

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Church

Parish in Paradise



Newsletter

June/July 2020

◆ ISSUE 19



▲ Jon Stemkoski's "Celebrant Singers," a Christian Ministry Choir of about 15 people from Visalia, Calif., held a virtual concert at OLMC on Friday, July 24, 2020.

The group has been in existence for over 40 years. They have performed in more than 100 countries around the world, including the Vatican for Pope John Paul and were especially requested by Mother Theresa at her Nobel Peace prize event.

They last visited the Virgin Islands in 1997, and back then were hosted by then Bishop Elliott Thomas.

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✦ From the desk of the pastor

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

It is with great joy I greet you with a spirit of gratitude. I thank God for every remembrance of you. I thank you for always remembering us and the support you give prayerfully and financially.

Our parish continues to grow. All praise and glory to God. We have just purchased a truck to meet the growing needs of our parish. I am so elated to have a new member on staff in the person of Mr. Michael Jackson Sr.

Mr. Jackson now serves as Project Manager specifically for St. Therese and OLMC. Thus far his presence on staff has brought many changes to the Parish. The Church is priority and having another staff can make this happen effectively.

Catholic Charities has now hired Mrs. Digna Doway as their case worker. This is truly another blessing to our parish. Her hard work and dedication can only enhance the organization. I look forward to working closely with Catholic Charities as they continue to meet the growing needs of St. John.

Many people have continued to respond to the call of service in our parish. Tyrone Edward has offered his time and service to ensure we improve our live stream. Jovanna Laurencin, Linique Dagou, Liandra Dagou, Cheri Boynes Jackson, Kitori Thomas, Reanna Victorin, Catherine Lee & Amaya Abraham have all volunteered their service to operate the projector. This helps keep all safe since all the hymnal are removed from the pews.

I want to acknowledge our four graduates. May God bless you as you have accomplished your educational goal. May you be guided by the Holy Spirit for future accomplishments which I trust will be further studies.

Thanks to all for making our Parish a beacon of light on the island of St. John.

In Christ,

Fr. Anthony Abraham, Pastor

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

Tribute to Bishop George Vance Murry

+ Dec. 28, 1948 – June 5, 2020 +

I give thanks to God for you Bishop George V. Murry. You have been a source of inspiration to my priesthood. You listened to me share at a time in my life when I needed a Bishop to believe in me. You took a chance to send me back to the seminary in Trinidad. I remain eternally grateful. It was a decision inspired by the Holy Spirit.

You treated me with dignity. I could have counted on you being there in my formative years in the seminary. Your wisdom and love was admirable. Your humility and self sacrifice was tremendous. You ensured I was well taken care of.



The first time I heard you preach, I was struck with awe with your simplicity and the depth of your theology. Your presence encouraged others to serve.

You ordained me on the beautiful island of St. John as a Deacon and seven months later you came back from Ohio to ordain me to the priesthood. I was honored to be the last priest you ordained for our diocese.

Bishop Murry, thank you! May your soul find eternal rest in God. May your reward be great in heaven. May the angels welcome you into paradise. Be assured of my prayers.

◆ Tribute written by Fr. Anthony Abraham

Live streaming



Gregory "Tyrone" Edward Jr. works on live streaming for the church. He has been instrumental in upgrading the church's live streaming. Masses can be followed on YouTube and Facebook.

Congratulations to our OLMC Youth graduates!

Class of 2020

May God Bless you & guide you!



• **Wendell Laurencin** •
My name is Wendell Laurencin. I am 19 years old. My parents are Vincentia Laurencin and Kendell Laurencin. I graduated from the Ivanna Eudora Kean High School in May 2020. My future plan is going straight into work.



• **Merlia Cazaubon** •
My name is Merlia Cazaubon. I am 17 years old. My parents are Margaret Cazaubon and Stephen Cazaubon. I graduated from the Ivanna Eudora Kean High School. My future plan is to join the U.S. Navy and to become a nurse.



