

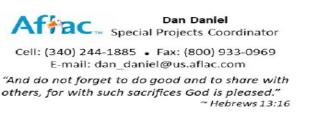


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BISHOP

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

Post Office Box 301767, Saint Thomas, Virgin Islands 00803, Tel: 340-774-0201 **Delivery:** 2322 Kronprindsens Gade - Main Street, Charlotte Amalie, VI 00802 FedEx: 22 Kronprindsens Gade - Main Street, Charlotte Amalie, VI 00802 E-mail: cathedralvi@gmail.com Webpage: www.cathedralvi.org

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Log on to our Webpage at www.cathedralvi.org and click on video streaming. Most Rev. Jerome Feudjio

May 14, 2023

Sixth Sunday of Easter - Mother's Day



PRIESTS OF THE CATHEDRAL

Rev. Fr. Modeste Digwou Rev. Fr. Andrew Lesko

DEACONS

Rev. Mr. Wilfredo Acosta (Retired) Rev. Mr. Dan Daniel Rev. Mr. Frank Kearney Rev. Mr. José Vázquez

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Saturday 11:00 AM - 6:00 p.m.

Sunday 8:00AM - 2:00 p.m. 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: 6:30AM, 8:30AM, 10:30AM, and 12:15PM (Spanish)

WEEKDAYS Monday to Friday: 6:45AM

Wednesday: 12:15PM **EUCHARISTIC ADORATION**

Wednesday from 7:30AM - 12:00PM 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

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Rev. Fr. Modeste Digwou Cathedral Administrator (340) 203-0607

Sixth Sunday of Easter

First Reading: Acts 8: 5-8, 14-17

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 66: 1-7, 16, 20

Second Reading: 1 Peter 3: 15-18

Gospel: John 14: 15-21

MEDITATION

When Jesus Loves Me By Rev. Fr. Prince Agyeman

"And whoever loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and reveal myself to him."

John 14:21

It is a very beautiful experience to know Jesus loves you. Although Jesus loves everybody, but not everybody realizes that Jesus loves him or her.

When one comes to that level, that realm of life where we feel deeply within us that Jesus loves us, He makes all things beautiful in His time. During those moments we begin to realize when He says yes nobody can say no. At that moment you will say that, he sees what lies afar and lays its foundation for you today.

At that level when you come to realize that Jesus loves you and you love Him too, you can't but sing "Our God is such an awesome God, our God is such an awesome God, see how He loves you see how He loves me our God is such an awesome God."

But how can one come to this level, the realm of realization of Jesus' love for him or her when one does not position himself or herself in a way to make it happen. The Gospel, John 14: 21 says, ".... And whoever loves me (Jesus Christ), will be loved by my Father and I will love him.

Be concerned about the well-being of people, especially those whom you have come to know. Wish for their happiness. Pray for a change of heart and conversion of those who do not like you, for it is only when they come to know the truth that they can realize that they were hurting you. Share what you have; money, wealth, property, knowledge and resources, no matter how small they may be with the disadvantaged. Support a worthy cause so that you can be part of a success story.

MEDITATION (continued)

For in John 14: 15 "Jesus said to His disciples: 'if you love me, you will keep my commandments. The commandments of Jesus Christ is to be concerned about someone who has become close to you by virtue of having become acquainted to you. Do it for and to your acquaintances the way you would wish it is done for you. The other commandment of Jesus Christ is, care and protect whatever belongs to God.

It is only when you keep these commandments of Jesus that you would enter into the realm of Jesus loves me.



DAILY READINGS EASTER WEEKDAYS

Monday, May 15, 2023

Saint Isidore
First Reading: Acts 16: 11-15
Gospel: John 15: 26 —16: 4a

Tuesday, May 16, 2023First Reading: Acts 16: 22-34

Gospel: John 16: 5-11

Wednesday, May 17, 2023

First Reading: Acts 17: 15, 22—18:1 Gospel: John 16: 12-15

Thursday, May 18, 2023

Saint John I

First Reading: Acts 1: 1-11; Acts 18: 1-8 Gospel: Matthew 28: 16-20; John 16: 16-20

Friday, May 19, 2023

First: Acts 18: 9-18 Gospel: John 16: 20-23

Saturday, May 20, 2023

Saint Bernadine of Siena First: Acts 18: 23-28 Gospel: John 16: 23b-28

нарру Mother's Day to all Mothers' Feliz Dia de la Madre a to dos Madres

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Pray without ceasing

1 Thessalonians 5:17

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in all things and desire You in my soul. Since I cannot now receive You in the Sacrament, come spiritually into my heart. I embrace You and unite myself wholly to You; do not permit me ever to be separated from You.

