

8TH Saint Joseph

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH



FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)

DECIMOQUINTO DOMINGO DEL TIEMPO ORDINARIO (A)

PARISH STAFF



Very Rev. Andrea Filippucci
Pastor
Vicar General of the Diocese of St. Thomas



Rev. Benito Moreno
Parochial Vicar

Ms. Carmen Romero - Parish Secretary
Mrs. Petra Arroyo - Religious Education Coordinator
Sr. Floriane Nkensi, S.S.T. - Director of Adult Formation
Mrs. Esther F. Donnelly - Parish Accountant - Volunteer

MASS SCHEDULE / HORARIOS DE MISA

Monday/Lunes: No mass
Tuesday/Martes: **6:30 AM** (English) - CHAPEL
Wednesday/Miércoles: **6:30 AM** (English) - CHAPEL
Thursday/Jueves: **6:00 PM** (Spanish) - CHAPEL
Friday/Viernes: **6:30 AM** (English) - CHAPEL

Saturday/Sábado: **4:30 PM** (English) CHURCH
6:00 PM (English) LOUNGE
Neocatechumenal Way

Sunday/Domingo: **7:00 AM** (English) CHURCH
9:00 AM (Spanish) CHURCH
11:00 AM (English) CHURCH

CONFESSIONS / CONFESIONES

SATURDAYS: 3:30 pm in the Church or any time by appointment.
SABADOS: A las 3:30 pm en la Iglesia o llame para una cita.

FUNERALS / FUNERALES

Monday through Friday. Please contact the Parish Office.
De Lunes a Viernes. Favor de contactar la Oficina Parroquial.

ANOIDTING OF THE SICK / UNCIÓN DE LOS ENFERMOS

Please contact one of the priests if you are going to the hospital.
Llamar al sacerdote cuando se necesite y si vas al hospital.

BAPTISMS / BAUTIZOS

On the last Saturday of the month, at 3 pm. Please contact the Parish Office. - El ultimo sabado del mes, a las 3 pm. Favor de contactar la oficina parroquial.

MARRIAGE / MATRIMONIO

Please contact the priests at least 6 months before your wedding.
Por favor, haga una cita con el sacerdote.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS / HORARIO DE OFICINA

Monday to Friday: **8:00 AM – 1:00 PM**

CONTACT

Tel: **340-692-2005** Email: **stjoseph1973@yahoo.com**



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READINGS FOR THE 15TH WEEK OF O.T. (A)

Mon. July 13

Is 1:10-17
Mt 10:34—11:1

Tue. July 14

*Saint Kateri
Tekakwitha*
Is 7:1-9
Mt 11:20-24

Wed. July 15

Saint Bonaventure
Is 10:5-7, 13b-16
Mt 11:25-27

Thur. July 16

*Our Lady of Mount
Carmel*
Is 26:7-9, 12, 16-19
Mt 11:28-30

Fri. July 17

Is 38:1-6, 21-22, 7-8
Mt 12:1-8

Sat. July 18

*Saint Camillus de
Lellis*
Mi 2:1-5
Mt 12:14-2

Sun. July 19

**SIXTEENTH
SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME**
Wis 12:13, 16-19
Rom 8:26-27
Mt 13:24-43 or
13:24-30



The Saints of the Week

Saint Kateri Tekakwitha (October 17, 1656 – April 17, 1680) was the first Native American saint of the Catholic Church. Born in the Mohawk village of Ossernenon, she experienced great suffering after losing her family during a smallpox epidemic. Through the guidance of Jesuit missionaries, Kateri discovered the Catholic faith and was baptized in 1676. Despite facing rejection, she remained devoted to Christ through prayer, the Eucharist, and service to others. Her humility, courage, and love for God continue to inspire the faithful. She was canonized in 2012 and is honored as a patron saint of Indigenous peoples and those seeking strength in faith.

