

THE CATHOLIC ISLANDER

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THE BISHOP'S APPEAL 2006 IS APPROACHING ITS GOAL

The Bishop's Appeal 2006 raised over \$100,000 in its first two weeks, on its way to a goal of \$425,000.

Each Lent, the Bishop's Appeal raises funds to support Catholic Charities of the Virgin Islands (CCVI) and the four Catholic schools in the diocese. With the \$375,000 in gifts generated last year, each Catholic school in the diocese was able to offer tuition assistance to needy families and Ss. Peter and Paul School began an exterior renovation project. Also, CCVI purchased a van to bring food and medicine to shut-ins and expanded services to the homeless on St. Croix, St. John and St. Thomas.

As of March 17, the parishes of the diocese had raised the following amounts.

St. Croix

Holy Cross Church/Sacred Heart Chapel	\$ 5,175
St. Ann Church	\$ 5,420
St. Joseph Church	\$ 400
St. Patrick Church	\$ 1,650

St. Thomas/St. John

Ss. Peter and Paul Cathedral	\$13,509
Holy Family Church	\$11,937
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church	\$ 8,100
St. Anne Chapel	\$ 4,255
Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church	\$ 3,985

Most Rev. George V. Murry, SJ, Bishop of the Diocese of St. Thomas in the Virgin Islands, attracted 18 gifts totaling \$62,085.

To date, the Bishop's Appeal 2006 has generated 218 gifts totaling \$116,516.

"I am very grateful to all those who have given to the Bishop's Appeal and I encourage each family in our diocese to prayerfully consider a gift in imitation of Our Lord, who gave His life so that we might have life," said Bishop Murry.

Brochures and envelopes for the Bishop Appeal 2006 are available at all Catholic parishes, schools and Catholic Charities.

PRO-LIFE PRAYER VIGIL

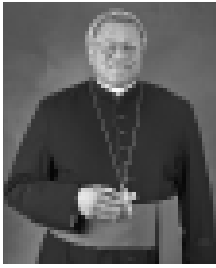


The Pro Life committee of Holy Cross Church holds one-hour prayer vigils in front of abortion clinics on St. Croix, alternating each month between two clinics. The vigil is made up of fifteen decades of the rosary with pro-life meditations composed by Fr. Frank Pavone, Director of Priests for Life, a national organization supporting the church's pro-life agenda. The next vigil is at the shopping mall across from Island Center on Tuesday, April 11, beginning at 5:00 p.m.

FEAST OF ST. PATRICK



St. Patrick Church and St. Patrick School on St. Croix celebrated their Patronal Feast on March 19, starting in the church with Sunday Mass celebrated by Bishop George V. Murry, SJ, Bishop of the Diocese of St. Thomas in the Virgin Islands. Pictured above, "St. Patrick" rode in the parade on a donkey in the parade after Mass.



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 PUBLIC SCHEDULE

Saturday, April 1, 6:00 p.m.,
Mass, Ss. Peter and Paul Cathedral,
St. Thomas.

Sunday, April 2, 7:30 and 9:00
a.m., Mass, Our Lady of Mt. Carmel
Church, St. John.

Sunday, April 9, 11:00 a.m.,
Eightieth Anniversary Mass and
Luncheon, Our Lady of Perpetual
Help Church, St. Thomas.

Monday, April 10, 6:00 p.m.,
Penance Service, Holy Family
Church, St. Thomas.

Tuesday, April 11, 10:00 a.m.,
Presbyteral Council and Consultors
Meeting, St. Joseph Church, St.
Croix.

Tuesday, April 11, 7:00 p.m.,
Chrism Mass, St. Joseph Church, St.
Croix.

Wednesday, April 12, 8:15 a.m.,
Mass for students of Ss. Peter and
Paul School, Ss. Peter and Paul
Cathedral, St. Thomas.

Thursday, April 13, 7:00 p.m.,
Holy Thursday Evening Mass of the
Lord's Supper, Ss. Peter and Paul
Cathedral, St. Thomas.

Friday, April 14, 3:15 p.m.,
Good Friday Celebration of the
Lord's Passion, Ss. Peter and Paul
Cathedral, St. Thomas.

Saturday, April 15, 7:00 p.m.,
Easter Vigil Mass, Ss. Peter and
Paul Cathedral, St. Thomas.

Friday, April 24, 9:00 a.m.,
Diocesan Finance Committee
meeting, Catholic Chancery, St.
Thomas.

Sunday, April 30, 10:00 a.m.,
Patronal Mass, St. Joseph Church,
St. Croix.

PARISH ANNIVERSARY

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church celebrates the eightieth anniversary of the building of the church on Sunday, April 9, with Mass celebrated by Bishop George Murry, SJ, at 11:00 a.m., followed by a luncheon at 1:00 p.m.

BISHOP CELEBRATES SPANISH MASS



Bishop George Murry, SJ, celebrated Sunday Mass in Spanish with Fr. Cecil Corneille, Pastor, and Fr. Ariel Cortes, visiting priest, at St. Joseph Church on St. Croix on March 12.

