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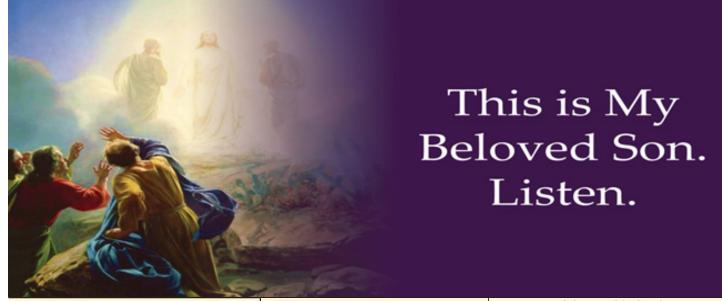
Diocese of St. Thomas in the Virgin Islands Saints Peter & Paul Cathedral

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Streaming of our Masses:

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

March 5, 2023 Second Sunday of Lent



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

Sunday 8:00AM - 2:00 p.m. TELEPHONE: 340-774-0201



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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

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION Every Sunday beginning with the 8:30AM Mass

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Monday to Friday 8:00AM - 4:00PM 340-774-2199 or 340-774-5662





Second Sunday of Lent

First Reading: Genesis 12: 1-4a

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 33: 4-5, 18-20, 22

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 1: 8b-10

Gospel: Matthew 17: 1-9

MEDITATION

Message of the Holy Father Francis for Lent 2023

The following is the text of the Holy Father Francis's Message for Lent 2023, on the theme: "Lenten Penance and the Synodal Journey"

Dear brothers and sisters!

The Gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke all recount the episode of the Transfiguration of Jesus. There we see the Lord's response to the failure of his disciples to understand him. Shortly before, there had been a real clash between the Master and Simon Peter, who, after professing his faith in Jesus as the Christ, the Son of God, rejected his prediction of the passion and the cross. Jesus had firmly rebuked him: "Get behind me, Satan! You are a scandal to me, because you do not think according to God, but according to men!" (Mt 16:23). Following this, "six days later, Jesus took with him Peter, James and John his brother and led them away to a high mountain" (Mt 17:1).

The Gospel of the Transfiguration is proclaimed every year on the Second Sunday of Lent. During this liturgical season, the Lord takes us with him to a place apart. While our ordinary commitments compel us to remain in our usual places and our often repetitive and sometimes boring routines, during Lent we are invited to ascend "a high mountain" in the company of Jesus and to live a particular experience of spiritual discipline – ascesis – as God's holy people. Lenten penance is a commitment, sustained by grace, to overcoming our lack of faith and our resistance to following Jesus on the way of the cross. This is precisely what Peter and the other disciples needed to do. To deepen our knowledge of the Master, to fully understand and embrace the mystery of his salvation, accomplished in total self-giving inspired by love, we must allow ourselves to be taken aside by him and to detach ourselves from mediocrity and vanity. We need to set out on the journey, an uphill path that, like a mountain trek, requires effort, sacrifice and concentration. These requisites are also important for the synodal journey to which, as a Church, we are committed to making. We can benefit greatly from reflecting on the relationship between Lenten penance and the synodal experience. In his "retreat" on Mount Tabor, Jesus takes with him three disciples, chosen to be witnesses of a unique event. He wants that experience of grace to be shared, not solitary, just as our whole life of faith is an experience that is shared. For it is in togetherness that we follow Jesus. Together too, as a pilgrim Church in time, we experience the liturgical year and Lent within it, walking alongside those whom the Lord has placed among us as fellow travelers.

