

THE CATHOLIC ISLANDER

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

Breaking News:
Pope Benedict XVI appoints Most Rev. George V. Murry, SJ, as Bishop of Youngstown. Article on page 2.

REV. DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY

Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King sought to forge the common ground on which people from all walks of life could join together to address important community issues. Working alongside individuals of all ages, races and backgrounds, Dr. King encouraged Americans to come together to strengthen communities, alleviate poverty, and acknowledge dignity and respect for all human beings.

Many Catholic Virgin Islanders honored King's legacy of tolerance, peace, and equality in song. Pictured top right, the adult choir at St. Patrick Church on St. Croix sang in his honor at Sunday Mass on January 14. Pictured center right, choir members of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church on St. John sang at the Martin Luther King Day of Remembrance program in Franklin A. Powell Sr. Park on January 15.

Pictured below right, three parishioners of Holy Family Church were among those honored at a Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., memorial by the Hebrew Congregation of St. Thomas at synagogue services on January 12. The annual ceremony honors seven St. Thomas high school students whose lives exemplify Dr. King's teachings. Pictured left to right are Amber Richards, Kearil Abraham, Rabbi Arthur Starr and Robelynn Green at the reception after the ceremony.



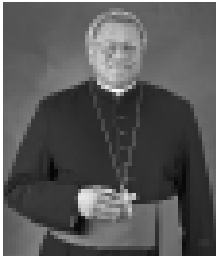
The adult choir of St. Patrick Church on St. Croix sang at Sunday Mass.



The choir of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church on St. John sang in the park.



Three Catholic youth were honored by the Hebrew Congregation of St. Thomas.



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 2007 PUBLIC SCHEDULE

Friday, February 2, 7:00 a.m.,
First Friday Mass, Our Lady of Mt.
Carmel Church, St. John.

Friday, February 2, 7:30 a.m.,
Breakfast with the Bishop, Our
Lady of Mt. Carmel Church, St.
John.

Saturday, February 3, 6:00 p.m.,
St. Mary School Auction, Divi
Carina Bay Resort, St. Croix.

Saturday, February 10, 7:00
p.m., Dinner for the St. Mary School
auction winners, St. Croix.

Sunday, February 11, 9:00 a.m.,
Mass, Sacred Heart Chapel, St.
Croix.

Tuesday, February 13, 10:00
a.m., St. Thomas/St. John Deanery
Meeting, Catholic Charities of the
Virgin Islands, St. Thomas.

Wednesday, February 14, 10:00
a.m., St. Croix Deanery Meeting, St.
Joseph High School, St. Croix.

Sunday, February 18, 6:30 p.m.,
Mass, Ss. Peter and Paul Cathedral,
St. Thomas.

Sunday, February 25, 9:30 a.m.,
Mass, Our Lady of Mt. Carmel
Church, St. John.

BREAKFAST WITH THE BISHOP

Bishop George Murry, SJ, will host the pot-luck Breakfast with the Bishop at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church on St. John on Friday, February 2. Normally, Breakfast with the Pastor follows the First Friday Mass at 7:00 a.m., but on this date Bishop Murry will substitute for Fr. Charles Crespo, who will be off-island.

POPE REASSIGNS BISHOP MURRY

Archbishop Pietro Sambi, Apostolic Nuncio to the United States, announced on January 30 that Pope Benedict XVI has appointed Bishop George Murry, SJ, as the bishop of the Diocese of Youngstown, Ohio. He will be installed in Youngstown on March 28.

Bishop Murry was in Youngstown on January 30 for the announcement, then celebrated the afternoon Mass at St. Columba Cathedral.

"I am honored to accept the Holy Father's appointment to serve as bishop of Youngstown, and I look forward to meeting and working with the priests, deacons, religious and laity of the diocese," said Bishop Murry. "At the same time I am very grateful to the people of the Virgin Islands for their love and support, and I will hold them in my heart with affection."

Bishop Murry served as Coadjutor Bishop of the Diocese of St. Thomas in the Virgin Islands on May 5, 1998, and was installed as bishop of the diocese on June 30, 1999.

