

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Church

Parish in Paradise



Newsletter

January 2021 ♦ ISSUE 23



▲ Bishop-elect Neil Scantlebury. OLMC honored him with a Mass on January 20, 2021. Father Neil was a former priest at OLMC. He will be the new bishop for Barbados.

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Please keep the faith!

❖ From the desk of the pastor

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ:

We have entered into another year. This is the year the Lord has made. We rejoice and are glad in it (Psalm 118:24). The joy of the Lord has to be our strength in 2021.

The anxiety, worry and fear must not cripple us from rejoicing in the Lord. I once overheard a telephone conversation with the late Bishop Elliott Thomas and his sister. When she asked him how he was doing, his response was always. "I am holding on to the Lord." His other favorite response was "I am putting my house in order."

Isaiah 38:1 says, "In those days Hezekiah became mortally ill. So, Isaiah the prophet son of Amoz came to him and said to him, 'Thus says Adonai: Put your house in order. For you are dying and will not live.'"

In other words, he was saying he was getting ready to meet the Lord.

Bishop Elliott's wise sister Louise's response was scriptural also. "We live or die we belong to the Lord." Romans 14:8 says, "If we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord. So, whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord." Either way, we are winners. I loved it. It was like a love language they were having using scriptures.

God never abandoned the Israelites. He's been a pillar of fire by night and a cloud by day. Even when they wandered far, he remained very close. I know sometimes it may feel like God isn't there or he isn't listening. That is not true. He loves us and will never leave us.

My dear friends, the truth is we are living in some serious times. It can be a beautiful time if we believe. If we hold on with both hands to the Lord. It can be a time for renewal for us and the Church. It could be a time for us to be given new strength.

God is depending on us to be His witnesses. It is a time where St Francis' words come alive when he says, "Preach always when necessary use words."

I pray God gives all of us a new measure of FAITH. That we will not be daunted in the face of trials of any kind.

Romans 8:37-39 says, "no, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Have yourself a blessed 2021. Remember God loves you!

In Christ,

Rev. Fr. Anthony Abraham, Pastor

Newly Appointed Bishop-Elect

Fr. Neil Scantlebury



Pope Francis recently named Fr. Neil Scantlebury as bishop of the Diocese of Bridgetown, Barbados.

The ordination will take place on March 17, 2021, in Barbados.

Scantlebury, who is the pastor of St. Ann's Church on St. Croix, has been serving in the Diocese of St. Thomas in the U.S. Virgin Islands since his ordination to the priesthood on May 18, 1995.

He was born on October 1, 1965, to Deacon Keith Scantlebury, and Myrna Scantlebury, both now deceased.

After completing his primary and secondary education in Barbados, he entered the St. Augustine campus of the University of the West Indies, graduating with a degree in Mechanical Engineering.

The Bishop-elect then moved to the US Virgin Islands to teach religion and math at Sts. Peter and Paul School.

He was accepted as a candidate for the priesthood, and sent to Mount St. Mary's University, Emmitsburg, Maryland. After earning his master's in divinity, he was ordained a priest for the Diocese of St. Thomas. In 1999, he obtained the Master of Art in Sacred Scripture at the same university.

Bishop-elect Scantlebury served as parochial Vicar at Holy Family Church, St. Thomas from 1995 to 1997. In August 1997, he was appointed administrator of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel and then made pastor of OLMC.

In August 2003, he became rector of Saints Peter and Paul Cathedral, St. Thomas. In 2009, he returned to Holy Family

Church becoming its parish priest. In 2020, he became the parish priest of St. Ann's Parish, St Croix.

During his 25 years as a priest, Bishop-elect Scantlebury served the Diocese of St. Thomas as a Chancellor, Consultor, member of the Administrative Board of Catholic Charities, member of the Administrative Board for Child Protection, and member of the teaching faculty of Saints Peter and Paul School.

- Fr. Neil's time at OLMC was filled with many accomplishments. He oversaw the demolition and reconstruction of the rectory and started the reconstruction of this church.
- He started the Young Adult Group, which brought young adults back to the church, including myself. He got us involved in the church. He was also very instrumental in building up the youth group.
- The first time the youth heard of Jesus Explosion was when Fr. Neil took the youth to Aruba for Jesus Explosion. He would meet with the youth on Fridays to teach them how to pray the Rosary and other prayers. The youth would also visit the sick and shut-ins with Fr. Neil.

He was also instrumental in helping students to attend Sts. Peter and Paul School and also formed a men's group.

Fr. Neil was loved by so many people, but he had a special bond with the seniors of the parish. Many saw him and treated him as their son.

May God continue to bless Bishop-elect Scantlebury and be with him on this journey. Be assured of our continued prayers for you.

◆ Article written by Simonia Dagou



Angel Tree Gifts

IN MEMORY of



▲ Christmas presents from the Angel Tree project in memory of Sarah Barone arrive at OLMC.





▲ Wrapping gifts for Coral Bay children



▲ Santa's Truck arrives!



▲ Coral Bay gift distribution



▲ Homeless receive Christmas gifts from the Barone family

Thank you!

Thank you to the family of Sarah O'Neill Barone.

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Church extends a great, big thank you to the family and friends of Sarah O'Neill Barone for all the Christmas gifts and cards that were given to the children of the parish and the homeless in our community. Everyone was so touched, grateful and appreciated the gifts and cards.

