

## Mass Intentions: March 13-19, 2021

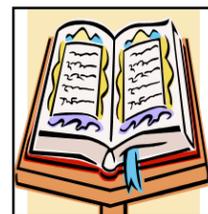
Sat. March 13	6 p.m.	Birthday blessings for Martin Jongue and for Lebron Lewis for God's blessings requested by Mary Dalmida
Sun. March 14	7:30 a.m.	For Alan Monell for God's healing and deliverance requested by Cynthia John
	9:30 a.m.	Birthday blessings for Li'Undray Dagou & Rosie Boyd requested by their families; & birthday blessings for Dr. Maxine Nunez requested by her loving daughter
Tue. March 16	12:30 p.m.	For the Coral Bay community
	6 p.m.	For Todd Fisher for God's blessings requested by Gail & Scott Killian; & in thanksgiving to David & Leeanne Digiacomio & