

THE CATHOLIC ISLANDER

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FEBRUARY 2006

A PUBLICATION OF THE DIOCESE OF ST. THOMAS IN THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

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BROTHER OF PRIEST DIES

Prayers are requested for the soul of Jose Antonio Sanchez Munoz, brother of Fr. Alejandro Sanchez, former administrator of St. Anne Chapel on St. Thomas. Mr. Sanchez died of a heart attack in Mayaguez, Puerto Rico, on January 27. He was 36 years old.

Fr. Sanchez is a priest of the Diocese of St. Thomas in the Virgin Islands. He is serving presently as chaplain of Maria Auxiliadora School in Carolina, Puerto Rico.

FR. MOODY TO BE BURIED ON STT

Prayers are requested for the soul of Fr. Jerome Moody, CSSR, former rector of Ss. Peter and Paul Cathedral on St. Thomas, who passed away at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston on January 22. He was 59.

Fr. Moody had suffered previous health crises due to heart disease and diabetes and was in residence at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Basilica rectory in Boston for easier access to medical treatment.

Fr. Moody requested burial in the Redemptorist crypt at Western Cemetery on his native St. Thomas. He asked that there be no public or private funeral Mass. Instead, he asked that a memorial Mass be celebrated in Dominica, the location of his last assignment, thirty days after his death.

At presstime, the date of interment was not known.

OUR LADY OF ALTAGRACIA



An image of Our Lady of Altagracia, Patroness of the Dominican Republic, was venerated at Ss. Peter and Paul Cathedral on St. Thomas on January 22.

TWO FORMER V.I. BISHOPS HONORED AT LUNCHEON



A luncheon honoring Archbishop O'Malley and Bishop Elliott Thomas at Frenchman's Reef Hotel on St. Thomas on January 29 raised funds for improvements at the Columban Hall of Holy Family Church.

Pictured above: Rafaela Sanes of the Hispanic community at Ss. Peter and Paul Cathedral made a presentation as moderator Addie Ottley and Archbishop Sean O'Malley listened.



Notes from the Bishop's Desk

*The Most Reverend George V. Murry, SJ
Bishop of the Diocese of St. Thomas in the Virgin Islands*

BISHOP MURRY'S FEBRUARY 2006 PUBLIC SCHEDULE

Wednesday, February 1, 11:00 a.m., Diocesan Communications Committee meeting, Catholic Chancery, St. Thomas.

Thursday, February 2, 9:00 a.m., Diocesan Finance Committee meeting, Catholic Chancery, St. Thomas.

Friday, February 3, 6:30 p.m., Speaker, Erev Shabbat Service, Synagogue, St. Thomas.

February 6-10, Visit with Fr. Jose Herrera, a priest of the diocese, who is serving with the military in the Sinai Peninsula.

February 11-12, Jesuit Meetings on evangelization, Rome, Italy.

Thursday, February 16, 10:00 a.m., Dedication of the First Lady's Garden, St. Thomas.

Saturday, February 18, 6:00 p.m., Mass, St. Patrick Church, St. Croix.

Sunday, February 19, 9:00 a.m., Mass, Sacred Heart Chapel, St. Croix.

Monday, February 20, 6:00 p.m., Bishop's Appeal Kick-Off Reception, Caneel Bay Resort, St. John.

Saturday, February 25, 7:00 a.m., Mass, Ss. Peter and Paul Cathedral, St. Thomas.

Saturday, February 25, 6:00 p.m., Bishop's Appeal Kick-Off Reception, Coral World, St. Thomas.

Sunday, February 26, 11:00 a.m., Mass, Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, St. Thomas.

PASTORAL VISIT TO TROOPS IN SINAI

Bishop George V. Murry, SJ, accepting an invitation from the commanding general of the United States armed forces, will visit Fr. Jose Herrera and other troops in the Sinai Peninsula on February 6-10. Fr. Herrera is a priest of the Diocese of St. Thomas in the Virgin Islands and former pastor of St. Joseph Church on St. Croix. He is serving in the military as Force Chaplain for a multinational contingent that is stationed along the border between Israel and Egypt as part of a peace agreement between those two nations.

