

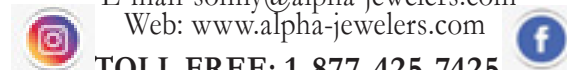
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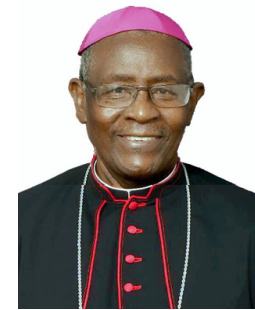
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## RECOMMENDED PRACTICES FOR THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Please be aware that during the COVID-19 pandemic, we recommend the following practices:

1. Wear a face covering in the cathedral.
2. Sanitize your hands.
3. Attempt to maintain a social distance of six feet.
4. Consider receiving Holy Communion in hand.

**Please patronize these sponsors. It is through their generous support that this cathedral bulletin is provided to the parish.**



Most Rev. Jerome Feudjio

# Diocese of St. Thomas in the Virgin Islands Saints Peter & Paul Cathedral

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June 30, 2024

## Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul

**"Who do you say I am?"**



## PRIESTS OF THE CATHEDRAL

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Rev. Fr. Marcel Gham  
Rev. Fr. Andrew Lesko  
Rev. Fr. Ronan Sarmiento

**DEACONS**  
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Tuesdays - Friday  
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Saturday  
11:00 AM - 6:00 p.m.

Sunday  
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TELEPHONE: 340-774-0201



Scan this QR Code to visit the Diocesan Website and/or to donate to the Bishop's Appeal.

## WEEKENDS

Saturday: 7:00AM, 4:30PM (Vigil Mass)  
Sunday: 7:00AM, 8:30AM (Children's Mass), 10:00AM, and 12:15PM (Spanish)

## WEEKDAYS

Monday to Friday: 7:00AM  
Wednesday: 12:15PM

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION**  
Wednesday from 7:30AM - 11:45AM  
Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help  
Wednesday before Masses

## MISSION STATEMENT

To continue the ministry of Jesus Christ by:

Preaching the Good News to a Caribbean community according to the magisterium of the Roman Catholic Church. Furthering the faith of God's people with sound teaching and meaningful liturgies in keeping with the apostolic tradition. Promoting and implementing inclusive strategies to meet the needs of the people of God who worship at Saints Peter and Paul Cathedral.

## CONFESSIONS

Wednesday: 11:45AM - 12:10PM  
Saturday: 3:45PM - 4:25PM  
or by Request

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**  
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*Solemnity of Sts. Peter & Paul*

**First Reading:** Acts 12: 1-11  
**Responsorial Psalm:** Psalm 34: 2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9  
**Second Reading:** 2 Timothy 4: 6-8, 17-18  
**Gospel:** Matthew 16: 13-19

**MEDITATION**

**By: Rev. Fr. Joseph Nguete Toko**

“Who do you say I am?”

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

We are celebrating today the Solemnity of St. Peter and St. Paul, two great Saints who were disciples of Jesus. We also celebrate in “grand style” the Jubilee of our Cathedral Church on the occasion of its 250th Anniversary. It is an occasion of Thanksgiving to God for that house of prayer that has been offered to us and which stands the test of time despite the destructive effects of the hurricane and of persecutions in the course of history. It has been dedicated to Sts. Peter and Paul, two great Saints who were converted sinners.

We know fully well that Peter denied Jesus three times, but later on repented and became the head of the Church, a zealous apostle who even shed his blood for Christ. He died as a martyr. As for Paul, he was a violent persecutor of the Church. He was very much opposed to Christians. It is on his way to Damascus that the Lord appeared to him whereas he was going to persecute the Christians. After his encounter with the Lord, he became totally converted. He who was persecuting the Church was going to become the zealous apostle of Jesus, working tirelessly for the spreading of the good news and for the establishment of the Church among the Gentiles or Pagan Nations. In his turn, he suffered for the sake of the Gospel, he was in prison for the faith he was spreading and died as a martyr.

It is interesting to see that both Peter and Paul were sinners who became Saints. We too are all sinners in need of conversion to become Saints. The Saints are not people who were extraordinary and without sin, but rather ordinary people like us with their own weaknesses and frailties, with their own limitations and sins, just like us. It therefore means that we too can become Saints. Let us ask God to grant us the grace of conversion in order to become like Peter and Paul by our faith and our witness to the Gospel of Christ.

