



**Diocese of
Saint Thomas**

Holy Family Catholic Church

394-213 Anna's Retreat, 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 5:00 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

PAROCHIAL VICAR

Rev. Fr. Yacob Lonfo Fopa

Administrative Asst.: Ms. Carmen A. White

Accountant:

Religious Ed. Director: Ms. Tamra Thomas

Music Director: Mr. Francis Callwood

Master of Ceremony & Public Relations:

Mrs. Monique Ferrell

Sacristans:

- Ms. Silia Erilis
- Ms. Francesca Alcendor
- Mr. Julio Comperè
- Orville “Sparrow” Rouse (weekdays)

Office Hours:

Tuesday – Friday: 9:00 A.M. – 4:00 P.M.

Saturday: 9:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.

Closed Sunday and Monday.

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
NOVEMBER 30, 2025**

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

NOVEMBER 30, 2025

WEEKLY REFLECTION

First Reading: Isaiah 2:1-5

Responsorial Psalm:

Psalm 122: 1-2, 3-4, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9

Second Reading: Romans 13:11-14

Gospel: Matthew 24:37-44

By Fr. Modeste Digwou

“Be watchful, for you do not know on what day your Lord will come.”

On this first Sunday of Advent, we begin our journey toward Christmas. Everyone is already talking about it with their families, in town, and especially in stores. Every year, we plan big celebrations with family and friends, parties, and gifts. The problem is that many people forget the one who is at the origin of this celebration. It's a bit like celebrating a birthday and completely forgetting the person who is most concerned. We think of everything except him.

This Sunday's three readings therefore point us toward the future. For there is a future for mankind, and God is part of it. He is that future. Far from distracting us from the joyful preparations for Christmas, he reminds us of the seriousness of our daily lives. The real priority is to prepare ourselves every day for the great encounter with the Lord, through a generous and faithful life, filled with trust and love.

“Watch therefore, for you know not what hour your Lord is coming.”

On this day, we pray to you, Lord: “Strengthen our steps when the road crosses deserts and swamps. In the effort of the climb, give us a foretaste of the joy of the summits.” Amen.



SCRIPTURES OF THE WEEK

MONDAY: Is 4:2-6; 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: *Saint Francis Xavier, Priest*
Is 25:6-10a; Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6; Mt 15:29-37

THURSDAY: Is 26:1-6; Ps 118:1 & 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a; Mt 7:21, 24-27

FRIDAY: Is 29:17-24; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Mt 9:27-31

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: *Second Sunday of Advent*

Is 11:1-10; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Rom 15:4-9; Mt 3:1-12

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, November 29th

5:00 PM † **Alvin McBean** → Repose of Soul rb his wife, Olga
– **Yvonne Brutus** → Birthday blessings rb her family

SUNDAY, November 30th

7:30 AM – **Gilbert St. Cyr** → God's continued blessings rb a friend
10:00 AM † **For all the Holy Souls in Purgatory & deceased parishioners** → Repose of Souls
5:00 PM † **For all the Holy Souls in Purgatory** → Repose of Souls

MONDAY, December 1st – no Mass

TUESDAY, December 2nd

7:00 AM – **Sharon Davis** → Birthday blessings rb her husband, Derrick Davis

WEDNESDAY, December 3rd

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

THURSDAY, December 4th

7:00 AM – **Madison Southers** → Birthday blessings rb her family
– **Gilbert St. Cyr** → God's continued blessings rb a friend

FRIDAY, December 5th

7:00 AM † **Daisy Mae Gordaon** → Repose of Soul

Announcements



Eternal Candle

The Eternal Candle which burns in the Sanctuary of our church, the reminder of the Lord's Presence in the Most Holy Eucharist, will burn throughout this coming week for God's continued blessings for **Dave Hutchinson and Chista Wilson**, requested by their siblings.

Month of December: December is the month of the **baby Jesus**.

Ministers' Retreat: A mandatory Retreat will be held on **Saturday, December 6, 2025** from **9:00 am to 12:00 noon** for ALL **Lectors** and **Ministers of Holy Communion**. Rev. Fr. Andrea will be the presenter. All Lectors and Eucharistic Ministers are expected to be in attendance.

Ushers: Volunteers are needed for the 10:00 am Mass. If you're interested in serving, please contact the church office or speak to the leads, Viola Williams, Ms. Rouse, or Ms. White.

St. Joseph Workers will be presenting their Annual Christmas Concert on **Sunday, December 7, 2025** in the upper Columban Hall at 4:00 pm. Donation \$25, children 12 years and under free. Proceeds will go towards the A/C Project. Tickets can be obtained from members of St. Joseph Workers. Thank you for your support.