DEDICATION OF THE FIRST LADY'S GARDEN

At the invitation of Governor Charles Turnbull, Bishop George Murry, SJ, will participate in the dedication of the First Lady's Garden in honor of Agnes Schuster King. The ceremony will be held on Thursday, February 16, at 10:00 a.m. in front of Government House on St. Thomas.

Mrs. King was the wife of the late Governor Cyril King, the territory's second elected governor, who served as chief executive from 1975 until his death in 1978. Until her death in 2003, Mrs. King was a parishioner at Ss. Peter and Paul Cathedral on St. Thomas.

BISHOP'S APPEAL 2006 READY TO LAUNCH



Bishop George Murry, SJ, and Charles Shain, Diocesan Director of Development and Marketing, reviewed the details of the Bishop's Appeal 2006, which will run from Ash Wednesday, March 1, to Palm Sunday, April 9.

NEW TEAM FOR EVANGELIZATION

The West Indian Franciscans of St. Croix and the Zion Community of Trinidad and Tobago have entered into a partnership to provide spiritual programs, workshops, retreats, training and educational outreach to parishes, schools and organizations. The team will launch its work March 3-5 at the Light of Christ Retreat Center on St. Croix, offering a series of evangelization workshops.

CHILD PROTECTION

Religious Education teachers and other parish staff and volunteers who have regular contact with children in the course of their ministries are required to attend *Protecting God's Children*, a video and discussion seminar on protecting children from abuse. The three-hour program will be presented at the following dates, times and locations in February.

Wednesday, February 1, 2:00 p.m., Hospitality Lounge of Ss. Peter and Paul Cathedral, St. Thomas.

Saturday, February 4, 9:00 a.m., Columban Hall of Holy Family Church, St. Thomas, and the social hall of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church, St. John.

Saturday, February 11, 9:00 a.m., McAlpin Hall of Holy Cross Church, St. Croix.

SISTER JOINS LOCAL ORDER

After three years of discernment and permission from the Holy See, Sr. Germaine Convery will transfer her vows from the Millvale Franciscans to the West Indian Franciscans based on St. Croix. The ceremony will take place at St. Ann Church on Sunday, February 12, at the 9:30 a.m. Mass. Msgr. Michael Kosak, Vicar General, will receive her vows.

INSTALLATION OF ACOLYTE

Msgr. Michael Kosak, Vicar General, will install Luis Soto to the ministry of acolyte at St. Patrick Church on St. Croix on Sunday, February 5, at the 7:00 a.m. Mass. Mr. Soto is a candidate for the permanent diaconate.

PARISH SEEKS BENEFACTORS FOR PEWS

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church on St. John initiated a campaign to raise money for pews until the start of the Bishop's Appeal on March 1. Between now and then the goal is to raise \$50,000 for the manufacture, delivery and installation of about twenty-five pews. Fr. Charles Crespo, Pastor, is seeking twenty-five benefactors who would purchase a pew for \$2,000 in memory of a loved one.

WORLD MARRIAGE DAY 2006

World Marriage Day will be celebrated at all parishes in the Diocese of St. Thomas in the Virgin Islands on the weekend of February 11-12. Special recognition will be given to couples who celebrate 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50 and 50+ years of marriage in the year 2006. Couples who registered at their parishes will receive a commemorative certificate from Bishop George Murry, SJ.

HEAD OF CATHOLIC CHARITIES OF VI SEES DEVASTATION IN NEW ORLEANS

Michael Akin, Executive Director of Catholic Charities of the Virgin Islands, was among the members of the Catholic Charities USA (CCUSA) Disaster Response Advisory Committee and CCUSA staff that visited some of the most heavily damaged areas of New Orleans on January 15-17. The visit was hosted by Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of New Orleans and underwritten by CCUSA.

