

THE CATHOLIC ISLANDER

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

BISHOPS APPEAL IS AT 92%

By May 23, the Bishops Appeal 2006 had reached ninety-two percent of its goal, raising \$390,000 since the beginning of Lent on March 1. Most Rev. George V. Murry, SJ, Bishop of the Diocese of St. Thomas in the Virgin Islands, is confident the campaign soon will reach its goal of \$425,000 to supplement the ministries of Catholic Charities of the Virgin Islands and the four Catholic schools.

The campaign has surpassed last year's total of \$375,000, largely because of an influx of new donors. So far, 1,115 benefactors have contributed to the cause, including an estimated 200 first-time donors.

Those who have not yet participated are encouraged to pick up a brochure at the parishes.



SCHOOL WINS TEN STEM AWARDS

Ss. Peter and Paul School students won ten top places in the Virgin Islands Department of Education STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) Fair at the University of the Virgin Islands on May 18-19. The school won more trophies than any other school in the contest.

Among the awards were four first places, in Physics Engineering Grades 9-12 (Kearil Abraham and Mohammed Mustafa); Science Experiment Grades 7-8 (Sandi Samuel); Science Demonstration Grades 7-8 (Lisa Smith and Ariel Bourdeau); and Math Engineering Grades 7-8 (Timothy Olive).

MARIAN PROCESSION HONORS THE MONTH OF MARY



Members of the St. Anne Chapel community on St. Thomas participated in the annual procession through Frenchtown in honor of the Blessed Virgin Mother on May 6. Several other parishes and schools crowned images of Mary during May.

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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 JUNE 2006

PUBLIC SCHEDULE

Thursday, June 1, 6:00 p.m., Ss. Peter and Paul High School Graduation, University of the Virgin Islands, St. Thomas.

Saturday, June 3, 6:00 p.m., Confirmation Mass, Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church, St. John.

Sunday, June 4, 8:30 a.m., Confirmation Mass, Ss. Peter and Paul Cathedral, St. Thomas.

Sunday, June 4, 4:00 p.m., Graduation, St. Joseph High School, St. Croix.

Saturday, June 10, 5:00 p.m., Mass, St. Anne Chapel, St. Thomas.

Sunday, June 11, 10:00 a.m., Ordination of Louis Soto to the Order of Deacons, St. Patrick Church, St. Croix.

Sunday, June 18, 9:00 and 11:00 a.m., Mass, Holy Cross Church, St. Croix.

Tuesday, June 20, 10:00 a.m., Board Meeting, Catholic Charities, St. Thomas.

Thursday, June 22, 2:00 p.m., Installation Mass of Archbishop Donald Wuerl, Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Washington, DC.

June 23-24, Presentation of the Social Teachings of the Church, Raleigh, North Carolina.

Sunday, June 25, 9:30 a.m., Patronal Mass, Ss. Peter and Paul Cathedral, St. Thomas.

Wednesday, June 28, 10:00 a.m., President and Principals Meeting, St. Joseph High School, St. Croix.

FEAST OF ST. JOSEPH THE WORKER



Bishop George Murry, SJ, celebrated the patronal feast of St. Joseph Church on St. Croix on April 30.

INSTALLATION OF ARCHBISHOP

Bishop Donald Wuerl will be installed as archbishop of the Archdiocese of Washington at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception on June 22. Pope Benedict XVI made the appointment on May 16.

Bishop Wuerl, 65, succeeds Cardinal Theodore McCarrick, 75, who is retiring after heading the Archdiocese of Washington since 2001. Bishop Wuerl headed the Diocese of Pittsburgh since 1988. He is known nationally for his syndicated television program, *The Teaching of Christ*, based on his best-selling adult catechism of the same name.

As every diocese is in a cooperative relationship with an archdiocese, the Diocese of St. Thomas in the Virgin Islands is within the Ecclesial Province of the Archdiocese of Washington. With his installation, Archbishop Wuerl then becomes the Metropolitan of the province, which includes the United States Virgin Islands.

Bishop George Murry, SJ, will attend his installation.

ORDINATION OF A DEACON

Bishop George Murry, SJ, will ordain Louis Soto to the Order of Deacons at St. Patrick Church on St. Croix on Sunday, June 11, at the 10:00 a.m. Mass. Mr. Soto was installed as an acolyte by Msgr. Michael Kosak, Director of the Diaconate, on February 5 and was admitted to candidacy by Bishop Murry during the parish's Confirmation Mass on May 27.