SCHOOL BOARD GETS NEW MEMBERS



Bishop George Murry, SJ, appointed new members to serve on the Board of Directors of St. Joseph High School on St. Croix at their meeting on March 2. The new members are Tanisha Bailey-Roka, Glenworth Byron, Marcel Galiber, Mavis Gilchrist, Samuel Gray, Esq., Bernice Kight, Pauline Lynch, Pablo O'Neill and Arlene Whyte-Elliott. They join returning board members Gwendolyn Hall Brady, Esq., Sonia Jacobs Dow, Fr. Kenneth Gaddy, CSsR, Mary Jane Provost and Leonard Schwan. Many members are pictured above with Bishop Murry and Marla Mathew, Principal.

CHRISM MASS

This year's Chrism Mass moves to St. Joseph Church on St. Croix on Tuesday, April 11, at 7:00 p.m. At that Holy Week celebration, Bishop George Murry, SJ, will consecrate the three holy oils that will be bottled and distributed to all the parishes of the diocese for sacramental purposes. Also at that celebration, all priests and deacons serving in the diocese will renew their ministerial commitment to the diocese and renew their promise of obedience to the bishop.

A tradition in the diocese, the Chrism Mass alternates annually between churches on St. Thomas and St. Croix.

EVANGELIZATION TEAM IS FORMED

The Diocesan Office of Evangelization has formed a team comprised of representatives from each parish.

The St. Thomas members are Deacon Wilfredo Acosta and Calista Julien of Ss. Peter and Paul Cathedral, Alma Wells of Holy Family Church, Rita King of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church and Aurea Olive of St. Anne Chapel.

The St. Croix members are Robert Kowalski of Holy Cross Church, Deacon Joseph Mark and Weena McFarlane of St. Ann Church, Sr. Marina Picardal, ICM, of St. Joseph Church and Vertilee Daniel and Jeanne Garcia of St. Patrick Church.

Nigel Noel represents Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church on St. John.

PASTORAL CENTER UNDERWAY

The Light of Christ Retreat Center on St. Croix is being transformed into a Diocesan Pastoral Center under the auspices of the Diocesan Office of Evangelization. The center will be used for spiritual direction, workshops, training in evangelization, retreats, days of recollection, intercessory prayer, Bible study and educational outreach, according to its director, Sr. Patricia Alexander, WIF. She has published a "wish list" of items needed to refurbish the center. Office needs include a desk, chair, cabinet, computer and supplies. The kitchen needs a freezer. The conference room needs three tables and additional chairs. The dormitories need twenty chests of drawers. The chapel needs two chalices, two ciboria, altar linens, altar cloths, candle holders with shades, a crucifix, lectionary, sacramentary and a large outdoor statue of Mary.

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. Others are welcome to participate. The three-hour program will be presented at the following dates, times and locations.

On St. Thomas, the seminars will be presented on Thursday, May 11, and on Tuesday, August 22, at 6:00 p.m.

On St. Croix, the seminars are offered at the Marian Hall of St. Ann Church on Thursdays, May 18 and August 24, at 6:00 p.m. and at the Hospitality Lounge and Learning Center at St. Joseph Church on Saturday, August 26, at 9:00 a.m.

DIVINE MERCY

Two parishes will celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday on April 23. At Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church on St. John, confessions will be heard at 2:30 p.m., followed at 3:00 p.m. by the recitation of the chaplet, Mass and Benediction. At St. Ann Church on St. Croix, the chaplet will be sung at 3:00 p.m, followed by a teaching and Benediction.

The chaplet is prayed at St. Joseph Church on St. Croix on Saturdays (except the first Saturday of each month) at 4:30 p.m.

MASS CANCELLED

Carnival's Adult Parade passes the front steps of Ss. Peter and Paul Cathedral on St. Thomas on Saturday, April 29, creating noise and parking problems, so Very Rev. Neil Scantlebury, Rector, has cancelled the Sunday Vigil Mass that evening. Parishioners are encouraged to attend a Vigil Mass at another Catholic Church or attend Mass at the Cathedral on Sunday.

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digital photographs and
advertising for the
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TRINIDAD GROUP TRAINS IN EVANGELIZATION



Four members of the Zion R.C. Community, a lay covenant community in Trinidad and Tobago, spoke at many Virgin Islands parishes in February and March, introducing their mission of evangelization training.

Pictured upper left are Charmaine Parris, Margaret Mary Woods, Mary Baptiste and Gemma Nunez at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church on St. John on February 26.

Pictured lower left, Charmaine Parris explained the display of the work of Zion Community to parishioners at Ss. Peter and Paul Cathedral on St. Thomas on February 26.

Pictured below, Grades 5 to 7 at St. Patrick School on St. Croix participated in an evangelization workshop led by the Zion Community at the Light of Christ Retreat Center on March 3.



FR. JEROME MOODY, CSSR, 1946-2006

Memorials for the late Fr. Jerome Moody, CSsR, were held at Ss. Peter and Paul Cathedral and Holy Family Church on St. Thomas.

Pictured right, Deacon Austin Medina, Rev. Dr. George Franklin and Msgr. Jerome Feudjio at Holy Family Church on March 3.

Pictured below, Msgr. Jerome Feudjio, Very Rev. Neil Scantlebury, Bishop Elliott Thomas, Fr. Al Bradley, CSsR, Fr. Kenneth Gaddy, CSsR, Deacon Wilfredo Acosta (partially hidden) and Fr. John McLoughlin, CSsR, at Ss. Peter and Paul Cathedral on February 24.



¡BUENAS NOTICIAS!

