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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

#8i Estate Elizabeth, P. O. Box 304983, St. Thomas, VI 00803 Telephone: (340) 774-0885

Email: olphsecretary@outlook.com

Facebook: Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church St. Thomas, USVI

Diocesan Bishop: Most Rev. Jerome Feudjio



WELCOME TO A

Our Lady of Perpetual Help

TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME "C"

August 16 -17, 2025

Jer 38: 4-6, 8-10/Heb 12: 1-4/Lk 12: 49-53

CHURCH DIRECTORY

Parish Pastor: Rev. Fr. Joseph Nguele Toko

Deacons: Rev. Mr. Bernard Gibs

Maintenance: Domingo Uvalles (Moreno)

Landscaping: Rick Berry Landscaping
Secretary: Ms. Jennifer Estime
Office Volunteers: Ms. Elizabeth Harris

OFFICE HOURS

Mrs. Linda Sibilly

Monday: CLOSED

Tuesday – Friday: 9:00 am - 2:00 pm

MASS SCHEDULE Weekdays

Monday: No Mass

Tuesday: Eucharistic Adoration 7:00 am-12:00 pm

Mass at 12:00 noon

Wednesday: 12:00 pm and 6:00 pm

Thursday: 12:00 pm Friday: 12:00 pm

Weekends

Saturday: 6:00 pm

Sunday: 6:30 am and 9:00 am

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.

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 -2^{nd} 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.	Aug 16	6:00 pm	+ For the repose of the soul of Richard Berry, Rb Steve and Virginia Olive ~ Birthday Blessings for Sheryll Johnson, Rb Lynn Millin & Marlena Lowe						
Sun.	Aug 17	6:30 am	+ For the repose of the soul of Albert Sibilly, Rb Julia Sibilly & Family + For the repose of the soul of Fr. John Mark, Rb Gaby Bryan & Family ~ Healing Mass for Desmond Percell, Rb Lynn A. Millin						
		9:00 am	+ For the repose of the soul of Alvin Greaux, Rb Steve & Virginia Olive ~ For a Special Intention, Rb Beverly Chongasing ~ Healing and Recovery for Christine Woodhouse Rb The 9:00 am Mass Parishioners						
Tues.	Aug 19	12:00 pm	+ For the repose of the soul of Fr. John Mark, Rb Steve and Virginia Olive + For the repose of the souls of Richard and Lorraine Berry Rb The family						
Wed.	Aug 20	12:00 pm 6:00pm	+ For the repose of the soul of Bishop George Murry Rb Steve & Virginia Olive + For the repose of the soul of Knolly Beazer, Rb Steve & Virginia Olive						
Thurs Fri.	. Aug 21 Aug 22	12:00 pm 12:00 pm	+ For the repose of the soul of Cyrus Sampson, Rb Steve and Virginia Olive ~ Healing Mass for Desmond Percell, Rb Lynn A. Millin + For the repose of the soul of Lillian Miller, Rb Steve and Virginia Olive						
			~ Birthday Blessings for Josai Sibilly, His Grandparents						

+ For the repose of the souls of Edwin and Cecilia Quetel Rb The Gibs, Quetel and Spenceley Families

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. Heal their bodies, minds, and spirits as you extend your healing hands on:

John Foster Lorraine McDonald
Nancy LaPlace Noelise Noel
Daphne Wallace John McDonald
Florence Kalloo Marie LaPlace
Clely Berry Linda Sheviski
Rita King (off-island) Barbara Kenny
Priscilla B. Lawrence (off-island)
Judith Turbe (off-island)
Valencia Krause (off-island)

Christine Woodhouse

We ask this through Jesus Christ, our Lord, and

DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS Week of August 17-23, 2025

6:00 pm

Sat. Aug 23

Aug 22

Sun	Aug 17	Jer 38: 4-6, 8-10/ Heb 12: 1-4 Lk 12: 49-53
Mon	Aug 18	Jgs 2: 11-19/Mt 19:16-22
Tues.	Aug 19	Saint John Eudes, Priest, Jgs: 6: 11-24a/Mt 19: 23-30
Wed.	Aug 20	St. Bernard, Abbot & Doctor of the Church/ Jgs9: 6-15/Mt 20: 1-16
Thurs	Aug 21	Saint Pius X, Pope Jgs 11: 29-39a/Mt 22: 1-14