Bishop Murry will be the fifth bishop in the diocese's history, succeeding Bishop Thomas Tobin, who was appointed Bishop of Providence, Rhode Island, on March 31, 2005. Established May 15, 1943, the Diocese of Youngstown comprises six counties in Northeast Ohio. It has a Catholic population of 239,960 out of a total population of 1,223,313. Bishop Murry's jurisdiction will include 173 priests, 66 permanent deacons and 242 religious. The diocese has 115 parishes, 40 elementary schools, six high schools and three hospitals.

PREPARING FOR THE BISHOP'S APPEAL 2007



In preparation for the launch of the Bishop's Appeal 2007 on February 24, Bishop George Murry, SJ, posed for promotional photographs with students from the four Catholic Schools of the Virgin Islands.

REST IN PEACE

Prayers are requested for the repose of the souls of the mother of Michael Akin, Executive Director of Catholic Charities, and the mother-in-law of Deacon Austin Medina of Holy Family Church on St. Thomas. The former, Marjorie Akin, passed away on January 4; the latter, Rita Keating passed away on January 22

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 10-11. Special recognition will be given to couples who celebrate 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50 and 50+ years of marriage in the year 2007. Couples who registered at their parishes will receive a commemorative certificate from Bishop George Murry, SJ.

PRAYER GROUP CELEBRATES ITS 25th ANNIVERSARY

The St. Patrick Church Prayer Group will celebrate its 25th anniversary with three activities. First, a "Singspiration" concert will be held at St. Patrick Church on St. Croix on Friday, February 9, at 7:00 p.m. Next, the prayer group will host a Valentine's Day breakfast at St. Gerard Hall on Sunday, February 11, after the 7:00 a.m. Mass; tickets are available for \$10. Finally, Fr. John McLoughlin, CSsR, Pastor of St. Patrick Church, will celebrate Mass at the church on Monday, February 12, at 7:00 p.m. Msgr. Michael Kosak, pastor of St. Ann Church on St. Croix, will be the homilist. Msgr. Kosak and his team helped launch the prayer group 25 years ago with a Life in the Spirit Seminar.

ST. LUCIANS CELEBRATE INDEPENDENCE DAY MASS

St. Lucians on St. Croix will celebrate the twenty-eighth anniversary of independence in St. Lucia with a French Creole Mass celebrated by Fr. Cecil Goodman at St. Ann Church on Sunday, February 11, at 9:30 a.m. The Mass will be broadcast live on WRRR 1290 AM.

AUCTION WILL RAISE FUNDS FOR SCHOOL LIBRARY

St. Mary School on St. Croix will hold its annual fundraising dinner and auction at the Divi Carina Bay Ballroom on Saturday, February 6. Cocktails will be served at 6:00 p.m., dinner at 7:00 p.m.

This year's theme is "Going on Safari." Dinner tickets are available for \$75 at Holy Cross Church and St. Mary School.

St. Mary School is hosting its Gala to raise \$100,000 toward upgrading the library. With these funds, the library's reference and nonfiction collections will be updated and shelf space will be created for the 1500 new fiction titles recently acquired through the federally-funded Title V program. The funds will also finance the construction of an access to the adjoining video room.

MARDI GRAS

The Social Committee of Ss. Peter and Paul Cathedral on St. Thomas will host a Fat Tuesday celebration at Walkers by the Sea on Tuesday, February 20, at 6:00 p.m. Tickets are available at the parish office for \$20.

HOMELESS COUNT

Catholic Charities of the Virgin Islands is seeking volunteers to assist in a federally-mandated count of homeless persons in the territory. The count will be on Saturday, March 10, from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Those interested in participating should contact the agency at (340) 777-8518 for information on training.

SCHOOL DONATIONS

Two local businesses have made generous donations to Ss. Peter and Paul Catholic School on St. Thomas to help improve the school's campus and the implementation of technology. First Bank donated \$1,000 and Hudson Management Group donated \$6,000 to aid the school in making the classrooms more secure for the implementation of new computers in every classroom.

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LENTEN REGULATIONS

The season of Lent begins with Ash Wednesday, which falls this year on February 21.

Abstinence from meats is to be observed by all Catholics 14 years old and older on Ash Wednesday and on all Fridays of Lent.

In addition, fasting is to be observed on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday by all Catholics who are 18 years of age but not yet 59. Those who are bound by this may take only one full meal. Two smaller meals are permitted if necessary to maintain strength according to one's needs, but eating solid foods between meals is not permitted.

