

Mass Intentions: February 20-26, 2021

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| Sat. Feb. 20 | 6 p.m. | For Jeffrey Bellot for God's deliverance requested by Veronica Germain |
| Sun. Feb. 21 | 7:30 a.m. | For Ross Killian for God's blessings & protection requested by Gail & Scott Killian |
| | 9:30 a.m. | For Roma Attidore & family for God's deliverance, blessings & healing |
| | 12:30 p.m. | For the Coral Bay community |
| Tue. Feb. 23 | 6 p.m. | For Veronica Germain for deliverance; & in thanksgiving for St. Lucia's 42nd Independence Anniversary |
| Wed. Feb. 24 | 6 p.m. | In thanksgiving to Mark Dail & David & Jennifer Hall |
| Thu. Feb. 25 | 7 a.m. | For Abigail Cyntje for God's healing & deliverance requested by Virginie Cyntje |
| Fri. Feb. 26 | 7 a.m. | For Cassius Mathurin & Hinkson Duncan for God's blessings requested by Josephine Mathurin |

Offer a Mass for your loved ones. Call the office at 776-6339.



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, 5 men are housed there. We have now opened the other side for women. One woman is housed there. We are asking for your help prayerfully and financially. If you would like to make a donation, make checks payable to:
 * OLMC and mail to P.O. Box 241, St. John, VI 00831; memo: OLMC Shelter
 * PayPal: Our Lady of Mount Carmel (olmc@hotmail.com)
 * Online giving: www.myowngiving.com/Default.aspx?cid=1390

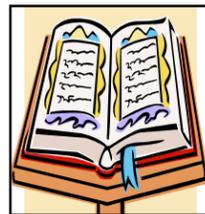
Daily Readings

Monday: Feb. 22
 1 Pt 5:1-4
 Mt 16:13-19

Tuesday: Feb. 23
 Is 55:10-11
 Mt 6:7-15

Wednesday: Feb. 24
 Jon 3:1-10
 Lk 11:29-32

Thursday: Feb. 25
 Est C: 12, 14-16, 23-25
 Mt 7:7-12



Friday: Feb. 26
 Ez 18:21-28
 Mt 5:20-26

Saturday: Feb. 27
 Dt 26:16-19
 Mt 5:43-48

Sunday: Feb. 28
 Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18
 Rom 8:31b-34
 Mk 9:2-10

Stewardship of Treasure

| | | |
|---------|------------|------------|
| Feb. 13 | 6 p.m. | \$208.00 |
| Feb. 14 | 7:30 a.m. | \$338.00 |
| | 9:30 a.m. | \$1,592.00 |
| | 12:30 p.m. | \$325.00 |

If you would like to donate the SANCTUARY CANDLE or ALTAR FLOWERS in memory of someone or in celebration of a special occasion, please call the office and schedule a date. A free will donation is welcome.

*Remember that you are dust,
 and to dust you shall return...*



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

Parish Announcements

TO ALL OUR PARISHIONERS AND VISITORS, IN LIGHT OF THIS CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC, PLEASE STAY SAFE. MY PRAYERS ARE WITH ALL OF YOU. GOD BLESS YOU.

Continue to pray for the members of our body who are sick or suffering both on and off island. May we keep them in our hearts and in our minds. The names of the sick are posted on the bulletin board in the back of the church.

- **ST. LUCIA INDEPENDENCE:** All St. Lucians are invited to Mass on Tuesday, Feb. 23, 2021, at 6 p.m. in Coral Bay to commemorate the 42nd anniversary of St. Lucia's independence.
- **PRAYER MEETING:** Prayer Meeting will be held at 7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 25, 2021. The speaker will be Deacon Cassius Mathurin. The topic will be "Temptation."
- **STATIONS OF THE CROSS:** Stations of the Cross is held at 6 p.m. Fridays during Lent.
- **ITEMS NEEDED:** OLMC will hold an auction to raise funds to build St. Therese Chapel. If you have any items you would like to donate, call the church office at 340-776-6339.



OLMC Member Birthdays February 20-26

- Tyreke Thomas Feb. 20
- Leolla Laurencin Feb. 20

If your birthday is not listed, call the office at 776-6339.

~ WISHLIST ~

- Gospel book cover - \$2,295.00
- Coral Bay office - \$7,100.00

Our Lady of Mount Carmel has purchased land in Coral Bay to build this chapel, which will be named, St. Therese. We need your financial support to make this a reality.

To make a donation,

- * Make checks payable to Our Lady of Mount Carmel, P.O. Box 241, St. John, VI 00831; memo line: Coral Bay Chapel.
- * PayPal: Our Lady of Mount Carmel (olmc@hotmail.com)
- * Online giving: www.myowngiving.com/Default.aspx?cid=1390

Donations are tax-deductible.

