

THE CATHOLIC ISLANDER

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

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THIRD DOMINICAN SISTER TO TEACH ON ST. CROIX



Sr. Soledad Atun, OP, has joined the community of the Dominican Daughters of the Immaculate Mother on St. Croix. She will be teaching the second grade at St. Mary School. Pictured above, left to right, are Sr. Maria Antonieta Melancio, OP, Sr. Soledad, and Sr. Maria Ofelia Daet, OP, all of whom teach at the school.

STUDENTS LEAD PRAYERS REMEMBERING 9/11



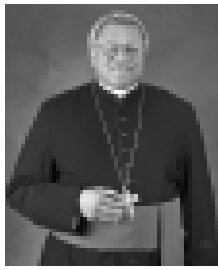
The seniors at St. Joseph High School on St. Croix led a prayer service for the student body in the St. Joseph Church Hospitality Lounge at the start of the school day on September 11. The memorial included a PowerPoint presentation depicting scenes from 9/11 and music and reflections by the seniors.

STUDENTS LEARN ABOUT CHILD SAFETY



Committed to the protection of children from sexual abuse, the four Catholic schools of the Diocese of St. Thomas in the Virgin Islands are utilizing age-appropriate videos and discussions to teach all students the tools they need to protect themselves from those who might harm them. At Ss. Peter and Paul School on St. Thomas, those seminars were held on September 17.

Pictured left, kindergarten to grade 5 students at Ss. Peter and Paul School on St. Thomas listened to the presentation.



Notes from the Bishop's Desk

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

PASTORAL PLAN

At the diocesan convocation in 1994, eighty delegates representing all the local Catholic ministries met in a convocation to help outline a five-year pastoral plan for the Diocese of St. Thomas in the Virgin Islands. Two and a half years into that plan, Bishop George Murry, SJ, is publishing *Vision and Mission*, to be distributed in all Catholic parishes, schools and agencies this month. The document reviews recent pastoral initiatives and outlines future pastoral goals.

BISHOP MURRAY'S OCTOBER 2006 PUBLIC SCHEDULE

Sunday, October 1, 9:00 and 11:00 a.m., Mass, Holy Cross Church, St. Croix.

Saturday, October 14, 5:00 p.m., Mass, St. Anne Chapel, St. Thomas.

Sunday, October 15, 7:00 and 10:00 a.m., Mass, Holy Family Church, St. Thomas.

Monday, October 16, 8:00 a.m., Visit, St. Mary School, St. Croix.

Monday, October 16, Noon, Visit, St. Patrick School, St. Croix.

Monday, October 16, 3:30 p.m., Visit, Bethlehem House for the Homeless, St. Croix.

Friday, October 20, 3:00 p.m., Visit, Bethlehem House for the Homeless, St. Thomas.

Saturday, October 21, 10:00 a.m., Ordination of Jesuit candidates to the diaconate, Jesuit School of Theology, Berkeley, California.

APPOINTMENTS

Bishop George Murry, SJ, has assigned a Parochial Vicar and appointed a Director of the Diaconate and a Director of Vocations.

Fr. Henrique Schulerbrandt, CSSR, is Parochial Vicar at St. Patrick Church on St. Croix, effective September 1. Fr. Schulerbrandt was born on St. Thomas and most recently was stationed at Vieux Fort, St. Lucia. He served as a brother and as a deacon at St. Patrick Church from 1978 to 1987, and was ordained to the priesthood by Bishop Elliott Thomas at the parish in 1994.

Very Rev. Neil Scantlebury is Director of Vocations, effective October 1. Fr. Scantlebury continues as Rector of Ss. Peter and Paul Cathedral on St. Thomas.

Fr. John Mark is Director of the Diaconate, effective October 1. Fr. Mark will oversee the ministries of the twenty-seven deacons serving the diocese and the formation program for deacon candidates. He continues as Parochial Vicar at Ss. Peter and Paul Cathedral and Director of Hispanic Ministry on St. Thomas.

BISHOP MEETS WITH MEMBERS OF RELIGIOUS COMMUNITIES



Bishop George Murry, SJ, and Msgr. Jerome Feudjio, Vicar for Priests and Religious, met with the members of the religious communities serving in the Diocese of St. Thomas in the Virgin Islands at the Blessed Peter Donders Residence on St. Croix on September 9. Bishop Murry and Msgr. Feudjio listened to the concerns of the religious and asked them how the diocese can better assist them in carrying out their ministries.

