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Diocese of St. Thomas  
in the US Virgin Islands

## Diocese of St. Thomas in the Virgin Islands Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church

#81 Estate Elizabeth, P. O. Box 304983, St. Thomas, VI 00803

Telephone: (340) 774-0885

Email: [olphsecretary@outlook.com](mailto:olphsecretary@outlook.com)

Facebook: [Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church St. Thomas, USVI](#)

Diocesan Bishop: Most Rev. Jerome Feudjio



Our Lady of Perpetual Help

### THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

March 22-23, 2025

Ex 3:1-8a, 13-15/1 Cor 10:1-6, 10-12/Lk 13:1-9

#### CHURCH DIRECTORY

Parish Pastor: Rev. Fr. Joseph Nguele Toko  
Deacons: Rev. Mr. Bernard Gibs  
  
Maintenance: Mr. Gene LaPlace  
Secretary: Ms. Jennifer Estime  
Office Volunteers: Ms. Elizabeth Harris  
Mrs. Linda Sibilly

#### OFFICE HOURS

Monday: CLOSED  
Tuesday – Friday: 9:00 am – 2:00 pm

#### SACRAMENTS

**Confessions** – Daily, before and after Mass  
Saturday – 5:00 – 5:45 pm  
Sunday – 8:00 – 8:45 am  
(By appointment, or as needed)

**Baptism** – Please contact the Parish Office. Register one (1) month before classes. Infant baptisms will be the last Saturday of the month.

**Reception Into the Church (RCIA)** – Make arrangements with the Pastor.

**Marriage** – Please call the Parish Office or make arrangements with the Pastor.

**Anointing of the Sick** – Home visits by the Pastor will be made on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month, and whenever an emergency arises. Please call the Parish Office to include a sick or shut-in family member who is at home or in the hospital.

**Funerals** – Please contact the Parish Office or Priest.

#### MASS SCHEDULE

##### Weekdays

Monday: No Mass  
Tuesday: Eucharistic Adoration from 7:00 am to 12:00 pm  
Mass at 12:00 noon  
Wednesday: 12:00 pm and 6:00 pm  
Thursday: 12:00 pm  
Friday: 12:00 pm

**During Lent- Stations of the Cross: Fridays 6:00 pm followed by Mass**

**Good Friday: Stations of the Cross Magen's Bay**

##### Weekends

Saturday: 6:00 pm  
Sunday: 6:30 am and 9:00 am

#### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Religious Education Coordinator: Elizabeth Harris

**September – May: CCD Classes:** Saturdays from 4:30 to 5:45 pm. Confirmation candidates must prepare for sacraments at their Parish, even if they attend Sts. Peter & Paul School.

**Spiritual Counseling:** Contact the Church Office to speak with the Priest.

#### PRAYER AND PARISH GROUPS

**Sons of Mary and Joseph** – Every Tuesday at 6:30 pm in the Church. All male parishioners are invited to attend.

**Order of Malta Recitation of the Rosary** – 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month, at 6:00 pm by Our Lady's Grotto.

**Wednesday Prayer Group** – Weekly at 9:30 am in the Parish Hall. All parishioners are welcomed.

**Lectors** – Last Wednesday of the month, 6:00 pm in the Parish Hall.

**Altar Servers** – Every Thursday, 5:30 pm in the Parish Hall.



## MASS INTENTIONS

## DAILY MASSES

Sat.	Mar. 22	6:00 pm	~Mass intention for the family, Rb A Parishioner +For the repose of the soul of Deacon William Summer Rb Clara Bryan & Family
Sun.	Mar. 23	6:30 am 9:00 am	~Mass intention for Albert Sibilly, Rb Clara Bryan & Family +For the repose of the soul of Maria Berry, Rb The Family +For the repose of the soul of Juan Vega, Rb His daughters +For the repose of the soul of Deacon William Summer Rb 9:00 AM Mass Congregation ~Special blessings for the 23 <sup>rd</sup> wedding anniversary of Jackwrel & Daphne Wallace, Rb Daphne Wallace
Tues.	Mar. 25	12:00 pm	+For the repose of the soul of Marie Octavie Brin Rb Marguerite M. Bryan ~Mass intention for Connie Sedler, Rb Dan & Teresa Badinghaus ~Birthday blessings for Joseph A. Sibilly Jr., Rb Carmen R. Sibilly & Family
Wed.	Mar. 26	6:00 pm	+For the repose of the soul of Francis J. Bryan Rb Clara Bryan & Family
Thurs.	Mar. 27	12:00 pm	+For the repose of the soul of Maria Berry, Rb Clara Bryan & Family
Fri.	Mar. 28	12:00 pm	+For the repose of the soul of Denise Kennon, Rb Clara Bryan & Family
Sat.	Mar. 29	6:00 pm	~Birthday blessings for John Paul Pabon, Rb His Aunts ~Mass intention for Connie Sedler, Rb Dan & Teresa Badinghaus ~Birthday blessings for Denise Sibilly, Rb Carmen Sibilly & Family