**Meditation** (continued)

In the Gospel of today, Jesus asks His disciples who do they think that He is? This question is a fundamental one because the way we consider people determines the quality of our relationship with them. The answers of some people today show this. Some considered him as a prophet, as John the Baptist, Elijah, or Jeremiah, and not as the Son of God despite the divine actions that he was performing in their sight. That is why they could not relate with him as a divine person. We can understand why the Scribes and Pharisees did not have a great consideration for Him. Had they known that they were dealing with the son of God, that their attitude would have been different. It is Simon Peter who will reveal the true identity of Jesus by saying in answer to his question: “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” This answer which Jesus said to be a revelation of his heavenly Father, was to change not only the perception of the disciples who were present, but also their way of relating with Jesus henceforth. Those who will consider him as coming from God will give him the respect and consideration which is due, whereas those who will see him as a mere man will not have much consideration for him. What about us? If Jesus were to ask us today: “Who do you say I am?” What will be our answer? Our actions and our attitude towards Jesus should show our faith in Him. May He grant us the grace to see Him and consider Him as our “Lord and our God” like Thomas and have an attitude of adoration towards Him, listening to His word and putting it into practice. It is only thus that we will deserve in the end to share His glory in heaven with Sts. Peter and Paul, and all the Saints forever and ever!



*This weekend's Altar Flowers were donated by Mrs. Gail Shulterbrandt, Mrs. Elma Francis, and Ms. Lillia King, in celebration of their birthdays and the Feast of Saints Peter & Paul.*

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1 Thessalonians 5:17

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**SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:**

Baptisms are generally held on the last Sunday of the month. Requests for a different date and time will be honored to the extent possible. Parents and sponsors who have not yet received the required baptismal instruction are expected to do so by attending our baptismal preparation program. Call the parish office well in advance so that class arrangements can be made.

**SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE:**

Anyone wishing to have his or her wedding celebrated at Saints Peter and Paul Cathedral must contact the parish office 9-12 months prior to the celebration and talk to a priest for pre-wedding counseling. Please visit our website [www.cathedralvi.org](http://www.cathedralvi.org) or call us at 340-774-0201. The Sacrament of Marriage is generally celebrated on a Saturday between the hours of 11:00AM and 2:00PM. Please contact the parish priest if you would like a different time for your wedding. (Note that Saturday mornings are reserved for cleaning and decorating the cathedral.)

**VISITING AND ANNOINTING THE SICK:**

If anyone in your family is sick or shut-in, please inform the parish office so that we can pray for them and arrange to visit them. Please note that the hospital does not notify us when Catholics are in the hospital. Please call the parish office to inform us of a Catholic in the hospital who needs to have a priest visit. Thank you!

**FUNERAL MASSES:**

Funeral Masses at Saints Peter and Paul Cathedral are held on the designated day at 9:30AM. Please make arrangements with the Church office before the funeral home to assure availability of the date requested. The Funeral Program should read "**Christian Burial**" on the cover. If you would like a different time, please contact the parish priest. Viewings will not take place inside the cathedral. Funerals generally are not held on weekends (Saturday or Sunday). Thank you for your cooperation.



**DAILY WEEKDAY  
READINGS**

**Monday, July 1, 2024**

*St. Junipero Serra, Priest*

First Reading: Amos 2: 6-10, 13-16

Gospel: Matthew 8: 18-22

**Tuesday, July 2, 2024**

First Reading: Amos 3: 1-8, 4: 11-12

Gospel: Matthew 8: 23-27

**Wednesday, July 3, 2024**

*Saint Thomas, Apostle*

First Reading: Ephesians 2: 19-22

Gospel: John 20: 24-29

**Thursday, July 4, 2024**

First Reading: Amos 7: 10-17

Gospel: Matthew 9: 1-8

**Friday, July 5, 2024**

*Saint Anthony Zaccaria, Priest; Saint Elizabeth of Portugal*

First Reading: Amos 8: 4-6, 9-12

Gospel: Matthew 9: 9-13

**Saturday, July 6, 2024**

*Saint Maria Goretti, Virgin, Martyr*

First Reading: Amos 9: 11-15

Gospel: Matthew 9: 14-17

**SPIRITUAL COMMUNION**

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if you were already there, and I unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen

(Saint Alphonsus Liguori)

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**THANK YOU**

Thank you to all who contributed in one way or another for the success of the celebration of the 250th Jubilee of Saints Peter and Paul Cathedral.