CHILD SAFETY

Bishop William Skylstad, President of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, has appointed Bishop George Murry, SJ, to serve on a committee of the Office of Child and Youth Protection. The committee of conference staff and bishops will review and make suggestions on improving existing safe environment programs.

The conference's Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People mandates that child protection programs be in effect in every diocese.

REST IN PEACE

Prayers are solicited for the repose of the soul of Edmund Koupie, the father of Fr. Louis Kemayou, Parochial Vicar at St. Ann Church on St. Croix. Mr. Koupie died May 13 in Yaounde, Cameroon, at age 95 after a long illness.

Prayers are solicited also for the repose of the soul of Mary Ellen Bradley, the mother of Fr. Alfred Bradley, CSsR, who died in her sleep in Philadelphia on May 1. Fr. Bradley was Pastor of Holy Cross Church on St. Croix from 1996 to 2002.

FR. GADDY TO DIRECT DONDEERS

Fr. Patrick Woods, CSsR, Provincial of the Redemptorist Fathers Baltimore Province, has appointed Fr. Kenneth Gaddy, CSsR, as Director of Formation at the Blessed Peter Donders Residence on St. Croix, effective August 1. The residence is a Redemptorist-operated house of formation for men considering a vocation to the priesthood or religious life.

Fr. Gaddy served first as Parochial Vicar and later as Pastor at St. Patrick Church on St. Croix from 1989 to 2005.

Fr. Gaddy replaces Br. Leonard Samuel, CSsR, who has been reassigned to St. Alphonsus Retreat House in Eggleston, Dominica. Br. Samuel served as the formation director at the Donders Residence for twelve years.

SEMINARIANS ON ASSIGNMENT

The two diocesan seminarians have begun their summer parish assignments. Anthony Abraham is serving at Holy Family Church and Ernesto Rodriguez is at Ss. Peter and Paul Cathedral, both on St. Thomas.

DEACONS ON RETREAT

The deacons and their wives, along with the deacon candidates and their wives, will participate in a retreat in St. Maarten on June 25-30. Fr. John Mark will be their retreat master.

SUMMER CAMPS

Catholic Charities will once again sponsor the KidsLearn Summer Enrichment Program at Ss. Peter and Paul School on St. Thomas from June 19 to July 28.

On St. Croix, St. Mary School will host the Summer Adventure Camp from June 12 to July 28 and St. Patrick School will host the Sunflower Summer Fun Splash Camp from June 26 to August 4.

Children will be engaged in Religious Education, steel pan, quadrille, arts and crafts, sewing, jewelry-making, maypole and other cultural activities, and will go on field trips. Register at the schools.

HIGH SCHOOL IS AWARDED CONTINUED ACCREDITATION



The Commission on Secondary Schools of the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools awarded full continued accreditation to St. Joseph High School on St. Croix on May 16.

Principal Marla Matthew gathered faculty members to show the certificate of accreditation. Pictured left to right are Leoba John Baptiste-Pelle, Cory Hodgson, Faye Friday, Clifford Rawlins, Aixys Valentin-Baez, Ms. Matthew, Barbara Hill-Troutman, Jocelyn Hodgson, Judy Bain, Rachel Fenske, Br. James Petrait, OSFS, Thomas Cybela and Meg Bryson.

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PENTECOST CELEBRATIONS

Holy Family Church is celebrating Pentecost 2006 with a novena and an all-night vigil. The novena, which began on May 26, features talks on the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit. Deacon Leonard Monsanto will teach on the Gift of Piety on Thursday, June 1, Fr. John Mark will teach on the Gift of Fear of the Lord on Friday, June 2, and Msgr. Jerome Feudjio will give the closing talk on Saturday, June 3. All talks are at 7:00 p.m. The novena ends with an all-night vigil beginning on Saturday, June 3, at 8:00 p.m. and ending Sunday, June 4, at 5:00 a.m.

St. Ann Church on St. Croix will host a Revival Week in preparation for Pentecost. Mark Nimo from Ghana is the guest speaker Tuesday, May 30, to Friday, June 2, at 7:00 p.m., and Sunday, June 4, at 4:00 p.m.

BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS



Very Rev. Neil Scantlebury blessed Lucina Danet on her 91st birthday at St. Anne Chapel on St. Thomas on April 30.

