifft families

WEDNESDAY, December 6th

7:00 AM – Lornnesha Henley → Birthday blessings rb her family

THURSDAY, December 7th

7:00 AM **† Alden Forde** → Repose of soul rb the Vialet, Gifft, & Forde families

FRIDAY, December 8th

7:00 AM **+ Joseph Questel**→ Repose of Soul

+ Nathan Ken Liverpool \rightarrow Repose of Soul

SATURDAY, December 9th

6:00 PM **† Elma Agnes Casimir** → Repose of Soul rb the Casimir & Eusebe families

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 **December 2nd** to **December 8th** for God's guidance and continued protection for **Phillip Bellot** and grandchildren, requested by Francisca Henry.

December is the Month of Christmas.

- Advent candles will be lit every Sunday at every mass, either by a family, a group or a designated ministry.
 - December 9th 10th:
 - 6:00 PM: Leon & Marguerite Casey
 - 7:30 AM: Ushers
 - 10:00 AM: Mr. & Mrs. Van Beverhoudt
 - 5:00 PM: Kesner Cadet, Deusel Noel, & Manish Noel
- During Advent, there will be no musical instruments at mass. Let's accompany the singing by clapping our hands.

Dates to Remember:

- Friday, December 8, 2023 Invitation: The priest invites all sick people in the homes to the mass of the Immaculate Conception of Mary at the Cassi Hill Shrine at 7:00 AM and 6:00 PM according to their possibilities.
- Saturday, December 9, 2023: Advent Women's Retreat, St. Anne's Parish, 10:00 AM 12:00 noon. Confessions will start at 9:30 AM.
- Sunday, December 17, 2023: Ministries are invited to join the CCD Ministry, the Youth Ministry, and the Young St. Vincentians at 3:00 PM in the upper Columban Hall as we "Deck the Halls with Christmas Carols." With a donation of \$25 per ministry, you can decorate a table to represent your favorite Christmas Carol. Contact the CCD Ministry for additional information.

Holiday Schedule:

• Sunday, December 24, 2023:

- Sunday Masses at 7:30 AM and 10:00 AM; there will be **no** Creole Mass.
- Caroling at 8:00 PM.
- Vigil of the Nativity of the Lord (Christmas Eve) at 9:00 PM.
- Monday, December 25, 2023: Infant Baptisms at 9:00 AM Mass. Register your children now.
- Sunday, December 31, 2023:
 - One 9:00 AM Mass for the Patronal Feast of the Holy Family. Bishop Jerome Feudjio will be the celebrant.
 - Holy hour: 8:00 рм.
 - Vigil of the Solemnity of Mary: 9:00 PM.
- Monday, January 1, 2024: One Mass at 9:00 AM. Celebration of Haitian Independence Day at 5:00 PM.

3rd Banns of Marriage: There is a promise of marriage between **Brenda Lee Sutton** and **Khana Spencer Smith.** If you know of an impediment to this marriage, please contact the pastor. The celebration will take place on **Saturday, December 16, 2023.**

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.

Special Edition: Progress of parish activities works



Clearing and leveling the ground around the wall

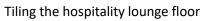




Painting of the restrooms



Renovation of the altar table





Enjoy our female restroom

Executive Members of the Parish Council

Pastor: Father Modeste Digwou Chairperson: Monique Ferrell Vice Chairperson: Vincia St. Jean Secretary: Mia Pascal Finance: Louise Fontaine 6:00 pm Community: President: Jean Dragin 7:30 am Community: President: Oliver Williams 10:00 am Community: President: Glendia Caines 5:00 pm Haitian Community: President: Silia Erilis



Diocèse de Saint Thomas HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC CHURCH

392-213 Hidden valley, St. Thomas U.S. Virgin Islands 00802 Tel: 340-775-1650 Web: www.holyfamilystt.com Email: holyfamilyusvi@gmail.com



LA VOIX DU DIMANCHE DE LA COMMUNAUTE HAITIENNE

Premier Dimanche de l'Avent Année B.



REFERENCES BIBLIQUES

Premye Lekti: Ezayi 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7 Sòm repons: Sòm 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19 Dezyèm Lekti: 1 Korentyen 1:3-9 Levanjil: Mak 13:33-37

LEKTI EKRITI NAN SEMÈN LA

LENDI: (pa gen mès) Is 2:1-5; Sòm 122:1-2, 3-4b, 4cd-5, 6-7, 8-9; Mt 8:5-11

- MADI: Is 11:1-10; Sòm 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Lik 10:21-24
- MÈKREDI: Is 25:6-10a; Sòm 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6; Mt 15:29-37
- JEDI: *Memoryal Sen Ambroz, Evèk ak Doktè Legliz la* Rom 10:9-18; Sòm 19:8, 9, 10, 11; Mt 4:18-22
- VANDREDI: Solènite Enmakile Konsepsyon Mari Vyèj Beni Jn 3:9-15, 20; Sòm 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4; Ef 1:3-6, 11-12; Lik 1:26-38
- SAMDI: Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Sòm 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6; Mt 9:35–10:1, 5a, 6-8
- PROCHÈN DIMANCH: 2yèm Dimanch Lavan, ane B Is 40:1-5, 9-11; Sòm 85:9-10-11-12, 13-14; 2 Pt 3:8-14; Mak 1:1-8