The archdiocesan staff briefed the visiting team on plans for the city's redevelopment and the needs of the archdiocese in this effort.

Mr. Akin told *The Catholic Islander* that he was stunned by the vast expanse of destruction to the city.

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SANTO NINO CELEBRATION



Msgr. George Tomachik celebrated Mass honoring the "Santo Niño" (baby Jesus) at Holy Cross Church on January 15. Pictured above are Msgr. Tomachik, Fr. Pat Lynch, CSSR, Fr. Slawek Romanowski, CSSR, and members of the Santo Niño planning committee.

PRIEST SPEAKS AT MLK EVENT



Fr. Charles Crespo, Pastor of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church and a member of the St. John Interfaith Coalition, spoke about the social challenges for Hispanics in the Virgin Islands at a memorial for Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. at Franklyn A. Powell Sr. Park on January 16.

AUCTION TO AID ST. MARY SCHOOL

St. Mary School on St. Croix will hold its annual fundraising auction and dinner at the Divi Carina Bay Ballroom on Saturday, February 4, beginning with cocktails at 6:00 p.m.

Furniture, jewelry, art, small appliances, home decorations and more will be available for silent and live bidding. Credit cards will be accepted.

Dinner tickets are available for \$75 at Holy Cross Church and St. Mary School.

NEW PRIEST AT HOLY CROSS



Fr. Slawek Romanowski, CSSR, celebrated his first Mass as Parochial Vicar at Holy Cross Church on St. Croix on January 12.

SPONSOR A CHILD

Fr. Anthony Sazarumuthu will preach at all the Masses at St. Ann Church on St. Croix on February 4-5. Representing the Christian Foundation for Children and Aging, he will invite parishioners to sponsor needy children or elderly persons in a third world country.

VINCENTIAN OUTREACH

Members of the St. Vincent de Paul Society from Holy Family Church will visit Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church on St. John on Sunday, February 5, to introduce Vincentian ministry and spirituality. They will attend the 9:30 a.m. Mass and invite congregants to a brief presentation in the social hall after Mass. Refreshments will be served.

OUR LADY OF LOURDES

The Legion of Mary's Presidium Mary, Queen of Angels, on St. John will host a morning of Marian devotion and reflection on the feast of Our Lady of Lourdes at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church on Saturday, February 11. The program begins with a short film at 8:00 a.m., followed by Mass at 8:30 a.m., prayers, reflections and Eucharistic adoration. The program will close at 11:45 a.m. with the blessing and naming of the Guadalupe Social Hall.

ST. LUCIA INDEPENDENCE

St. Lucians on St. Croix will celebrate the twenty-seventh anniversary of independence in St. Lucia with a French Creole Mass at St. Ann Church on Sunday, February 26, at 9:30 a.m. That Mass will also be broadcast live on WRRR 1290 AM.

Choir practice is on Sundays at 5:00 p.m. and Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. in the Joachim Center.

¡BUENAS NOTICIAS!

HERMANO DE P. SÁNCHEZ FALLECIÓ

Se solicitan oraciones para el alma de José Antonio Sánchez Muñoz, hermano del P. Alejandro Sánchez, antiguo administrador de la Capilla Santa Ana en Sto. Tomás. El Sr. Sánchez falleció el 27 de enero en Mayagüez, Puerto Rico, de ataque al corazón. Tenía 36 años de edad.

El P. Sánchez es un sacerdote de la Diócesis de Sto. Tomás en las Islas Vírgenes. Está sirviendo ahora como capellán para la escuela Maria Auxiliadora en Carolina, Puerto Rico.

INSTALACIÓN COMO ACÓLITO

El Monseñor Michael Kosak, Vicario General, instalará a Luis Soto al ministerio de acólito en la Parroquia San Patricio en Santa Cruz durante la Misa del domingo 5 de febrero a las 7.00 a.m. El Sr. Soto es candidato para el diaconado permanente.