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CORPUS CHRISTI PROCESSIONS

Two churches on St. Croix will have Eucharistic Processions around the church complex for the feast of Corpus Christi on Sunday, June 18. Holy Cross Church will have its annual procession after the 11:00 a.m. Mass, and St. Joseph Church will have its annual bilingual procession at 4:00 p.m.

FATHER'S DAY LUNCHEON

The St. Joseph Workers of Holy Family Church on St. Thomas will honor four parishioners, Deacon Roy Bruney, Anthony Francis, Zephaniah Jean-Jacques and Joseph Toussaint, with a Father's Day luncheon at Columban Hall on Sunday, June 18, at 1:00 p.m. Tickets are available at the parish.

CATHEDRAL PATRONAL FEAST

Ss. Peter and Paul Cathedral and Ss. Peter and Paul School on St. Thomas will celebrate their annual patronal feast beginning on June 25 with Sunday Masses at 6:30 and 9:30 a.m. only. After the 9:30 a.m. Mass, a cultural celebration with food and performances will move to the school yard.

The festivities continue with a "Singsperation" concert at the Cathedral on Monday, June 26. A triduum will follow at the Cathedral on June 27-29, including a healing service led by Cuthbert and Daphne Mejias on Thursday, June 29. Bingo will conclude the patronal week at the school on Friday, June 30. All of the above events begin at 6:30 p.m.

CANDIDATES FOR THE DIACONATE



Fr. John Mark has been teaching six deacon candidates a class on Catholic Spirituality on Wednesday evenings at Ss. Peter and Paul Cathedral's Hospitality Lounge on St. Thomas. The wives of the candidates are invited to take the classes with their husbands.

Pictured above, left to right, are Fr. Mark, Jose Cossio and Steven Olive of the Cathedral, Norman Dudemaine of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, Benny Gibs of St. Anne Chapel, Maria and Charles Glass of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church and Clement Danet of St. Anne Chapel.

¡BUENAS NOTICIAS!

EL LLAMADO DEL OBISPO

A mediados de mayo, el Llamado del Obispo 2006 ha recaudado el 92% del objetivo, colectando \$390,000 desde los comienzos de cuaresma, el 1 de marzo. Aunque la campaña oficialmente haya acabado el domingo de ramos, el Obispo Murry, S.J. ha pedido donaciones adicionales a fin de lograr obtener los \$35,000 necesitados para la labor de Caritas Católica en las Islas Vírgenes y para las cuatro escuelas católicas.

ORDENACION DIACONAL

El Obispo Murry S.J. ordenará a Luis Soto con la orden de Diaconado en la Iglesia San Patricio en Santa Cruz, el domingo 11 de junio en la Misa de las 10.00 a.m.

SEMINARISTAS RECIBEN ASIGNACIONES

Los dos seminaristas de la diócesis han empezado sus trabajos pastorales de verano. Anthony Abraham está sirviendo en la Iglesia Holy Family y Ernesto Rodríguez está en la Catedral San Pedro y San Pablo, ambos en Santo Tomás.

DESCANSEN EN PAZ

Se pide orar por el descanso eterno de Edmund Koupie, el Padre del P. Louis Kemayou, Vicario Parroquial en la Iglesia Santa Ana en Santa Cruz. El Señor Koupie murió el 13 de mayo en Yaounde, Camerún a la edad de 95 años.

Oraciones también se solicitan por Mary Ellen Bradley, la madre del P. Alfred Bradley, CSsR, quien falleció mientras dormía el 1 de mayo. P. Bradley fue Párroco de la Iglesia Holy Cross en Santa Cruz de 1996 a 2002.

PROGRAMAS DE VERANO PARA NIÑOS

Programas de jóvenes se encuentran este verano en tres escuelas. En Santo Tomás, hay programa en la Escuela San Pedro y San Pablo. En Santa Cruz hay programas en las Escuelas St. Mary y St. Patrick. Se puede comunicar con las escuelas para más información.

¡LA ESCUELA ES SUPERIOR!

La Escuela Superior de San Pedro y San Pablo en Santo Tomás ganó el Moot Court territorial el 4 y 5 de mayo y diez trofeos en el STEM, más que cualquier otra escuela, el 18 y 19 de mayo.