VIRGIN MARY

Aug 23 Saint Rose of Lima, Virgin BVM

THE OUEENSHIP OF THE BLESSED

Ru 1:1, 3-6, 14b-16, 22/Mt 22: 34 -40

Ru 9:1-3, 8-11, 4:13-17/Mt 93: 1-19

REFLECTION OF THE 20th SUNDAY "C"

Gwynneth Moolenaar

Savior, Amen.

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ, the gospel of today invites us to have the courage of Jesus to announce God's Word despite the troubles and risks of division it may bring, even in the family. We see it in the first reading through the experience of Jeremiah, the prophet who announces God's Word and yet who is persecuted by the people of his time. They deem that Jeremiah ought to be put to death because he announced the people's defeat as they kept away from God. They said he demoralizes the soldiers and all the people by speaking the way he does. In fact, he had simply announced God's word to them as they did not want to be converted. When the word of God hits us like a stone, we too tend to resist it in the world, in our communities, in our families, and even inwardly, instead of trying to see what to do in order to change, to be converted and carry out God's will. It is thus that we get in conflict with those who prick our conscience in God's name, those who tell us about Jesus' Word which "cuts us as a double edge sword", those who tell us about our mistakes or our sins. That is why Jesus says in the gospel that we should not think that he is bringing peace, but rather division. In reality, if we do seek what is the will of God and make the effort to carry it out or to come out of our sins, we will not be getting in conflict with those prophets that God sends to us. Nowadays God still uses our relatives and friends, the priests and religious, even unknown people to talk to us on his behalf. How do we receive them with the Word of God which disturbs our conscience? Let us pray that the Lord may grant us the grace to receive them and to welcome their message through an act of conversion.

CATECHESIS

Prophet like Jeremiah: When the priests anointed us with holy chrism at Baptism, he said that we are "priests, prophets, and kings." We are prophets to speak on behalf of God, to be the mouthpiece of God, to make known God's will to people. The message we are to announce on behalf of God may not always be a pleasant one, especially when it invites people to conversion, to a positive change of heart, of attitude. Because such a message upsets its hearers as it puts them before their conscience, it is not always welcome and its bearer is looked upon as a prophet of doom because he announces a bad fate if people do not change. The tendency is to reject the bad news or the message, and the messenger, and sometimes to persecute him. That is very often the fate of the prophet who really prophesies, who tells God's will to the people. That is why the work or the mission of the prophet is always a risk. Jeremiah is a clear example. He was accused and persecuted several times, and yet still had to continue to guide people by telling them what God wanted. That is our mission, but do we have the courage to tell the Truth to people even when we are going to lose some privileges or some interests? We should never forget that just as we want others to welcome us as prophets, we have the duty to be open to receive the prophets who come to us. Let us ask for that grace from God.

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KIDS CORNER You also must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect... 15 14 15 9 12 15 13 Jesus tells a parable about servants. A good servant is always ready for his master to come home. God wants us to be like those servants and

Year C: Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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CATHOLIC HUMOR

always be ready to meet Him.

- What's the most important part of the Popemobile? The catholic converter.
- How do you identify the Catholics at a Star Wars convention?
 When you say, "May the force be with you!"
 The Catholics all respond, "And with your spirit!"
- Which kind of corn holds the highest position in the catholic church?
 Popecorn.
- What do you call a religious nomad?
 Roman Catholic.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Due to the inclement weather, the clean-up of the downstairs offices will be next week Saturday, August 23rd at 8:00am.
- Due to the inclement weather socials/fellowship for this weekend have been postponed until next weekend Saturday 8/23 and Sunday 8/24.
- Funeral services for Robert Joseph Bryan (Robbie) will be held on Thursday August 21, 2025. Viewing will be at 9am followed by Mass at 10am.
- Holy Family Church invites all parishioners to participate in the 78th Annual Cassie Hill Pilgrimage. The procession will take place on Sunday August 17th starting at 2pm from the Four Winds Plaza to the Shrine.
- We want to thank all those that have contributed in one way or another to our new bulletin. It has certainly been a success! Sponsor letters for renewal will be going out soon for those that have so graciously advertised or sponsored this endeavor. Sponsorship letters will also be available for those that wish to advertise their company or sponsor us. Please inquire in the Church Office. Thank you!