## SICK AND SHUT-INS

Dear Lord, we ask that you heal the sick and infirm among us. We pray for those who are suffering with pain and illness, that they may be comforted in their time of need. May they feel your love and grace surround them and heal their bodies, minds, and spirits.

**Let us pray for:**

Rita King (off-island)

Rita King (off-island)  
Priscilla B. Lawrence (off-island)  
Judith Turbe (off-island)  
Albert Sibilly  
Noreen LaPlace  
Noelise Noel  
Jackwrel and Daphne Wallace  
Valencia Krause (off-island)  
Florence Kalloo  
Marie LaPlace  
Marguerite Bryan  
Gwynneth Moolenaar  
Clely Berry  
Linda Sheviski

We ask these things in your name, Jesus Christ, our Lord, and Savior. Amen.

## DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS Week of March 24-30, 2025

Mon.	Mar. 24	Lenten Weekday 2 Kgs 5:1-15b/Lk 4:24-30
Tues.,	Mar. 25	THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD Is 7:10-14; 8:10/Heb 10:4-10/Lk 1:26-38
Wed.,	Mar. 26	Lenten Weekday Dt 4:1, 5-9/Mt 5:17-19
Thurs.,	Mar. 27	Lenten Weekday Jer 7:23-28/Lk 11:14-23
Fri.,	Mar. 28	Lenten Weekday Hos 14:2-10/Mk 12:28-34
Sat.,	Mar. 29	Lenten Weekday Hos 6:1-6/Lk 18:9-14
Sun.,	Mar. 30	FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT Jos 5:9a, 10-12/2 Cor 5:17-21/Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

## REFLECTION

**MEDITATION OF THE 3<sup>rd</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT:**

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ, God witnessed the affliction of the people of Israel in Egypt and heard their cry against their slave drivers. He decided to rescue them from the hands of the Egyptians and lead them out of that land into a good and spacious land flowing with milk and honey. For that purpose, He called Moses whom He sent on mission to go and liberate the people. For Moses to be taken seriously, He had to say who sent him. That is why God will reveal Himself to him and tell him to say to the people that it is “the Lord, the God of their fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, the God of Jacob” who sent him to them. It is not any other God. We too need to know to which God some people want to lead us at times. Is it the True God or any other one?

When St. Paul re-reads the history of Israel, he notices that among the people led by Moses some were not always faithful to God even though they all ate the same spiritual food and drink. That is why God was not pleased with them and struck them down in the desert. We are told that these things happened as examples for us so that we might not desire evil things. These experiences shed some light on the sufferings and miseries of some of us. Sometimes, we too are struck down because of our sins or of our grumblings and impatience with God. That is why we need to repent as Jesus tells us in the Gospel, otherwise we too will all perish.

Let us pray that God should grant us the grace to repent and turn back to Him in a special way, especially during this time of Lent.

CATECHESIS	
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Faith also comes as a result of a religious experience where we really feel the presence and action of God in our life. We should be re-reading our history in order to see how God has showed us his love by saving us from difficult situations or by operating miracles in our lives and the lives of our dear ones. Those experiences of the past should strengthen our faith and give us a reason to believe in God more. Even if we are suffering now, even if we are going through tough times at the moment, we do not forget that God is present and attentive to us, that we have to commit our life to Him and He will act at His appointed time for our good. This conviction makes our faith stronger and gives us every reason to believe despite everything. Keep the Faith! Courage!