ESCUELA ES REACREDITADA

La Comisión de Escuelas Secundaria de la Asociación de Escuelas e Institutos Superiores dio la acreditación total a la Escuela San José en Santa Cruz, el 16 de mayo. La acreditación, la cual expira el 1 de mayo del 2013, está sujeta al desarrollo de un plan que incluye las vías de publicidad y las de reclutamiento de nuevos beneficiarios.

PROCESIONES DE CORPUS CHRISTI

Dos iglesias de Santa Cruz tendrán procesiones eucarísticas para la fiesta de Corpus Christi el domingo 18 de junio. La Iglesia Holy Cross tendrá su procesión anual después de la Misa de las 11.00 a.m. y la Iglesia San José lo hará a las 4.00 p.m.

FIESTA PATRONAL

La Catedral junto con la Escuela San Pedro y San Pablo en Santo Tomás celebrarán su fiesta patronal comenzando el 25 de junio con las Misas dominicales de 6.30 y 9.30 a.m. Después habrá actividades culturales y comidas en la entrada de la escuela.

DESAYUNO CON EL PÁRROCO

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

DÍA DE LAS MADRES



El P. Cecil Corneille, Párroco de la Iglesia San José en Santa Cruz, dio la bendición a las madres en el Día de las Madres, 14 de mayo.

Spotlight on Youth

CONFIRMATION

Throughout May and June, Bishop George Murry, SJ, is celebrating Confirmation Masses at Virgin Islands parishes. He will confirm candidates at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church on St. John on Saturday, June 3, at 6:00 p.m. and at Ss. Peter and Paul Cathedral on St. Thomas on Sunday, June 4, at 8:30 a.m.



Bishop George Murry, SJ, spoke to candidates during his homily at the Confirmation Mass at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church on St. Thomas on May 7.



Bishop Murry celebrated a Confirmation Mass at Holy Family Church on St. Thomas on May 20.

CHURCH IS REPAINTED



On St. Croix, a crew recently painted St. Ann Church and its surrounding walls.

FIRST COMMUNION



Fr. Charles Crespo and Deacon Leonard Monsanto gave First Communion to two children at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church on St. John on May 21.



Fr. Troy Schuster gave First Communion to eight children at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church on St. Thomas on May 21.



Fr. John Mark gave First Communion to fifteen children at Ss. Peter and Paul Cathedral on St. Thomas on May 21.

Spotlight on Youth

GRADUATIONS



On St. Thomas, the Ss. Peter and Paul High School graduation will be at the University of the Virgin Islands' Sports and Fitness Center on Thursday, June 1, at 6:00 p.m. The speaker is Dr. Patricia O'Friel, a former teacher at the school. Ss. Peter and Paul School kindergarten graduation will be at Ss. Peter and Paul Cathedral on Friday, June 2, at 9:00 a.m. Ss. Peter and Paul Middle School Promotional Exercises will be at the Cathedral on Thursday, June 8, at 4:00 p.m. Lorna Thomas, a member of the school's Board of Directors, is the invited speaker.

On St. Croix, St. Joseph High School will have its graduation ceremony at St. Joseph Church on Sunday, June 4, at 4:00 p.m. Pictured above is the St. Joseph High School Class of 2006. Left to right; front row: Michaela Cooke; Jessica Chavez; Nychak Joseph; Sherrise Lake; Laurene McIntosh; Aisha Woods; Patrice Petersen.

Middle row: Zina Dore; Rudi Schulerbrandt; Camille Paul; Griog O'Bryan; Edward Modeste; Omar Balwant; Jonathan Bannis.

Back row: David Sheppard; Ernie Schuster; Bruno Gore; Patrick Mackay; Denis Lynch; Emmanuel Camacho; Jasmine Jenkins; Javier Perez.

TALENT SHOW



The juniors at Ss. Peter and Paul School staged *Open Masquerade* to raise funds for their prom. The talent show featured the students singing, rapping, dancing, reading poetry and modeling in the school yard on April 21. Pictured above, Alanna John was among the dancers.

MOMS NITE OUT



The Moms Nite Out committee at Ss. Peter and Paul School on St. Thomas held a bake sale between Masses at Ss. Peter and Paul Cathedral on May 7.



The tenth annual Mom's Nite Out spaghetti dinner, raffle and bingo fundraiser was held at Ss. Peter and Paul School on St. Thomas on May 12. Pictured above, sixth grader Janine Tolentino encouraged participation in the 50/50 raffle.

Catholic Education

ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Ariel Foy of Ss. Peter and Paul School on St. Thomas has been awarded the United States National Award in Mathematics by the United States Achievement Academy.

The Academy selects winners on the recommendation of teachers, counselors and other qualified sponsors and upon the standards of selection set forth by the Academy. The criteria for selection are a student's academic performance, interest and aptitude, leadership qualities, responsibility, enthusiasm, motivation to learn and improve, citizenship, attitude and cooperative spirit, dependability and recommendation from a qualified sponsor.

NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

Eleven students from Ss. Peter and Paul High School on St. Thomas were inducted into the National Honor Society on May 17. Senior Sarah Harrigan and juniors Kearil Abraham, Pearl Bryan (Treasurer), Michelle Gagliani (Secretary), Kirwin Hodge, Alanna John (President), Alysius Joseph, Mohammed Mustafa, Michael Parrott, Cameron Philip and Jonathan Varley-George (Vice-President) were pledged in at a ceremony at Ss. Peter and Paul Cathedral.

SCIENCE FAIR

Middle school students at St. Patrick School on St. Croix displayed and demonstrated their projects and experiments in the 2006 Annual Science Fair on May 8. The winners were Amanda Armstrong (Grade 6), Christella Samuels (Grade 7), and Tabitha Coffey and Nerissa Washington (Grade 8).

MAY CROWNING



Older students helped younger Ss. Peter and Paul School students on St. Thomas to crown the image of Mary at their school Mass on May 1.

FUTURE BUSINESS LEADERS



The Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) State Leadership Conference 2006 was held at St. Joseph High School on St. Croix on May 5-6. Students from all three islands attended workshops and competed for prizes in accordance with the theme "Unlock Your Potential."

Three St. Joseph High School students received prizes and will travel to Nashville, Tennessee, to represent the FBLA Virgin Islands State Federation: Brittney Williams - First Prize, Multimedia Presentations; Amara Lang - First Prize, Public Speaking; Karimah Elliot - Second Prize, Computer Applications.

Pictured left to right are (front row) Kenya Troutman, Brittney Williams, Amara Lang and Karimah Elliot.

The back row is Marla Matthew (Principal), Barbara Troutman (Advisor), Dominique James and Lauren Henry.

Catholic Education



ECO-FIELD TRIP

Twenty-six Grade 6 students at St. Mary School on St. Croix and ten chaperones participated in a four-day eco-field trip to St. John on May 3-5. They camped at Cinnamon Bay and participated in activities that promote awareness of the Virgin Islands eco-systems. The students and their school administrator, Elizabeth Hering, posed with Fr. Charles Crespo after Mass at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church.



RING CEREMONY

Marla Matthew, Principal, and Rachel Fenske, Librarian, presented senior rings to ten juniors from St. Joseph High School on St. Croix on May 17. Fr. Louis Kemayou blessed the rings at a school Mass at St. Joseph Church, and parents placed the ring on their child's finger.

Pictured left to right, front row: Rachel Fenske (Librarian), Dominique James, Kenya Troutman, Jaye Whipper, Annisha Scott, Marla Matthew (Principal).

Second row: Christina Clement, Conrad Huerta, Laila Khaled, Janis Valmond, Tyrell Martin.

Third row: Nadia Khaled, James Davoren, Annette Scott, Eduvina Huerta, Vincent Huerta.

Fourth row: Barbara Hill-Troutman, Jessie Whipper, Frances Davoren, Elizabeth Clement, Augustina Davoren.

MOOT COURT

Ss. Peter and Paul High School won the Twelfth Annual Virgin Islands High School Appellate Moot Court Competition at the Superior Court on St. Croix on May 4-5. The team of Tiffany Bernier, Susan Salem, Anastasia Wallace and alternate Shelaine Rawlins triumphed over nine competing public, private and parochial Virgin Islands high schools, earning \$1,000 scholarships in prizes.

The law competition is held each year to test students' skills in making oral arguments in cases that may be argued before the local or higher courts. Students are asked to argue the legality of a hypothetical case before the Supreme Court of the Virgin Islands. For this year's competition, teams were asked to argue the addition of the theory of intelligent design - the belief that the universe was created by a higher intelligent being - to the philosophy curriculum at the fictitious Cyril E. King High School. Participants in the competition were to focus on whether the course violated the First Amendment right to freedom of religion, whether it endorsed a religion and whether students were coerced to participate in a religious exercise. Teams arguing in favor of the course represented the V.I. Board of Education. Those who argued against inclusion represented parents of students.