DÍA DEL MATRIMONIO MUNDIAL

El Día Mundial del Matrimonio se celebrará en todas las parroquias de la Diócesis de Sto. Tomás en las Islas Vírgenes durante el fin de semana de febrero 11-12. Un reconocimiento especial se les otorgará a las parejas que celebren aniversario 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, o más de 50 en el año 2006. Parejas que se han registrado en sus parroquias recibirán un certificado de manos del Obispo George Murry, Sj.

PARROQUIA BUSCA BANCAS

La Iglesia Nuestra Señora del Carmen en St. John ha iniciado una campaña hasta el 1 de marzo para la recolección de fondos a fin de adquirir las bancas. El objetivo es recaudar \$50,000 para la fabricación, la transportación, y la instalación de alrededor de veinte y cinco bancas. El P. Charles Crespo busca veinte y cinco benefactores que inviertan en la compra de una de las bancas a \$2,000.

LA MISION DE LA IGLESIA



Los Tres Reyes Magos oraron cerca del nacimiento en la Iglesia San José en Santa Cruz el domingo de la Epifanía, 8 de enero. Después de la Misa en español, los reyes dieron dulces a los niños en el salón social de la parroquia.

MISAS DE SANACIÓN

Un sacerdote impone las manos por la sanación en la Iglesia Nuestra Señora del Carmen en St. John cada viernes en la Misa de las 8.30 a.m., menos el primer viernes de cada mes, cuando se hace en las Misas de 7.00 a.m. y 7.00 p.m.

DESAYUNO CON EL PÁRROCO

Se comparte un Desayuno con el Párroco en la Iglesia Nuestra Señora del Carmen en St. John el 3 de febrero y el primer viernes de cada mes después de la Misa de las 7.00 a.m.

HORA SANTA

Hay Hora Santa bilingüe con Exposición y Bendición del Santísimo Sacramento en la Iglesia Nuestra Señora del Carmen en St. John el 3 de febrero y el primer viernes de cada mes, comenzando con Misa bilingüe a las 7.00 p.m.

MISA HISPANA EN TELEVISIÓN

Misas en español desde la Iglesia Nuestra Señora del Carmen en St. John se ven en Sto. Tomás y St. John en el canal 16 los sábados a las 2.00 p.m.

LA MISION DE LA IGLESIA



La Hermana Claudia Palacios, RGS, trae el evangelio a los niños de Fredensborg en Santa Cruz.

Catholic Education

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

"Catholic Schools: Character, Compassion, Values" is the theme of the national Catholic Schools Week 2006. The week runs from January 29 to February 4. The National Appreciation Day for Catholic Schools is February 1.

Bishop George Murry, SJ, celebrated the opening Mass at Ss. Peter and Paul Cathedral on St. Thomas on January 29.

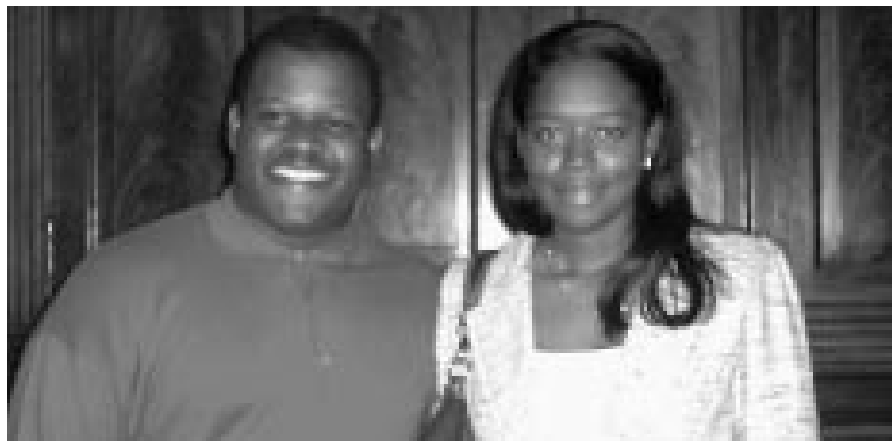
During Catholic Schools Week, each grade level at St. Joseph High School on St. Croix will have a retreat day. The students will raise funds through a Walk-a-thon for Catholic Schools on February 3 and host a Fun Day on their campus for elementary students of St. Mary and St. Patrick Schools.