This was a huge undertaking, from purchasing the gifts, to wrapping the gifts, to shipping the gifts.

We also say thank you for the packages with the rosaries with prayer cards with Sarah's morning white board message to her family and the O'Neill family prayer. These are given to our first-time visitors as gifts.

May God continue to bless David, Molly, Emily, and Elizabeth. You all are in our prayers.

St. Therese Chapel - Coral Bay

We are building a mission church
St. Therese Chapel

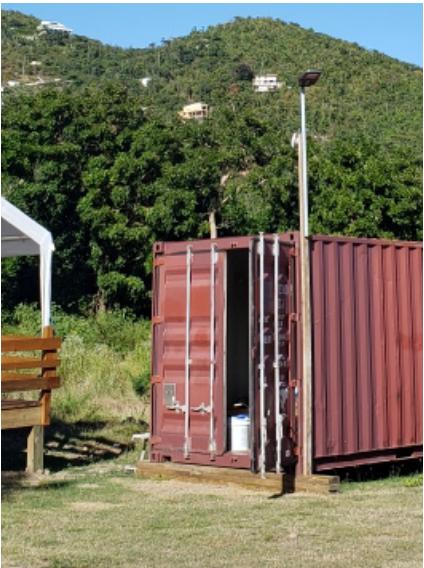


For more information, please visit:

CLICK

olmcvi.org/st-therese

to watch our video
if viewing the e-newsletter



Wi-Fi is installed and Deacon Cassius Mathurin works on installing lights on the property.

GOAL!



Interior Finishes, Appliances & Furniture

\$533,600



Building Construction Cost

\$1,382,400



Architectural & Design Fees

\$175,100



Land Costs

\$250,000

Ronald Lee donation



Deacon Cassius Mathurin, president of the OLMC Prayer Group, presents Ronald Lee Jr. with a gift for his service to the Prayer Group. Ronald heads back to George Mason University for the spring 2021 semester to continue his college studies.

Thank you!

OLMC extends thank you to Julie Vazquez for creating the Christmas fundraising brochures for St. Therese Chapel and Our Lady of Charity Homeless Shelter. Thank you to all who have received the brochures and have started sending donations for both causes.

YOUNG ADULT SPOTLIGHT



Monique Edward

My name is Monique Edward. I am a 2016 graduate from Giffit Hill School on St. John.

I recently graduated summa cum laude from Rider University (New Jersey) in May 2020, where I earned a Digital Marketing and Advertising degree. I completed four internships and a one-year, full-time co-op during my time in college. I gained valuable experience from the American Diabetes Association, International Sculpture Center, SEMgeeks, Rider University's Gourmet Dining Services and Merck.

Although I had a virtual ceremony instead of a traditional graduation, I was fortunate to secure a full-time position at MJH Life Sciences as a Marketing Operations Coordinator in the healthcare/pharmaceutical industry.

The Marketing Operations Coordinator, part of their Data and Email Strategy team, plays a critical role in producing client reports. I work across internal CRM (customer relationship management) programs, email service

providers, and marketing automation tools to develop marketing reporting around user behavior metrics.

I really enjoy working with the audience development department. We are a team that consolidates and delivers vital information that improves our clients' marketing strategy. I'm happy to be a part of a team that welcomes questions and gives guidance when needed.

Working from home was challenging initially, but I found a routine that works for me. With my new normal, I benefit from skipping rush hour traffic, eliminating a 40-minute commute, sleeping in, and spending time with my family.

If I had to advise anyone looking for a job during this difficult time, I would say to take the initiative to differentiate yourself. Show your best self by uploading a cover letter (even though they don't ask for one) and providing project/work samples as an attachment with your thank you email. Also, don't be too hard on yourself if you do not receive an offer from every company. Your strengths make you a great candidate somewhere, and God will guide you to the right opportunity.

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Mission Statement

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Church will provide support to all through the liturgy, worship and education. We pledge to provide our parish community and our visitors a prayerful experience in an environment of friendliness and courtesy. We are committed to proclaim the Word of God in unity and love towards each other.

Our mission is:

Evangelization: to evangelize ourselves, our families, our parish and our local community.

Liturgy: to celebrate our faith with joy through vibrant and prayerful worship.

Education: to educate and become educated in the truths of the Gospel and in the formation of conscience.

Service: to reach out in love and service to those in need.

Stewardship: to develop the material, financial and human resources of the Church and to manage them as faithful servants.

The OLMC Parish in Paradise Newsletter is composed by Fr. Anthony Abraham, Simonia Dagou, Lisa Etre and Brenda Rector Wallace.

To submit an article or for questions regarding OLMC Newsletter please contact: Lisa Etre by email at: olmc@hotmail.com

Graphic Design: Julie Vazquez

DEVOTIONS:

Eucharistic Adoration Daily: 24 hours a day

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturdays at 5 p.m.; after Masses; or by appointment

Baptism: By Appointment; 3 weeks preparation

Weddings: By Appointment; 6 months preparation

Regular Mass Schedule

Weekend: Saturdays: 6 p.m.
Sundays: 7:30 a.m. 9:30 a.m.
12:30 p.m. (Coral Bay)
5:45 p.m. (Spanish)

Weekdays:
Tuesdays: 6 p.m. (Coral Bay)
Wednesdays: 6 p.m.
Thurs & Fridays: 7 a.m.

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