Participants represented the Dominican Daughters of the Immaculate Mother, Missionaries of Charity, Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, Oblates of St. Francis de Sales, Redemptorists, Sisters of Charity of St. Elizabeth, Sisters of the Good Shepherd, Society of Jesus and West Indian Franciscans.

ANTI-POVERTY CAMPAIGN

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) congratulated the Diocese of St. Thomas in the Virgin Islands in September for "promoting and implementing the mission" of CCHD. The diocese's collection increased more than fifty percent in 2005, according to Timothy Collins, Executive Director of CCHD.

CCHD funds over 300 programs that work to break the cycle of poverty in their communities.

ALL SAINTS AND ALL SOULS DAYS

All Saints Day on November 1 is a holy day of obligation. The first precept of the Church, "You shall attend Mass on Sundays and holy days of obligation," requires Catholics to attend Mass on that day. These Masses recall the saints who have gone to their reward.

All Souls Day on November 2 is not a holy day of obligation. On that day, Catholics are invited to pray for those souls still in purgatory.

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel offers special Masses on All Souls Day at 8:30 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. in that congregants are invited to bring to Mass a flower to recall their deceased loved ones. During the prayers of intercession, Fr. Charles Crespo, Pastor, will invite the congregants to place the flowers by the altar in remembrance of their dearly departed.

CODE OF CONDUCT

All diocesan personnel, including, priests, deacons, administrators, staff and volunteers will receive a two-part document called *Code of Conduct and Policies and Procedures Concerning Minors* beginning October 7. The first part will outline general ethics expected of all who work or volunteer in our parishes, schools or agencies. The second part summarizes the manner in which diocese personnel are to protect children from harm. All diocesan personnel must read the document and then sign and submit the consent form on the back page

SPANISH LEGION OF MARY REVIVED

The Legion of Mary's Spanish Praesidium, Maria, Arca de la Alianza, was revived at the Hospitality Lounge Room of Ss. Peter and Paul Cathedral on St. Thomas on September 10. Priscilla Lopez, president; Luzgarda O'Neal, vice-president; Ramona Viveida, secretary, and Josefina Donastorg, treasurer, took the Legionary Promise. Fr. John Mark, Director of Hispanic Ministry, presented a spiritual talk and blessed the new officers.

The meeting celebrated the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary (September 8) and marked the 85th year of the founding of the Legion of Mary, which took place on September 7, 1921.

CCVI RECEIVES FUNDING

The United Way of St. Thomas-St. John announced on September 5 the allocation of \$532,500 to its thirteen member agencies in 2007. Catholic Charities of the Virgin Islands (CCVI) received \$80,000, the highest of any agency.

HOUSING FOR HOMELESS MEN

Catholic Charities of the Virgin Islands (CCVI) has received a donation of land and property to develop long-term housing for homeless men on St. Croix.

Michael Akin, Executive Director of CCVI, is seeking funds to renovate the two buildings on Farm Hill Road, across from the cemetery in Christiansted. He also seeks funds to hire one or two managers to staff the project. Catholic Charities has applied for federal funding through Housing and Urban Development and also for a Community Development Block Grant.

The first phase of the project could be completed within a year and would result in single-room occupancy for eight men.

Currently, the agency is able to offer only short-term housing at its Bethlehem House shelters on St. Thomas and St. Croix, and St. Croix's service is further limited to women and children.

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MONTH OF THE ROSARY

Spanish-speaking Catholics on St. Thomas will gather in numerous homes five nights a week in October to celebrate the Month of the Rosary. Fr. John Mark, Coordinator of Hispanic Ministry, Deacon José Vázquez and lay leaders from Ss. Peter and Paul Cathedral will lead evenings of prayers beginning October 2.

OUR LADY OF FATIMA

St. Anne Chapel on St. Thomas will celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Fatima with a video presentation and Mass on Friday, October 13. The documentary will be shown in the parish hall at 6:00 p.m., followed by Mass in the chapel at 7:00 p.m.

WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

The St. Patrick Church Prayer Group will host the sixth annual Women's Conference at the Light of Christ Retreat Center on St. Croix on October 20-22. Sr. Patricia Simmons of Grenada and Vertilee Daniel of St. Croix will present "Women of Courage and Perseverance." A registration fee of \$40 covers all meals and conference materials.