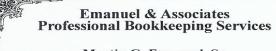
Amen.

(St. Alphonsus de Liguori)



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CATECHESIS (continued from page 5)

What people understand about the kingdom of heaven is not correct. Besides, it is said that he will prepare places in this translation, but one place the discerning mind must wonder how for so many people Jesus is preparing one place. The truth is that Jesus is our place. It is therefore Jesus who is the place where we go. Heaven begins when we become friends with Jesus, we realize when Jesus becomes overall. Heaven is a transformation of the Beloved into the Beloved, I mean, a transformation of the man who is loved by God into God who loves man. Heaven is the passage from an animal life to a spiritual life. I say passage in the Paschal sense. Heaven is a Passover of joy in which we are all gathered in Jesus our only place.

Since the incarnation, God has made a place for himself among men. Through the ascension, Man must also make a place for himself in the Trinity. When Jesus returns to the Holy Trinity with his human body, it is the place of man that he will establish in the Trinity. From now on, through his presence, all men can have access to heaven. This heaven, which it is necessary to recall each time, is not a place, but a state. We will all pass to this state, but on one condition, that we let ourselves be overcome by the friendship of Jesus. About the things of heaven, we must not worry, we must just love Jesus, walk in him as we walk a path, grasp him firmly as the only Truth and know how to savor the overflow of Life that is in Jesus. The kingdom of heaven that we seek is not a place, but a person: Jesus Christ, the Son of the Father.

JUBILEE YEAR PRAYER In preparation for the 250th Anniversary of presence in this territory

Eternal Father, In this, the Jubilee Year of Saints Peter and Paul Cathedral, we praise you for all blessings we have received over the past 250 years of our existence. We bless you for the lives of all those who, throughout the centuries, have helped build this vibrant community of love and service. May they rest eternally in Your divine and merciful presence. We give you thanks for all the people who gather in this Cathedral to worship you, striving to turn away from sin and follow the teachings of the faithful disciples of your Son Jesus-Christ. May Your Holy Spirit continue to lead us on the path of faith, hope, and charity, so that in every aspect of our lives, and inspired by the example of our patron saints Peter and Paul, we may always be joyous witnesses of Jesus Christ in the world. Amen

PASTORAL SERVICES FOR THE COMMUNITY

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 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.



Consecration to the Blesssed Virgin Mary

O Mary, my Queen, my Mother, I give myself entirely to thee and to show my devotion to thee, I consecrate to thee this day, my eyes, my ears, my mouth, my heart, my whole being without reserve. Wherefore, good Mother as I am thine own, keep me, guard me as thy property and possession. Amen

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MONTH OF MARY:

In this month of Mary, we are all invited to emphasize the prayer of the rosary. This can be done in the community, family, or individually.

We invite you to join us in praying the rosary every day before 6:45 am mass.

We encourage the faithful to offer their prayer intentions to the Virgin Mary and to light candles for her. Candles are available at the church office for \$5 and small candles inside of the church for \$1. Place all your written prayer intentions at the feet of the virgin and we will collect them.

The closing of the Month of Mary will take place on May 31 at all masses: 6:30 a.m., 12:15 p.m. and 5:30 p.m.

DIOCESAN COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN:

The Diocesan Council of Catholic Women in the Virgin Islands will host their first Convention, 'An Afternoon with the Bishop and the Board'. All women and women's organizations are invited to attend. Sts. Peter & Paul Cathedral, on Sunday June 4, 2023. Please contact the Chancery at (340) 774 3166 ext. 104 or email usviccw@gmail.com for further information.

AFRICAN EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS:

The African Eucharistic Congress will be held from July 21 to July, 23, 2023 in Washington, D.C. If you are interested in taking part, please let us know.

BAPTISM

The next Sacrament of Baptism for infants will take place on May 28, 2023. Please register at the church office if you would like to have your child baptized. Preparation classes will be on May 24 and May 27 at 5:30pm

OFFETORY ENVELOPES:

The offertory envelopes are here and can be picked up in the Hospitality Lounge after each mass. Please check with the Church office if you need offertory envelopes. Thank you for your support.

SAVE the DATE:

On May 21, 2023, the SPPC Senior Choir will be having a bake and food sale. All proceeds of the sale goes to the Bishop's Appeal. Orders will be taken from Sunday, May 14, 2023. Please save the date and thank you in advance for your support.

PENTECOST MISSION REVIVAL:

From May 25 to May 26 at 5pm $\,-\,7$ pm. On May 27, 2023 from 3pm follow by 4:30pm Vigil Mass. Place on your Calendar

UPCOMING EVENTS

- 1. **Ascension of Our Lord:** Thursday, May 18 transferred to Sunday, May 21; Two masses are planned for this Ascension Thursday; 6:45am and 5:30pm
- 2. **Pentecost Sunday:** May 28. A Novena to the Holy Spirit is planned and other activities for the Hispanic Community
- 3. **Holy Trinity Sunday:** June 4: Confirmations are scheduled at SPPC for all St. Thomas parishes.
- 4. **Corpus Christi:** June 11: First Communion is scheduled here at SPPC at 8:30AM and the procession with the Blessed Sacrament from the Hurley Funeral hall to the cathedral at 4:30PM under police escort.
- **5. Diocesan Family Picnic** June 19 at Magen's Bay starting from 12:00pm Adult and Children activities are planned. All parishes are invited

BISHOP APPEAL 2023

Thank You to all who have already contributed to the Bishop's Appeal 2023! Please give a brochure to a friend. Our schools, Catholic Charities and Evangelization efforts need everyone's

support. For your convenience, you may choose to make a pledge now and spread your

payments over several months.

Donations may be made in the form of cash, check, credit card or direct online payments. Please fill out the form in the brochure and make your checks payable to "Diocese of St. Thomas". Please see the brochure for further information. Thank You!

STS. PETER & PAUL CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Invites all to their **Baccalaureate Mass** on

May 17, 2023 at 8:30AM at the Saints Peter & Paul Cathedral and their Commenement Ceremony on May 18, 2023 at 10:00AM Columban Hall, Holy Family. All family and friends are invited.

VISITING AND BLESSING OF THE CHRISTIAN HOMES

The Priests is available to visit the families and blessing their house on this month of May and June. Please call the office at 340-774-0201 or email at **cathedralvi@gmail.com.**

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, MAY 13, 2023

7:00AM + Faye Elskoe-Liburd -

Rb. her children and granddaughter

4:30PM † Lionel Boschulte - Rb. his family

† Mr. & Mrs. Jules and Marie Thresea Olive - Rb. Dominique Olive

SUNDAY, MAY 14, 2023

6:30AM Albertha Foy - Rb. Avis and family **8:30AM** Mothers of the Parish

10:30AM Angelita Jennings & family for healing -

Rb. SPPC Senior Choir

12:15PM Holy Souls in Purgatory - Rb. Marcial LaPlace † Eule Feliciano & Maria Vasquez - Rb. Tati Vasquez & family

MONDAY, MAY 15, 2023

6:45AM Elmirah Ferdinand & Lee-Troy Barnes -

Rb. their mother

TUESDAY, MAY 16, 2023

6:45AM Most Reverend Jerome Feudijo -Rb. Bernadine

WEDNESDAY, MAY 17, 2023

6:45AM Avis Jules - Rb. herself

12:15PM Mary Thuriza Abraham - Rb. Monica Charles

THURSDAY, MAY 18, 2023

6:45 AM Lana Trotman - Rb. herself

FRIDAY, MAY 19, 2023

6:45 AM Humphrey, Hendricks, and Larsen families Rb. Pearla Larsen and family

SATURDAY, MAY 20, 2023

7:00AM Bernadine Barnes - Rb. herself

4:30PM In Honor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help -

Rb. Bernadine

6

Sexto Domíngo de Pascua

Primera lectura: Hechos 8:5-8, 14-17 Salmo responsorial: Salmo 66: 1-7, 16, 20 Segunda lectura: 1 Pedro 3:15-18 Evangelio: Juan 14:15-21