• **Siera Boynes** •
My name is Siera Boynes. I am 17 years old and I recently graduated from Giffit Hill School's class of 2020. My parents are Saphia Laurencin and Noel Boynes Jr. I will be attending the University Of the Virgin Islands where I plan to major in business management and minor in musical performance.



• **Cassandra Ferguson** •
My name is Cassandra Ferguson. I am 18 years old. I graduated from Giffit Hill School. I am planning to take a gap year due to the virus. My next plan is to apply to a college and major in interior design or art. My parents are Agatha Ferguson and William Ferguson.



Catholic Charities OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

St. John Soup Kitchen



← Catholic Charities
Case Manager
Mrs. Digna Doway



“Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the Lord, and he will reward them for what they have done.” – Proverbs 19:17

Jhe main objective of Catholic Charities is to make a difference in the lives of those in need.

Catholic Charities Virgin Islands is a nationally affiliated and faith-based nonprofit organization that assists and advocates for the underserved in the territory, focusing on the homeless. We are the leading provider of essential services to the less fortunate and underserved in the Virgin Islands.

Our soup kitchen on St. John provide a hot meal Monday through Friday to any one in need. Breakfast is served from 8:00am-9:00am and lunch from 12:30pm-1:00pm. Shower and change of clothes are available from 9:00am to 11:00am upon request. We also do an outreach program in Coral Bay where lunch is transported and delivered daily to our less fortunate brothers and sisters.

Currently we are offering the following services: Soup Kitchen; Rental Assistance; Utility Assistance; and Disaster Assistance.

For further information on available services you can contact the St. John office at 340-775-0969.

Our operation is funded mainly from donations and grants so if you would like to contribute in any way to our efforts, do not hesitate to contact us.

Our community is a manifestation of love for our brothers and sisters. Here at our St. John soup kitchen we are fortunate to have so many volunteers assist the staff daily giving of their time and talent selflessly. I would personally like to thank each of you for all that you do to make our soup kitchen a great success.

Jesus reminds us in the Gospel of Matt. 25:40, “Whatsoever you do to the least of my brothers, you do unto me.”

Mrs. Digna Doway

Case Manager
St. John, USVI

Project manager position



Michael Jackson Sr. has been appointed the Project Manager at Our Lady of Mount Carmel. He started at the end of May. Jackson will supervise the St. Therese Chapel project in Coral Bay; and all projects at OLMC, including the maintenance of buildings and vehicles.

A Coronavirus Prayer

In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Lord Jesus Christ, you traveled through towns and villages “curing every disease and illness.” At your command, the sick were made well. Come to our aid now, in the midst of the global spread of the coronavirus, that we may experience your healing love.

Heal those who are sick with the virus. May they regain their strength and health through quality medical care.

Heal us from our fear, which prevents nations from working together and neighbors from helping one another.

Heal us from our pride, which can make us claim invulnerability to a disease that knows no borders.

Lord Jesus Christ, healer of all, stay by our side in this time of uncertainty and sorrow.

Be with those who have died from the virus.

May they be at rest with you in your eternal peace.

Be with the families of those who are sick or have died. As they worry and grieve, defend them from illness and despair. May they know your peace.

Be with the doctors, nurses, researchers and all medical professionals who seek to heal and help those affected and who put themselves at risk in the process. May they know your protection and peace.

Be with the leaders of all nations. Give them the foresight to act with charity and true concern for the well-being of the people they are meant to serve. Give them the wisdom to invest in long-term solutions that will help prepare for or prevent future outbreaks. May they know your peace, as they work together to achieve it on earth.

Whether we are home or abroad, surrounded by many people suffering from this illness or only a few, Lord Jesus Christ, stay with us as we endure and mourn, persist and prepare. In place of our anxiety, give us your peace.