The special Paschal fast and abstinence are encouraged for Holy Saturday.

By the threefold discipline of fasting, almsgiving and prayer, the Church keeps Lent from Ash Wednesday until the evening of Holy Thursday. All of the faithful and the catechumens should undertake serious practice of these three traditions. Failure to observe any penitential days at all or a substantial number of such days must be considered serious.

ASH WEDNESDAY

On Ash Wednesday, February 21, Catholics and other Christians will wear the sign of the cross in ashes on their foreheads, bearing witness to their belief in the sorrow for sins and preparing for a season of repentance which ends with the bright celebration of Easter.

The ashes used in this ceremony are made by burning the remains of the palms blessed on the Palm Sunday of the previous year. Four ancient prayers are prayed in the blessing of the ashes. The ashes are sprinkled with holy water and fumigated with incense. The priest or deacon, dipping his thumb into the ashes, marks the sign of the cross on the forehead of each person, saying "Remember, you are dust and unto dust you shall return" or "Turn away from sin and be faithful to the gospel."

On St. Thomas, ashes will be imposed at Ss. Peter and Paul Cathedral at 7:00 and 8:30 a.m. (school Mass), and 12:15, 5:30 and 7:00 p.m., at Holy Family Church at 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m., at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church at 6:30 p.m., and at St. Anne Chapel at 7:30 p.m.

On St. Croix, ashes will be imposed at the Herbert Grigg Home for the Aged at 10:30 a.m., at Holy Cross Church at 8:15 a.m., noon and 6:00 p.m., at St. Ann Church at 6:30 a.m. and 12:15, 3:00 (children's service) and 7:00 p.m., at St. Joseph Church at 6:30 a.m. and 7:00 p.m., and at St. Patrick Church at 6:30 a.m., 8:00 a.m. and noon.

On St. John, ashes will be imposed at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church at the 8:30 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. Masses and at para-liturgical services at noon and 4:00 p.m.

LENTEN MISSION

Lenten Missions are an opportunity to delve more deeply into the meaning of the mystery of the Paschal faith.

Fr. Ken Richards of Holy Trinity Cathedral in Kingston, Jamaica, will lead a mission at St. Ann Church on St. Croix on February 27-March 2 at 7:00 p.m.

Fr. Simeon Gallagher, OFM Cap., will lead a mission at Holy Family Church on St. Thomas on March 10-15. He will preach at the Masses on Saturday at 6:00 p.m. and Sunday at 7:30 and 10:00 a.m., and will continue the mission Monday through Thursday at 7:00 p.m.

Fr. Emmanuel Shiju, CSsR, will lead a Lenten Mission at St. Patrick Church on St. Croix on March 26-29.

LENTEN BIBLE STUDIES

Two Bible studies will begin during Lent on St. Croix. Participants are asked to bring a Bible.

Sr. Germaine Convery, WIF, will teach on the New Testament book of Galatians at Light of Christ Retreat Center on Thursdays beginning February 22 at 10:00 a.m.

The five sorrowful mysteries of the Rosary will be studied over five Tuesdays, one mystery per bible study, at the McAlpin Hall of Holy Cross Church beginning February 27 at 7:00 p.m. An appropriate scene from the film *Jesus of Nazareth* will set the scene.

SOUP AND BREAD SUPPERS

As a form of penance during Fridays in Lent, Catholics on St. Croix are invited to forego their usual supper and instead come to St. Joseph Church to share free homemade soup, bread and fellowship. The suppers begin at 6:45 p.m.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Praying the Stations of the Cross (also known as the Way of the Cross and the Via Crucis) helps the faithful feel the Good Friday experience of Jesus walking through the streets of Jerusalem to his passion and death. The Stations of the Cross will be prayed at all parishes on the Fridays of Lent.

On St. Thomas, the Stations of the Cross will be prayed at Holy Family Church at 5:30 p.m., Ss. Peter and Paul Cathedral in English at 5:30 p.m. and in Spanish at 6:15 p.m., Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church at 6:00 p.m. and St. Anne Chapel at 7:00 p.m.

On St. Croix, pray the Stations at St. Ann Church or St. Joseph Church at 5:30 p.m., Holy Cross Church or St. Patrick Church at 7:00 p.m., or in Spanish at Sacred Heart Chapel at 7:00 p.m.