**MASS**

On Sunday, July 7, 2024, masses will resume to the regular schedule times at 7:00 a.m., 8:30 a.m., 10:00 a.m., and 12:15 p.m.

**RESPECT & CLEANLINESS**

Please let us help keep our Church and surrounding area clean. Please do not eat in Church and watch over your children, remove wrappers, tissues, etc. from the pews when you leave the Church. Remember that this is the House of Our Lord and let us RESPECT HIM.

**OFFICE CLOSURE**

In observance of Independence Day, on Thursday, July 4, 2024, the Church Office will be closed.

**HIS EMINENCE CHRISTOPHE  
CARDINAL PIERRE MEET & GREET:**

All Parishioners are invited to meet his Eminence Christophe Cardinal Pierre, the Pope's Ambassador to the United States, on Tuesday, July 2, 2024, at 9:00 am at Holy Family's Upper Columban Hall. His Eminence Christophe Cardinal Pierre is looking forward to meeting, socializing with Parishioners from all parishes, and answering any questions they may have. Light refreshments will be served.



**Mass Intentions**

**SATURDAY, June 29, 2024**

7:00AM

4:30 PM † Excelman deLagarde Jr. - Rb. family & friends

**SUNDAY, June 30, 2024**

10:00AM Dayana Esprit & Qui'Neke Bedminster  
Rb. by their mother, Vernelda Alexander

The Vasquez Family - requested by Tati Vasquez

**MONDAY, July 1, 2024**

7:00AM † Pete Ledee - Rb. Marie Pascale Duplan

**TUESDAY, July 2, 2024**

7:00AM Cynthia Charles, sons, & brothers, for Protection  
& Deliverance - Rb. Cynthia Charles

**WEDNESDAY, July 3, 2024**

7:00AM † Excelman deLagarde Jr. - Rb. family & friends

12:15PM † Madonia H. Blake - Rb. family and friends

**THURSDAY, July 4, 2024**

7:00AM † Mere Rose Chantal Djiazet -  
Rb. Mother Adele and Sister Sylverine

**FRIDAY, July 5, 2024**

7:00AM

**SATURDAY, July 6, 2024**

7:00AM Cynthia Charles, sons, & brothers, for Protection  
& Deliverance - Rb. Cynthia Charles

4:30 PM † Excelman deLagarde Jr. - Rb. family and friends

**HURRICANE PRAYER**

God, All-powerful Father, Christ, Our Savior, Spirit of Love, You reveal yourself in the depths of our being, drawing us to share in Your life and love. Be near to the people formed in Your image, close to the world Your love brings to life. Save us from all harm, draw us ever closer to You as we confidently seek Your protection from the destructive force of all storms which frighten us. Let every hurricane or natural threat of disaster serve only to blow us ever more securely into Your loving, merciful embrace. We ask this, Father, with the intercession of the Virgin Mother, Mary, Lady of all Nations, through your Son, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen

**ORACIÓN DEL HURACÁN**

Dios, Padre todopoderoso, Cristo, Salvador nuestro, Espíritu de amor, Tú te revelas en lo más profundo de nuestro ser, atrayéndonos a compartir tu vida y tu amor. Este cerca de las personas formadas a Tu imagen, cerca del mundo que Tu amor trae a la vida. Sálvanos de todo daño, acércate cada vez más hacia nosotros mientras buscamos con confianza Tu protección de la fuerza destructiva de todas las tormentas que nos asustan. Que cada huracán o amenaza natural de desastre sirva sólo para llevarnos cada vez más seguros a Tu abrazo amoroso y misericordioso. Esto te lo pedimos, Padre, con la intercesión de la Virgen Madre, María, Señora de todos los Pueblos, por tu Hijo, Jesucristo, y el Espíritu Santo, un solo Dios, por los siglos de los siglos. Amén

*Solemnidad de los Santos Pedro y Pablo*

**Primera lectura:** Hechos 12, 1-11  
**Salmo responsorial:** Salmo 34: 2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9  
**Segunda Lectura:** 2 Timoteo 4: 6-8, 17-18  
**Evangelio:** Mateo 16: 13-19

