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~ Hebrews 13:16

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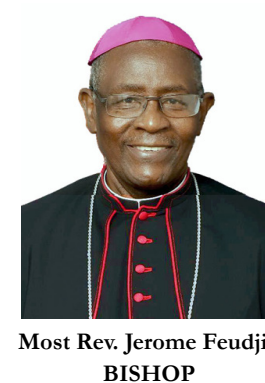
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April 23, 2023
Third Sunday of Easter



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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Sunday
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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

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

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Third Sunday of Easter

First Reading: Acts 2: 14, 22-23
Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 16: 1-2, 5, 7-11
Second Reading: 1 Peter 1: 17-21
Gospel: Luke 24: 13-35

MEDITATION

All priests and religious throughout the world pray the Liturgy of the Hours each day. The second reading from this Sunday's Office of Readings, a part of the Liturgy of the Hours, is the following passage from St. Justin Martyr who lived from 100AD – 164 AD. It is a detailed explanation of the Mass from the early Church at that time. This is a good reflection for us because it shows how similar the Mass we celebrate today is to that of the early Church. Additionally, it offers insight into the significance of the breaking of the bread in the Road to Emmaus Gospel reading this Sunday.

From the first apology in defense of the Christians
by Saint Justin Martyr
The celebration of the Eucharist

No one may share the Eucharist with us unless he believes that what we teach is true, unless he is washed in the regenerating waters of baptism for the remission of his sins, and unless he lives in accordance with the principles given us by Christ. We do not consume the eucharistic bread and wine as if it were ordinary food and drink, for we have been taught that as Jesus Christ our Savior became a man of flesh and blood by the power of the Word of God, so also the food that our flesh and blood assimilates for its nourishment becomes the flesh and blood of the incarnate Jesus by the power of his own words contained in the prayer of thanksgiving.

The apostles, in their recollections, which are called gospels, handed down to us what Jesus commanded them to do. They tell us that he took bread, gave thanks and said: Do this in memory of me. This is my body. In the same way he took the cup, he gave thanks and said: This is my blood. The Lord gave this command to them alone. Ever since then we have constantly reminded one another of these things. The rich among us help the poor and we are always united. For all that we receive we praise the Creator of the universe through his Son Jesus Christ and through the Holy Spirit.

On Sunday we have a common assembly of all our members, whether they live in the city or the outlying districts. The recollections of the apostles or the writings of the prophets are read, as long as there is time. When the reader has finished, the president of the assembly speaks to us; he urges everyone to imitate the examples of virtue we have heard in the readings. Then we all stand up together and pray.

On the conclusion of our prayer, bread and wine and water are brought forward. The president offers prayers and gives thanks to the best of his ability, and the people give assent by saying, "Amen." The eucharist is distributed, everyone present communicates, and the deacons take it to those who are absent.



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

MEDITATION (continued)

The wealthy, if they wish, may make a contribution, and they themselves decide the amount. The collection is placed in the custody of the president, who uses it to help the orphans and widows and all who for any reason are in distress, whether because they are sick, in prison, or away from home. In a word, he takes care of all who are in need. We hold our common assembly on Sunday because it is the first day of the week, the day on which God put darkness and chaos to flight and created the world, and because on that same day our savior Jesus Christ rose from the dead. For he was crucified on Friday and on Sunday he appeared to his apostles and disciples and taught them the things that we have passed on for your consideration.



DAILY READINGS
EASTER WEEKDAYS

Monday, April 24, 2023
Saint Fidelis of Sigmaringen
First Reading: Acts 6: 8-15
Gospel: John 6: 22-29

Tuesday, April 25, 2023
Saint Mark
First Reading: 1 Peter 5: 5b-14
Gospel: Mark 16: 15-20

Wednesday, April 26, 2023
First Reading: Acts 8: 1b-8
Gospel: John 6: 35-40

Thursday, April 27, 2023
First Reading: Acts 8: 26-40
Gospel: John 6: 44-51

Friday, April 28, 2023
Saint Louis Grignon de Monfort
First: Acts 9: 1-20
Gospel: John 6: 52-59

Saturday, April 29, 2023
Saint Catherine of Siena
First: Acts 2: 14a, 36-41
Gospel: John 10: 1-10



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*Pray
without
ceasing*

1 Thessalonians 5:17

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

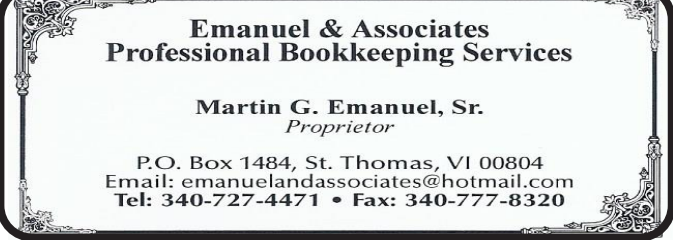
My Jesus, I believe that You are present
in all things and desire You in my soul. Since
I cannot now receive You in the Sacrament,
come spiritually into my heart. I embrace
You and unite myself wholly to You; do not
permit me ever to be separated from You.
Amen.