No. 004 DU DIMANCHE 26, Décembre 2023

Meditasyon Par Pere Modeste

Mezanmi frè ak sè yo,

Avèk sezon Lavan an, nou kòmanse yon nouvo ane litijik, Ane B.

Mo **"Lavan"** vle di, "vini". Premye vini Kris la te fèt de mil ane de sa lè Kris la te fèt Betleyèm. Lafwa di nou ke li pral vini ankò nan fen mond lan pou jije moun ki vivan yo ak moun ki mouri yo.

An sa ki konsène nou, premye vini Jezi a te fèt nan lavi nou lè nou te batize lè nou te piti oswa lè nou te vin gen lafwa nan li.

Jezi vini nan lavi nou pou sove nou. Li san pran souf kontinye ak travay li pou sove nou pandan tout lavi nou. Kòm yon kiltivatè kòmanse travay yon lòt fwa nan jaden li chak maten, se konsa Jezi fè sa avèk nou

Endividyèlman, Kris la vin jwenn nou fwa e ankò nan plizyè fason. Gen twa okazyon patikilye kote prezans li nan mitan kominote kretyen an vin pi entans, pou nou di, lè nou reyini pou lapriyè, lè nou li Ekriti yo ak lè nou selebre Lekaristik la. Tout lavi nou ta dwe yon Lavan kontinyèl. Mezanmi frè ak sè yo,

Jan Batis précurseur a rete figi santral sezon Lavan sa a.

Tèm Dimanch sa a se Tann Vijilan.

Lekti Lavan yo envite nou pou nou veye, pou nou pare pou nou resevwa Granmèt la k ap vini an. Premye lekti a di Bondye se "papa" ak "redanmtè". Pèsonn pa tèlman esklav peche a ke li pa ka libere ak "rachte". Levanjil jodi a di nou ke "redanmtè" a vini, men nou dwe vijilan.

Moun ki dòmi ap rete esklav peche, epi yo p'ap jwenn ranson.

Dezyèm lekti a tou sou tèm sa a: Kretyen Korent yo parèt devan nou kòm egzanp vijilans.

Lavan se yon tan nan preparasyon espirityèl ak materyèl pou Nwèl, yon tan nan penitans, rekonsilyasyon ak espwa. Pandan kat dimanch, atravè kat bouji nou pral limen yo, n ap viv kat bèl kalite ki montre nesans Sovè nou an nan monn sa a: lanmou, lespwa, lajwa ak lapè.

Sentespri Lavann ak bon ane a tout moun!

ANONS PAWAS YO

Desanm se Mwa Nwèl la.

- Bouji Lavan yo pral limen chak dimanch nan chak mès, swa pa yon fanmi, yon gwoup oswa yon ministè deziyen.
 - 9 desanm 10 desanm:
 - 6:00 pm: Leon & Marguerite Casey
 - 7:30 am: Ushers
 - 10:00 am: Mesye ak Madam Van Beverhoudt
 - 5:00 pm: Kesner Cadet, Deusel Noel, & Manish Noel
- Pandan Lavan, pap gen enstriman mizik nan mès. Ann akonpanye chante a nan bat men nou.

Dat pou sonje:

- Vandredi 8 desanm 2023 Envitasyon: Prèt la envite tout moun ki malad nan kay yo nan mès Immaculate Konsepsyon Mari nan Sanktyèl Cassi Hill a 7:00 am ak 6:00 pm selon posiblite yo.
- Samdi, 9 desanm 2023: Retret Fanm Lavan, Pawas St Anne, 10:00 am – 12:00 midi. Konfesyon yo ap kòmanse a 9:30 am.
- Dimanch 17 desanm 2023: Ministè yo envite pou yo rantre nan Ministè CCD a, Ministè Jèn yo, ak Jèn Sen Visanyen yo a 3:00 pm nan Sal Columban anwo a pandan n ap "Dekole Sal yo ak Chant Nwèl yo." Avèk yon don \$25 pou chak ministè, ou ka dekore yon tab pou reprezante chante Nwèl pi renmen ou. Kontakte Ministè CCD a pou plis enfòmasyon.