MEDITATION

Like the ascent of Jesus and the disciples to Mount Tabor, we can say that our Lenten journey is "synodal", since we make it together along the same path, as disciples of the one Master. For we know that Jesus is himself the Way, and therefore, both in the liturgical journey and in the journey of the Synod, the Church does nothing other than enter ever more deeply and fully into the mystery of Christ the Savior. And so, we come to its culmination. The Gospel relates that Jesus "was transfigured before them; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became white as light' (Mt 17:2). This is the "summit", the goal of the journey. At the end of their ascent, as they stand on the mountain heights with Jesus, the three disciples are given the grace of seeing him in his glory, resplendent in supernatural light. That light did not come from without but radiated from the Lord himself. The divine beauty of this vision was incomparably greater than all the efforts the disciples had made in the ascent of Tabor. During any strenuous mountain trek, we must keep our eyes firmly fixed on the path; yet the panorama that opens up at the end amazes us and rewards us by its grandeur. So too, the synodal process may often seem arduous, and at times we may become discouraged. Yet what awaits us at the end is undoubtedly something wondrous and amazing, which will help us to understand better God's will and our mission in the service of his kingdom.

Pope Francis



Monday, March 6, 2023 First Reading: Daniel 9: 4b-10 Gospel: Luke 6: 36-38

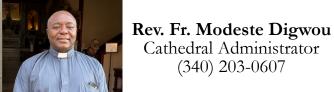
Tuesday, March 7, 2023
Saints Perpetua and Felicity
First Reading: Isaiah 1: 10, 16-20
Gospel: Matthew 23: 1-12

Wednesday, March 8, 2023 Saint John of God, Religious First Reading: Jeremiah 18: 18-20 Gospel: Matthew 20: 17-28

Thursday, March 9, 2023
Saint Frances of Rome
First Reading: Jeremiah 17: 5-10
Gospel: Luke 16: 19-31

Friday, March 10, 2023 First: Genesis 37: 3-4 Gospel: Matthew 21: 33-43, 45-46

Saturday, March 11, 2023 First Reading: Micah 7: 14-15, 18-20 Gospel: Luke 15: 1-3, 11-32



D

Rev. Fr. Julio Cesar Faes

Vice-Chancellor
Director of Diocesean Office of
Family Life
Diocesean Coordinator
for the Hispanic Ministry

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1 Thessalonians 5:17

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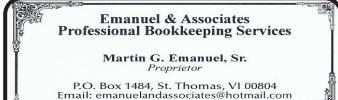
My Jesus, I believe that You are present in all things and desire You in my soul. Since I cannot now receive You in the Sacrament, come spiritually into my heart. I embrace You and unite myself wholly to You; do not permit me ever to be separated from You.

Amen. (St. Alphonsus de Liguori)



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Saints Peter & Paul Cathedral Saint Thomas, Virgin Islands March 5, 2023 Saints Peter & Paul Cathedral Saint Thomas, Virgin Islands March 5, 2023

PRAYER FOR LENT

Lord my God, give my heart to desire you; in desiring you, to seek you; in seeking you, to find you; in finding you, to love you; and in loving you, to redeem my faults; and once redeemed, to commit them no more.

Lord my God, give my heart penance, my mind repentance, my eyes the source of tears, and my hands the largesse of alms.

You who are my King, extinguish in me the desires of the flesh, and kindle the fire of your love. You who are my Redeemer, drive out of me the spirit of pride, and grant me the spirit of your humility. You who are my Savior, remove from me the fury of anger, and may your kindness grant me the shield of patience.

You who are my Creator, uproot from my soul resentment, and pour into it the sweetness of spirit Give me, Most Good Father, a solid faith, a sure hope and an unfailing charity.

You who lead me, remove from me the vanity of the soul, the fickleness of the mind, the error of the heart, the flattery of the mouth, the pride of the eyes.

O God of mercy, I ask you through your beloved Son, give me to live mercy, application to piety, compassion with the afflicted, and sharing with the poor. 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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Stations of the Cross:

During the Lenten Season, the Stations of the Cross will continue at 6:00 a.m. from Monday to Thursday and on Saturdays followed by morning mass.