Schedule of Advent Mission for St. Thomas/St. John

Deanery: Theme: MARY, THE WOMAN OF ADVENT:

- Sunday, November 30th, 3:00 pm – Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Theme: Immaculate Conception of Mary

- Monday/Tuesday, December 1st & 2nd, 6:30 pm – Holy Family Church (Catholic Charismatic Renewal)
Guest speaker: **Fr. Godfrey Stoute** from Trinidad and Tobago

- Sunday, December 7th, 3:00 pm – Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church (St. John)

Theme: Mary, Mother of God

- Sunday, December 14th, 3:00 pm – Sts. Peter & Paul Cathedral

Theme: Perpetual Virginity of Mary

- Sunday, December 21st, 3:00 pm – Saint Anne Church (Frenchtown)

Theme: Assumption of Mary

Come for Adoration, Catechesis, and Confessions.

Healing Mass: The next healing Mass will be held on **Friday, December 26, 2025—6:00 PM** at the Shrine (weather permitting).

Parish Information

Sacrament of Infant Baptism: Infant Baptisms will take place on the **Fourth Sunday** of every month, parents and god-parents must attend two pre-baptismal classes prior to the Baptism. Please register your child.

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.

CCD Religious Education/Faith Formation: CCD classes take place every Saturday from 9:00 AM - 12 noon.

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 20 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.

Healing Mass: A healing Mass is held the last Friday of every month at 6:00 pm.

Visiting the Sick: The parish priests visit the sick every Friday. Please call the office if you have a sick or shut-it that you would like added to the list for home visits.

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 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 encouraged to complete a parish registration form. We would like to maintain an up-to-date listing of all Holy Family parishioners. Registration helps in providing letters of request for proof of church membership. Also, if you have relocated or your mailing address or contact number has changed, please update it at the church office.

Cleaning of the Church: The church is cleaned every Friday of the Month at 6:30 p.m. Volunteers are needed and welcomed.

Catechesis

By Fr. Modeste Digwou

Advent catechesis: What should we remember?

Advent is a four-week liturgical season that invites us to prepare our hearts, to experience inner joy, and to turn to Christ, the Light of the world. It helps us to experience the mysteries of God's salvation in the incarnation of his Son, who became flesh in the womb of the Virgin Mary and made his home among us. Sunday after Sunday, we will meditate on the texts of the prophet Isaiah and the Gospel according to Saint Matthew, with John the Baptist, the precursor, and the Virgin Mary as the central characters.

Practical activities, such as making an Advent wreath, can symbolize this waiting and become moments of family sharing. Another activity is building a Christmas crib, which dates back to St. Francis of Assisi.

Central themes of catechesis during Advent

- **Waiting and patience:** In contrast to the immediacy of our times, Advent is a time of patience, reminding us that waiting is a virtue. It is preparing for the arrival of a great joy, that of the birth of Jesus.
- **Hope:** Advent recalls the hope of the people of Israel who waited for centuries for the coming of a Savior, which was fulfilled in Jesus. It is a hope that helps us to move forward, even in difficult times.
- **Preparation of the heart:** This is an inner preparation to welcome Jesus into our lives. It is done through prayer, meditation, and listening to the Word of God.
- **Joy and light:** Advent is also a time of inner joy. The symbol of the candle on the Advent wreath represents this light that grows and dispels darkness, echoing the prophecies of Isaiah.
- **The model of Mary:** The Virgin Mary is the model of this joyful and confident expectation.

Infant baptism



Launching of the pastoral year 2025/2026 and commissioning of the ministries' leadership



Parish Life

Upcoming Event Dates at Columban Hall

- Saturday, December 7
- Sunday, December 21
- Saturday, December 13
- Sunday, December 28
- Sunday, December 14

Haitian Community Choir 10th anniversary celebration Sunday, November 23, 2025



Christ the King – gift bearers



Cleaning of the Holy Family water fountain



Conga player, Victor Beniot



A/C Fund as of November 23, 2025:

\$190,418.75



Diocèse de Saint Thomas

HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC CHURCH

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U.S. Virgin Islands 00802

Tel: 340-775-1650

Web: www.holyfamilystt.com



LA VOIX DU DIMANCHE DE LA COMMUNAUTE HAÏTIENNE

Premye Dimanch Avènman an – Ane A

Nimewo 108 Dimanch 30 Novanm 2025 La



REFERANS BIBLIK

Premye Lekti: Ezayi 2:1-5

Sòm Reponsyèl: Sòm 122: 1-2, 3-4, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9

Dezyèm Lekti: Women 13:11-14

Levanjil: Matye 24:37-44

LEKTI EKRI NAN SEMÈN LA

LENDI: Ezayi 4:2-6; Sòm 122:1-2, 3-4b, 4cd-5, 6-7, 8-9;
Matye 8:5-11

MADI: Ezayi 11:1-10; Sòm 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17;
Lik 10:21-24