(St. Alphonsus de Liguori)



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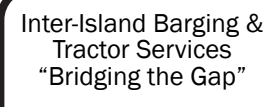
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Prayer for Priests

O Jesus, I pray for your faithful and fervent priests; for your unfaithful and tepid priests; for your priests laboring at home or abroad in distant mission fields; for your tempted priests; for your lonely and desolate priests; for your young priests; for your dying priests; for the souls of your priests in purgatory. But above all, I recommend to you the priests dearest to me: the priest who baptized me; the priests who absolved me from my sins; the priests at whose Masses I assisted and who gave me your Body and Blood in Holy Communion; the priests who taught and instructed me; all the priests to whom I am indebted in any other way O Jesus, keep them all close to your heart, and bless them abundantly in time and in eternity.
Amen



*This week's Tabernacle light
is lit in Memory of
Mrs. Agnes A. Schuster-King
Requested by her daughter
Lillia E. King*



St. Michael the Archangel Prayer

St. Michael the Archangel defend us in battle. Be our defense against the wickedness and snares of the Devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do Thou, O Prince of the heavenly hosts, by the power of God, thrust into hell Satan, and all the evil spirits, who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. 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

BISHOP’S APPEAL:
Please be an active and effective part of our missionary efforts! Have you told anyone about how the Bishop’s Appeal helps Catholic Charities of the Virgin Islands, our Catholic schools, and our outreach efforts? Is there someone to whom you can give a Bishop’s Appeal brochure? Please help us to promote the mission of the Church. 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!

JUBILEE ANNOUNCEMENTS:
The 250th Jubilee T-Shirts are available for pickup in the Hospitality Lounge after each mass for those that ordered and paid for a shirt.
Mark your calendar for the following events:
Jubilee Diocesan Picnic: Monday, June 19, 2023 at Magen’s Bay - Noon
250th Jubilee Closing Luncheon: Sunday, June 25, 2023 at UVI - 1:00pm. Details to follow on a later date

DIOCESAN COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMAN:
The Diocesan Council of Catholic Women will host their first Convention, ‘**An Afternoon with the Bishop, and the Board**’. All women and women’s organizations are invited to attend. The St. Croix meeting will be held at St. Ann’s Church on Sunday, May 21, 2023, and the St. Thomas/St. John meeting will be held at the Saints Peter and Paul Cathedral on Sunday, May 28, 2023. Both meetings will be from 3-5 p.m. Please contact the Chancery at (340) 774-3166 ext. 104 or email usviccw@gmail.com for further information.

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

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, APRIL 22, 2023
7:00AM Brother Ronan Sarmiento
rb. the Cathedral family
4:30PM People of the Parish

SUNDAY, APRIL 23, 2023
6:30AM Kalay Mitchell - rb. his mother
8:30AM † Randy L. Barnes - rb. his wife and children
† Mrs. Agnes A. Schuster King
rb. Mrs. Charlotte A. Banks
10:30AM Alfred A. Heath - rb. the senior choir
12:15PM People of the Parish

MONDAY, APRIL 24, 2023
6:45AM † Elesa Watlington - rb. the Connell & Watlington families
† Agatha Williams - rb. the Carty, Sturdivant, and Farrington families

TUESDAY, APRIL 25, 2023
6:45AM Addison Alfred - rb himself

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26, 2023
6:45AM Young people of the Diocese
12:15PM Mathia & Shaila Philip 50th Anniversary
rb. their children

THURSDAY, APRIL 27, 2023
6:45 AM No Mass

FRIDAY, APRIL 28, 2023
6:45 AM No Mass

SATURDAY, APRIL 29, 2023
7:00AM No Mass
4:30PM No Mass

CATECHESIS
WHAT IS MORTAL SIN?

If we define sin as an offense committed against God, why do we speak of mortal sin? If God is love, why does sin cause death and what kind of death is it?

“It is well known what the flesh does: misconduct, impurity, debauchery, idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, rivalry, jealousy, anger, intrigues, divisions, sectarianism, envy, drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I have warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God,” St. Paul harangues in his letter to the Galatians (Gal 5:19-21). In The City of God, St. Augustine goes so far as to define sin as “love of self to the point of contempt for God,” as opposed to charity, “love of God to the point of contempt for self. In its Catechism (CCC §1849), the Church characterizes sin as “a failure to show true love for God and neighbor” and distinguishes between “venial” sin, from the Latin venialis, that is, “forgivable” sin, and “mortal” sin, which cuts off love for God completely.
(continued on page 5)