Fridays Station of the Cross:

On Fridays, the Stations of the Cross will take place at 4:30 p.m. followed by mass and meditation on the seven last words of Jesus, the program is as follow:

Friday March 3, 2023: "Father, forgive them for they know not what they do" (Lk 23,34). And "Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in paradise" (Lk 23,43).

Friday March 10, 2023: "Woman, this is your son. Son, this is your mother" (John 19:26-27). and "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me" (Mt 27:46)

Friday March 17, 2023: "All the Scripture is fulfilled: I thirst" (Jn 19, 28). and "All is fulfilled" (Jn 19,30)

Friday March 24,2023: Father, into your hands I commend my spirit" (Lk 23, 46).

Lenten Mission:

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish is hosting a Lenten Mission from March 6-8, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. The guest speaker is Father John Paul Mary from EWTN. Everyone is invited.

Saints Peter & Paul Senior Choir:

We are seeking individuals willing to lend their voices in song at mass. You may say that you can't sing, but don't be bashful, we will help guide you. Join us at 10:30 a.m. mass and realize that you can truly sing out with us. Looking forward to seeing and hearing from you. Call Mrs. Sara Connell at 340-514-0237 or come upstairs before the 10:30 a.m. mass.

Missals:

The Liturgy of the Word Missals are now available in the Church office along with rosaries and other religious items. Please feel free to visit the office and make a purchase. Thank you for your continued support. May God continue to bless you and your families.

Lectors Meeting:

On March 7, 2023, there will be a meeting for all Lectors in the Cathedral at 5:00 p.m. Please make every effort to attend.

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, MARCH 4, 2023

7:00 AM - † Francis Laville - Rb. his wife, Shirley Laville 4:30 PM - Holy Souls in Purgatory - Rb. Serge LaPlace

SUNDAY, MARCH 5, 2023

6:30AM- Holy Souls in Purgatory - Rb. Denise LaPlace 8:30 AM - Arturo Watlington Jr. - Birthday Blessings Rb. Connell and Watlington families

10:30 AM- Craig Connell - Birthday Blessings Rb. Connell and Watlington families

12:15 PM - People of the Parish

MONDAY, MARCH 6, 2023

6:45 AM-† Richard Pierre & all deceased family members Rb. Marie Pascale

TUESDAY, MARCH 7, 2023

6:45 AM – Nathalie Alexander-God's help, protection and guidance -Rb. Nathalie Alexander

Michael Farrington - Rb. Lorelie, Marc, & Mom

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8, 2023

6:45 AM – Priests of the Diocese

12:15 PM- Deanna Richardson - Rb. a friend

THURSDAY, MARCH 9, 2023

6:45 AM - Sisters Adele & Sylverine - Rb. a friend

FRIDAY, MARCH 10, 2023

4:30 PM- Deacons of the Diocese

SATURDAY, MARCH 11, 2023

7:00 AM - People of the parish

4:30 PM- Nathalie, Emmanuel, Andel, Annathar & Aneil Alexander, God's guidance and protection

- Rb. Nathalie Alexander

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

Segundo Domíngo de Cuaresma

Primera lectura: Génesis 12: 1-4a

Salmo responsorial: Salmo 33: 4-5, 18-20, 22 Segunda lectura: 2 Timoteo 1: 8b-10

Evangelio: Mateo 17:1-9

MEDITACIÓN

Mensaje del Santo Padre Francisco para la Cuaresma 2023

El siguiente es el texto del Mensaje del Santo Padre Francisco para la Cuaresma 2023, sobre el tema: "Penitencia cuaresmal v el camino sinodal"

¡Queridos hermanos y hermanas! Los evangelios de Mateo, Marcos y Lucas relatan el episodio de la Transfiguración de Jesús. Allí vemos la respuesta del Señor al fracaso de sus discípulos para entenderlo. Poco antes, había habido un verdadero choque entre el Maestro y Simón Pedro, quien, después de profesar su fe en Jesús como el Cristo, el Hijo de Dios, rechazó su predicción de la pasión y la cruz. Jesús lo había reprendido firmemente: "¡Apártate de mí, Satanás! ¡Éres un escándalo para mí, porque no piensas según Dios, sino según los hombres!" (Mt 16:23). Después de esto, "seis días después, Jesús llevó consigo a Pedro, Santiago y Juan su hermano y los llevó a una montaña alta" (Mt 17: 1).