MÈKREDI: *Sen Franswa Xavier, Prèt*
Ezayi 25:6-10a; Sòm 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6;
Matye 15:29-37

JEDI: Ezayi 26:1-6; Sòm 118:1 & 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a;
Matye 7:21, 24-27

VANDREDI: Ezayi 29:17-24; Sòm 27:1, 4, 13-14;
Matye 9:27-31

SAMDI: Ezayi 30:19-21, 23-26; Sòm 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6;
Matye 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8

PROCHÈN DIMANCH: *Dezyèm Dimanch Avènman an*
Ezayi 11:1-10; Sòm 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17;
Women 15:4-9; Matye 3:1-12

Meditasyon par Pè Modeste Digwou

“Veye, paske nou pa konnen ki jou Senyè nou an ap vini.”

Nan premye dimanch Avènman sa a, nou kòmanse vwayaj nou nan direksyon Nwèl. Tout moun deja ap pale de li ak fanmi yo, nan vil la, e sitou nan magazen yo. Chak ane, nou planifye gwo selebrasyon ak fanmi ak zanmi, fèt, ak kado. Pwoblèm nan se ke anpil moun bliye moun ki nan orijin selebrasyon sa a. Se yon ti jan tankou selebre yon anivèsè nesans epi bliye nèt moun ki pi konsène a. Nou panse a tout bagay eksepte li.

Se poutèt sa, twa lekti dimanch sa a dirije nou nan direksyon lavni. Paske gen yon lavni pou limanite, epi Bondye fè pati de li. Li se lavni sa a. Lwen pou l distrè nou nan preparasyon jwaye pou Nwèl la, li raple nou gravite lavi chak jou nou an. Vrè priorite a se prepare tèt nou chak jou pou gwo rankont ak Senyè a, atravè yon lavi jenere ak fidèl, plen konfyans ak lanmou.

“Veye, paske nou pa konnen ki lè Senyè nou an ap vini.” Nan jou sa a, n ap priye w, Senyè: “Ranfòse mach nou yo lè wout la travèse dezè ak marekaj. Nan efò n ap fè pou n monte a, ban nou yon ti goute lajwa ki sou tèt mòn yo.” Amèn.



ANONS PAWAS YO

Chandèl p'ap janm fini an

Chandèl Etènèl la ki boule nan Sanktyè legliz nou an, rapèl Prezans Senyè a nan Trè Sen Ekaristi a, pral boule pandan tout semèn k ap vini an pou benediksyon Bondye kontinye pou **Dave Hutchinson ak Chista Wilson**, jan frè ak sè yo te mande l la.

Mwa Desanm: Desanm se mwa **tibebe Jezi** a.

Retrè Minis yo: Yon retrèt obligatwa ap fèt samdi 6 desanm 2025 soti 9:00 am pou rive 12:00 midi pou TOUT lektè ak minis kominyon yo. Rev. Pè Andrea pral prezantatè a. Tout lektè ak minis ekaristik yo dwe prezan.

Akomodasyon: Nou bezwen volontè pou mès 10:00 am nan. Si w enterese pou sèvi, tanpri kontakte biwo legliz la oswa pale ak responsab yo, Viola Williams, Madmwazèl Rouse, oswa Madmwazèl White.

Travayè Sen Jozèf yo ap prezante Konsè Nwèl Anyèl yo dimanch 7 desanm 2025 nan Sal Kolonban ki anwo a a 4:00 pm. Don \$25, timoun 12 an oswa mwens gratis. Lajan yo pral ale nan Pwojè Klima a. Ou ka jwenn tikè nan men manm Travayè Sen Jozèf yo. Mèsi pou sipò ou.

Orè Misyon Avènman pou Dekan Sen Toma/Sen Jan:

Tèm: MARI, FANM AVÈNMAN AN:

- Dimanch 30 Novanm, 3:00 pm – Notre Dame du Secours Pèpètuel
Tèm: Konsepsyon Imakile Mari
- Lendi/Madi 1ye ak 2 Desanm, 6:30 pm – Legliz Fanmi Sen an (Renouvèlman Karismatik Katolik)
Oratè envite: **Pè. Godfrey Stoute** ki soti Trinidad ak Tobago
- Dimanch 7 Desanm, 3:00 pm – Legliz Notre Dame de Mt. Carmel (Sen Jan)
Tèm: Mari, Manman Bondye
- Dimanch 14 Desanm, 3:00 pm – Katedral Sen Pyè ak Sen Pòl
Tèm: Vyèj Mari Pèpètyèl
- Dimanch 21 Desanm, 3:00 pm – Legliz Sen Anne (Frenchtown)
Tèm: Assomption de Marie

Vini pou Adorasyon, Katechèz, ak Konfesyon.