St. Patrick School started Catholic Schools Week with a Children's Mass at St. Patrick Church on January 29. Two eighth graders, Sharifa Renee and Jed Bougouneau, spoke on attending a Catholic School. Other events include a Morning Prayer service, Mass with Bishop George Murry, SJ, Crazy Hat Day, Ecology Day, Teacher Appreciation Day, Twin Day, a grandparents and volunteer luncheon, a field day and a concert by Stanley and the Ten Sleepless Nights.

On St. Thomas, students at Ss. Peter and Paul School are participating in a Catholic Quiz Bowl, Teachers Switch Day, a Gruber Awards presentation, a Catholic School March from Emancipation Gardens to the school, Teachers and Administrators Appreciation Day, a multicultural fair and a talent show.

Catholic Schools Week is a joint project between the National Catholic Educational Association (NCEA) and the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB).

STUDENTS RECEIVE MLK AWARDS



Ruth Elmes of Ss. Peter and Paul School was among the students receiving the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Awards at the Hebrew Congregation of St. Thomas on January 13. They received a \$500 U.S. Savings Bond and a book, *Shared Dreams: Martin Luther King and the Jewish Community*.

Ms. Elmes is pictured above at the end of the ceremony with Senator Sean-Michael Malone.

STUDENTS HELP THE NEEDY



Students of St. Joseph High School on St. Croix donated items to Catholic Charities' Bethlehem House shelter as part of the Giving Tree Christmas Project organized by school librarian Rachel Fenske. Each class was given a list, and the items were presented to Matthias La Blanc, Manager of Bethlehem House, during the school's Christmas party on December 21. Gifts for the children and women who live at the home were also presented.

Pictured above left to right are Matthias La Blanc, Manager of Bethlehem House; Rachel Fenske, Librarian; and students Jonathan Bannis, Michaela Cooke, Laila Khaled, Charles Moorhead and Resia Thomas.

Catholic Education

BINGO RAISES FUNDS



Ss. Peter and Paul School on St. Thomas raises funds monthly with bingo in the school cafeteria. The next bingo is Friday, February 10, at 7:00 p.m.

SCHOLARSHIP DRIVE

The Knights of Columbus Council 6482 is hosting a raffle in order to fund two full scholarships to St. Joseph High School. One scholarship will be given to an eighth grade student at St. Mary School and the other to an eighth grade student at St. Patrick School.

First prize in the raffle is a 2006 Honda Accord, the second prize is a 60" color television and the third prize is \$200 certificate for gasoline. The winner will be announced in April.

MR. AND MISS ST. JOSEPH RIDE IN CARNIVAL PARADE

Mr. and Miss St. Joseph, also known as freshman Charles Moorehead and senior Laurene McIntosh, represented St. Joseph High School in the 2005-06 Crucian Christmas Adults Parade on January 7.

Principal Marla Matthew said the students and faculty decided to take part in the parade this year as a way of encouraging students to embrace their culture and to represent their school.



Mr. and Miss St. Joseph rode in the Cruzan Christmas Adult Parade on January 7.

SPELLING BEE CHAMPS



The five finalists of the spelling bee at St. Patrick School on St. Croix pictured above are winner Krystal Ferris, Grade 8; Robyn Moorhead, Grade 8; Wendy Bougouneau, teacher; first runner-up DeShawn Garvey, Grade 6; Meihua Fang, Grade 8; and Christella Samuel, Grade 7.

Eighth grader Krystal Ferris emerged as the winner of St. Patrick School's annual Spelling Bee After twelve rounds on January 20. Sixth grader DeShawn Garvey came in second place. Robyn Moorhead, Christella Samuel and Meihua Fang captured the third, fourth and fifth place positions respectively.