On St. John, the Stations will be prayed at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church at 7:00 p.m.

¡BUENAS NOTICIAS!



El P. Louis Kemayou, nuevo párroco de la Iglesia San José en Sta. Cruz, se sentó con jóvenes en el Salón de Hospitalidad durante el compartir siguiente a la Misa de Nuestra Señora de Altagracia, patrona de la Republica Dominicana, el 21 de enero.

REGLAS DE CUARESMA

Cuaresma comienza el Miércoles de Ceniza, que este año es el 21 de febrero, y termina Jueves Santo, que este año es el 5 de abril.

Todos los viernes de cuaresma se consideran días de abstinencia. Miércoles de Ceniza y Viernes Santo son los únicos dos días designado para ambos abstinencia y ayuno.

Abstinencia significa que no podemos comer carne en esos días si tenemos 14 años en adelante. Ayuno significa que nos limitamos a una comida completa al día si estamos entre las edades de 18 y 59 años.

VÍA CRUCIS

Una costumbre cada viernes de cuaresma es el revivir de la caminata de Jesús al Calvario. La Vía Crucis se orará en español en la Catedral San Pedro y San Pablo en Sto. Tomás los viernes de cuaresma a las 6:15 p.m. y en la Capilla Sagrado Corazon en Sta. Cruz a las 7.00 p.m. Se orará bilingüe en la Iglesia San José en Sta. Cruz a las 5.30 p.m.

CENAS ALTERNATIVAS DE PAN Y SOPA

Como penitencia, la Iglesia San José en Sta. Cruz proponen a sus feligreses que en los viernes de cuaresma, en vez de comer una cena regular, que vengan a la parroquia para compartir la alternativa de una cena simple de pan y sopa vegetariana hecha en casa a las 6.45 p.m.



Los tres reyes magos encontraron el niño Jesús en la Iglesia San José en Sta. Cruz durante la Misa en español de la Epifanía, el 7 de enero.

DESAYUNO CON EL PÁRROCO

Se comparte un Desayuno con el Párroco en la Iglesia Nuestra Señora del Carmen en St. John el 2 de febrero y el primer viernes de cada mes después de la Misa de las 7.00 a.m.

HORA SANTA

La Iglesia San José en Sta. Cruz tiene una Hora Santa bilingüe con Exposición y Bendición del Santísimo Sacramento el 2 de febrero y el primer viernes de cada mes a las 7.00 p.m.

CURSILLO ULTREYA

Miembros del Movimiento de Cursillos se reúnen en el Salón de Hospitalidad de la Iglesia San José en Sta. Cruz los lunes después de la Misa de las 7.00 p.m.

ORACIÓN Y REFLEXIÓN

Un grupo de oración reza el rosario y comparte de las lecturas del próximo domingo en español en la Iglesia Holy Cross en Sta. Cruz cada martes a las 7.00 p.m.

Un grupo de oración del Movimiento de Cursillos se reúne en la Iglesia San José en Sta. Cruz los últimos jueves del mes a las 7.00 p.m.

CLASES DE INGLES

Clases de ingles se ofrecen gratuitamente en la Iglesia Nuestra Señora del Carmen en St. John los miércoles a las 6.30 p.m.

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.

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.

BAPTISM



Fr. Charles Crespo baptized three babies at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church on St. John at the Mass honoring Our Lady of Altigracia, patroness of the Dominican Republic.

CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES



Confirmation candidates at Holy Family Church on St. Thomas attended Sunday Mass together on January 21. They participated in the Rite of Inscription in anticipation of their reception of the sacrament on Sunday, June 3.



Very Rev. Neil Scantlebury spun the ticket stubs to determine the winners of the annual raffle at St. Anne Chapel on St. Thomas on January 7.

BAPTISM



Msgr. Jerome Feudjio, Pastor of Holy Family Church on St. Thomas, posed with the family and godparents of Adora Clement after her baptism on November 26.

