

# Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Church

Parish in Paradise



Newsletter

Oct/Nov 2020

◆ ISSUE 21

VIRGIN ISLANDS FIRE SERVICE



▲ Catholic Charities V.I. in conjunction with USDA and the V.I. Fire Service on St. John held a food distribution in Coral Bay and Cruz Bay in October.

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◆  OurLadyof MountCarmelstjohn ◆  OLMC VI Virgin Islands ◆



## ☛ From the desk of the pastor

Sisters and brothers in Christ.

Happy Thanksgiving! 1 Chronicles 16:34, says, “give thanks to the Lord for He is good, His love endures forever...”

We are reminded daily more so in 2020 to give God thanks every minute. We all can admit that this year has caused us not to take anything for granted. The entire world was shut down. You were forced to stay away from church, work, family, gyms, etc.

How are we called to give God thanks when things seem to go wrong? When the future seems uncertain, how do we give thanks when we lost a loved one or maybe our job?

I believe the other part of scripture speaks volumes – “for He is good, His love endures forever...”

This is what gives the peace and the assurance that our God is good and His love never comes to an end.

Sometimes, we miss the hands of God. For example, He wakes us up every morning. He provides us with food, clothing and shelter. In the business of our daily lives, we sometimes take these things for granted.

Scriptures remind us of the importance of giving thanks. When Jesus healed the 10 lepers in Luke 17:11-19, only one, a pagan, came back with so much gratitude to say thanks to Jesus. He asked for the other nine. Hence, it reminds us that Jesus expects us to say thank you.

Stop! Stop! What have I taken for granted? Am I a grateful person? Do I practice saying thank you when people are kind to me? It is a special grace to say thanks to God even when things are going wrong. Believing God will always work things out because He loves us. Sometimes we thank God for the pain and trials in our lives because if we cooperate with God, He turns it into a blessing.

Let us become more conscious of the blessings – big and small. Let’s be thankful for all the Lord has done for us. Let us give Him thanks in advance for the blessings we are about to receive.

Happy Thanksgiving to all from Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Church.

Yours in Christ,

Rev. Fr. Anthony Abraham  
Pastor

## *Thanksgiving Luncheon*

**OLMC will hold our Annual Thanksgiving Luncheon at noon Thursday, November 26, 2020.**

**Our luncheon will be sponsored by The Westin Resort. This year, the meal will be take out only.**

**All are invited.**

# Discover New Ways of Giving Thanks

November is “Thanksgiving” month. Are you wondering how you can give thanks for all you have been blessed with? Parishioners could show thankfulness by getting involved in the many ministries available at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel.

## Visit the Lord!

### Attend weekday Masses

Tuesdays at 6 pm (Coral Bay)

Wednesdays at 6 pm

Thursdays/Fridays at 7 am

### Visit the Lord in Eucharistic Adoration

24 hour/7 days a week

### Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday at 5 pm, after Masses  
or by appointment



## Provide for the less fortunate!

With the increase of homeless persons on St. John, OLMC in March 2020 opened a shelter to meet this growing need. Since then we have housed 7 men. At present, 3 men are housed there. We are presently about to extend housing to the homeless women. We are asking for your help prayerfully and financially.

**If you would like to make a donation, make checks payable to OLMC and send by:**

**Mail to:** P.O. Box 241, St. John, VI 00831  
(memo: *OLMC Shelter*)

**PayPal:** Our Lady of Mount Carmel  
([olmc@hotmail.com](mailto:olmc@hotmail.com))

**Online giving:**  
[www.myowngiving.com/Default.aspx?cid=1390](http://www.myowngiving.com/Default.aspx?cid=1390)



◀ Evince Phillip, better known as “Hollywood,” recently celebrated his 61st birthday, at the *Our Lady of Charity* transitional house. He enjoyed cake and ice cream.



◀ *Our Lady of Charity* transitional house.

# Catholic Charities OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS



◀ Catholic Charities V.I. in conjunction with USDA and the V.I. Fire Service on St. John held a food distribution in Coral Bay and Cruz Bay in October. Food items were distributed to seniors and shut ins.



## All Souls Mass



^ All Souls Mass was held on Monday, Nov. 2, 2020. Attendees were invited to light a candle and say a prayer in remembrance of their deceased loved ones.

## Archbishop Wilton Gregory visit



^ Fr. Anthony Abraham, the deacons and parishioners met with the Most Rev. Wilton Gregory, Archbishop of Washington, D.C. on Sept. 25, 2020. Msgr. Jerome Feudjio was also in attendance. Archbishop Gregory has been appointed as Apostolic Administrator of the Diocese of St. Thomas in the Virgin Islands. In October, Pope Francis named Archbishop Gregory as one of 13 new cardinals. He will be the first African-American cardinal.

## Bible Study



The Catholic Bible Institute Trinidad is offering a comprehensive Bible Study on the Old Testament.

Their mission is "To bring each person to encounter Jesus Christ through the Word of God and be transforming agents in our world."

I have been desiring a way to learn more about the Bible so when this opportunity came along (Thank you Fr Anthony), I knew it was time for me to take action. About 20 people in Our Lady of Mount Carmel also took on this commitment to learn more about the scriptures, specifically, The Old Testament.