STUDENTS MARCH AGAINST DRUGS

Staff and students of St. Mary School and St. Patrick School on St. Croix will stage marches against drugs as part of Red Ribbon Week, the nation's oldest and largest anti-drug campaign.

St. Mary School students will march through Christiansted on Tuesday, October 24, at 9:30 a.m., and St. Patrick School students will march through Frederiksted on Friday, October 27, at 9:00 a.m.

DINNER TO HONOR BISHOP THOMAS

The Prayers, Hymns and Praise Steel Orchestra of Holy Family Church on St. Thomas will present "An Evening of Elegance" honoring Bishop Elliott Thomas and all Catholic parishioners who turn 80 years old in 2006. These parishioners so far include Joseph Hippolyte of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church on St. John and Paul Berry, Helen Burke, Josefina Donastorg, Berecia Reid and Evelyn Simon of Holy Family Church on St. Thomas.

The dinner will be held at the Wyndham Sugar Bay Resort on Sunday, October 15, at 6:00 p.m. The orchestra will perform. Tickets are available from members of the orchestra for \$60.

THE TRANSITUS OF ST. FRANCIS

All over the world, Franciscans celebrate the *transitus* or "passing over" of St. Francis of Assisi on the anniversary of his death, October 3, and a Mass on his feast day, October 4. "Transitus" is a Latin word meaning "to pass through," but the service is as much a celebration of the saint's life as a commemoration of his death.

On St. Thomas, the Lady Clare of Assisi Fraternity of the Secular Franciscans celebrates the *Transitus* with a prayer service at Holy Family Church on Tuesday, October 3, at 7:00 p.m.

On St. Croix, the Our Lady of the Angels Fraternity of the Secular Franciscans will bring the *Transitus* to the charismatic prayer meeting at St. Ann Church on Tuesday, October 3, at 7:00 p.m. The Mass will be celebrated at St. Joseph Church on Wednesday, October 4, at 7:00 p.m.

CATHOLIC APOLOGETICS

Deacon Denis Griffith will teach a seven-session Catholic Apologetics course at St. Ann Church on St. Croix on Thursdays beginning October 12 at 7:00 p.m. The course is entitled "End Times: What Catholics Believe about the Second Coming," and will discuss the resurrection of the body, heaven and hell, purgatory and indulgences. The accompanying textbook costs \$10.00.

ST. FRANCIS BLESSING OF PETS

The feast day of St. Francis of Assisi is October 4, and in honor of his renowned love for animals, parishes and schools on three islands will celebrate with a traditional blessing of pets.

On St. John, Fr. Charles Crespo, Pastor, blessed animals at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church on September 30.

On St. Thomas, Fr. John Mark, Parochial Vicar at Ss. Peter and Paul Cathedral, will bless pets at Ss. Peter and Paul School on Wednesday, October 4, at 8:30 a.m. Students from the lower grades will read original poems and sing songs at the prayer service.

On St. Croix, Fr. Cecil Corneille, Pastor, will bless animals outside the Youth Center at St. Joseph Church on Wednesday, October 4, at 5:00 p.m.

Also on St. Croix, all creatures great and small may be blessed at a block party between Holy Cross Church and St. Mary School on Saturday, October 7, at 10:00 a.m. The festivities will include games, food, live music and donkey rides. Participants may have their photographs taken with their pets and imprinted on t-shirts.

¡BUENAS NOTICIAS!

MES DEL ROSARIO

La comunidad católica hispana en Sto. Tomás se reunirá en diferentes casas durante cinco noches a la semana para el mes de octubre, celebrando el Mes del Rosario. P. John Mark, Coordinador de la Pastoral Hispana, el Diácono José Vázquez y otros de la Catedral de San Pedro y San Pablo llevarán acabo estas noches de oración empezando el 2 de octubre.

LA BENDICIÓN DE LOS ANIMALES

El 4 de octubre es la fiesta de San Francisco de Asís, un santo conocido por su amor por los animales. En su memoria, varias parroquias y escuelas han anunciado la bendición de animales.

En St. John, la Iglesia Nuestra Señora del Carmen lo llevó acabo el 30 de septiembre a las 8.30 a.m.

En Sto. Tomás se hará en la Escuela San Pedro y San Pablo el miércoles 4 de octubre a las 8.30 a.m. Los estudiantes leerán poemas y cantarán canciones en esta ocasión.