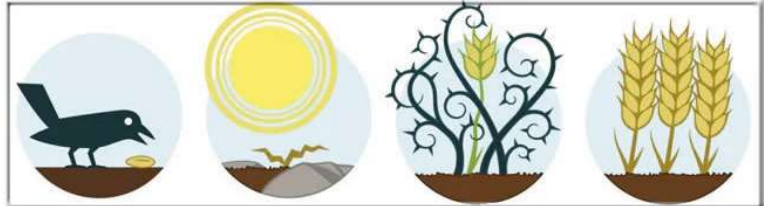
Saint Bonaventure (April 15, 1221 – July 15, 1274) was a Franciscan friar, theologian, bishop, and Doctor of the Church. Born in Italy, he dedicated his life to following Christ in the spirit of Saint Francis of Assisi. As a scholar and leader of the Franciscan Order, he taught that all wisdom should lead us closer to God. His writings on prayer, faith, and spiritual growth continue to guide Christians today.

Our Lady of Mount Carmel (July 16) honors the Blessed Virgin Mary as the mother and protector of the Carmelite Order. The devotion began with hermits on Mount Carmel who looked to Mary as a model of prayer and holiness. The Brown Scapular of Our Lady of Mount Carmel remains a cherished sign of devotion, reminding Catholics of Mary's guidance and her call to follow Christ.

JULY 12

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Our readings present the image of God's word being sown as seeds upon field. "A Sower went out to sow...." Listen to these readings with the mind and heart of an evangelizer. How receptive are you to the seed – God's word – that has been sown in your heart? Do you believe that with God's grace, that word will bear fruit in your own life and that it has the power to touch the life of another and perhaps draw them closer to Jesus? Make it a priority this week to spend ten minutes reading some Scripture. As you do that, pray that the word of God you have read will bear fruit as God intends.



LIVE STREAMING

Join us for Mass!

YouTube & Facebook "Virtual" Connections



Just search for: **Saint Joseph, Saint Croix**

Mass will be "Live" on Saturdays at 4:30 pm and on Sundays at 7 am, 9 am (Spanish), and 11 am.

PARISH PASTORAL WORK

Pro-Life Rosary - Fridays @ 4:30 pm

Santo Niño - First Saturday @ 4:00 pm

Divine Mercy - Every Other Saturdays @ 4:00 pm

Sacred Heart Society - First Sunday @ 8:30 am

Cursillo de Cristiandad - Sundays @ 10:00 am

Our Lady of Fatima - First Saturday @ 7:00 am

Neocatechumenal Way - Wednesdays @ 6:00 pm

Grief and Loss Seminar - Last Tuesdays @ 1:00 pm



MASS INTENTIONS / INTENCIONES DE LAS MISAS

Sat. 11	4:30 pm	Birthday blessings for De'Shawn Stedman	req. by Victoria Soto.
	6:00 pm	+Fr. Alejandro Sanchez	req. by St. Joseph Community.
Sun. 12	7:00 am	In thanksgiving to St. Jude	req. by Debbie Ross.
	9:00 am	+Lydia O'Neill and Virginia Reyes	req. by Jacquelin Spooner.
	11:00 am	For the good of the people of St. Joseph Church.	
Tue. 14	6:30 am	+Ramon and +Angel Rodriguez and +Carmen Pura Melendez	req. by Luis G. Huertas.
Wed. 15	6:30 am	In thanksgiving	req. by Carmen Robles.
Thu. 16	6:00 pm	Birthday blessings for Joanne Williams	req. by Meryl Maynard.
Fri. 17	6:30 am	+Alejo Monell and +Petra Carrera	req. by Carmen Romero.

8TH From the Pastor's Pen

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

With faith in the promise of the Resurrection and in the hope of eternal life, we invite you to come together in prayer as we prepare for the Christian Burial of our beloved brother in priesthood, Fr. Simon Peter Opira.

Fr. Simon Peter dedicated his life to serving God and His people through the gift of the priesthood. His ministry was a blessing to the Church and to all those whose lives he touched through his pastoral presence, prayer, and commitment to proclaiming the Gospel. As we mourn his passing, we also give thanks to God for the gift of his life and for the many ways he shared Christ's love with others.