REGLAS DE CUARESMA

Todos los viernes de cuaresma se consideran días de abstinencia. Abstinencia significa que no podemos comer carne en esos días si tenemos 14 años en adelante.

El Viernes Santo, que es el 14 de abril este año, es día de abstinencia y ayuno. Ayuno significa que nos limitamos a una comida completa al día si estamos entre las edades de 18 y 59 años.

La Iglesia nos pide que también hagamos otros actos de abnegación durante la cuaresma.

LA SÚPLICA DEL OBISPO

La Suplica del Obispo 2006 comenzó el miércoles de cenizas, 1 de marzo. La meta es lograr \$425,000 para ayudar a las cuatro escuelas católicas y Caritas Católica de las Islas Vírgenes. Folletos y sobres se encuentran en las parroquias, escuelas y Caritas Católica.

MISIÓN DE CUARESMA

El P. John Mark dará un catequesis sobre las Siete Últimas Palabras de Jesús los domingos de cuaresma en la Catedral San Pedro y San Pablo en Sto. Tomás después de la Misa de las 12.30 p.m.

En la Iglesia Nuestra Señora del Carmen en St. John durante la cuaresma a cargo del seminarista Ernesto Rodríguez los jueves se darán charlas, se orará por la comunidad y las familias y se desarrollarán actividades de caridad. Habrá una jornada espiritual en la playa de Cinnamon Bay el domingo 2 de abril, de 9.00 a.m. a 3.00 p.m. donde el tema central será la vocación como llamado a vivir en caridad como comunidad. Se seguirá con la Misa dominical a las 5.00 p.m. en la iglesia. El lunes 24 de abril habrá Misa bilingüe a las 7.00 p.m., seguida por una hora de oraciones de sanación.

SEMANA SANTA

La Semana Santa comienza con el Domingo de Ramos el 9 de abril, y continúa hasta el Domingo de Pascua el 16 de abril. Hispanos tienen varias oportunidades para asistir a las celebraciones en español.

En Sto. Tomás en la Catedral San Pedro y San Pablo el Domingo de Ramos habrá Misa en español a las 12.30 p.m. El Jueves Santo habrá Misa Vespertina de la Cena del Señor en español a las 5.00 p.m. El Viernes Santo habrá procesión de la Vía Crucis en vivo en español desde la funeraria Davis a las 4.15 p.m. a la catedral, donde se celebrará la Pasión del Señor a las 5.15 p.m. La Vigilia Pascual será bilingüe el sábado a las 7.00 p.m. La Misa del Domingo de Pascua se celebrará en español a las 12.30 p.m.

En Santa Cruz, la Iglesia San José el Domingo de Ramos tendrá una procesión a las 9.40 a.m. y Misa en español a las 10.00 a.m. La Misa del Santo Crisma será bilingüe el martes a las 7.00 p.m. La Misa Vespertina de la Cena del Señor el Jueves Santo será bilingüe a las 7.00 p.m., con adoración del Santísimo Sacramento hasta la medianoche. El Viernes Santo habrá Vía Crucis a las 1.30 p.m. y la celebración de la Pasión del Señor será bilingüe a las 3.00 p.m. La Vigilia Pascual será bilingüe el sábado a las 7.00 p.m. El Domingo de Pascua se celebrará Misa en español a las 10.00 a.m.

También en Santa Cruz, la Iglesia Holy Cross ofrece Misa en español el Domingo de Ramos a las 7.15 a.m. La Misa Vespertina de la Cena del Señor el Jueves Santo será en español en la Capilla Sagrado Corazón a las 7.00 p.m. El Viernes Santo se celebrará Las Siete Últimas Palabras en español en la Capilla Sagrado Corazón a las 2.00 p.m. Después, a las 3.00 p.m., habrá procesión a la Iglesia Holy Cross, donde se celebrará la Pasión del Señor en español a las 5.00 p.m. La Vigilia Pascual será bilingüe en la Iglesia Holy Cross a las 7.00 p.m. El Domingo de Pascua habrá una procesión y Misa en español en la Iglesia Holy Cross a las 7.00 a.m.

En St. John, se celebrará Misas en español el Domingo de Ramos y el Domingo de Pascua en la Iglesia Nuestra Señora del Carmen a las 5.00 p.m.

LA MISIÓN DE LA IGLESIA



Marina Salas y Juanito Vélez, cursillistas de Arecibo, Puerto Rico, dirigieron la misión de cuaresma en español en la Iglesia San José en Santa Cruz el 6 al 10 de marzo.

Catholic Education

SCIENCE BREAK

Two seventh graders at St. Mary School have been chosen for a Physician Scientist Training Program through Temple University of Medicine. Kiara Abramson and Gilissa Schjang will attend a six-week program every summer from now until college.

Thousands of students across the nation took the test, including sixty students in the Virgin Islands. Three of the final thirty-five students chosen for the program are from St. Croix.

LIBRARY FUND

Ss. Peter and Paul School has collected approximately \$16,000 for its library. The majority of the donations came from alumni. The library is critical to the school's reaccreditation in 2008.

RING CEREMONY



Fifteen seniors and one junior received their senior class ring during the first annual ring ceremony at St. Joseph High School on St. Croix on February 15. Marla Matthew, principal, and Rachel Fenske, librarian, presented the rings, while Fr. Louis Kemayou blessed the rings during Mass. Parents participated in the celebration by placing the ring on their child's finger. Henceforth this celebration will be held at the end of the school year, marking the transition from junior to senior year.