El Evangelio de la Transfiguración se proclama cada año en el segundo domingo de Cuaresma. Durante este tiempo litúrgico, el Senor nos lleva con Él a un lugar aparte. Mientras que nuestros compromisos ordinarios nos obligan a permanecer en nuestros lugares habituales y en nuestras rutinas a menudo repetitivas y a veces aburridas, durante la Cuaresma se nos invita a subir "una montaña alta" en compañía de Jesús y a vivir una experiencia particular de disciplina espiritual – ascesis – como pueblo santo de Dios.

La penitencia cuaresmal es un compromiso, sostenido por la gracia, para superar nuestra falta de fe y nuestra resistencia a seguir a Jesús en el camino de la cruz. Esto es precisamente lo que Pedro y los otros discípulos necesitaban hacer. Para profundizar en el conocimiento del Maestro, para comprender plenamente y abrazar el misterio de su salvación, realizada en la entrega total inspirada por el amor, debemos dejarnos apartar por Él y desprendernos de la mediocridad y de la vanidad. Necesitamos emprender el viaje, un camino cuesta arriba que, como una caminata de montaña, requiere esfuerzo, sacrificio y concentración. Estos requisitos son también importantes para el camino sinodal que, como Iglesia, estamos comprometidos a hacer. Podemos beneficiarnos mucho de reflexionar sobre la relación entre la penitencia cuaresmal y la experiencia sinodal. En su "retiro" en el Monte Tabor, Jesús lleva consigo a tres discípulos, elegidos para ser testigos de un acontecimiento único. Él quiere que esa experiencia de gracia sea compartida, no solitaria, así como toda nuestra vida de fe es una experiencia que se comparte. Porque es en la unión que seguimos a Jesús. También juntos, como Iglesia peregrina en el tiempo, experimentamos el año litúrgico y la Cuaresma dentro de él, caminando junto a aquellos que el Señor ha puesto entre nosotros como compañeros de viaje. Como la subida de Jesús y de los discípulos al monte Tabor, podemos decir que nuestro camino cuaresmal es "sinodal", ya que lo hacemos juntos por el mismo camino, como discípulos del único Maestro.

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.

MEDITACIÓN (continuado)

ya que lo hacemos juntos por el mismo camino, como discípulos del único Maestro. Porque sabemos que Jesús mismo es el Camino, y por lo tanto, tanto en el camino litúrgico como en el camino del Sínodo, la Iglesia no hace otra cosa que entrar cada vez más profunda y plenamente en el misterio de Cristo Salvador. Y así, llegamos a su culminación. El Evangelio relata que Jesús "fue transfigurado delante de ellos; su rostro brillaba como el sol y sus ropas se volvían blancas como la luz" (Mt 17,2). Esta es la "cumbre", la meta del viaje. En el Al final de su ascenso, mientras están en las alturas de las montañas con Jesús, a los tres discípulos se les da la gracia de verlo en su gloria, resplandeciente en luz sobrenatural. Esa luz no venía de fuera, sino que irradiaba del Señor mismo. La belleza divina de esta visión era incomparablemente mayor que todos los esfuerzos que los discípulos habían hecho en el ascenso del Tabor. Durante cualquier caminata de montaña extenuante, debemos mantener nuestros ojos firmemente fijos en el camino; Sin embargo, el panorama que se abre al final nos sorprende y nos recompensa por su grandeza. Así también, el proceso sinodal a menudo puede parecer arduo, y a veces podemos desanimarnos. Sin embargo, lo que nos espera al final es sin duda algo maravilloso y sorprendente, que nos ayudará a comprender mejor la voluntad de Dios y nuestra misión al servicio de su reino.