Thirty finalists were chosen following a series of individual classroom bees. Participants ranged from fourth to eighth grades.

VOLUNTEERS CONTINUE BUILDING THEIR CHURCH



Parishioner "Smiley" Doway painted the inside of the cross outside the new Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church on St. John. The improvements continue.

OLD YEAR'S DANCE



Fr. Troy Schuster, Pastor, and parishioner Louis Hughes enjoyed the Old Year's Night Dance at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church on St. Thomas on December 31.

DIOCESAN PRIESTS ON RETREAT

Bishop George Murry, SJ, and seven priests of the diocese took their retreat together at Casa Cristo Redentor in Aguas Buenas, Puerto Rico, on January 16-19. Pictured left to right are Msgr. Jerome Feudjio, Fr. Charles Crespo, Fr. Neil Scantlebury, Fr. Cecil Corneille, Fr. John Mark, Bishop George Murry, SJ, Fr. Troy Schuster and Fr. Louis Kemayou.



PREPARING PARENTS FOR THE BAPTISM OF THEIR BABIES



Fr. John Mark teaches baptism preparation classes at Ss. Peter and Paul Cathedral's Hospitality Lounge on St. Thomas.

POPE'S FIRST ENCYCLICAL

God Is Love (Deus Caritas Est), the first encyclical of Pope Benedict XVI, will be published in the United States on February 14 in English and Spanish. It is addressed to bishops, priests and deacons, men and women religious, and all the lay faithful.

BLACK AND INDIAN MISSION COLLECTION

All Masses in the Virgin Islands will have a second collection for the Black and Indian Mission Collection on February 25-26.

The Black and Indian Mission Collection has served Black and Native American communities nationally since it was authorized by the Catholic Church in 1884. The Diocese of St. Thomas in the Virgin Islands is a recipient of the Black and Indian Missions, receiving \$90,000 in 2005 to assist Catholic schools and support the education of seminarians.

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER IS CALLED FOR THE AFRICAN AMERICAN FAMILY

The Secretariat for African American Catholics of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops is promoting a National Day of Prayer for the African American Family on Sunday, February 5. The day of prayer was started by Fr. James Goode, OFM, in 1989 "as a day set aside for us to give special thanks to God for our families and place our every care in the arms of Jesus."

The Pride of Our Parishes



Laura Bedminster, secretary at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church on St. John and a parishioner at Holy Family Church on St. Thomas, gave birth to Nathan Bedminster on January 24.

ST. JOHN CALENDAR

BREAKFAST WITH THE PASTOR

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church hosts a pot luck breakfast on February 3 and all First Fridays after the 7:00 a.m. Mass.

HOLY HOUR/EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

A bilingual Holy Hour with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction follows the 7:00 p.m. Mass at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church on February 3 and all First Fridays.

CHILD PROTECTION SEMINAR

Protecting God's Children, a video and discussion seminar on protecting children from sexual abuse, will be held on Saturday, February 4, at 9:00 a.m. at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church.

VINCENTIAN SPIRITUALITY

Members of the St. Vincent de Paul Society from Holy Family Church on St. Thomas will introduce Vincentian ministry and spirituality at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church on Sunday, February 5, after the 9:30 a.m. Mass. Refreshments will be served.

OUR LADY OF LOURDES

The Legion of Mary Presidium Mary, Queen of Angels, on St. John will host a morning of Marian devotion and reflection of the feast of Our Lady of Lourdes at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church on Saturday, February 11. The program begins with a short film at 8:00 a.m., followed by Mass at 8:30 a.m., prayers, reflections and Eucharistic adoration. The program will close at 11:45 a.m. with the blessing and naming of the Guadalupe Social Hall.

EVENINGS OF CHARISMATIC PRAYER

Charismatic prayer meetings are held at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church on Thursdays at 7:00 p.m.