Pictured are the students and their parents:

First row: Richard Schrader, Sr.; Michaela Cooke; Bianca Acevedo; Amberky Lynch; Glenn Rogers.

Second row: Marla Matthew, Principal; Rudi Schulerbrandt; Jessica Chavez; Patrice Petersen.

Third row: Rachel Fenske, Librarian; Camille Paul; Edward Modeste; Patricia Petersen.

Fourth row: Marise James; Dalia Blewett; Daphne Modeste; Grio O'Bryan.

Fifth row: Dalton James; Peter Austin; Emmanuel Camacho; Rupert O'Bryan.

DRAMA CLUB

St. Mary School's drama club, The Under the Umbrella Theatre Company, performed a rendition of *Moliere's, The Imaginary Invalid* at the Florence Williams Library on St. Croix in March. The play is about a hypochondriac who relies on his maid servant to run the household while demanding the attention of everyone to relieve him of his ailments. The performers ranged from fourth to eighth grade.

DANCE TEAM

The St. Mary School's Dance Team has been chosen from thousands of school groups to present two performances at Walt Disney World in June. To assist the twenty students with the financial obligations of the trip, contact Elizabeth Hering, School Administrator, at the school.

SHADOW DAYS



Eighth graders from Good Shepherd, St. Patrick and St. Mary Schools toured St. Joseph High School on St. Croix and shadowed their sophomore and junior hosts on February 28 and March 7 and 9. Marla Mathew, principal, spoke to the visiting students, who viewed a slide show and then attended two of the morning classes with their host students. Afterwards they toured the campus.

Pictured above, Faye Friday, secretary at St. Joseph High School, guided St. Patrick School students through the science classroom on February 28. Left to right, they are: Nader Hamad; Joshua Santos; Quageem O'Brian; Krystal Ferris; Ms. Friday; Meihu Fang; Tabitha Cuffy.

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is online at www.catholicislander.com

Catholic Education

NEW IDEAS ON RECRUITMENT

An enrollment campaign for Ss. Peter and Paul School on St. Thomas will take a new direction in April. Administrators and students of the school will make five-minute presentations at the parishes on the value of attending a Catholic School. In addition, as an incentive to boost registration from April to June, current students will be awarded \$25 off either their tuition or registration for each student they refer and register to the school. At the end of the campaign, all those who successfully registered a new student will be in a drawing for an extra \$100 off their tuition.

SCHOLARSHIP DRIVE

Two eighth grade students, one each from St. Mary School and St. Patrick School, will receive a full scholarship to St. Joseph High School thanks to the Knights of Columbus Holy Cross Council 6482 on St. Croix. The Knights will accomplish this through a Scholarship and Service Programs Raffle. The Knights will draw the winners at a Family Dinner at St. Gerard Hall on April 21. First prize in the raffle is a 2006 Honda Accord, second is a 60" color television and third is \$200 certificate for gasoline. Raffle tickets are \$20 each; a book of eleven chances is \$200. Tickets can be obtained from any of the Knights of Columbus.

SCHOOL GETS HIGH SPEED

Broadband VI and Derivatives Corporation brought high speed internet to St. Mary School on St. Croix. The school is now connected with one mg bandwidth and a year of free service, allowing the school to stream four video clips simultaneously in a single classroom. This means that more than one student can view news as it breaks live or visit other sites that are video dependent and not wait for the clips to load.

ECO-FIELD TRIP

Innovative donated \$5,000 to the 6th grade class at St. Mary School to finance a four-day ecofield trip to St. John on May 3-5. The twenty-six students and ten chaperones will stay at Cinnamon Bay and participate in activities that promote awareness of the Virgin Islands eco-systems.

POEM PUBLISHED

The International Library of Poetry published a poem by an eighth grade student at St. Mary School in a new book, *Twilight Musings*. Chena Benson submitted her poem and then received a letter saying she had made the semi-finals. She knew that she had made the finals when she purchased the book and saw her work in print.

ESSAY WINNER

St. Patrick School student Kijon Washington won First Place amongst fifth graders on St. Croix in the St. Croix Reading Council's Young Writers Contest with a story he entitled "The Rabbit King." Students in grades 4-6 throughout the island were invited to submit an original story based on the theme "Connecting Literacy Through Imaginative Stories."

JETS TEAM



The 2006 St. Joseph High School JETS Team took the rigorous three-hour group test on March 4 at the school.

The annual test is sponsored by the Junior Engineering and Technical Society (JETS). The test is officially called the JETS TEAMS test. TEAMS stands for Test of Engineering, Math and Science Aptitude. This is the tenth year that St. Joseph High School has participated in this test.

Pictured clockwise from lower left: Luanda Garcia; Edward Modeste; Christina Clement; Grio O'Bryan; Michaela Cooke; Denis Lynch; Kwame Garcia. Edward Modeste is the first St. Joseph High School student to have participated in the JETS team in all four years of study.

LENTEN REGULATIONS

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

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.