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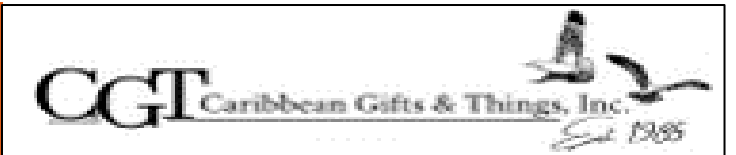
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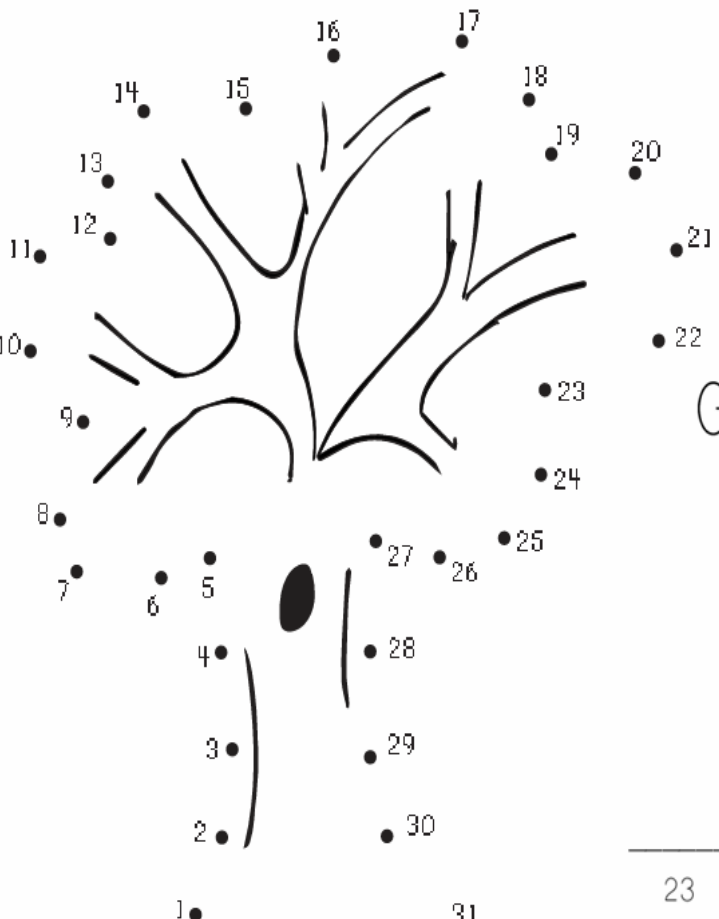


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KIDS CORNER





In the first reading, Moses talked to God in a burning bush. Moses asked God what He should be called.

God answered...

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	

9

1

13

23

8

15

1

13



Jesus is teaching His disciples to repent and be sorry for their sins. He tells a parable (a story) about a fig tree. Listen to His story.

CATHOLIC HUMOR

- ❖ Why did the chicken refuse to eat meat during Lent?  
Because it was poultry in motion!
- ❖ Knock, knock.  
(Who's there?)  
Fish.  
(Fish who?)  
Fish you a happy Lenten season filled with blessings and peace!
- ❖ Why did the baker give up bread for Lent?  
He kneaded a break.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

- We extend sincere condolences to the family and friends on the passing of our Dear Deacon William Summer. There will be a viewing at 9:00 am here at OLPH on Tuesday, March 25<sup>th</sup> followed by Mass at 10:00 am.
- *Kind reminder:* Please sign up for Pastoral visit to homes. This is an opportunity to bring family and friends together for fellowship, blessings of home, prayers and Mass. Sign-up sheet is available in the back of the church.
- The 2025 Bishop's appeal invites us to renew hope, strengthen faith, and serve our community. Let us embrace this opportunity to be pilgrims of hope by supporting our pastoral ministries. Support the annual Bishop's Appeal. Envelopes are available in the back of the church.
- OLPH is hosting a **Lenten Mission on March 31<sup>st</sup> through April 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6:00 pm in the evening.** Fr. Leonard Mary-MFVA-Franciscan Missionaries of the Eternal Word (EWTN) will be conducting the Mission. Confessions will be available from 5:30 pm to 6:00 pm. (Refer to the flyer in the back of the church.) If you need a ride to attend the Mission, please contact the office.
- OLPH invites all businesses to advertise in our bulletin. We have space and cost will be prorated for the year. Thank you in advance! It's also an opportunity to extend best wishes for Birthdays/Anniversaries etc.
- Sts. Peter and Paul Cathedral in conjunction with Holy Family Parish invites you to a "Spring" Boat Ride aboard the Kon Tiki Party Raft on Sunday, March 30, 2025 from 2:00 to 6:00 pm. Tickets are \$30 and are available in the Parish Office.
- We are pleased to announce that the website of the Diocese has been redesigned and updated. It includes a wealth of relevant information and resources for our Diocesan community. The web address remains the same: [www.catholicvi.com](http://www.catholicvi.com). We encourage you to explore the website and make full use of its features, read news updates from around the Diocese, and see information about upcoming important events.
- Deanery Lenten Pilgrimage at Holy Family Church on Saturday, March 29, 2025, from 9:00 am to 2:30 pm. Theme: Journeying Together in Hope.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM RESPONSE for March 22-23, 2025  
R. The Lord is kind and merciful.