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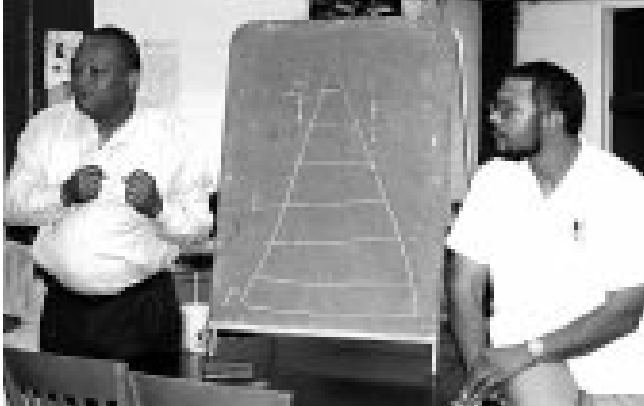
EPIPHANY



Khadijah and Ronald Lee, Jr., placed the three kings in the nativity scene at the beginning of Mass at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church on St. John on the Feast of the Epiphany, January 7.

Catholic Education

DEVELOPING A POSITIVE SCHOOL CLIMATE



Psychologist Chester Copemann (left) and Fr. Kenneth Gaddy, CSsR (right), led a workshop for the staff and faculty of St. Joseph High School on St. Croix in the school library on January 23. On the board, Dr. Copemann illustrated the pyramid of Maslow's hierarchy of needs. Fr. Gaddy spoke on recognizing and responding to the spiritual needs of the school.

STUDENTS COMPETE IN THE STOCK MARKET



Sixteen students from St. Joseph High School on St. Croix have formed six teams that are competing for cash prizes via internet in the Stock Market Investment Program hosted by the Foundation for Investor Education. Pictured above, left to right, are Economics teacher Barbara Hill-Troutman and seniors Kenya Troutman and Victoria Sylvester.

THE HONOR ROLL

St. Patrick School on St. Croix celebrated Honor Roll Day in the St. Gerard Hall on January 16. The students received their honor roll certificates for outstanding achievement during the second marking period. Pictured right are Grades Kindergarten to 4; pictured below are Grades 5 to 8.



The Pride of Our Parishes



Michael Sorzano plays steel pan at Sunday Masses at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church on St. John.

PRIESTS RETREAT



Fr. John Conely, CP, led a retreat for the priests serving the Diocese of St. Thomas in the Virgin Islands at Light of Christ Retreat Center on St. Croix on January 15-17.

VINCENTIANS BRING JOY TO THE NEEDY



Members of the St. Vincent de Paul Society at Holy Family Church on St. Thomas brought Christmas gifts to the sick of the community after Mass on December 31.

MINISTRY TO WOMEN



Ruth deGout-Smith was the guest speaker at a meal and meeting of Magnificat of St. Thomas/St John in the Ss. Peter and Paul Cathedral Hospitality Lounge on January 20.



The Health Care Ministry of Holy Family Church on St. Thomas presented a Healthy Lifestyle Seminar with Dr. Alana Van Putter at Columban Hall on January 21.

ST. THOMAS CALENDAR

HOLY HOURS/EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

St. Anne Chapel has a Holy Hour with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction on February 2 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.

BINGO

Ss. Peter and Paul School will close Catholic Schools Week with bingo on Friday, February 2, at 7:00 p.m.

MAGNIFICAT

Magnificat, a ministry to Catholic women, meets at Ss. Peter and Paul Cathedral's Hospitality Lounge on February 3 and the first Saturday of each month at 8:30 a.m.

OUR LADY OF FATIMA DEVOTION

The Children of Mary lead a devotion to Our Lady of Fatima at Holy Family Church on February 3 and the first Saturday of each month at 4:00 p.m.

FRANCISCAN SPIRITUALITY

The Lady Clare of Assisi Fraternity shares Franciscan spirituality at Holy Family Church on February 10 and the second Saturday of each month at 1:00 p.m.

ST. JOSEPH WORKERS

The St. Joseph Workers meet at Holy Family Church on February 11 and the second Sunday of each month at 9:30 a.m.

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF AMERICA

Court 2049 meets at Ss. Peter and Paul Cathedral's Hospitality Lounge on February 17 and the third Saturday of each month at 3:00 p.m.

MARDI GRAS

The Social Committee of Ss. Peter and Paul Cathedral will host a Fat Tuesday celebration at Walkers by the Sea on Tuesday, February 20, at 6:00 p.m. Tickets are available at the parish office for \$20.

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.

WORLD APOSTOLATE OF FATIMA

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

ST. JOHN CALENDAR

LEGION OF MARY

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

SILENT EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church hosts an hour of silence before the Blessed Sacrament on Thursdays at 6:00 p.m.