MEDITACIÓN

Cuando Jesús me ama Por el Reverendo P. Prince Agyeman

"Y el que me ama será amado por mi Padre, y yo lo amaré y me revelaré a él. ' Juan 14:21

Es una experiencia muy hermosa saber que Jesús te ama. Aunque Jesús ama a todos, pero no todos se dan cuenta de que Jesús lo ama.

Cuando uno llega a ese nivel, ese reino de la vida donde sentimos profundamente dentro de nosotros que Jesús nos ama, Él hace que todas las cosas sean hermosas en Su tiempo. Durante esos momentos comenzamos a darnos cuenta de que cuando Él dice que sí nadie puede decir que no. En ese momento dirás eso, él ve lo que está lejos y sienta sus bases para ti hov.

En ese nivel, cuando te das cuenta de que Jesús te ama y tú también lo amas, no puedes dejar de cantar "Nuestro Dios es un Dios tan asombroso, nuestro Dios es un Dios tan asombroso, mira cómo te ama, mira cómo me ama, nuestro Dios es un Dios tan asombroso".

Pero, ¿cómo puede uno llegar a este nivel, el reino de la realización del amor de Jesús por él o ella cuando uno no se posiciona de una manera que lo haga realidad? El Evangelio, Juan 14:21 dice: "... Y el que me ama (Jesucristo), será amado por mi Padre y yo lo amaré.

Preocúpate por el bienestar de las personas, especialmente de aquellas a quienes has llegado a conocer. Deseo su felicidad. Ora por un cambio de corazón y la conversión de aquellos que no te quieren, porque es solo cuando llegan a conocer la verdad que pueden darse cuenta de que te estaban lastimando. Comparte lo que tienes; dinero, riqueza, propiedad, conocimiento y recursos, no importa cuán pequeños puedan ser con los desfavorecidos. Apoya una causa digna para que puedas ser parte de una historia de éxito.

Porque en Juan 14:15 "Jesús dijo a sus discípulos: 'Si me amáis, guardaréis mis mandamientos. Los mandamientos de Jesucristo son preocuparse por alguien que se ha acercado a ti en virtud de haberte conocido. Hazlo por y para tus conocidos de la manera que te gustaría que se hiciera por ti. El otro mandamiento de Jesucristo es, cuidar y proteger todo lo que pertenece a Dios.

Es sólo cuando guardas estos mandamientos de Jesús que entrarás en el reino de Jesús me ama.

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.

ANUNCIOS

LLAMAMIENTO DEL OBISPO 2023:

¡Gracias a todos los que ya han contribuido a la Campaña del Obispo 2023! Por favor, entregue un folleto a un amigo. Nuestras escuelas, Caridades Católicas y esfuerzos de evangelización necesitan el apoyo de todos. Para su comodidad, puede optar por hacer una promesa ahora y distribuir sus pagos durante varios meses. Las donaciones pueden hacerse en forma de efectivo, cheque, tarjeta de crédito o pagos directos en línea. Por favor llene el formulario en el folleto y haga sus cheques pagaderos a "Diócesis de St. Thomas". Consulte el folleto para obtener más información. ¡Gracias!

CONSEJO DIOCESANO DE MUJERES CATÓLICAS:

El Consejo Diocesano de Mujeres Católicas en las Islas Vírgenes organizará su primera Convención, 'Una tarde con el obispo y la Junta'. Todas las mujeres y organizaciones de mujeres están invitadas a asistir. Catedral de San Pedro y San Pablo, el domingo 4 de junio de 2023. Comuníquese con la Cancillería al (340) 774 3166 ext. 104 o envíe un correo electrónico usviccw@gmail.com para obtener más información.