ECUMENICAL PROCESSIONS

Two Catholic churches will participate in ecumenical processions on Palm Sunday, April 9. On St. Thomas, Ss. Peter and Paul Cathedral joins All Saints Episcopal Cathedral and the Frederick Lutheran Church at the waterfront by Palm Passage at 8:00 a.m. On St. John, Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church joins Nazareth Evangelical Lutheran Church and St. Ursula Episcopal Church in the National Park at 9:00 a.m.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS



Stations of the Cross are prayed in English and Spanish on Fridays of Lent at St. Joseph Church on St. Croix.

SACRIFICE SUPPERS



A simple homemade soup and bread are served on Fridays of Lent before the Stations of the Cross at St. Joseph Church on St. Croix.

WAY OF THE CROSS BY THE SEA

Fr. Troy Schuster, Pastor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church on St. Thomas, will lead a Living Stations of the Cross at Magens Bay on Good Friday, April 14, at 6:30 a.m.

PENANCE SERVICES

Penance Services during Lent are an opportunity for the faithful to do an examination of conscience and prepare for the sacrament of reconciliation.

On St. John, Fr. Troy Schuster will lead a Penance Service at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church on Monday, April 3, beginning with Mass at 7:00 p.m.

On St. Croix, St. Ann Church will have its Penance Service on Tuesday, April 4, at 7:00 p.m. Holy Cross Church on St. Croix will have a Penance Service on Monday, April 10, at 7:00 p.m.

On St. Thomas, Fr. John Mark will lead a Penance Service at Holy Family Church on Monday, April 10, at 6:00 p.m.

LENTEN MISSIONS

Fr. John Mark leads a Holy Hour and teaches a catechesis in Spanish based on the Seven Last Words of Jesus at Ss. Peter and Paul Cathedral on St. Thomas on Sundays April 2 and 9 after the 12:30 p.m. Mass.

Fr. Rodney Olive, CSsR, will preach on the theme "Working for the Lord" at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church on St. Thomas on April 5-7 at 6:30 p.m.

On St. John, the parish pastoral team leads a Disciples in Mission faith-sharing and evangelization series in English and in Spanish at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church on Tuesdays of Lent at 7:30 p.m. Also, seminarian Ernesto Rodriguez will lead the Hispanic community in a Lenten Day of Recollection at Cinammon Bay on Sunday, April 2, beginning at 9:00 a.m., concluding with Mass at the church at 5:00 p.m.

SCENES FROM ASH WEDNESDAY AROUND THE DIOCESE

On Ash Wednesday, March 1, Catholics and other Christians wore 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.



Fr. Cecil Corneille and Deacon Guillermo Huertas at St. Joseph Church on St. Croix.

The ashes used in this ceremony were made by burning the remains of the palms blessed on the Palm Sunday of the previous year. Four ancient prayers were prayed in the blessing of the ashes. The ashes were sprinkled with holy water and fumigated with incense. The priest or deacon, dipping his thumb into the ashes, marked 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.”



Fr. Troy Schuster and Deacon William Summer at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church on St. Thomas.



Fr. John Mark and Fr. Alphonso Olive, CSsR, at Ss. Peter and Paul Cathedral on St. Thomas.



Rev. Dr. George Franklin at St. Anne Chapel on St. Thomas.



Fr. Charles Crespo of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church on St. John, celebrated two Masses and two prayer services in the church and then stood outside the church to continue imposing ashes.

MAY PROCESSION

St. Anne Chapel on St. Thomas will have its annual May Procession with the crowning of an image of Mary on Saturday, May 6. The outdoor procession begins at 4:30 p.m. followed by a 5:00 p.m. Mass in the chapel.

MAGNIFICAT 20

The St. Croix chapter of Magnificat will be celebrating its twentieth year as a ministry to Catholic women with a luncheon at the Marian Hall of St. Ann Church on Sunday, May 7, at 12:30 p.m. Babsie Bleasdel and Bernadette Patrick of Trinidad and Tobago will be special guests. Tickets are available for \$25 from Magnificat members.

BLUE ARMY NEWS

The Blue Army of Our Lady of Fatima will celebrate its twentieth anniversary on St. Croix with the recitation of the rosary, a movie, hymns and refreshments in the McAlpin Hall of Holy Cross Church on May 28 beginning at 4:00 p.m.

LENTEN RETREAT



Ss. Peter and Paul Cathedral on St. Thomas was packed when Rev. Dr. George Franklin led the Lenten Retreat, "Releasing Your Abundance," on March 13-15.

INTERNATIONAL DINNER



Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church on St. Thomas had its annual International Dinner on February 26.

WE FROM UPSTREET



Forty members of We From Upstreet, Inc., celebrated the not-for-profit organization's eleventh anniversary with Sunday Mass at Ss. Peter and Paul Cathedral on St. Thomas on March 12.

HONOR SOCIETY ATTENDS MASS



Thirty members of the Addelita Cancryn Jr. High School National Honor Society attended Sunday Mass together at Ss. Peter and Paul Cathedral on St. Thomas on March 12.

NEW YOUTH CHOIR DEBUTS



A Youth Choir debuted at St. Anne Chapel on St. Thomas at Sunday Mass on February 19. Celina Edwards, Kristi Greaux, Andrea Magras, Danielle Olive, Gabrielle Quetel and Christina Show sang "Servant Song" as the post-communion meditation hymn.

SEMINARIAN BIRTHDAY



Seminarian Ernesto Rodriguez celebrated his thirty-ninth birthday with parishioners of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church on St. John on February 22.