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 Friday, February 2 and all First Fridays, that Mass is at 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

BREAKFAST WITH THE PASTOR

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church hosts a pot luck breakfast on February 2 and all First Fridays after the 7:00 a.m. Mass.

FIRST FRIDAY HOLY HOUR

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church has a Holy Hour with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction on February 2 and all First Fridays after the 7:00 p.m. Mass.

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

A free course in English is held in the Guadalupe Hall of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church on Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.

Why Join the Knights of Columbus?

Knights are Catholic men, 18 years of age and older, who are committed to making their community a better place while supporting their Church. Being a Knight is more than camaraderie; it is being involved with your community; it is supporting your local Catholic Church, while enhancing your own faith; it is about protecting and enhancing your family life.

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PROTECTION OF CHILDREN

The Diocese of St. Thomas in the Virgin Islands is committed to protecting children from all harm. If you have knowledge that any priest, deacon or church worker may have abused a minor, please immediately contact the Vicar General of the diocese, Msgr. Michael Kosak, at (340) 778-0484 or Bishop George Murry, SJ, at (340) 774-3166.

Our Blessed Mother's Message from Medjugorje
December 25, 2006

"Dear children! Also today I bring you the newborn Jesus in my arms. He who is the King of Heaven and earth, He is your peace. Little children, no one can give you peace as He who is the King of Peace. Therefore, adore Him in your hearts, choose Him and you will have joy in Him. He will bless you with His blessing of peace. Thank you for having responded to my call."

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ST. CROIX CALENDAR

HOLY HOURS/EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Holy Cross Church has Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction on February 2 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 2 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 2 and all First Fridays at 7:00 p.m.

SANTO NIÑO DEVOTION/RECONCILIATION

St. Joseph Church hosts devotions to *El Santo Niño* on February 3 and the first Saturday of each month at 4:30 p.m. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is offered.

SCHOOL DINNER AND AUCTION

St. Mary School will hold its annual fundraising dinner and auction at the Divi Carina Bay Ballroom on Saturday, February 6. Cocktails will be served at 6:00 p.m., dinner at 7:00 p.m.

GOSPEL CONCERT

The St. Patrick Church Prayer Group will host a "Singspiration" concert at St. Patrick Church on Friday, February 9, at 7:00 p.m.

VALENTINES BREAKFAST

The St. Patrick Church Prayer Group will host a Valentine's Day breakfast at St. Gerard Hall on Sunday, February 11, after the 7:00 a.m. Mass; tickets are available for \$10.

ST. LUCIA INDEPENDENCE DAY MASS

Fr. Cecil Goodman of St. Lucia will celebrate a bilingual English/Creole Mass for the twenty-eighth anniversary of independence in St. Lucia at St. Ann Church on Sunday, February 11, at 9:30 a.m.

SECULAR FRANCISCANS

The Our Lady of the Angels Fraternity shares Franciscan spirituality at the Franciscan House on February 11 and the second Sunday of each month at 3:00 p.m.

PRO-LIFE PRAYER VIGIL

The Pro-Life Committee of Holy Cross Church will hold a prayer vigil outside the abortion clinic across from Island Center on Tuesday, February 13, at 10:00 a.m.

EVENINGS OF CHARISMATIC PRAYER

St. Patrick Church has an evening of charismatic prayer on February 16 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 February 18 and the third 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 21 and the third Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m.

LENTEN BIBLE STUDIES

Sr. Germaine Convery, WIF, will teach on the New Testament book of Galatians on Thursdays of Lent beginning February 22 at 10:00 a.m.

The five sorrowful mysteries of the Rosary will be studied over five Tuesdays, one mystery per bible study, at the McAlpin Hall of Holy Cross Church beginning February 27 at 7:00 p.m.

CARMELITE SPIRITUALITY

Secular Order Discalced Carmelites share Carmelite spirituality in the St. Joseph Church Hospitality Lounge and Learning Center on February 25 and the fourth Sunday of each month at 1:00 p.m.

SPIRITUAL DIRECTION

Sr. Germaine Convery, WIF, offers Spiritual Direction on Mondays from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at Light of Christ Retreat Center. Appointments are not necessary, and no fee is charged.

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.