The classes are every Monday and Friday from 5:30–8 p.m. from Sept. 14, 2020 through July 2, 2021.

I have thoroughly enjoyed the Introduction to Bible Interpretation and the study of Genesis so far. What has impressed me the most is the facilitators have opened my eyes to the connection to Adam/Eve, Abram/Sarah, Noah (and their descendants) that we, as Catholics, have with them. All their struggles, challenges and triumphs are what we are going through in our lives right now here today! Struggles with choosing what is right and just over self, trusting God, being patient and waiting for God's guidance, pride, free will, family strife, to name a few. God also reminds us of His promises, His covenants and His unfailing love for us.

Through scripture, God's word is truly alive and is ready for all to share in.

May the upcoming Christmas season bring peace and joy to you all.

◆ Article by Brenda Wallace

## PRAYER FOR THE SIXTH BISHOP *of the Diocese of St. Thomas in the V.I.*

*Eternal God, shepherd and guide, In your mercy give to your Church's ministry in the Diocese of St. Thomas in the V.I., a shepherd after your own heart and a man filled with the Holy Spirit who will walk in your ways. With loving care, watch over your people. Give us a leader of vision, love, hope and joy; and a teacher of your truth. May your kingdom be built up and your name glorified; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen*

## 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. †*

## Hurricane Season Prayer

*June 1–November 30*

*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.*

*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.*

| Media Enhancement 2020 Project   | MSRP               | ACTUAL COST        |
|--|--------------------|--------------------|
| Pan Tilt Zoom cameras (2)  | \$3,298.00         | \$2,968.23         |
| Camera wall mounts (2)   | \$142.50           | \$142.50           |
| SDI Cables   | \$60.00            | \$60.00            |
| Plug   | \$4.82             | \$4.82             |
| Cable organizer box  | \$26.99            | \$26.99            |
| Versitech (Installation)   | \$2,780.00         | \$2,780.00         |
| Shipping   | \$234.52           | \$234.52           |
| Micro converter SDI to HDMI (2)  | \$118.00           | \$118.00           |
| ATEM Mini Pro  | \$595.00           | \$595.00           |
| USB Type C Cable   | \$8.99             | \$8.99             |
| Shipping   | \$50.00            | \$50.00            |
| vMix HD live production & streaming software                           | \$350.00           | \$332.50           |
| Restream (annually)  | \$588.00           | \$392.00           |
| LCCN Upload Package (annually)   | \$75.00            | \$75.00            |
| Wired headphone  | \$32.99            | Donated            |
| FM Transmitter (Coral Bay Mass)  | \$129.99           | \$129.99           |
| Shipping to VI via FedEx   | \$195.35           | \$195.35           |
| Canon Camera   | \$649.00           | \$649.00           |
| Canon AC Power Adapter   | \$26.99            | \$26.99            |
| Camera bubble level  | \$6.99             | \$6.99             |
| 25ft HDMI to mini HDMI cable   | \$17.99            | \$17.99            |
| Camera Tripod  | \$99.95            | \$99.95            |
| Shipping to VI (camera, tripod & other accessories)                    | \$200.00           | \$200.00           |
| Care pack  | \$62.99            | \$62.99            |
| Shipping & tax to New Jersey   | \$229.07           | \$229.07           |
| 4th Generation Ipad (used)   | \$400.00           | Donated            |
| vMix Virtual Control Surface app                                       | \$4.99             | Donated            |
| Pan Tilt Zoom (Camera) app   | \$10.00            | Donated            |
| Strata Lite (Atem Mini Control) App                                    | \$9.99             | Donated            |
| Projector screen   | \$531.00           | Donated            |
| Shipping to VI via Tropical Shipping                                   | \$106.00           | Donated            |
| Epson 16:9 Projector   | \$879.99           | \$879.99           |
| Projector Wall Mount   | \$200.00           | \$200.00           |
| HDMI Switch 4K splitter  | \$10.99            | \$10.99            |
| HDMI Splitter 1 In 2 out   | \$16.99            | \$16.99            |
| <b>TOTAL COST</b>  | <b>\$12,153.08</b> | <b>\$10,514.81</b> |
|  |                    | Savings            |
|  |                    | -\$1,638.27        |
| <b>Wishlist</b>  |                    |                    |
| Behringer X32 Rack (used)  |                    |                    |
| (4) Hanging ceiling mics (Congregation mics for Choir and Instruments) |                    |                    |
| Shure MX690-L4 (Coral Bay mass)  |                    |                    |
| iPad Air (refurbished)   |                    |                    |

# tithes & offerings

These are truly trying times. This coronavirus pandemic is affecting everyone. Churches have been closed and open several times over a few months.

If anyone would like to give their tithes, you can:

- A. **Drop** your offering envelope in the church mailbox on the office door
- B. **Mail** it to the church at  
**P.O. Box 241, St. John, VI 00831**
- C. **PayPal:** Our Lady of Mount Carmel  
**(olmc@hotmail.com)**
- D. **Online giving:**  
**<https://www.myowngiving.com/Default.aspx?cid=1390>**



Religious Education classes at Our Lady of Mount Carmel resumed in October. Applications are available in the church and in the office if anyone is interested in signing up their children.

## 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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