I warmly invite all parishioners to join together in prayer and support as we gather to commend Fr. Simon Peter to the loving mercy of God and to accompany him with our prayers as he begins his journey home to the Father:

- **Viewing and Evening Prayer: Monday, July 13, 2026, from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm at St. Ann's Barrenspot, St. Croix.**
- **Funeral Mass of Christian Burial: Tuesday, July 14, 2026, at 11:00 am at St. Ann's Barrenspot, St. Croix.**

The Holy Mass will be presided by His Excellency Bishop Jerome, together with the priests of the Diocese of Saint Thomas, as we gather in faith, prayer, and thanksgiving for the life and service of Fr. Simon Peter.

Let us come together as one Church community to offer our prayers for the repose of his soul and to extend our love and support to his family, his brother priests, and all who grieve his passing. Our presence and prayers will be a meaningful expression of the unity and compassion that define our Christian family.

May Mary, Mother of Priests, intercede for Fr. Simon Peter and welcome him into the eternal embrace of her Son.

May the Lord reward him for his faithful service and grant him the fullness of peace and joy in His heavenly kingdom.

Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace. Amen.



Fr. Andrea

July 12th, 2026

OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL

Our Lady of Mount Carmel is the patron saint of the sea, sailors, and fishermen of Vieques. Her feast day is celebrated every July 16th.

This Marian devotion originated on Mount Carmel in the Holy Land, where hermits dedicated to prayer lived under the protection of the Blessed Virgin Mary from ancient times. Over the centuries, devotion to Our Lady of Mount Carmel spread throughout the world through the Carmelite Order, and for centuries sailors and fishermen have venerated her as their protector and guide at sea.

To mark this occasion, Sunday, July 19th, we will celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel during the 9:00 am Mass.

After Mass, we will have a fraternal gathering at the Frederiksted Pool. We invite all attendees to bring a dish, dessert, or snack to share, so that we can enjoy a time of fellowship, friendship, and joy together.

For more information, please contact Gladys or the Parish Office.



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July 18

McAlpin Hall
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St. Thomas
July 25

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Email: chancery@diocesestvi.org



JULY 2026 - SECOND COLLECTIONS

July 12, 2026 - Bishop's Appeal
July 19, 2026 - Maintenance



Liturgical Corner

Sacramentals Used in the Liturgy

Sacramentals are sacred signs instituted by the Church that prepare us to receive God's grace and dispose us to cooperate with it more fully. They are an important part of Catholic life because they help strengthen our faith and remind us of God's presence in our daily lives. Examples of sacramentals include holy water, ashes, palms, blessed candles, crucifixes, medals, and the many blessings used throughout the liturgical year.

Unlike the sacraments, sacramentals do not confer grace by themselves. Instead, through the prayers of the Church and the faith of those who use them, they help sanctify everyday life and encourage a deeper relationship with God.

Through sacramentals, the Church teaches that every aspect of life can be touched by God's grace. These sacred signs help bridge the liturgy and our daily routines, reminding us that holiness is not limited to church services but is something we are called to pursue in our homes, schools, workplaces, and communities.

References: CCC 1667–1670; Mark 6:13.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT - Tuesday from 7:00 a.m. until 5:00 pm, in Saint Michael's Chapel.

PROLIFE ROSARY - Every Friday at 4:30 pm, in Saint Michael's Chapel. All are welcome.

FR. SIMON PETER OPIRA - Viewing and Evening Prayer: Monday, July 13, 2026, from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm at St. Ann's Barrenspot, St. Croix. Funeral Mass of Christian Burial: Tuesday, July 14, 2026, at 11:00 am at St. Ann's Barrenspot, St. Croix.