Jesus Christ, heal us. In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen. †

Pew Cleaning and A/C



↗ *Colvin Mactavious of 340 Loud Wash recently cleaned the pews and rug in the church.*



↖ *A new a/c condenser was installed on one side of the church.*

Hurricane Season Prayer

God, our Father, all the elements of nature obey your command. Keep us safe from the danger of hurricanes, earthquakes, floods, and other natural disasters. 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.

June 1–November 30

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, One God, forever and ever.

Amen.

Coral Bay Mass Schedule



Our Lady of Mount Carmel has resumed Mass in Coral Bay. Mass will be held at 12:30 p.m. Sundays and at 6 p.m. Tuesdays at the St. Therese Chapel site.

Save the Date



The ordination of Michael Jackson Sr. to the Permanent Diaconate will be held at 10 am Saturday, August 15, 2020, at Our Lady of Mount Carmel.

THE OLMC RAFFLE WAS DRAWN ON SUNDAY, JULY 19, 2020.

OLMC 2020 Raffle
 PRICE: \$10 EACH OR \$100 FOR A BOOK OF 11
 PRIZE 1: Caribbean Cruise for 2
 PRIZE 2: 2-night/3-day stay at Westin Resort
 PRIZE 3: 2-night/3-day stay at Gallows Point
 PRIZE 4: Picnic Snorkel Sail for 2
 PRIZE 5: Sunset Sail for 2
 PRIZE 6: Rental Car
 PRIZE 7: Dinner for 2 at a St. John Restaurant
 PRIZE 8: Dinner for 2 at a St. John Restaurant
 PRIZE 9: 45-inch TV

RAFFLE WINNERS!

THE WINNING NUMBERS ARE:

- 1ST, NO. 1091**
- 2ND, NO. 0889**
- 3RD, NO. 0304**
- 4TH, NO. 0240**
- 5TH, NO. 0718**
- 6TH, NO. 0452**
- 7TH, NO. 0343**
- 8TH, NO. 0316**
- 9TH, NO. 0038**

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO SUPPORTED OUR RAFFLE.

**A SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR DONORS:
 THE WESTIN ST. JOHN RESORT & VILLAS,
 GALLOW'S POINT, CRUZ BAY WATERSPORTS,
 COURTESY CAR RENTAL, THE TAP ROOM,
 MORGAN'S MANGO & GERTRUDE VERDANT.**

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

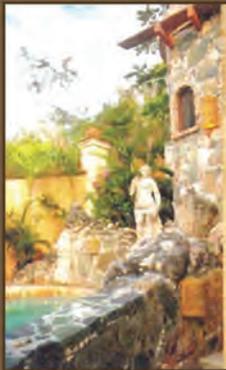
Weddings: By Appointment; 6 months preparation

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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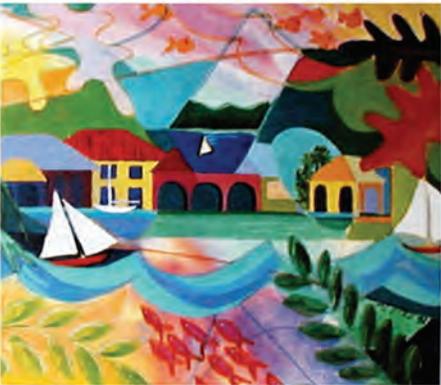
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Lisa Etre VI Artist

Inspired by island
beauty...

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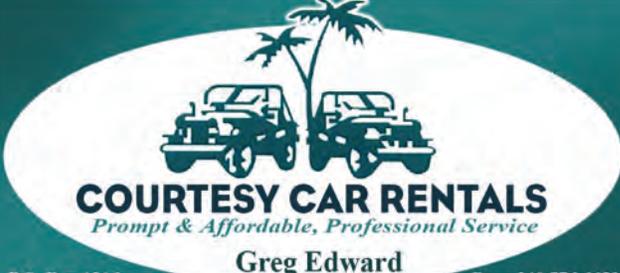
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