

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Church

Parish in Paradise



✓ Trevor Tyrell Jr. & Chester Mingo Jr. received a conditional baptism on Jan. 24, 2021. Six children also made their First Communion. They were Chester Mingo Jr., Olivia O'Connell, Amira Royer, Gisella Schnell, Gleidy Castillo Caraballo & Trevor Tyrell Jr. They are shown with Fr. Anthony Abraham, Deacon Peter Laurencin and teacher, Melchia Athanase.

Newsletter

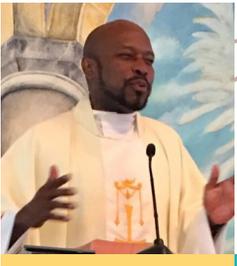
Feb 2021 ♦ ISSUE 24



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♦  OurLadyof MountCarmelstjohn ♦  OLMC VI Virgin Islands ♦



✦ From the desk of the pastor

Happy Lent!

My Dear People of God,

It is with great joy I welcome you to this journey called Lent. Every journey has a beginning and an end. This 40-day journey is meant to cause us to fall in love with God.

Sometimes the beginning of a journey can be difficult. However, when it starts, the challenge is to keep up. The Church points us to engage in three areas to endure – prayer, fasting and almsgiving.

Jesus reminds us that loving God is equal to spending time with Him. We spend time reading the Gospels, a place where we can encounter God and fall in love with Him.

It is so important this Lent that we remember it is not quantity, but quality time in prayer that truly matters. Let us pay close attention to repetitive prayer. We need to ensure we are not just uttering words.

Fasting can deepen our relationship with God. It helps nail the flesh and all its ungodly desires to the cross. Fasting truly disciplines the flesh.

Almsgiving – this season we are reminded God has blessed us so we can be a blessing to others. It is true we cannot out do God with his generosity. I want to make reference to a song I once heard, “I am drinking from my saucer, because my cup overflows.” When we share with others, Jesus, in turn, blesses us abundantly.

Sisters and brothers, let us treat this Lent as if it is our last Lent.

Happy Lent!

Rev. Fr. Anthony Abraham, Pastor



Do you want to fast this Lent?

- ✦ Fast from hurting words and say kind words.
- ✦ Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude.
- ✦ Fast from anger and be filled with patience.
- ✦ Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope.
- ✦ Fast from worries and have trust in God.
- ✦ Fast from complaints and contemplate simplicity.
- ✦ Fast from pressures and be prayerful.
- ✦ Fast from bitterness and fill your hearts with joy.
- ✦ Fast from selfishness and be compassionate to others.
- ✦ Fast from grudges and be reconciled.
- ✦ Fast from words and be silent so you can listen.

◆ *Words from Pope Francis*

Ash Wednesday



^ Fr. Anthony Abraham and the deacons place a cross from ashes on the forehead of persons during Ash Wednesday Masses on Feb. 17, 2021.

Update from OLMC Parish Council

Greetings everyone

from Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish council. Our most recent meeting was Monday, February 8. We met for "in person," for the first time in a long time.

In addition to being happy to see everyone, we discussed a plan for the Parish Council to reach out to our parishioners.

We are very interested in getting everyone back to Church for Sunday Service. We also want to remind our Parishioners about weekly Mass schedules, Choir Practice (all are welcome) on Wednesday's at 6:30 pm and Prayer Meeting on Thursday evenings at 7 pm.

Parishioners should expect a call from a Parish Council member to talk about any specific needs or concerns they may be having in the near future.



We also have a "**Save the Date**" for **March 21**. Our very own Acolyte Hayden "**Smitty**" Smith, will be **retiring**. A celebration is being planned for his birthday, **Sunday, March 21, 2021 at 4 pm in Coral Bay**.

Music director



^ We are delighted that Ed August has returned to OLMC as our Music Director. His talent and passion for serving the Lord has lifted our music program and has had a profound influence on the choir, which he now directs. Become part of this dynamic group by attending practice sessions on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 pm. All are welcome.





NEWS

Office of Public Affairs

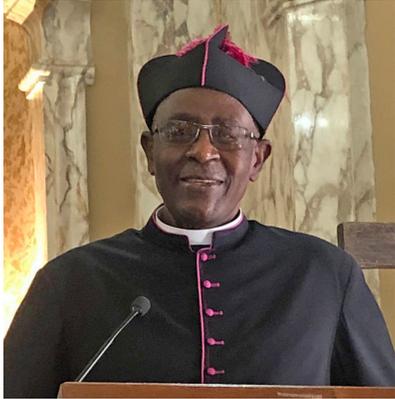
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Pope Francis Names Father Jerome Feudjio as Bishop of Saint Thomas

March 2, 2021

WASHINGTON—Pope Francis has appointed Rev. Msgr. Jerome Feudjio as Bishop of Saint Thomas in the U.S. Virgin Islands. Bishop-elect Feudjio is a priest of the Diocese of Saint Thomas and currently serves as a vicar general and chancellor of that See, and rector of Saints Peter and Paul Cathedral. The appointment was publicized in Washington, D.C. on March 2, 2021 by Archbishop Christophe Pierre, apostolic nuncio to the United States.