PRAYER TO OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP

MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP! Grant that I may ever invoke Thy most powerful name, which is the safeguard of the living and the salvation of the dying. O Purest Mary, O Sweetest Mary, let Thy name henceforth be ever on my lips. Delay not, O Blessed Lady, to help me whenever I call on Thee, for, in all my temptations, in all my needs, I shall never cease to call on Thee, ever repeating Thy sacred name, Mary, Mary. O what consolation, what sweetness, what confidence, what emotion fill my soul when I utter Thy sacred name, or even only think of Thee. I thank God for having given Thee, for my good, so sweet, so powerful, so lovely a name. But I will not be content with merely uttering Thy name; let my love for Thee prompt me ever to hail Thee, Mother of Perpetual Help.

THE ANGELUS

- V. The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary.
- R. And she conceived of the Holy Spirit. Hail Mary...
- V. Behold the handmaid of the Lord.
- R. Be it done to me according to thy word. Hail Mary...
- V. And the Word was made flesh.
- R. And dwelt among us. Hail Mary...
- V. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.
- R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

**Let us pray:** Pour forth, we beseech Thee, O Lord, thy grace into our hearts, that we to whom the Incarnation of Christ, Thy Son, was made known by the message of an angel, may by His Passion and Cross, be brought to the glory of His Resurrection. Through the same Christ, Our Lord, Amen.

*"Be thoughtful, Be silent, Be reverent,  
for this is the house of God.  
Before the service, speak to the Lord;  
During the service, let the Lord speak to You. After the service, speak to one another."*

WEEKLY FINANCIAL SUMMARY  
MARCH 15-16, 2025

First Collection 3/15 -6:00 pm	\$1,089
Second Collection (Repairs)	\$ 132
First Collection 3/16 - 6:30 am	\$ 313
Second Collection (Repairs)	\$ 85
First Collection 3/16 – 9:00 am	\$ 598
Second Collection (Repairs)	\$ 165
Special Collection (Repairs) -3/11	\$ 82
And 3/14	

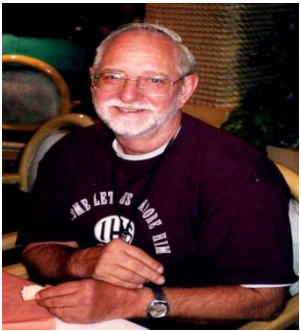


PARISH LIFE

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF  
DEACON WILLIAM (BILL) SUMMER



Deacon JT Mark and Deacon Hyercinth George, from St. Croix and Deacon Bill Summer from St. Thomas  
First to start the Diaconate Program



PARISH LIFE

2025 LENTEN CALENDAR

March 19, 2025	12:00 pm	Solemnity of St. Joseph &	OLPH
And	6:00 pm	Father Joseph's Feast Day	
		Mass	
March 22, 2025	1:00 pm	Couples' Retreat & Youth	St. Anne's Church
		Encounter	
March 25, 2025	12:00 pm	Solemnity of the Annunciation	OLPH
And	6:00 pm	Mass	
March 26-28, 2025		Lenten Mission	Holy Family Church
March 29, 2025		Pilgrimage of Hope	Holy Family Church
March 31-April 2, 2025		Lenten Mission	OLPH
April 5, 2025	9:00 am	Father Joseph's 28 <sup>th</sup>	OLPH
		Anniversary Mass	
April 13, 2025		Palm Sunday	OLPH
April 15, 2025	6:00 pm	Chrism Mass	Cathedral
April 17-19, 2025		Holy Week Tridium	OLPH
April 20, 2025		Easter Sunday	OLPH
April 27, 2025	2:00 pm	Divine Mercy Sunday	St. Anne's Church