Superior Court Judge Audrey Thomas-Francis, Judge Patricia Steele and Judge Darryl Donohue ranked students on the merits of their legal arguments, how well they made their oral presentations, how well they represented their side of the argument, and how well they responded to the judges' questions.

The V.I. Bar Association and the Superior Court co-sponsored the event.

HONORING MOTHERS ON MOTHERS DAY



The Children of Mary's 26th annual Mothers Day Luncheon honored one mother from each of the parishes on St. Thomas and St. John. The luncheon was held May 14 at Columban Hall on St. Thomas.

The head table comprised, left to right, Corinne Warner of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church, Gwyneth Moolenaar of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, Mary Johns of Ss. Peter and Paul Cathedral and Evelyn Simon of Holy Family Church, along with Msgr. Jerome Feudjio, Pastor of Holy Family Church.



Deacon William Kenny and Very Rev. Neil Scantlebury distributed flowers at the end of Sunday Mass on Mothers Day, May 14.

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ALTAR SERVERS ENJOY BOAT TRIP



Members of the Altar Servers Society at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church on St. John enjoyed a boat trip on May 7. They fished and snorkeled after Sunday Mass.

TWO NEW YOUTH CHOIRS

Pictured right, the youth choir at St. Patrick Church on St. Croix sang at Mass on Easter Sunday, April 16. Below, the Junior Choir at Holy Family Church on St. Thomas sang at the Confirmation Mass on May 20.



DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY CELEBRATIONS



Divine Mercy Sunday is celebrated the Sunday after Easter. This year it fell on April 23. Many parishes recognized its significance through popular devotion.

Pictured clockwise from upper left are the image of the Divine Mercy at St. Anne Chapel on St. Thomas, decorated annually by Evelyn Aubain; Fr. Charles Crespo used props during his homily at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church on St. John; Fr. Cecil Corneille at Mass at St. Joseph Church on St. Croix; Fr. Louis Kemayou incensed the image at St. Ann Church on St. Croix; Very Rev. Neil Scantlebury stood next to an image of the Divine Mercy at Ss. Peter and Paul Cathedral on St. Thomas.



NEW GUIDELINES FOR LAY MINISTRIES

After review by the priests and principals of the diocese, *Guidelines on Lay Organizations, Apostolates and Committees* was added to the Diocesan Manual of Policies and Guidelines on May 1. The guidelines address the issues of liability, authority and finances as they relate to local lay ministries. The full text appears below.

Guidelines on Lay Organizations, Apostolates and Committees

Established: Feast of St. Joseph the Worker, May 1, 2006

2901. Diocesan, parish and school ministries are supported by lay organizations, apostolates and committees that carry out particular missions and works of mercy. These groups are sometimes chapters of international or national organizations, while some are diocesan, parish or school-based. For the purposes of this guideline, international, national, diocesan, parish and school-based organizations, apostolates and committees will be referred to as "lay organizations."

2902. A local chapter of an international or national lay organization is defined as one that follows the charter of its parent organization and enjoys *legal existence* beyond the Diocese of St. Thomas in the Virgin Islands. Examples of such lay organizations include the Catholic Daughters of the Americas and the Knights of Columbus. As such, these lay organizations do not depend upon the diocese, parishes, schools or agencies in order to conduct their activities. Nevertheless, such groups must receive the approval of the bishop for their establishment and continuing activity in the diocese.

2903. All other lay organizations, including but not restricted to, the Blue Army of Our Lady of Fatima, Children of Mary, Legion of Mary, Magnificat, Movimiento Cursillo, St. Joseph Workers, and St. Vincent de Paul Society, various alumni organizations, parent-teacher associations, school boards, men's fellowships, prayer groups and youth groups, do not have this *legal existence* beyond the Diocese of St. Thomas in the Virgin Islands. Lay organizations in this category do depend upon the diocese, parishes, schools or agencies in order to establish and continue activity in the diocese.

2904. In order to be recognized by the diocese, leaders of international, national, diocesan, parish and school-based lay organizations must read, sign and act in accord with the *Diocesan Code of Contact*.