RENEWAL OF VOWS



Rodolfo Jacobs and Laurie Thomas-Jacobs celebrated twenty-five years of marriage by renewing their vows before Fr. Cecil Corneille at St. Joseph Church on St. Croix on February 22.

ST. JOHN CALENDAR

SPANISH DAY OF RECOLLECTION

Seminarian Ernesto Rodriguez will lead a Lenten Day of Recollection in Spanish at Cinammon Bay on Sunday, April 2, beginning at 9:00 a.m. and concluding with Mass at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church at 5:00 p.m.

PENANCE SERVICE

Fr. Troy Schuster will lead a Penance Service at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church on Monday, April 3, beginning with Mass at 7:00 p.m.

DISCIPLES IN MISSION

Disciples in Mission, a faith-sharing and evangelization series, meets in English and in Spanish at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church on Tuesday, April 4, at 7:30 p.m.

BREAKFAST WITH THE PASTOR

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

SACRIFICE SUPPER

As a Lenten sacrifice, forego your usual supper and instead share homemade soup, bread and fellowship at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church on Friday, April 7, at 6:00 p.m.

HOLY HOUR/STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church will have a bilingual First Friday Holy Hour with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Stations of the Cross and Benediction on April 7 at 6:30 p.m., followed by Mass at 7:30 p.m.

PALM SUNDAY PROCESSION

On Palm Sunday, April 9, Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church joins Nazareth Evangelical Lutheran Church and St. Ursula Episcopal Church in an ecumenical procession from the National Park to the respective churches at 9:00 a.m.

DIVINE MERCY

The Chaplet of Divine Mercy will be prayed at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church on St. John on Divine Mercy Sunday, April 23, at 3:00 p.m., followed by Mass and Benediction with the Blessed Sacrament. Confessions will be heard beginning at 2:30 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. A Healing Service in Spanish will be on Monday, April 24, after the 7:00 p.m. Mass.

ST. CROIX CALENDAR

SANTO NIÑO DEVOTION/RECONCILIATION

St. Joseph Church hosts devotions to *El Santo Niño* on April 1 and the first Saturday of each month at 4:30 p.m. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is offered simultaneously.

HOLY HOURS/EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Holy Cross Church has Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction on April 7 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 April 7 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.

SACRIFICE SUPPER

As a Lenten sacrifice, forego your usual supper and instead share homemade soup, bread and fellowship at St. Joseph Church on Friday, April 7, at 5:30 p.m.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Pray the Stations at Holy Cross Church at 7:00 p.m., Sacred Heart Chapel (in Spanish) at 7:00 p.m., St. Ann Church at 5:30 p.m., St. Joseph Church at 6:30 p.m., and St. Patrick Church at 7:00 p.m.

FRANCISCAN SPIRITUALITY

The Our Lady of the Angels Fraternity shares Franciscan spirituality at the Franciscan House on April 9 and the second Sunday of each month at 3:00 p.m.

CHRISM MASS

Bishop George Murry, SJ, will consecrate the Chrism Mass at St. Joseph Church on Tuesday, April 11, at 7:00 p.m.

MAGNIFICAT

Magnificat, a ministry to Catholic women, meets in the Franciscan House on Sunday, April 16, 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 April 19 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 April 21 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.

CARMELITE SPIRITUALITY

Secular Order Discalced Carmelites share Carmelite spirituality in the Hospitality Lounge and Learning Center at St. Joseph Church on April 23 and the fourth Sunday of each month at 1:00 p.m.

DIVINE MERCY

The Chaplet of Divine Mercy will be sung at St. Ann Church on Divine Mercy Sunday, April 23, at 3:00 p.m.

The prayer time will conclude with a teaching and Benediction with the Blessed Sacrament.

The chaplet also is prayed on Saturdays except the first Saturday of each month at St. Joseph Church at 4:30 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.

ALPHA

A ten-week practical introduction to the Christian Faith continues at St. Gerard Hall of St. Patrick Church on Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. until April 25. Supper is included.

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.

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.

HOLY WEEK APRIL 8-16, 2006

ST. CROIX PARISH SCHEDULES

Holy Cross Church

Palm Sunday celebrations begin with a Saturday Vigil Mass at 6:00 p.m. On Sunday morning, Masses are at 7:15 a.m. in Spanish and 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. in English.

A Penance Service will be held on Monday at 7:00 p.m.

The first of three Tenebrae prayer services will be on Thursday at 8:15 a.m.

Holy Thursday's Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper is at 7:00 p.m. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament continues until 11:00 p.m.

On Good Friday, Tenebrae is at 8:15 a.m. Stations of the Cross will be at noon, the Seven Last Words will be at 1:00 p.m., followed by silent meditation at 2:00 p.m. The Celebrations of the Lord's Passion will be at 3:00 p.m. in English and 5:00 p.m. in Spanish. Stations of the Cross will be prayed again at 7:00 p.m., during which time confessions will be heard.

On Holy Saturday, Tenebrae is at 8:15 a.m. A multilingual Easter Vigil Mass is on Saturday at 7:00 p.m.

On Easter Sunday, an Encuentro procession and Mass in Spanish are at 7:15 a.m., and Masses in English are at 9:00 and 11:00 a.m.

Sacred Heart Chapel

Palm Sunday Mass is celebrated in English at 9:00 a.m.

Holy Thursday's Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper is in Spanish at 7:00 p.m.

On Good Friday, the Seven Last Words will be in Spanish at 2:00 p.m., followed by a 3:00 p.m. procession to Holy Cross Church with Living Stations of the Cross.

Easter Sunday Mass is in English at 9:00 a.m.

St. Ann Church

Palm Sunday celebrations begin with a Saturday Vigil Mass at 6:00 p.m. On Sunday, Masses are at 7:00 and 9:30 a.m. A procession will precede the 9:30 a.m. Mass.

Holy Thursday's Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper is at 7:00 p.m. Adoration follows.

On Good Friday, a three-hour service that includes the Chaplet of Divine Mercy, the Stations of the Cross and the Celebration of the Lord's Passion begins at noon.

The Easter Vigil Mass is on Saturday at 7:00 p.m.

On Easter Sunday, a Sunrise Mass is at 5:30 a.m. and a Solemn Mass is at 9:30 a.m.

St. Joseph Church

Palm Sunday celebrations begin on Saturday with a procession at 4:40 p.m, followed by a Vigil Mass at 5:00 p.m. On Sunday, a procession at 6:40 a.m. is followed by an English Mass at 7:00 a.m. A procession at 9:40 a.m. will be followed by Spanish Mass at 10:00 a.m.

Bishop George Murry, SJ, will celebrate the Chrism Mass on Tuesday at 7:00 p.m.

Holy Thursday's Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper is bilingual at 7:00 p.m. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament continues until midnight.

On Good Friday, the Stations of the Cross will be prayed on the church grounds at 1:30 p.m. A bilingual Celebration of the Lord's Passion begins in the church at 3:00 p.m.

A bilingual Easter Vigil Mass is on Saturday at 7:00 p.m.

On Easter Sunday, a Sunrise Mass in English is at 5:00 a.m. and a Spanish Mass is at 10:00 a.m.

St. Patrick Church

Palm Sunday begins with a Saturday Vigil Mass at 6:00 p.m. On Sunday, a procession starts from the bandstand in Frederiksted at 6:45 a.m., followed by Masses at 7:00 and 10:00 a.m.

On Holy Thursday, Tenebrae is at 8:00 a.m. and the Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7:00 p.m. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament continues until 11:00 p.m.

On Good Friday, Tenebrae is at 8:00 a.m. Stations of the Cross will be prayed at 2:00 p.m. and the Celebration of the Lord's Passion is at 3:00 p.m.

On Holy Saturday, Tenebrae is at 8:00 a.m. The Easter Vigil Mass is on Saturday at 7:00 p.m.

Easter Sunday Masses are at 7:00 and 10:00 a.m.

The Pride of Our Parishes



Louis and Norma Soto serve at St. Patrick Church on St. Croix. Mr. Soto was installed as an acolyte on February 5.

*Our Blessed Mother's Message from Medjugorie
February 25, 2006*

"Dear children! In this Lenten time of grace, I call you to open your hearts to the gifts that God desires to give you. Do not be closed, but with prayer and renunciation say 'yes' to God and He will give to you in abundance. As in springtime the earth opens to the seed and yields a hundredfold, so also your heavenly Father will give to you in abundance. I am with you and love you, little children, with a tender love. Thank you for having responded to my call."

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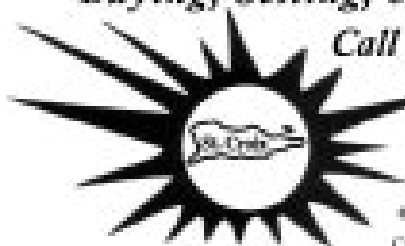
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HOLY WEEK APRIL 8-16, 2006
ST. THOMAS/ST. JOHN PARISH SCHEDULES

ST. THOMAS

Ss. Peter and Paul Cathedral

Palm Sunday celebrations begin with a Saturday Vigil Mass at 6:00 p.m. On Sunday, Masses are at 6:00, 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. in English and 12:30 p.m. in Spanish. Ss. Peter and Paul Cathedral joins All Saints Episcopal Cathedral and the Frederick Lutheran Church in an ecumenical procession beginning at 8:00 a.m. from the waterfront at Palm Passage to the respective churches.

Holy Thursday's Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper is at 5:00 p.m. in Spanish and 7:00 p.m. in English. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament continues until midnight.

On Good Friday, an ecumenical Stations of the Cross begins at 8:00 a.m. at All Saints Cathedral and processes to Ss. Peter and Paul Cathedral. Children are invited to pray the Stations of the Cross at 11:45 a.m., followed by a children's Celebration of the Lord's Passion at 12:15 p.m. Adults are invited to pray the Stations of the Cross at 2:45 p.m., followed by a Celebration of the Lord's Passion at 3:15 p.m. A procession with Living Stations of the Cross in Spanish will begin from Davis Funeral Home at 4:15 p.m., and will lead to a Celebration of the Lord's Passion in Spanish at the Cathedral at 5:15 p.m.

The Easter Vigil Mass is bilingual on Saturday at 7:00 p.m.

Easter Sunday Masses include a Sunrise Mass at 6:30 a.m., a Children's Mass at 8:30 a.m., a Solemn Mass at 10:30 a.m. and a Spanish Mass at 12:30 p.m.