**Meditación**

por: Padre Joseph Nguete Toko

**“¿Quién dices que soy?”**

Queridos hermanos y hermanas en Cristo,

Celebramos hoy la Solemnidad de San Pedro y San Pablo, dos grandes Santos que fueron discípulos de Jesús. Celebramos también a “gran estilo” el Jubileo de nuestra Iglesia Catedral con motivo de su 250 Aniversario. Es una ocasión de acción de gracias a Dios por esa casa de oración que se nos ha ofrecido y que resiste el paso del tiempo a pesar de los efectos destructivos del huracán y de las persecuciones a lo largo de la historia. Ha sido dedicado a los Santos. Pedro y Pablo, dos grandes Santos que fueron pecadores convertidos.

Sabemos muy bien que Pedro negó a Jesús tres veces, pero luego se arrepintió y se convirtió en cabeza de la Iglesia, un apóstol celoso que incluso derramó su sangre por Cristo. Murió como mártir. En cuanto a Pablo, fue un violento perseguidor de la Iglesia. Se oponía mucho a los cristianos. De camino a Damasco se le apareció el Señor cuando iba a perseguir a los cristianos. Después de su encuentro con el Señor, se convirtió totalmente. El que perseguía a la Iglesia iba a convertirse en el celoso apóstol de Jesús, trabajando incansablemente por la difusión de las buenas nuevas y por el establecimiento de la Iglesia entre los gentiles o naciones paganas. A su vez sufrió por causa del Evangelio, estuvo en prisión por la fe que difundía y murió como mártir.

Es interesante ver que tanto Pedro como Pablo eran pecadores que se convirtieron en santos. También nosotros somos todos pecadores y necesitamos convertirnos para convertirnos en santos. Los Santos no son personas extraordinarias y sin pecado, sino personas comunes y corrientes como nosotros, con sus propias debilidades y fragilidades, con sus propias limitaciones y pecados, como nosotros. Por tanto, significa que nosotros también podemos llegar a ser santos. Pidamos a Dios que nos conceda la gracia de la conversión para llegar a ser como Pedro y Pablo por nuestra fe y nuestro testimonio del Evangelio de Cristo.

**Meditación** continuada

En el evangelio de hoy, Jesús pregunta a sus discípulos ¿quién creen que es Él? Esta pregunta es fundamental porque la forma en que consideramos a las personas determina la calidad de nuestra relación con ellas. Las respuestas de algunas personas hoy lo demuestran. Algunos lo consideraban un profeta, como Juan Bautista, Elías o Jeremías, y no como el Hijo de Dios a pesar de las acciones divinas que estaba realizando ante sus ojos. Por eso no podían relacionarse con él como persona divina. Podemos entender por qué los escribas y fariseos no le tenían gran consideración. Si hubieran sabido que estaban tratando con el hijo de Dios, su actitud habría sido diferente. Es Simón Pedro quien revelará la verdadera identidad de Jesús diciendo en respuesta a su pregunta: “Tú eres el Cristo, el Hijo del Dios vivo”. Esta respuesta, que Jesús dijo que era una revelación de su Padre celestial, iba a cambiar no sólo la percepción de los discípulos presentes, sino también su manera de relacionarse con Jesús en adelante. Aquellos que lo consideren procedente de Dios le darán el respeto y la consideración que se merece, mientras que aquellos que lo verán como un simple hombre no le tendrán mucha consideración. ¿Qué pasa con nosotros? Si Jesús nos preguntara hoy: “¿Quién decís que soy yo?” ¿Cuál será nuestra respuesta? Nuestras acciones y nuestra actitud hacia Jesús deben mostrar nuestra fe en Él. Que Él nos conceda la gracia de verlo y considerarlo como nuestro “Señor y Dios nuestro” como Tomás y tener una actitud de adoración hacia Él, escuchando su palabra y poniéndola en práctica. Sólo así mereceremos al final compartir su gloria en el cielo con los santos. ¡Pedro y Pablo, y todos los santos por los siglos de los siglos!

**ANUNCIOS**

**GRACIAS**

Gracias a todos los que contribuyeron de una forma u otra al éxito de la celebración del 250º Jubileo de la Catedral de San Pedro y Pablo.