"KNOW YOUR NUMBERS" HEALTH AND WELLNESS DAY — Saturday, July 18, 2026, from 10:00 am–3:00 pm at McAlpin Hall, Holy Cross Catholic Church, for free wellness screenings (blood pressure, oxygen, heart rate, and body composition checks). Open to the public with free shuttle service; St. Joseph pick-up times are 9:20 AM, 11:20 AM, 1:20 PM, and 2:20 PM. Event organized and funded by Teri Helenese, candidate for Congress.

St. Joseph's Gem

WISDOM ON OUR SPIRITUAL FATHER



"We should honor Saint Joseph since the Son of God Himself wished to honor him by calling him father. If the King of Kings raised Joseph to such dignity, then it is fitting that Christians should love and venerate him with special devotion. Joseph had the happiness of living daily beside Jesus and Mary, speaking with them, working for them, and loving them with a heart purified by extraordinary grace. No saint, after Mary, possessed greater intimacy with the Savior or exercised more tender care toward the Redeemer of mankind."

— Saint Alphonsus Liguori

PRAY FOR THE SICK & SHUT-INS

A COMMUNITY IN PRAYER

OFF ISLAND:

Michael Farhig, Vinilia Nicholas, Ginny Garcia, Alessandro Filippucci, Dustin Genovese, Luis Secundino-Roman, Florabel Miller, Doris Darden, Tina Darden, Deborah Nellhropp, Calista Julien, Mary Toussaint, Deacon Conrad Williams.

AT HOME:

Leo Clifford, Kathy King, Deacon Charles, Felicila Hernandez, Mrs. Sackey, Madona Remy, Clair Marshall, Agneta Bailey, Encilma Christian, Elroy Hall Sr., Florabel Miller.

(Please call the Church Office to add or remove names to/from this list)

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Desde la pluma del parroco

Queridos hermanos y hermanas,

Con fe en la promesa de la Resurrección y en la esperanza de la vida eterna, los invitamos a unirse en oración mientras nos preparamos para el funeral cristiano de nuestro amado hermano en el sacerdocio, el P. Simon Peter Opira.

El P. Simon Peter dedicó su vida a servir a Dios y a su pueblo mediante el don del sacerdocio. Su ministerio fue una bendición para la Iglesia y para todos aquellos cuyas vidas tocó con su presencia pastoral, con su oración y con su compromiso con la proclamación del Evangelio. Al lamentar su partida, también damos gracias a Dios por el don de su vida y por las muchas maneras en que compartió el amor de Cristo con los demás.

Quiero invitar cordialmente a todos los feligreses a unirse en oración y apoyo mientras nos reunimos para honrar la memoria del P. Simón Peter:

Velorio y Oración Vespertina: Lunes 13 de julio de 2026, de 5:00 pm a 7:00 pm en la parroquia de Santa Ana en Barrenspot, St. Croix.

Misa de Exequias: Martes 14 de julio de 2026, a las 11:00 am en la parroquia de Santa Ana en Barrenspot, St. Croix.

La Santa Misa será presidida por Su Excelencia el Obispo Jerome, junto con los sacerdotes de la Diócesis de Santo Tomás, mientras nos reunimos en fe, oración y acción de gracias por la vida y el servicio del Padre Simon Peter.

Unámonos como comunidad eclesial para ofrecer nuestras oraciones por el eterno descanso de su alma y para brindar nuestro amor y apoyo a su familia, a sus hermanos sacerdotes y a todos los que lloran su partida. Nuestra presencia y nuestras oraciones serán una significativa expresión de la unidad y la compasión que definen a nuestra familia cristiana.

Que María, Madre de los Sacerdotes, interceda por el Padre Simon Peter y lo acoja en el eterno abrazo de su Hijo.

Que el Señor lo recompense por su fiel servicio y le conceda la plenitud de la paz y la alegría en su reino celestial.

Dale, Señor, el descanso eterno, y que brille para él la luz perpetua. Que descanse en paz. Amén.