AVIVAMIENTO DE LA MISIÓN PENTECOSTÉS:

Del 25 al 26 de mayo de 17h – 19h. El 27 de mayo de 2023 a partir de las 3 p.m. siga la Misa de vigilia de las 4:30 p.m. Coloque en su calendario

SOBRES OFFETORY:

Los sobres del ofertorio están aquí y se pueden recoger en el Hospitality Lounge después de cada misa. Por favor, consulte con la oficina de la Iglesia si necesita sobres de ofertorio. Gracias por su apoyo.

GUARDE LA FECHA:

El 21 de mayo de 2023, el Coro Senior de SPPC tendrá una venta de pasteles y alimentos. Todas las ganancias de la venta van a la casa del obispo

Apelación. Los pedidos se tomarán a partir del domingo 14 de mayo de 2023.

Por favor, reserve la fecha y gracias de antemano por su apoyo

Ascensión de Nuestro Señor:

jueves 18 de mayo transferido al domingo 21 de mayo; Dos misas están planeadas para este jueves de Ascensión; 6:45am y 5:30pm

Domingo de Pentecostés:

28 de mayo. Se planea una Novena al Espíritu Santo y otras actividades para la comunidad hispana.

Picnic familiar diocesano

el 19 de junio en Magen's Bay a partir de las 12:00 pm Se planean actividades para adultos y niños. Todas las parroquias están in-

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.

SECOND COLLECTION WILL BE TAKEN AS FOLLOWS:

May 14, 2023 - Catholic Education May 21, 2023 - Catholic Communication Campaign

> OFFERTORY / OFERTORIO LAST WEEK'S OFFERTORY AMOUNTED TO:

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4:30PM \$ 674.00	\$ 219.00	for your
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12:15PM \$ 250.00	\$ <u>153.00</u>	
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WEDNESDAY, MAY 3, 2023: 6:45 AM \$63.00; 12:15 P.M. \$24.00

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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 the hand

KEEP OUR SICK & SHUT-INS IN PRAYER

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING PARISHIONERS:

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HOSPITAL

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!

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May 14, 2023

<u>CATECHESIS</u>

Catechesis on the meaning of the place Jesus speaks of: "I am going to prepare a place for you" John 14:3 By Father Modeste Digwou

The kingdom of heaven that we are looking for is not a place, but a person: Jesus Christ, the Son of the Father. A few days before the feast of the Ascension of our Lord Jesus, he is preparing his disciples for this departure.

Since this week we have been trying to illuminate and meditate on the same gospel of Saint John. I think you will agree with me that this gospel is cardinal for our faith. It shows us the benefits of the Trinitarian action in our lives, it shows us the centrality of Jesus in human history, it shows us that Jesus is the major axis of salvation around which the other elements of creation gravitate. In this issue of our bulletin this week, I would like to insist on the expression "I am going to prepare a place for you" or "I am going to prepare a home for you".

Jesus says he is going. where is he going? Is he going to a place? If so, where is this place where the man's place is? So, there is a place outside this world where man would have his place? Not the places, but the place. How poor is the human language to say the things of God. In any case, Thomas expresses his concern: "We don't know where you are going". But where is he going? Is he going to heaven? This where is a real concern for man. Every time one of us closes his eyes, we ask ourselves, where is he going? Those people that death steals from us, where do they go? Very often we answer: they go to Heaven.

But then where is Heaven? On which side of space is heaven hidden? We used to say that our deceased brothers have undertaken their last journey, so who is the driver of their vehicle, and how long does this journey last.

We know that Jesus is the Way, the Truth, and the Life. This should tell us that when he leaves to prepare a place it is not a place in the sense of the earth. A kind of chair that each of us should inherit or a house in which we should live up there. I often hear that: I have my place in heaven. By having our own house, our own chair, our own children, our own land, our own possessions on earth, we dream of heaven as a personal possession, private property in the sense of our earth capitalism. We speak of heaven as capitalists speak of industry. We believe that in heaven everyone will have his own private domain, everyone will live in his own place without being bothered by the other. We sometimes perceive this place as the space for the enjoyment of individual happiness.

(continued on page 6)