2905. Members of international, national, diocesan, parish or school-based organizations that have regular and proximate contact with children must be familiar with the document *Policy and Procedures Concerning Child Abuse by Diocesan Personnel* and participate in ongoing child protection seminars.

2906. All lay organizations must be accountable to the bishop, pastor or principal in all matters, including financial. The following guidelines will clarify the manner in which these groups are accountable.

CHAPTERS OF INTERNATIONAL OR NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

2907. The president or chairperson of the local chapter of international or national lay organizations must inform the bishop in writing of his or her appointment and term of office.

2908. The president or chairperson of the local chapter must provide the bishop with a current copy of the organization's by-laws.

DIOCESAN, PARISH OR SCHOOL-BASED ORGANIZATIONS

2909. The president, chairperson or leader of diocesan, parish or school-based lay organizations is elected or selected by its members and then must be approved by the bishop, pastor or principal. The bishop, pastor or principal may determine term limits for these leaders.

2910. The bishop, pastor or principal retains the right to suspend or discontinue the activities of any lay organization for a just cause.

FINANCES

2911. Local chapters of international and national lay organizations may maintain their own bank account, provided that the international or national organization assumes all legal liability. Liability will not be transferred to or absorbed by the diocese, parish or school.

2912. Diocesan, parish and school-based lay organizations may not have their own bank accounts. All collected revenues must be submitted immediately to the appropriate diocesan official, pastor or principal, who will hold the funds in a restricted account. The diocesan official, pastor or principal will be a signatory on all checks.

2913. Funds generated or collected by lay organizations must be submitted to the appropriate diocesan official, pastor or principal immediately. At no time may any member of any organization, apostolate or committee take to their home, office or vehicle the proceeds of any collection or fundraising event.

CHILDREN OF MARY PROMOTE DEVOTION



Wende Rouse and members of the Children of Mary, based out of Holy Family Church on St. Thomas, were invited to share their devotion to Our Lady of Fatima at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church on St. John on May 7.



MAGNIFICAT CELEBRATES TWENTY YEARS

More than 200 women attended the twentieth anniversary luncheon of the St Croix chapter of the Magnificat in the Marian Hall at St. Ann Church, St. Croix. Visitors from Trinidad and Tobago together with a team from the St. Thomas chapter were also in attendance.

Founding member Rita Schuster started the first Magnificat on St. Croix on April 20, 1986, and remained at the helm for five years. She was succeeded by Agatha Canton. In 1995, Jeanne Garcia became the third coordinator; she continues to the present day.

Pictured above, Ms. Canton and Ms. Schuster presented Ms. Garcia with a Certificate of Recognition for her stewardship to the St. Croix chapter of Magnificat. Ednitta Emmanuel, Assistant Coordinator and Mistress of Ceremonies, is shown seated.

The Pride of Our Parishes



Ruth de Gout Smith was named Governor of the Virgin Islands on Citizenship Day, May 18. She attended a meeting at Government House and went on to address the Senate. She is a member of Holy Family Church.

ST. JOHN CALENDAR

BREAKFAST WITH THE PASTOR

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

FIRST FRIDAY HOLY HOUR

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

CONFIRMATION MASS

Bishop George Murry, SJ, will celebrate a Confirmation Mass at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church on Saturday, June 3, at 6:00 p.m.

VINCENTIAN SPIRITUALITY

The St. Vincent dePaul Society meets at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church on Sunday, June 25, after the 9:30 a.m. Mass.

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.

CHARISMATIC PRAYER

Charismatic prayer meetings are held at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church on Thursdays at 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.

*Our Blessed Mother's Message from Medjugorje
April 25, 2006*

"Dear children! Also today I call you to have more trust in me and my Son. He has conquered by His death and resurrection and, through me, calls you to be a part of His joy. You do not see God, little children, but if you pray you will feel His nearness. I am with you and intercede before God for each of you. Thank you for having responded to my call."

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ST. CROIX CALENDAR

PENTECOST

St. Ann Church on St. Croix will host a Revival Week in preparation for Pentecost. Mark Nimo from Ghana is the guest speaker from Tuesday, May 30, to Friday, June 2, at 7:00 p.m., and Sunday, June 4, at 4:00 p.m.