'Coming into Agreement with God'

By Adeline Jean

This First Sunday of Lent Mass readings can be interpreted as calling us into an agreement with God—we do our part and He will do His.

In the Gospel Reading (Mark 1: 12-15), we read that “the Spirit drove Jesus out into the desert, and he remained in the desert for forty days.” In the desert Jesus fasted and prayed before He began His public ministry. This speaks volumes to us as individuals called to ministry. We attain here the model for preparation for ministry: prayer and fasting. This preparation is needed when we initially begin in ministry, as well as before each ministry activity we engage in.

I would like to share some personal insights regarding fasting for Lent as they invite us to view fasting from a different perspective than we usually do:

- Not working or doing things that would consume us and take our focus off of the Lord on a Sunday, but instead offering up our Sunday as a fast, that is, by spending that day with the Lord as opposed to doing what we could be doing otherwise.
- Fasting from demanding what we believe is rightfully ours: allowing a tenant to pay us less rent than what is due; taking the pressure off of employees to produce at the expense of their health or the loss of their personal and family time; not expecting what we would usually expect from others such as their attention, special treatment, love, and respect, but instead embracing humility.
- Fasting for the sake of others and not ourselves: offering up our fast for others; focusing our prayers on others' needs as opposed to our own; fasting with joy not irritation that comes from hunger so that others around us will not be the victims of our misery.
- Fasting from our self-will by asking the Lord to do with us as He pleases.

When we fast in a way that is beneficial to us and in accord with God's will, we will surely experience what Jesus did as is recounted in the Second Reading (1 Peter 3:18-22): “Put to death in the flesh, he was brought to life in the Spirit.” As our flesh becomes crucified, we will grow in the Spirit—in relationship with the Spirit, in greater endowment and use of the gifts and fruits of the Spirit.

In the Gospel Reading (Genesis 9:8-15) we learn of the covenant God made with Noah and his descendants. A covenant can be considered as a sacred agreement or promise made between God and another. When God makes a covenant, He is establishing that if those with whom the covenant is made agrees to follow His commands, in return, they will receive His blessings. We can be guaranteed that God is calling each of us into a covenantal relationship with Him. He calls each of us differently according to His own purposes and wishes to establish a covenant with us based on that call. The period of Lent is the opportune time to be more focused on praying and fasting so as to listen to the Lord as He may extend to us a call, affirm a call already made, or establish a new call.

At the end of Lent, our goal should be to become disciples equipped, empowered, ready, and enthusiastic to fulfill the call God has offered to us as opposed to being passive devotees who are afraid or too lazy to extend ourselves beyond personal prayer into service of others in the multiple ways possible.

Prayer: Lord, may this Lent leave me totally transformed and on fire for you and for service of others. **Amen**



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Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Church

Established: July 16, 1962

Diocese of St. Thomas in the Virgin Islands
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The First Sunday of Lent • Year B • February 20-21, 2021



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OLMC VI Virgin Islands



Pastor: Father Anthony Abraham
Administrative Assistant: Simonia Dagou
Rel. Ed. Coordinators: Julia Mingo & Jessica Schnell
Parish Council President: Michael Jackson Sr.
Deacons: Evans Doway, Peter C. Laurencin, Cassius Mathurin & Michael Jackson Sr.
Acolyte: Hayden Smith
Youth Group President: Kitori Thomas
Young Adults President: Shanekua Tyrell



Rev. Fr. Anthony Abraham, Pastor

Hours

The Church is open
Mondays - Fridays: 7 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.
Saturdays: 8 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.
Sundays: 6:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Office Hours
Mondays - Fridays: 9:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Pastor's Hours
Tuesdays to Fridays: 9:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Call to set up an appointment



Simonia Dagou
Administrative Assistant

Masses

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

Weekday
Tuesdays & Wednesdays at 6 p.m.
Thursdays & Fridays at 7 a.m.

DEVOTIONS

Eucharistic Adoration
Available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week
Sacrament of Reconciliation
Saturdays at 5 p.m.; after Masses; or by appointment

Week in Preview

Youth Ministry:
Mondays at 5 p.m.

Music Ministry:
Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.

Charismatic Prayer Group:
Thursdays from 7 p.m.-8:30 p.m.



Deacon Evans Doway
Stationed: Cathedral



Deacon Peter C. Laurencin
Stationed: OLMC



Deacon Cassius Mathurin
Stationed: OLMC



Deacon Michael Jackson Sr.
OLMC Project Manager



Digna Doway
Case Manager, St. John Catholic Charities

"TOGETHER BUILDING THE KINGDOM OF GOD"