Santo Padre Francisco

ANUNCIOS

Taller Bíblico:

Continuamos con el taller de Biblia los martes a las 5:30pm. Todos están invitados. Los lectores es parte fundamental de su formación, por tanto todos deben asistir.

Se está formando el coro, por favor únete al grupo el martes a las 7:00pm. Si alguien toca la guitarra, por favor venga al ensayo.

Grupo de oración:

El grupo de oración se reúne los jueves a las 7:00pm. No olviden participar. La oración nos lleva al compromiso de ser más fieles a

Título

Reviviendo Devoción Rosario

Oración poderosa cuando se reza con devoción. Acepta y recibe la imagen Virgen Peregrina, permanecerá la imagen todo el mes. Primer Sábado de cada mes. Coordinar fecha 787-636-7000 José Cardona.

Reunión de lectores:

El 7 de marzo de 2023, habrá una reunión para todos los lectores en el Hospitality Lounge a las 5:00 p.m. Por favor, haga todo lo posible para asistir.

Misión de Cuaresma:

La parroquia de Nuestra Señora del Perpetuo Socorro está organizando una Misión de Cuaresma del 6 al 8 de marzo de 2023 a las 6:00 p.m. El orador invitado es el Padre John Paul Mary de EWTN. Todos están invitados.

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:

March 5, 2023 - Music Ministry March 12, 2023 - Catholic Education March 19, 2023 - Cathedral Maintenance & Enhancement



OFFERTORY / OFERTORIO

Last week's offertory amounted to: La ofrenda de la semana pasada sumó a:

February 26, 2023

4:30PM	\$ 544.00	\$ 172.00
6:30AM	\$ 965.00	\$ 326.75
8:30AM	\$ 1,369.00	\$ 430.00
10:30AM	\$ 1,784.00	\$ 603.00
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CATECHESIS

PRAYER IS A SPACE TO BE SOUGHT TO LET GOD'S VOICE EMERGE...

Fasting, prayer and Sharing are what the Church recommends to us in order to live the time of Lent. This week we have chosen to talk about prayer as a space to be sought in order to let the voice of God emerge.

It is the practice of silence in daily prayer that allows access to the presence of God. British essayist Pico Iyer speaks of the importance of "working to earn silence" in order "not to make it an absence but a presence; not a void but a fullness. Silence is something more than just a pause; it is what enchants a place by clearing space, suspending time, expanding the very horizon. In silence, we can hear ourselves thinking; but what is even more true is that in silence we can hear ourselves not thinking, and so descend into ourselves in a place much deeper than mere thought. In silence, we can hear someone else thinking. It is necessary to find a quality silence in order to face one's worries effectively. St. John of the Cross (1542-1591) wisely teaches us that the spiritual man must "learn to dwell in God with loving attention and a peaceful heart, even when he seems idle. For little by little the divine peace and the sublime knowledge of God, enveloped in divine Love, will be infused into the soul of man. Otherwise his soul will be troubled and drawn towards disgust and repugnance. And if scruples about this inactivity arise, he must remember that the pacification of the soul, which makes it calm peaceful and desireless, is not an easy thing."

The Prayer of Silence

St. Teresa of Avila (1515-1582) speaks of the "prayer of silence": prayerful silence strengthens the capacity and readiness to listen to the Beloved. The more the soul directs its gaze and attention to Jesus, the less it is preoccupied with itself and its egocentric concerns. This silence is that of the lover who is content to look at his Beloved, to contemplate him with tranquillity.

Silence speaks to silence. "The silence of God's presence," wrote the German Jesuit Father Alfred Delp (1907-1945), "is never indifference, but rather a sign of his gratuitousness and freedom, for he does not allow himself to be enclosed in our images or our conceptions. My God, your silence answers better than the many impulses of my love

Reverend Father Modeste Digwou

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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.