Holy Family Church

Palm Sunday celebrations begin with a procession from the Our Lady of Cassi Hill Shrine at 5:45 p.m. and Saturday Vigil Mass in the church at 6:00 p.m. On Sunday, similar processions are from the Our Lady of Cassi Hill Shrine at 7:15 a.m. and from Columban Hall at 9:45 a.m., followed by Masses at 7:30 and 10:00 a.m. in the church.

Fr. John Mark will lead a Penance Service on Monday, April 10, at 6:00 p.m.

Holy Thursday's Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper is at 7:00 p.m. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will continue until midnight.

On Good Friday, Religious Education students will present the Living Stations of the Cross at 2:00 p.m. The Celebration of the Lord's Passion is at 3:00 p.m.

The Easter Vigil Mass is on Saturday at 7:00 p.m.

On Easter Sunday, Sunrise Mass is at 5:30 a.m., followed by Masses at 7:30 and 10:00 a.m.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church

Palm Sunday celebrations begin with a Saturday Vigil Mass at 6:30 p.m. On Sunday, Masses are at 6:30, 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. The 11:00 a.m. Mass also celebrates the eightieth anniversary of the church and is followed by a luncheon at 1:00 p.m.

Holy Thursday's Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper is at 7:00 p.m. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament continues until 10:00 p.m.

On Good Friday, the "Way of the Cross - Sign of Contradiction" by Pope John Paul II begins at 1:45 p.m. The Choir will sing the Seven Last Words at 2:15 p.m. followed by the Celebration of the Lord's Passion at 3:00 p.m.

The Easter Vigil Mass is on Saturday at 7:00 p.m.

On Easter Sunday, Sunrise Mass is at 5:30 a.m. followed by Masses at 9:00 and 11:00 a.m.

St. Anne Chapel

Palm Sunday celebrations begin with a Saturday Vigil at 5:00 p.m. Sunday Mass is at 8:00 a.m.

Holy Thursday's Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper is at 7:00 p.m.

On Good Friday, the Stations of the Cross begin at 2:30 p.m. followed by the Celebration of the Lord's Passion at 3:00 p.m.

The Easter Vigil Mass is on Saturday at 7:00 p.m.

Easter Sunday Mass is at 8:00 a.m.

ST. JOHN

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church

Palm Sunday celebrations begin with a Saturday Vigil Mass at 6:00 p.m. On Sunday, the first Mass is at 7:30 a.m. Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church joins Nazareth Evangelical Lutheran Church and St. Ursula Episcopal Church in an ecumenical procession from the National Park to the respective churches at 9:00 a.m. A second Mass begins at 9:30 a.m. Mass in Spanish is at 5:00 p.m.

Holy Thursday's Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper is at 7:30 p.m. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament continues until midnight.

Good Friday begins with an hour of traditional prayers at noon, the Seven Last Words at 1:00 p.m. and Stations of the Cross at 2:00 p.m., followed by a Celebration of the Lord's Passion at 3:00 p.m.

The Easter Vigil Mass is on Saturday at 7:30 p.m.

Easter Sunday Masses are at 7:30 and 9:30 a.m. in English and 5:00 p.m. in Spanish.

ST. THOMAS CALENDAR

MAGNIFICAT

Magnificat, a ministry to Catholic women, meets April 1 and the first Saturday of each month at 8:30 a.m. in Ss. Peter and Paul Cathedral's Hospitality Lounge.

OUR LADY OF FATIMA DEVOTION

The Children of Mary lead a devotion to Our Lady of Fatima at Holy Family Church on April 1 and the first Saturday of each month at 4:00 p.m.

LENTEN MISSION

Fr. John Mark will lead a Holy Hour and teach a catechesis in Spanish based on the Seven Last Words at Ss. Peter and Paul Cathedral on Sundays April 2 and 9 after the 12:30 p.m. Mass.

Fr. Rodney Olive, CSsR, will preach on the theme "Working for the Lord" at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church on April 5-7 at 6:30 p.m.

HOLY HOURS/EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

St. Anne Chapel has a Holy Hour with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction on April 7 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.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Pray the Stations of the Cross on Friday, April 7, at Ss. Peter and Paul Cathedral in English at 5:30 p.m. and in Spanish at 6:15 p.m., St. Anne Chapel at 7:00 p.m., Holy Family Church at 5:30 p.m. and Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church at 6:00 p.m.

FRANCISCAN SPIRITUALITY

The Lady Clare of Assisi Fraternity shares Franciscan spirituality at Holy Family Church on April 8 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 April 9 and the second Sunday of every month at 9:00 a.m.

PALM SUNDAY ECUMENICAL PROCESSION

Ss. Peter and Paul Cathedral joins All Saints Episcopal Cathedral and the Frederick Lutheran Church in an ecumenical procession beginning at 8:00 a.m. from the waterfront at Palm Passage to the respective churches.

PARISH ANNIVERSARY

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church celebrates the eightieth anniversary of the building of the church on Sunday, April 9, with Mass celebrated by Bishop George Murry, SJ, at 11:00 a.m., followed by a luncheon at 1:00 p.m.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

The Holy Family Chapter share Vincentian spirituality at Holy Family Church on April 11 and the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF AMERICA

Court 2049 meets at Ss. Peter and Paul Cathedral's Hospitality Lounge on April 15 and the third Saturday of each month at 3:00 p.m.

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.

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