Mès Gerizon: Pwochen Mès gerizon an ap fèt **vandredi 26 desanm 2025**—6:00 pm nan Sanktyè a (si tan an pèmèt).

MÈS ENTANSYON

Entansyon Lamès la se pou repo tout nanm Sent ki nan **Pigatwa a**.

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

ÒF WIKENN, 22 – 23 novanm 2025

Òf: \$2,639.00

Sam. 5:00 pm: \$451.00

9:00 am: \$1,937.00

Dim. 5:00 pm: \$251.00

Dezyèm Koleksyon: \$606.35

Koleksyon Ayiti ak Jamayik: TBA

Fon pou Èkondisyone: \$0.00

ÒF SEMÈN: 26 novanm: \$47.00

Yo ka fè bay sou entènèt sou sitwèb nou an nan:

www.holyfamilystt.com

Mèsi pou jenerozite ou!

NOUVÈL KOMINOTE A

- 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.



Parish Life



Leo P.P. XIV

Pope Leo XIV



Bishop Jerome Feudjio



Parish Administrator
Father Modeste Digwou

Parish Pastoral Council

Parish Administrator: Fr. Modeste Digwou

Pastoral Team: Fr. Yacob Lonfo, Br. Jean Phito

Chair: Andrea Shillingford

Vice-chair: Francis Callwood

Secretary: Maria D.N. "Duchess" Blencowe

Treasurer: Cydrenia Ferness

Pastor's Advisors: Orville "Sparrow" Rouse
Felicine "Baby" Marcellin

Members:

Silia Erilis	Myrtha Bourdeau
Betty Bast	Olga McBean
Oliver "Bobby" Williams	Viola Williams

Economic Parish Council

Parish Administrator: Fr. Modeste Digwou

Chair: Cydrenia Ferness

Co-chair: Vincia St. Jean

Secretary: Dawn Callwood

Treasurer: Connal Alfred

Members:

Mona Bedminster	Jean Dragin
Yvonne Brutus	Vilson By

Pastoral Animation Team

Fr. Modeste Digwou

Monique Ferrell

Jean Dragin

Silia Erilis

Mona Bedminster

Carmen White

Vincia St. Jean

Oliver "Bobby" Williams

Francis Callwood

Michelle Stout

Decoration Committee

Viola Williams

Hilda Celestine

Silia Erilis

Angele Lundy

Oliver "Bobby" Williams

McFarlane Babulal

Gift Shop Hours:

- Wednesday: 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM
- Saturday: 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM
- Sunday: after the 7:30 AM and 10:00 AM Masses

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 other natural disasters. Let us always feel the presence of your love. May we be secure in your protection and turn our fears in to 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.

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

WEEKEND OFFERINGS, November 22 – 23, 2025

Offering: \$2,639.00

Sat. 5:00 PM: \$451.00 9:00 AM: \$1,937.00

Sun. 5:00 PM: \$251.00

Second Collection: \$606.35

Haiti and Jamaica Collection: TBA

Air Conditioning Fund: \$0.00

WEEKDAY OFFERINGS: 11/26: \$47.00

Online giving can be made through our website at:

www.holyfamilystt.com

Thank you for your generosity!

2ND COLLECTION FOR THE COMING MONTH

Restoration Fund November 29-30

Christmas Flowers December 6-7

Restoration Fund December 6-7

Retirement Fund

for the Religious December 13-14

Bishop's Appeal December 13-14

Property Insurance December 20-21

Capital Improvements December 27-28

Pray For the Sick & Shut-ins

OFF ISLAND: Signorah Baron, Helen Bruney, Leon Bryan, Olivia Gumbs, Mercedes Hodge, Mary Lewis, Veronica Sealey, Joseph Toussaint

AT HOME: Malaine Alexander, St. Helaire Antoine, Carol Baron, François Baron, Philomen Baron, Madelene Bastien, James Bellot, Alix Bourdeau, Rose Celestine, Baby Elizabeth Dolphin, Maggie Dolphin, Anthony Estime, Magdalene Felix, Winifred Garfield, John George, John & Norma Gimenez, Meraldo C. Gonzales, Vernelle Gumbs, Gail Homer, Francis & Henrietta JohnBattiste, Owen Johnrose, Thomas Johnson, Marie Joseph, Bernice Knight, Cleopha Rawlings, Wende Rouse, Evelyn Simon, Paquita Steele, Iona Vanterpool.

HOSPITALIZED:

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

Church Attendance:

242 persons attended Holy Mass last weekend.

92 persons attended Holy Mass on Thanksgiving Day.

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