Orè jou ferye:

- Dimanch 24 desanm 2023:
 - Mès dimanch a 7:30 am ak 10:00 am; pap gen mès kreyòl.
 - Caroling a 8:00 pm.
 - Veyil Nativite Senyè a (vèy Nwèl) a 9:00 pm.
- Lendi 25 desanm 2023: Batèm Tibebe a 9:00 am Mès. Enskri pitit ou yo kounye a.
- Dimanch 31 desanm 2023:
 - Yon mès 9:00 am pou fèt Patwonal Sentespri a. Evèk Jerome Feudjio pral selebrasyon an.
 - Lè apa pou Bondye: 8:00 pm.
 - Veyil Solennite Mari a: 9:00 pm.
- Lendi, 1ye janvye 2024: Yon mès a 9:00 am. Selebrasyon Jounen Endepandans Ayiti a 5:00 pm.

3yèm entèdiksyon maryaj: Gen yon pwomès maryaj ant Brenda Lee Sutton ak Khana Spencer Smith. Si w konnen yon obstak nan maryaj sa a, tanpri kontakte pastè a. Selebrasyon an pral fèt samdi 16 desanm 2023.

MAS MANDE

Mas kominote ayisyèn nan mande benediksyon fèt pou Roline Zamor.

POU JENÈS LA

Pwogram CCD chak samdi a 9:00 a.m. Nou envite jèn yo rantre nan kèk nan gwoup yo tankou gwoup koral la oswa vin tounen sèvè alter.



KOLEKSYON SEMÈN NAN

GESTION TREZOR

Ofri wikenn pase a, 25 rive 26 novanm ÒF: \$3,052.11 6:00 pm: \$536.11 7:30 am: \$1,163.00 10:00 am: \$1,189.00 5:00 pm: \$164.00 DEZYÈM KOLEKSYON: \$1,177.00 ÒF POU TIMOUN: \$28.00 Jou Aksyon de Gras: \$864.00 Ofri jou lasemèn: \$34.00 29/11: \$12.00 12/1: \$22.00 Yo ka fè bay sou entènèt sou sitwèb nou an nan:: www.holyfamilystt.com

Mèsi pou jenerozite ou!



Reyinyon koral: chak Mèkredi a 6:30 p.m. Netwayaj Legliz la pa kominote ayisyen an: chak 1ye vandredi nan mwa a a 6:30 p.m.

Special Edition: Parish Life



Pastor Father Modeste



Parish Council president Monique Ferrell



Church Secretary Ms C. A. White



Wednesday Adoration after 7:00 AM Mass

Catholic Charities food sharing



Christ the King Celebration





Christ the King procession



Liturgy Director



Haitian Esperance Choir



Closing of the Month of the Deceased: Blessing of the graves at the Eastern Cemetery

Transportation to the cemetery

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, Iona Vanterpool

AT HOME: Carol Baron, François Baron, Philomen Baron, James Bellot, Rose Celestine, Baby Elizabeth Dolphin, Maggie Dolphin, John George, Meraldo C. Gonzales, Vernelle Gumbs, Vanessa Harrigan, Gerard Henry, Mercedes Hodge, Owen Johnrose, Pauline Jolly, Bernice Knight, Rita Ledee, Cleopha Rawlings, Evelyn Simon, Keith Steele, Paquita Steele, Anthony Stridiron Sr.

EBENEZER HOME: Cleota Hill.

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

SECOND COLLECTION FOR THE **MONTH OF DECEMBER**

| Restoration Fund | December 2-3 |
|-----------------------|----------------|
| Christmas Flowers | December 2-3 |
| Retirement Fund | December 9-10 |
| Bishop's Appeal | December 9-10 |
| Property Insurance | December 16-17 |
| Security Fence | December 16-17 |
| Capital Improvements. | December 23-24 |
| Restoration Fund | December 30-31 |

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

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 dving that we are born to eternal life. Amen.

Catechesis "The Holy Altar Table"

"The Altar Stone" is what makes an altar table for the Eucharist, a consecrated altar.

IHS in front of the altar stands for Iesus Habemus Socium, i.e., "We have Jesus as our companion."

In the Bible, that symbol is the inscription that came to stand for Jesus, Savior of Humankind = "Iesus Hominum Salvator."

INRI on a cross means Jesus the Nazarene, King of the Jews, "Iesus Nazerus, Rex Iudaeorum."

> Church Attendance: 306 persons attended Holy Mass last weekend.

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE Last Weekend's Offerings, November 25 - 26 OFFERING: \$3,052.11 6:00 PM: \$536.11 7:30 AM: \$1,163.00 5:00 PM: \$164.00 10:00 AM: \$1,189.00 CHILDREN'S OFFERING: \$28.00 SECOND COLLECTION: \$1,177.00 THANKSGIVING DAY: \$864.00 Weekday Offerings: \$34.00 11/29: \$12.00 12/1: \$22.00 Online giving can be made through our website at: www.holyfamilystt.com Thank you for your generosity!

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