HEALING MASSES

A priest lays on hands for physical, spiritual, emotional and psychological healing at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church on Fridays at the 8:30 a.m. Mass. On First Fridays, that Mass is at 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

LEGION OF MARY

Presidium Mary, Queen of Angels, meets at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church on Saturdays at 7:30 p.m.

THE CATHOLIC ISLANDER
is online at www.catholicislander.com

*Our Blessed Mother's Message from Medjugorie
December 25, 2005*

“Dear children! Also today, in my arms I bring you little Jesus, the King of Peace, to bless you with His peace. Little children, in a special way today I call you to be my carriers of peace in this peaceless world. God will bless you. Little children, do not forget that I am your mother. I bless you all with a special blessing, with little Jesus in my arms. Thank you for having responded to my call.”

Courtesy of Claire & John Foster

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ST. CROIX CALENDAR

HOLY HOURS/EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Holy Cross Church has Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction on February 3 and all First Fridays from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

St. Joseph Church has a bilingual Holy Hour with Exposition and Benediction on February 3 and all First Fridays at 7:00 p.m.

St. Patrick Church has a Holy Hour with Exposition and Benediction on Fridays after the 8:00 a.m. Mass.

St. Ann Church has a Holy Hour with Exposition and Benediction on Fridays at 5:30 p.m.

HEALING MASS

St. Patrick Church has a healing Mass on February 3 and all First Fridays at 7:00 p.m.

SANTO NIÑO DEVOTION/RECONCILIATION

St. Joseph Church hosts devotions to *El Santo Niño* on February 4 and the first Saturday of each month at 4:30 p.m. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is offered simultaneously.

AUCTION

St. Mary School will hold its annual fundraising auction at the Divi Carina Bay Ballroom on Saturday, February 4. Cocktails will be served at 6:00 p.m., dinner at 7:00 p.m. Dinner tickets are available for \$75 at Holy Cross Church and St. Mary School.

INSTALLATION OF ACOLYTE

Msgr. Michael Kosak, Vicar General, will install Luis Soto to the ministry of acolyte at St. Patrick Church on Sunday, February 5, at the 7:00 a.m. Mass.

CHILD PROTECTION SEMINAR

Protecting God's Children, a video and discussion seminar on protecting children from sexual abuse, will be held on Saturday, February 11, at 9:00 a.m. in the McAlpin Hall at Holy Cross Church.

RELIGIOUS VOWS CEREMONY

Sr. Germaine Convery will transfer her vows from the Millvale Franciscans to the West Indian Franciscans at St. Ann Church on Sunday, February 12, at the 9:30 a.m. Mass.

FRANCISCAN SPIRITUALITY

The Our Lady of the Angels Fraternity shares Franciscan spirituality at the Franciscan House on February 12 and the second Sunday of each month at 3:00 p.m.

CANCER SUPPORT GROUP

Jim and Centelia Matthews lead a cancer support group at St. Ann Church on February 15 and the third Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m.

EVENINGS OF CHARISMATIC PRAYER

St. Patrick Church has an evening of charismatic prayer on February 17 and the third Friday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

St. Ann Church holds charismatic prayer meetings on Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m.

MAGNIFICAT

Magnificat, a ministry to Catholic women, meets in the Franciscan House on Sunday, February 19, and the third Sunday of each month at 3:00 p.m.

ST. LUCIA INDEPENDENCE DAY

St. Lucians celebrate the twenty-seventh anniversary of independence in St. Lucia with a French Creole Mass at St. Ann Church on Sunday, February 26, at 9:30 a.m.

CARMELITE SPIRITUALITY

Secular Order Discalced Carmelites share Carmelite spirituality at St. Ann Church on February 26 and the fourth Sunday of each month at 1:00 p.m.

LEGION OF MARY

Praesidium Our Lady of Grace meets in the Holy Cross Church rectory on Sundays at 4:00 p.m.

CURSILLO ULTREYA

Cursillo members meet at St. Joseph Church on Mondays after the 7:00 p.m. Mass. Meetings are in Spanish.