DIOCESE OF ST. THOMAS IN THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

LENT 2007 PARISH SCHEDULES

ST. THOMAS

Ss. Peter and Paul Cathedral

Ashes will be distributed at Mass on Wednesday, February 21, at 7:00 and 8:30 a.m. (School Mass), 12:15, 5:30 and 7:00 p.m. (Spanish).

Holy Hour with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction will be on Tuesdays at 5:30 p.m.

Stations of the Cross will be prayed on Fridays at 5:30 p.m. in English and 6:15 p.m. in Spanish.

St. Anne Chapel

Ashes will be distributed at Mass on Wednesday, February 21, at 7:30 p.m.

Stations of the Cross will be prayed on Fridays at 7:00 p.m.

The First Friday Mass will be on March 2 at 7:30 p.m.

Holy Family Church

Ashes will be distributed at Mass on Wednesday, February 21, at 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Stations of the Cross will be prayed on Fridays at 5:30 p.m., followed by Mass and Holy Hour with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction.

Fr. Simeon Gallagher, OFM Cap., will lead a mission at Holy Family Church on St. Thomas on March 10-15. He will preach at the Masses on Saturday at 6:00 p.m. and Sunday at 7:30 and 10:00 a.m., and will continue the mission Monday through Thursday at 7:00 p.m.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church

Ashes will be distributed at Mass on Wednesday, February 21, at 6:30 p.m.

Stations of the Cross will be prayed on Fridays at 6:00 p.m., followed by Eucharistic adoration. Mass is at 7:00 p.m.

ST. JOHN

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church

Ashes will be distributed at Mass on Wednesday, February 21, at 8:30 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. and at paraliturgical services at noon and 4:00 p.m.

Morning Prayer from the Liturgy of the Hours will be prayed on weekdays at 7:00 a.m.

An hour of silent Eucharistic adoration will be held on Thursdays at 6:00 p.m.

Stations of the Cross will be prayed on Fridays at 6:30 p.m., followed by Mass. On Friday, March 2, a Holy Hour with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction will follow the Mass.

ST. CROIX

Holy Cross Church

Ashes will be distributed at Mass on Wednesday, February 21, at 8:15 a.m., noon and 6:00 p.m.

Stations of the Cross will include benediction and confession on Fridays at 7:00 p.m.

First Friday devotions include Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on March 2 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Sacred Heart Chapel

Stations of the Cross will be prayed in Spanish on Fridays at 7:00 p.m.

St. Ann Church

Ashes will be distributed at Mass on Wednesday, February 21, at 6:30 a.m., and 12:15 and 7:00 p.m.; a children's service will be at 3:00 p.m.

Confessions will be heard on Saturdays at 5:00 p.m. and Sundays at 8:45 a.m.

Holy Hour with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction will be on Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m.

Stations of the Cross will be prayed on Fridays at 5:30 p.m. followed by Mass at 6:00 p.m.

Fr. Ken Richards of Holy Trinity Cathedral in Kingston, Jamaica, will lead a Lenten Mission on February 27-March 2 at 7:00 p.m.

A Penance Service will include the Sacrament of Reconciliation on Tuesday, March 27, at 7:00 p.m.

St. Joseph Church

Ashes will be distributed at Mass on Wednesday, February 21, at 6:30 a.m. (English) and 7:00 p.m. (bilingual).

A bilingual Stations of the Cross will be prayed in the church at 5:30 p.m., followed by a bilingual Mass at 6:00 p.m.

The sharing of soup and bread will be in the Hospitality Lounge and Learning Center on Fridays at 6:45 p.m.

A Penance Service will include the Sacrament of Reconciliation on Wednesday, March 28, at 7:00 p.m.

St. Patrick Church

Ashes will be distributed at Mass on Wednesday, February 21, at 6:30 and 8:00 a.m., and at a para-liturgical service at noon.

A 6:30 a.m. Mass is added to the weekday schedule.

Holy Hour with Stations of the Cross as well as Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction will be on Fridays at 7:00 p.m.

The parish's Patronal Feast will be celebrated on Sunday, March 18, at the 10:00 a.m. Mass, followed by a parade through Frederiksted and brunch in the St. Gerard Hall.

Fr. Emmanuel Shiju, CSsR, will lead a Lenten Mission on March 26-29 at 7:00 p.m.