En Sta. Cruz, se bendecirá animales afuera del Centro Juvenil de la Iglesia San José el miércoles 4 de octubre a las 5.00 p.m. También se bendecirán los animales en la calle entre la Iglesia Holy Cross y la Escuela Sta. Maria el sábado 7 de octubre a las 10.00 a.m.

DÍAS DE LOS SANTOS Y LOS MUERTOS

El 1 de noviembre, Día de Todos los Santos, es día de precepto, y pedimos ayuda de los que ya están con Dios en el cielo. Es obligación asistir a Misa ese día. El 2 de noviembre, Día de los Difuntos, ofrecemos las oraciones por todos aquellos que están todavía en el purgatorio. No es obligación asistir a Misa ese día.

Para el Día de los Difuntos, la Iglesia Nuestra Señora del Carmen en St. John oficiará Misas especiales a las 8.30 a.m. y a las 7.00 p.m. Los fieles están invitados a traer una flor en memoria de su ser querido y dejarlo en el altar. En esta ceremonia se recitará las Letanías de los Santos.

HONRANDO AL OBISPO THOMAS

La Orquesta Oraciones, Himnos y Alabanzas de la Iglesia Holy Family en Santo Tomás presentará “Una Tarde de Elegancia” honrando al Obispo Elliott Thomas y a todos los que cumplen 80 años en 2006. La cena se llevará acabo en el Wyndham Sugar Bay Resort el domingo 15 de octubre a las 6.00 p.m. Tocarà la orquesta. Los boletos están disponibles por los miembros de la orquesta a \$60.

DESAYUNO CON EL PÁRROCO

Se comparte un Desayuno con el Párroco en la Iglesia Nuestra Señora del Carmen en St. John el 6 de octubre y el primer viernes de cada mes después de la Misa de las 7.00 a.m.

HORA SANTA

La Iglesia San José en Santa Cruz tiene una Hora Santa bilingüe con Exposición y Bendición del Santísimo Sacramento el 6 de octubre 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 los lunes después de la Misa de 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 Santo Tomás y St. John en el canal 16 los sábados a las 2.00 p.m.

LA LEGIÓN HISPANA DE MARÍA

La Legión de María, Praesidium María, la Arca de la Alianza, se renovó en el Salón de Hospitalidad de la Catedral San Pedro y San Paul en Sto. Tomás el 10 de septiembre. Priscilla López, presidente; Luzgarda O'Neal, vicepresidente; Ramona Viveida, secretaria; y Josefina Donastorg, tesorera, tomaron la Promesa de los Legionarios. El P. John Mark presentó una charla espiritual y bendijo a los miembros del nuevo equipo.



Luzgarda O'Neal, Priscilla López y Ramona Viveida tomaron la Promesa de los Legionarios el 10 de septiembre.

Catholic Education

SCHOOL MASS



Duran Thomas was one of the readers at St. Patrick School's first Mass of the academic year at St. Patrick Church on St. Croix on August 25.

WINNING RAP



St. Joseph High School student Conrad Huerta is among the winners of Speak Your Peace, a music contest which invited local youth to write and record original songs encouraging peers to stop gun violence. His winning rap is entitled "Peace."

In September the winners recorded full-length versions of their songs at a studio on St. Thomas. Project Safe Neighborhoods, sponsor of the contest, will compile the songs on a CD and distribute the CDs to all the schools in the territory.

The winners will perform their songs at the Sunshine Mall on St. Croix on October 28.

STUDENTS ON RETREAT

The upper grades at St. Mary School on St. Croix have been experiencing days of retreat at the Marian Hall of St. Ann Church. The eighth grade had its retreat on September 14, the seventh grade on September 21 and the sixth graders on September 28.

Eighth graders at St. Patrick School on St. Croix had a spiritual retreat at Light of Christ Retreat Center on September 15. Workshops taught about self esteem and character building.



Seventh graders from St. Mary School on St. Croix gathered for a day long retreat at St. Ann Church on September 21.



Eighth graders from St. Patrick School on St. Croix performed a skit on the social pressure to smoke illegal substances during their retreat at the Light of Christ Retreat Center on September 15. Pictured above are (standing, left to right) Caira Isaac, Krystal Wynter, Neosha Poleon, Darcy Guerrero and (seated, left to right) Timothy Alexis and Trevor Irvin.

Catholic Education

FUN DAY BONDS NEW AND RETURNING STUDENTS



Seniors at St. Joseph High School on St. Croix welcomed new students with a Fun Day on the athletic field on September 7. The initiation included a "tug of war."

