



APRIL HOLIDAYS CELEBRATIONS RECOGNITION IN THE UNITED STATES VIRGIN ISLANDS



*Building Our Future Through
Education, History and Culture!*

April 2017:

Easter Thursday, April 13th - Monday, April 17th.

Thomas Carnival ... Saturday, April 1st - Saturday, April 29th

*Holidays observed by the United States Virgin Islands
strengthen an important process in the development of the territory.*

Compliments of:

*Virgin Islands Department of Education
Division of Virgin Islands Cultural Education*

EASTER

Easter 2017 will be celebrated from Thursday, April 13 through Monday, April 17. It is a national holiday with religious origin. With credibility from the Bible, Christians believe that Jesus was crucified on a cross, buried in a grave, and three days after His death He rose from the dead.

Each day of the Easter holiday has its Biblical symbolism:

- Thursday, which is called Holiday Thursday, celebrates Jesus' Last Supper with His disciples and when the final plot was carried out for His death;
- Friday, which is noted as Good Friday, commemorates the brutal death by crucifixion of Jesus Christ on the cross;
- Saturday, which is biblically referred to as the Seventh Day or the Sabbath, is celebrated as the Day when Jesus rested in the grave, symbolic of what He did while He was alive;
- Sunday, which is known as Easter Sunday, commemorates the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the grave;
- Monday, which is mentioned as Easter Monday, is known as the day when His disciples and followers reflected on the Apostles embracing His Resurrection.

Commercially, especially on the mainland, there are special Easter Holiday sales, scavenger hunts and meet and greet with the Easter Bunny. It is also an opportunity to spend time with family and friends at church, a museum, zoo, parades, relaxation, and/or simply enjoy the time outdoors.

In the United States Virgin Islands, it is a time when families join together with special meals after attending church. Both in the USVI and the mainland, it is typically one of the most well-attended Sunday service of the year for Christian churches. As part of the religious service, many churches have continued the tradition of re-enacting the Last Supper, His death, His burial, and His resurrection, along with hosting special concerts within the churches and in the community. It is an opportunity to reflect and celebrate on the reason for the Easter Holiday.



Happy Easter

Suggested Classroom and Family Activities:

Attend a special Easter service and/or program

Research the history of the Easter Celebration and share what you have learn with someone

Courtesy of

Text: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Easter>; http://catholicism.about.com/od/holydaysandholidays/p/Holy_Thursday.htm;

<http://christianity.about.com/od/holidaytips/qt/whatiseaster.htm>; <http://elev8.com/369075/what-is-easter-monday/>;

Picture:

https://www.google.com/search?q=imagenes+de+pascuas+religiosas&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwiA3PmEg_rSAhUN22MKHXuKB0IQ_AUIBigB&biw=13

CARNIVAL 2017



St. Thomas Carnival 2017 will be celebrated from Saturday, April 1 through Saturday, April 29, 2017.

The theme, “A Cultural Centennial for our 65th Carnival Celebration”, was submitted by Mr. Clement “Cain” Magras. It defines the spirit and excitement of the Virgin Islands’ largest cultural event.

The St. Thomas Carnival dates back to February 14, 1912 when the first Carnival in St. Thomas, United States Virgin Islands started and the second was held in 1914. In 1952, after 38 years of dormancy, it was revitalized and to date it has been held annually.

The St. Thomas Carnival offers a melting pot of excitement with the culture and treasured tradition. There will be spectacular memorable events, such as dances, pageantry, music, drinks, food, friends and fun! In the last week, the celebration heats up and climaxes with hard core partying at the Village, J’ouvert, Food Fair, two parades and fireworks.

The second largest Carnival in the Caribbean, this year will host entertainment with talented bands and musicians, pageants for Carnival royalty and fairs showcasing local crafts, food and drinks. To the right is the 2015 St. Thomas Carnival’s calendar of events ...

Suggested Classroom and Family Activities:

Attend a Carnival event

Research the history of Carnival and share what you learned with someone

Interview someone who participates in Carnival about their experience

Text: <http://www.vicarnival.com/>;

Pictures: <http://stthomassource.com/content/news/local-news/2014/04/23>

Calendar of Events 2017

- 1APRCALYPSO ELIMINATION TENT8:00 pm TBA
- 9APRPRINCE & PRINCESS SELECTION SHOW5:00 pm Lionel Roberts Stadium
- 15APRQUEEN SELECTION SHOW8:00 pm Lionel Roberts Stadium
- 16APRFAMILY FUN DAY - TODDLER'S DERBY - BEST-DRESSED DOLL - TRADITIONAL GAMES4:00 pm Lionel Roberts Stadium
- 17APRCARNIVAL AT SCHNEIDER MEDICAL CENTER6:00 pm Roy Schneider Hospital
- 18APRJUNIOR CALYPSO COMPETITION8:00 pm Lionel Roberts Stadium
- 19APRCULTURAL NIGHT - KING & QUEEN OF THE BAND8:00 pm Lionel Roberts Stadium
- 21APR- 29OPENING OF CARNIVAL VILLAGE6:00 pm - 8:00 pm (29) St. Thomas Village
- 22APRVI CALYPSO COMPETITION & INTERNATIONAL EXPLOSION8:00 pm Lionel Roberts Stadium
- 23APRWATER SPORTS10:00 am .St. Thomas Harbor
- 23APRSTEEL BAND JAMBOREE12:00 pm .Veterans Drive
- 25APRSENIOR CITIZENS' QUELBE TRAMP8:00 pm Market Square
- 26APRCULTURAL FAIR8:00 am .Emancipation Garden
- 26APRCARNIVAL REGGAE FEST8:00 pm Lionel Roberts Stadium
- 27APRROAS-A-TIME - J'OUVERT WARM-UP12:30 am St. Thomas Village
- 27APRJ'OUVERT4:00 am .Veterans Drive
- 27APRCARNIVAL HORSE RACE2:00 pm Clinton E. Phipps Race Track
- 28APRCHILDREN'S PARADE10:00 am Market Square
- 29APRADULT'S PARADE10:00 am .Main Street
- 29APRFIREWORKS9:00 pm .St. Thomas Harbor
- 29APR- 30LAST LAP



To receive monthly complimentary electronic holidays/celebration, kindly contact...



*The Virgin Islands Department of Education
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