P. Andrea

TRABAJO PASTORAL

Rosario Pro-Vida - Viernes @ 4:30 pm

Santo Niño - Primer Sábado @ 4:00 pm

Divina Misericordia - Cada otros Sábados @ 4:00 pm

Sagrado Corazon - Primer Domingo @ 8:30 am

Cursillo de Cristiandad - Domingos @ 10:00 am

Nuestra Señora de Fatima - Primer Sabado 7:00am

Camino Neocatecumenal - Miércoles @ 6:00 pm

Duelo y pérdida - Últimos martes @ 1:00 pm



July 12th, 2026

12 DE JULIO DECIMOQUINTO DOMINGO DEL TIEMPO ORDINARIO

Nuestras lecturas presentan la imagen de la Palabra de Dios sembrada como semillas en un campo. «Un sembrador salió a sembrar...». Escucha estas lecturas con la mente y el corazón de un evangelizador. ¿Cuán receptivo eres a la semilla —la Palabra de Dios— que ha sido sembrada en tu corazón? ¿Crees que, con la gracia de Dios, esa Palabra dará fruto en tu vida y que tiene el poder de tocar la vida de otros y quizás acercarlos a Jesús? Esta semana, proponte dedicar diez minutos a la lectura de las Escrituras. Mientras lo haces, ora para que la Palabra de Dios que has leído dé fruto como Dios lo desea.



VIRGEN DEL CARMEN

La Virgen del Carmen es la Patrona del mar, de los marineros y de los pescadores de Vieques. Su fiesta se celebra cada 16 de julio.

Esta advocación mariana tiene sus orígenes en el Monte Carmelo, en Tierra Santa, donde desde tiempos antiguos vivieron ermitaños dedicados a la oración bajo la protección de la Santísima Virgen María. Con el paso de los siglos, la devoción a Nuestra Señora del Carmen se extendió por todo el mundo a través de la Orden Carmelita. y desde hace siglos los navegantes y pescadores la han venerado como su protectora y guía en el mar.

Con motivo de esta celebración, el domingo, 19 de julio, celebraremos la Fiesta de la Virgen del Carmen durante la Santa Misa de las 9:00 am.

Al concluir la Misa, tendremos un compartir fraterno en la Piscina de Frederiksted. Invitamos a todos los asistentes a traer algún plato, postre o refrigerio para compartir, de manera que podamos disfrutar juntos de un momento de convivencia, amistad y alegría.

Para más información, comuníquense con Gladys.



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Correo electrónico: chancery@diocesestvi.org



JULIO 2026 - SEGUNDAS COLECTAS

12 de julio de 2026 - Campaña del Obispo 2026
19 de julio de 2026 - Mantenimiento



Rincón Litúrgico

Sacramentales en la Liturgia

Los sacramentales son signos sagrados instituidos por la Iglesia que nos preparan para recibir la gracia de Dios y nos disponen a cooperar con ella más plenamente. Son una parte importante de la vida católica porque ayudan a fortalecer nuestra fe y nos recuerdan la presencia de Dios en nuestro día a día. Algunos ejemplos de sacramentales son el agua bendita, la ceniza, las palmas, las velas benditas, los crucifijos, las medallas y las numerosas bendiciones que se utilizan a lo largo del año litúrgico.

A diferencia de los sacramentos, los sacramentales no confieren la gracia por sí mismos. En cambio, mediante las oraciones de la Iglesia y la fe de quienes los utilizan, ayudan a santificar la vida cotidiana y fomentan una relación más profunda con Dios.

A través de los sacramentales, la Iglesia enseña que la gracia de Dios puede tocar todos los aspectos de la vida. Estos signos sagrados ayudan a conectar la liturgia con nuestra vida diaria, recordándonos que la santidad no se limita a las misas en la iglesia, sino que es algo que estamos llamados a buscar en nuestros hogares, escuelas, lugares de trabajo y comunidades.

Referencias: CCC 1667-1670; Marcos 6:13.

ANUNCIOS

ADORACIÓN AL SANTÍSIMO SACRAMENTO - Martes de 7:00 am a 5:00 pm, en la Capilla de San Miguel.