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES RESUME



Fr. John Mark, Parochial Vicar at Ss. Peter and Paul Cathedral on St. Thomas, teaches Confirmation class.



Sr. Margaret Confoy, SC, teaches First Communion to parishioners of Ss. Peter and Paul Cathedral.

SCHOOL SAFETY COMES FIRST

Rotary International donated two road safety signs to Elizabeth Hering, Principal of St. Mary School on St. Croix, on August 31, as the new school year began. The 2' x 3' metal signs read "Drive Carefully, Protect Our Children." Rotary has been donating these signs to St. Croix schools since 2001.

Pictured left to right: Rotary members Patsy Knight; Bonnine Messer, Community Service Chair; Pedro Robles; Ms. Hering; Beverly Beck, President, who is also a parent of a second grade student at the school.



PARISH CATECHISTS ARE COMMISSIONED



Fr. Louis Kemayou commissioned religious education instructors at the end of Sunday Mass at St. Joseph Church on St. Croix on September 17.

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PRIEST RETURNS TO PARISH AFTER 50 YEARS



Fr. Jim Mallen, C.Ss.R., who served at St. Patrick Church on St. Croix from 1950 to 1953, returned to his old parish on September 5 and 6. "I was amazed how many parishioners still remembered him after fifty years," said Fr. Pat Lynch, Pastor of Holy Cross Church on St. Croix. Fr. Mallen has been stationed in Puerto Rico for the past fifty years.

Anne Abramson and Gwenie Lucas (a Redemptorist Oblate) are pictured with Fr. Mallen. Both were in the Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) that he ran.

SENIOR CITIZEN RECEIVED INTO THE CATHOLIC CHURCH



Beryl Ruby Santos, 85, made her profession of faith and was received into the Catholic Church at St Ann Church on St. Croix on September 7. Her son-in-law and daughter, Lawrence and Rosemary, are shown behind her in the photograph, together with Fr. Simon Peter Opira, Msgr. Michael Kosak and Fr. Louis Kemayou.

ENTHRONING THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS



Fr. Pat Lynch, Pastor of Holy Cross Church on St. Croix, and the Missionaries of Charity continue blessing homes and enthrone the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary in those homes. To prepare for this consecration, the members of the household pray a series of prayers over nine days. Pictured above, are Sr. Arvind, MC, Artemia Viera and Fr. Lynch.

FIRST FRIDAYS ARE FOR THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS



Fr. Charles Crespo, Pastor of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church on St. John, sets images of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary before the altar every First Friday.

ST. JOHN CALENDAR

BREAKFAST WITH THE PASTOR

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church hosts a pot luck breakfast on October 6 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 October 6 and all First Fridays after the 7:00 p.m. Mass.

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 First Fridays, that Mass is at 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

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.

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH MINISTRY

Youths of high school age meet in the Guadalupe Hall of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church on the second and fourth Sunday of each month at 6:00 p.m.

BISHOP MURRY CELEBRATES MASS ON ST. JOHN



Bishop George Murry, SJ, celebrated Sunday Mass at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church on St. John on September 16. Bishop Murry frequently celebrates Sunday Mass at all the parishes in the Diocese of St. Thomas in the Virgin Islands.

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.

The Pride of Our Parishes



Catherine Royer, 93, assists the First Communion class at St. Ann Church on St. Croix.

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

"Dear children! Also today I call you to pray, pray, pray. Only in prayer will you be near to me and my Son and you will see how short this life is. In your heart a desire for Heaven will be born. Joy will begin to rule in your heart and prayer will begin to flow like a river. In your words there will only be thanksgiving to God for having created you and the desire for holiness will become a reality for you. Thank you for having responded to my call."

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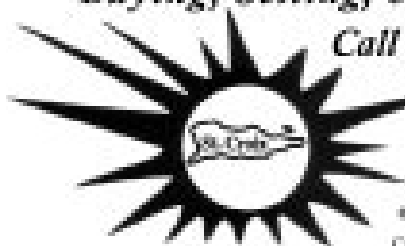
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ST. CROIX CALENDAR

THE TRANSITUS OF ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

The Our Lady of the Angels Fraternity of the Secular Franciscans will celebrate the Transitus of St. Francis of Assisi at the charismatic prayer meeting at St. Ann Church on Tuesday, October 3, at 7:00 p.m. The Mass will be celebrated at St. Joseph Church on Wednesday, October 4, at 7:00 p.m.