HOLY HOURS/EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

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

SANTO NIÑO DEVOTION/RECONCILIATION

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

GRADUATION

St. Joseph High School will have its Graduation Mass at St. Joseph Church on Sunday, June 4, at 4:00 p.m.

ORDINATION TO THE DIACONATE

Bishop George Murry, SJ, will ordain Louis Soto to the Order of Deacons at St. Patrick Church on Sunday, June 11, at the 10:00 a.m. Mass.

FRANCISCAN SPIRITUALITY

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

SPIRITUAL DIRECTION

Sr. Germaine Convery, WIF, offers Spiritual Direction on Tuesdays from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Light of Christ Retreat Center beginning June 13. Appointments are not necessary, and no fee is charged.

EVENINGS OF CHARISMATIC PRAYER

St. Patrick Church has an evening of charismatic prayer on June 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.

CORPUS CHRISTI PROCESSIONS

Two churches will have Eucharistic Processions for the feast of Corpus Christi on Sunday, June 18. Holy Cross Church will have its procession after the 11:00 a.m. Mass, and St. Joseph Church will have its bilingual procession at 4:00 p.m.

MAGNIFICAT

Magnificat, a ministry to Catholic women, meets in the Franciscan House on June 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 June 21 and the third Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m.

CARMELITE SPIRITUALITY

Secular Order Discalced Carmelites share Carmelite spirituality in the Hospitality Lounge and Learning Center at St. Joseph Church on June 25 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 Saturdays at 4:30 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.

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

PENTECOST

Holy Family Church is celebrating Pentecost with a novena and an all-night vigil. The novena, which began on May 26, features talks on the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit. Deacon Leonard Monsanto will teach on the Gift of Piety on Thursday, June 1, Fr. John Mark will teach on the Gift of Fear of the Lord on Friday, June 2, and Msgr. Jerome Feudjio will give the closing talk on Saturday, June 3. All talks are at 7:00 p.m. The novena ends with an all-night vigil beginning on Saturday, June 3, at 8:00 p.m. and ending Sunday, June 4, at 5:00 a.m.

GRADUATIONS

Ss. Peter and Paul High School graduation will be at the University of the Virgin Islands' Sports and Fitness Center on Thursday, June 1, at 6:00 p.m. The speaker is Dr. Patricia O'Friel, a former teacher at the school. Ss. Peter and Paul School kindergarten graduation will be at Ss. Peter and Paul Cathedral on Friday, June 2, at 9:00 a.m.

Ss. Peter and Paul Middle School Promotional Exercises will be at Ss. Peter and Paul Cathedral on Thursday, June 8, at 4:00 p.m. Lorna Thomas, a member of the school's Board of Directors, is the invited speaker.

HOLY HOURS/EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

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

MAGNIFICAT

Magnificat, a ministry to Catholic women, meets June 3 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 June 3 and the first Saturday of each month at 4:00 p.m.

CONFIRMATION MASS

Bishop George Murry, SJ, will celebrate a Confirmation Mass at Ss. Peter and Paul Cathedral on Sunday, June 4, at 8:30 a.m.

FIRST COMMUNION

Holy Family Church will have a First Communion Mass on Sunday, June 4, at 10:00 a.m.

FRANCISCAN SPIRITUALITY

The Lady Clare of Assisi Fraternity shares Franciscan spirituality at Holy Family Church on June 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 June 11 and the second Sunday of every month at 9:00 a.m.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

The Holy Family Chapter share Vincentian spirituality at Holy Family Church on June 13 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 June 17 and the third Saturday of each month at 3:00 p.m.

FATHER'S DAY LUNCHEON

The St. Joseph Workers of Holy Family Church will honor Deacon Roy Bruney, Anthony Francis, Zephaniah Jean-Jacques and Joseph Toussaint with a Father's Day luncheon at Columban Hall on Sunday, June 18, at 1:00 p.m.

PATRONAL FEAST

Ss. Peter and Paul Cathedral and Ss. Peter and Paul School will celebrate their annual patronal feast beginning on June 25 with Sunday Masses at 6:30 and 9:30 a.m. only, followed by a cultural celebration with food and performances in the school yard. A "Singsperation" concert will be held at the Cathedral on Monday, June 26. A triduum will be held at the Cathedral on June 27-29, including a healing service led by Cuthbert and Daphne Mejias on June 29. Bingo will conclude the patronal week at the school on Friday, June 30. All weeknight events are at 6:30 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.