NEO-CATECHUMENAL WAY

The Neo-Catechumenal Way presents a catechesis at St. Joseph Church on Mondays and at Holy Cross Church on Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m.

BLUE ARMY OF OUR LADY OF FATIMA

The Blue Army of Our Lady of Fatima meets in the chapel at Holy Cross Church on Tuesdays at 5:00 p.m. Entry is by the gate to the rectory.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Holy Cross Council 6482 meets at the McAlpin Hall of Holy Cross Church on the first and third Thursdays of each month at 6:00 p.m.

ST. THOMAS CALENDAR

CHILD PROTECTION SEMINAR

Protecting God's Children, a video and discussion seminar on protecting children from sexual abuse, will be held on Wednesday, February 1, at 2:00 p.m. at the Hospitality Lounge of Ss. Peter and Paul Cathedral and on Saturday, February 4, at 8:30 a.m. at the Columban Hall of Holy Family Church.

HOLY HOURS/EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

St. Anne Chapel has a Holy Hour with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction on February 3 and all First Fridays at 6:00 p.m.

Ss. Peter and Paul Cathedral has a Holy Hour with Exposition and Benediction on Tuesdays at 5:30 p.m.

Holy Family Church has a Holy Hour with Exposition and Benediction on Fridays at 6:30 p.m.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church has a Holy Hour with Exposition and Benediction on Fridays at 6:30 p.m., followed by Mass at 7:30 p.m.

OUR LADY OF FATIMA DEVOTION

The Children of Mary lead a devotion to Our Lady of Fatima at Holy Family Church on February 4 and the first Saturday of each month at 4:00 p.m.

MAGNIFICAT

Magnificat, a ministry to Catholic women, meets Friday, February 10, at 5:00 p.m. and thereafter the first Saturday of each month at 8:30 a.m. in Ss. Peter and Paul Cathedral's Hospitality Lounge.

HEALTH FAIR

The Catholic Daughters of America are hosting a Health Fair at Ss. Peter and Paul School on Saturday, February 11, from 8:00 a.m. to noon. Nutrition counseling and free testing will be available for blood pressure, vision, glucose and cholesterol.

FRANCISCAN SPIRITUALITY

The Lady Clare of Assisi Fraternity share Franciscan spirituality at Holy Family Church on February 11 and the second Saturday of each month at 1:00 p.m.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

The Holy Family Chapter share Vincentian spirituality at Holy Family Church on February 14 and the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

MARRIAGE PREPARATION CLASSES

Marriage Preparation classes will be conducted at Ss. Peter and Paul Cathedral's Hospitality Lounge on Saturday, February 18, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF AMERICA

Court 2049 meets at Ss. Peter and Paul Cathedral's Hospitality Lounge on February 18 and the third Saturday of each month at 3:00 p.m.

FAT TUESDAY

Ss. Peter and Paul School will host a Fat Tuesday dance on Tuesday, February 28, at Columban Hall. Tickets are available at the school and parish offices.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Council 6187 meets at Ss. Peter and Paul Cathedral's Hospitality Lounge on the first and third Sunday of each month at 10:00 a.m.

LEGION OF MARY

Junior Presidium Mary, Queen of Archangels meets at the St. Anne Chapel Hall on Sundays at 1:30 p.m.

Presidium Mary, Mediatrix of All Graces meets at the St. Anne Chapel Hall on Sundays at 2:30 p.m.

Presidium Mary, Mystical Rose meets at Holy Family Church on Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m.

EVENINGS OF CHARISMATIC PRAYER

Charismatic prayer meetings are held at Holy Family Church on Mondays at 7:30 p.m.

BLUE ARMY OF OUR LADY OF FATIMA

The Blue Army of Our Lady of Fatima meets at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church on Thursdays at 10:00 a.m.

The Pride of Our Parishes



Jose Cossio, a parishioner at Ss. Peter and Paul Cathedral on St. Thomas and a candidate in the deacon program, edits the original programming for the Caribbean Television Network, shown locally on channel 16.