FR. SIMON PETER OPIRA - Velorio y Oración Vespertina: Lunes 13 de julio de 2026, de 5:00 pm a 7:00 pm en la parroquia de Santa Ana en Barrenspot.
Misa de Exequias: Martes 14 de julio de 2026, a las 11:00 am en la parroquia de Santa Ana en Barrenspot.

VIRGEN DEL CARMEN - Domingo, 19 de julio, Misa Solemne a las 9:00 am. Al concluir la Misa, tendremos un compartir fraterno en la Piscina de Frederiksted. Invitamos a todos los asistentes a traer algún plato, postre o refrigerio para compartir, de manera que podamos disfrutar juntos de un momento de convivencia, amistad y alegría. Para más información, comuníquense con Gladys, Petra o la Oficina Parroquial.

DIA DE SALUD "CONOCE TUS NÚMEROS" — Sabado 18 de julio de 2026, de 10 am a 3 pm en el Salón McAlpin de la Iglesia Católica Holy Cross. Se realizarán exámenes de bienestar gratuitos (presión arterial, oxígeno, frecuencia cardíaca y análisis de composición corporal). Abierto al público con servicio de transporte gratuito. Horarios de recogida en St. Joseph: 9:20 am, 11:20 am, 1:20 pm y 2:20 pm. Organizado y financiado por Teri Helenese, candidata al Congreso.

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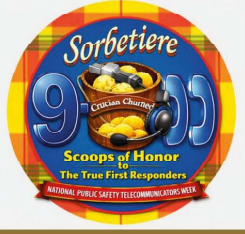
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A PRAYER TO INSPIRE

A PRAYER FOR COURAGE

Dear Lord, enlarge my perspective whenever my fears shrink my life. Free me from the fear of failure, judgment, and the unknown. Give me the courage to do the right thing—even when it is difficult, even with trembling hands. Remind me that the faith You provide has greater power than any fear I feel. Help me to endure. In Your grace, I trust. Amen.

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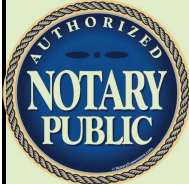


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with laughter, our
tongues with songs of
joy." Psalm 126:2



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PRAYER TO SAINT MICHAEL

Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil; May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; And do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the power of God, thrust into hell Satan and all evil spirits who prowl around the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

HURRICANE SEASON PRAYER

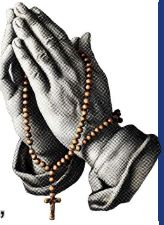
God, our Father, all the elements of nature obey your command. Keep us safe from the danger of hurricanes, floods, earthquakes, natural disasters and all acts of terrorism. May we be secure in your protection and always feel the presence of your love as you turn our fears into praise of your goodness. Bless our families and bring peace to all nations. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever. Amen.

ORACIÓN A SAN MIGUEL ARCÁNGEL

San Miguel Arcángel, defiéndenos en la batalla. Sé nuestro amparo contra la perversidad y acechanzas del demonio. Reprímelo Dios, pedimos suplicantes, y tú, Príncipe de la Milicia Celestial, arroja al infierno con el divino poder, a Satanás y a los otros espíritus malignos que andan dispersos por el mundo para la perdición de las almas. Amén.

ORACIÓN EN TEMPORADA DE HURACANES

Padre, todos los elementos de la naturaleza obedecen a tu mandato. Libranos de los peligros de huracanes, inundaciones, terremotos, desastres naturales y de todos los actos de terrorismo. Que nos sintamos seguros en tu protección y que siempre sintamos la presencia de tu amor. Cambia nuestros miedos en alabanzas a tu bondad. Bendice a nuestras familias y trae la paz a todas las naciones. Te lo pedimos por Jesucristo, nuestro Señor, que vive y reina contigo en la unidad del Espíritu Santo, Dios, por los siglos de los siglos. Amén.



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