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI BLESSING OF PETS

Pets will be blessed outside the Youth Center at St. Joseph Church on Wednesday, October 4, at 5:00 p.m., and at a block party between Holy Cross Church and St. Mary School on Saturday, October 7, at 10:00 a.m.

ALPHA

Alpha, a basic course in Catholic faith, meets at St. Joseph Church's Hospitality Lounge on ten Wednesdays beginning October 4, at 6:30 p.m. The program begins with supper, followed by a talk and small group discussions.

HOLY HOURS/EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Holy Cross Church has Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction on October 6 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 October 6 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 October 6 and all First Fridays at 7:00 p.m.

SANTO NIÑO DEVOTION/RECONCILIATION

St. Joseph Church hosts devotions to *El Santo Niño* on October 7 and the first Saturday of each month at 4:30 p.m. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is offered simultaneously.

FRANCISCAN SPIRITUALITY

The Our Lady of the Angels Fraternity shares Franciscan spirituality at the Franciscan House on October 8 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 across of the abortion clinic in the shopping mall across from Island Center on Tuesday, October 10, beginning at 10:00 a.m.

CATHOLIC APOLOGETICS

Deacon Denis Griffith teaches a Catholic Apologetics course at St. Ann Church on seven Thursdays beginning October 12 at 7:00 p.m.

MAGNIFICAT

Magnificat, a ministry to Catholic women, meets in the Franciscan House on October 15 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 October 18 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 October 20 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.

WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

The St. Patrick Church Prayer Group will host the sixth annual Women's Conference at the Light of Christ Retreat Center on October 20-22.

CARMELITE SPIRITUALITY

Secular Order Discalced Carmelites share Carmelite spirituality in the St. Joseph Church Hospitality Lounge and Learning Center on October 22 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 has a Celebration of the Word at St. Joseph Church on Mondays and at Holy Cross Church on Wednesdays at 7:00 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. Appointments are not necessary, and no fee is charged.

ST. THOMAS CALENDAR

THE TRANSITUS OF ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

The Lady Clare of Assisi Fraternity of the Secular Franciscans celebrates the Transitus of St. Francis with a prayer service at Holy Family Church on Tuesday, October 3, at 7:00 p.m.

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI BLESSING OF PETS

Fr. John Mark will bless pets at Ss. Peter and Paul School on Wednesday, October 4, at 8:30 a.m. Students from the lower grades will read original poems and sing songs at the prayer service.

HOLY HOURS/EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

St. Anne Chapel has a Holy Hour with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction on October 6 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 has a bingo fundraiser in the cafeteria on Fridays, October 6 and 20, at 7:00 p.m.

MAGNIFICAT

Magnificat, a ministry to Catholic women, meets October 7 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 October 6 and the first Saturday of each month at 4:00 p.m.

ST. JOSEPH WORKERS

The St. Joseph Workers meet at Holy Family Church on October 8 and the second Sunday of each month at 9:00 a.m.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

The Holy Family Chapter shares Vincentian spirituality at Holy Family Church on October 10 and the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

FEAST OF OUR LADY OF FATIMA

St. Anne Chapel on St. Thomas will celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Fatima with a video presentation and Mass on Friday, October 13. The documentary will be shown in the parish hall at 6:00 p.m., followed by Mass in the chapel at 7:00 p.m.

FRANCISCAN SPIRITUALITY

The Lady Clare of Assisi Fraternity shares Franciscan spirituality at Holy Family Church on October 14 and the second Saturday of each month at 1:00 p.m.

DINNER TO HONOR BISHOP THOMAS

The Prayers, Hymns and Praise Steel Orchestra of Holy Family Church presents "An Evening of Elegance" honoring Bishop Elliott Thomas and all others who turn 80 years old in 2006. The dinner will be held at the Wyndham Sugar Bay Resort on Sunday, October 15, at 6:00 p.m. The orchestra will perform. Tickets are available from members of the orchestra for \$60.

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF AMERICA

Court 2049 meets at Ss. Peter and Paul Cathedral's Hospitality Lounge on October 21 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.

LIFE IN THE SPIRIT SEMINAR

Holy Family Church hosts a Life in the Spirit Seminar on Mondays in October at 7:00 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.

*The Diocese of St. Thomas in the Virgin Islands
has a new website: www.catholicvi.com*