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.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Lord, come to my aid!

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, full of grace...
- V. Behold the handmaid of the Lord.
- R. Be it done unto 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.

WEEKLY FINANCIAL SUMMARY August 9-10, 2025

First Collection (8/9 6:00 pm \$ 393 Second Collection (Repairs) \$ 137 First collection (8/10) 6:30 am \$ 360 Second Collection (Repairs) \$ 110 First Collection 9:00 am \$ 376 Second Collection (Repairs) \$ 113

NOVENA FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST

Dear Mary, our Queen and our Mother, during this Novena we commend to Thy Immaculate Heart the petitions and intentions we have placed on Thine altar, that they may be granted as they are pleasing to the Divine Will and for the good of souls. We further commend to Thee and place under Thy protection: His Excellency, our Most Reverend Bishop; our Community of Clergy, Brothers, Sisters, and lay families; our Priory, Seminary, Schools, Friary, and Convent; all of our Fatima Cells and Crusaders; our loved ones, benefactors, the conversion of our enemies and detractors; and all those who have asked to be remembered in our prayers. Amen.

PARISH LIFE

SCHEDULE OF NOVENAS & FEASTS FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST

- *Month dedicated to the Immaculate Heart of Mary*
 - * Recommended virtue: Humility.
- * Protector of the Month: Saint John Vianney, Curé of Ars
- August 4: Saint John Vianney, Curé of Ars (feast day)
- August 6: *FEAST OF THE TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD*
- August 6: Beginning of *NOVENA TO OUR LADY OF THE ASSUMPTION* (feast day August 15)
 - August 8: Saint Dominic, Priest and Founder (memorial)
 - August 10: Saint Lawrence, Martyr (feast day)
 - August 14: Saint Maximilian Kolbe (memorial)
 - August 15: *FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION OF THE VIRGIN MARY*
 - August 20: Saint Bernard (memorial)
 - August 20: Beginning of *NOVENA TO MARY, UNDOOR OF KNOTS*
 - August 21 : St. Pius X, Pope. (memorial)
 - August 22: Virgin Mary Queen (memorial)
 - August 24: Saint Bartholomew (feast day)
 - August 27: Saint Monica.
 - August 28: Saint Augustine (memorial)
 - August 29: Martyrs of Saint John the Baptist (memorial)
- August 30: Beginning of the *NOVENA PREPARATORY FOR THE FEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF MARY*: (feast day September 8)

HAPPY AUGUST TO ALL!

KEEPING YOU INFORMED

Members of the Pastoral Committee:

Rev. Fr. Joseph Toko Cathy Querrard Monique Sibilly-Hodge

Keli Gabriel – **Chairperson** Jamilla Descartes

Elizabeth Harris Richard Bourne-Vanneck
Paul Kalloo Deacon Bernard Gibs (Retired)

Paul Ferreras Gene LaPlace (Retired)

Members of the Fundraising Committee:

Noreen LaPlace

Lectors Committee

Rev. Fr. Joseph Toko Elizabeth Harris Rev. Fr. Joseph Toko Cathy Querrard – Chairperson Linda Sibilly - Chairperson Patrick Querrard **Betty Querrard** Angela Bryan Clarence (Gus) A. Martin **Denise Sibilly** Keli Gabriel Eric Adams Linda Sibilly Jessica Gibs John McDonald Joseph Hosie Taylor Spillane Elizabeth Harris **Denise Sibilly** Judith Richardson Normil Berry

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