**RESPECTO Y LIMPIEZA**

Por favor, permítanos ayudar a mantener limpia nuestra Iglesia y sus alrededores. Por favor no comas en la Iglesia y cuida a tus hijos, retira envoltorios, pañuelos, etc. de las bancas al salir de la Iglesia. Recuerden que esta es la Casa de Nuestro Señor y RESPETÉMOSLO.

**ENSAYO DEL CORO**

Habrá un ensayo para el Coro Parroquial el 30 de junio de 2024 a las 8:00 a.m. en la Catedral.

**SU EMINENCIA CHRISTOPHE CARDENAL PIERRE ENCUENTRO Y SALUDO:**

Todos los feligreses están invitados a reunirse con Su Eminencia Christophe Cardenal Pierre, Embajador del Papa en los Estados Unidos, el martes 2 de julio de 2024 a las 9:00 am en el Salón Columbano Superior de la Sagrada Familia. Su Eminencia Cardenal Christophe Pierre espera reunirse, socializar con los feligreses de todas las parroquias y responder cualquier pregunta que puedan tener. Se servirán refrigerios ligeros.

**OUR CHURCH AND OUR SCHOOL ARE SAFE ENVIRONMENTS:**

We are all committed to the protection of the children in our institutions. **If you notice any harmful behavior toward our children, do not hesitate to contact us as soon as possible.** Thank you.

**NUESTRA IGLESIA Y NUESTRA ESCUELA SON AMBIENTES SEGUROS:**

Todos estamos comprometidos con la protección de los niños en nuestras instituciones.

**Si nota algún comportamiento nocivo hacia nuestros hijos, no dude en ponerse en contacto con nosotros lo antes posible.** gracias.

**SECOND COLLECTION WILL BE TAKEN AS FOLLOWS:**

June 30 - **Peter's Pence**  
 July 7 - **Cathedral Maintenance and Enhancement**



**OFFERTORY / OFERTORIO**  
**LAST WEEK'S OFFERTORY AMOUNTED TO:**  
**LA OFRENDA DE LA SEMANA PASADA SUMÓ**

*Thank you for your donation!*

JUNE 23, 2024

4:30PM	\$ 465.00	\$ 115.00
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8:30 AM	\$ 811.00	\$ 246.00
10:00AM	\$ 1308.00	\$ 507.00
12:15PM	\$ 353.00	\$ 154.33
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*Gracias por su*

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- FR. SIMON PETER OPIRA
- FR. JOHN SOLOMON
- RENEL BREDY
- JOYCE CORREA
- CELESTINE DAVIS
- FITZROY CYRIL EUGENE
- LAVERNE FRANCIS
- DELTA GEORGE
- LOUISE HASSELL ARMSTRONG
- DR. ALFRED O. HEATH
- JOSEPH HODGE
- WINIFRED HODGE
- RITA KING
- STEPHANY LOUZAN
- JOSEPHINE NOCH
- FELIX O'NEAL
- RAMÓN ORTIZ
- MIRIAM GARCIA RIJO
- LOURDEN T. RIVERA
- ROSE ROBERTS
- VENIA SAKHRANI
- CARLOS SANCHEZ
- CÉSAR JULIO TIRADO
- LIAN VÁZQUEZ



**Prayer to Saint Peter**

O Holy Apostle, because you are the Rock upon which the Almighty God has built His Church, obtain for me, I pray you, lively faith, firm hope and burning and love; complete detachment from myself, contempt of the world, patience in adversity, humility in prosperity, recollection in prayer purity of heart, a right intention in all my works, diligence in fulfilling the duties of my state of life, constancy in my resolutions, resignation to the will of God and perseverance in the grace of God even unto death, that so, by means of your intercession and your glorious merits, I may be made worthy to appear before the chief and eternal Shepherd of souls, Jesus-Christ, who with the Father and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns forever. Amen

**Prayer to Saint Paul**

Saint Paul, You traveled the world, never quite knowing where the Spirit would lead you next. You journeyed in faith and accepted beatings, imprisonment, shipwreck, and ultimately, execution because of your faith in Jesus-Christ. Help me to accept the great adventure of leading a life faithful to the words of Jesus, my Master, the Way, the Truth, and the Life. May I ask myself “Where does God want me to go today?” On the journey, may I love in the way you taught the Corinthians and be willing to endure all things for the sake of the Gospel. Pray with me that I may heed the voice of the One who called you on the road to Damascus and set you on the path that leads to life. Amen