Monsignor Feudjio was born September 30, 1955 in Fonakeukeu, Dschang, Cameroon. He graduated from St. Albert Catholic School in Dschang in 1967 and attended St. John College of the Christian Brothers of Quebec in Mbanga, Cameroon (1968-1972) and received a degree in Bookkeeping (1972). He was postulant for the religious order, the Congregation of the Fathers of the Sacred Heart (SCJ) in 1972 and attended Saint Apostles Seminary of the Fathers of the Sacred Heart in Otelé, Cameroon (1972-1975), and the Major Seminary of Nkolbison in Yaoundé, Cameroon (1975-1979).

In 1980, while he was at the Sacred Heart Novitiate, Monsignor Feudjio travelled to the United States and he met in Washington then-Father Seán O'Malley, O.F.M. Cap. who invited him to stay at San Francisco House, run by the Spanish Catholic Center of the Archdiocese of Washington. He attended Oblate College which was then part of the Washington Theological Consortium, where he completed his studies in Philosophy and Theology for the priesthood. In 1987, he joined the Oblates of Mary Immaculate and made his temporary religious profession. He enrolled in the Administration of Justice Program at Southern Illinois University in Carbondale, Illinois, where he completed his graduate program with an internship at a local transitional house that helped former inmates re-adjust to society.

Following the appointment of Bishop O'Malley to the Diocese of Saint Thomas (1984-1992), Monsignor Feudjio was invited to work as a campus minister at Saints Peter & Paul School in 1988. He was ordained a priest for the Diocese of Saint Thomas on September 29, 1990. In 2002, he was named by Pope John Paul II a Chaplain of His Holiness, a recognition that carried the honorary title of Monsignor. In 2004, Monsignor Feudjio returned to Southern Illinois University to pursue graduate studies in Rehabilitation Administration at the request of Bishop George V. Murry, S.J., who was bishop of Saint Thomas from 1999-2007.

Monsignor Feudjio's assignments after ordination include: parochial vicar at Saints Peter and Paul Cathedral and Saint Anne Chapel (1990-1997); French and religion teacher (1992-1997) and assistant principal at Saints Peter and Paul School (1995-1997); diocesan finance officer (1996-2004); director of vocations (1996-2020); administrator (1997-2000) and rector (2000-2001) of Saints Peter & Paul Cathedral; vicar for clergy and religious (2001-present). Father Feudjio also served as chancellor for the Diocese of Saint Thomas (2002-2004); pastor of Holy Family Parish (2004-2008). He has been rector of the Saints Peter and Paul Cathedral since 2008.

Bishop-elect Feudjio's pastoral ministry also includes assignments such as diocesan consultor, member of the Board of Directors for Catholic Charities, member of Diocesan Finance Committee, moderator of the curia, and vicar for communications.

The Diocese of Saint Thomas is comprised of the islands of Saint Thomas, Saint Croix, Saint John, and Water Island in the U.S. Virgin Islands and has a total population of 110,000 of which 30,000 are Catholic.

Governor Albert Bryan Jr.



^ Governor Albert Bryan Jr. speaks at a service held at St. Patrick's Church on St. Croix. The service was held for Gov. Bryan's entire staff. Fr. Anthony Abraham celebrated the service. Deacon Michael Jackson Sr. is in the background.



Young Adult Spotlight

Tomas Del Olmo



I was born and raised in St. John and have been fortunate enough to be a part of the OLMC community. Growing up I attended Giffit Hill School and found a passion in tennis. Every day I was pushed to train so one day I could play tennis in college.

Fortunately, after Hurricane Irma this dream was still possible and became reality. In 2018, I began attending Siena College and chose to pursue a BA in Accounting with hopes of becoming a CPA.

From an early age we were involved in faith in OLMC. I was baptized in Argentina where my parents are from however I did my first communion on St. John. Later I chose to go through the steps of confirmation with guidance and the teachings of Fr Anthony. My family is grateful for the care and passion OLMC has shown towards faith and us.

Faith to me is unwavering. Even when I am in the states it guides my moral decisions and helps me put my best effort forward in my studies. I know without God in my life, I would not have the ability to compete at a high level and still be able to maintain a good standing academically. Every day I thank the Lord for the blessings he has bestowed upon my family. I also strongly believe that no matter the situation God is present and loves me unconditionally. He is there to guide me from any dark place that I may find myself in thousands of miles from home. ♦ Pictured above is Tomas with one of the friars at his college.

St. Therese Chapel Office Trailer



^ Tom Conrad works on the office trailer for Coral Bay at the future site of St. Therese Chapel.

Catholic Charities OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS



◀ Catholic Charities, in conjunction with the USDA, distributed food boxes on St. John on Feb. 4 & 5, 2021. Special thanks to St. John Fire Chief Clarence Stephenson and his fire squads, Love City Strong, V.I. Port Authority, Love City Car Ferries, Lucien Sylvester, Stephen Auguste, Greg Edward Sr. and all the volunteers who made this possible.



All in God's time

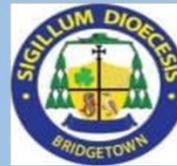


Please continue to pray for
Bishop-elect Neil as he
prepares for his ordination

TO ALL THE FAITHFUL

*After consultation,
the ordination of
Reverend Neil Scantlebury
as the new Bishop of
Bridgetown,
scheduled for
March 17, 2021,
has been POSPONED
because of the Covid-19
situation in Barbados.
A new date will be
announced in due course.*

*Archbishop Charles Jason Gordon,
Apostolic Administrator*



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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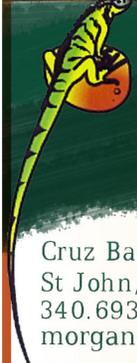


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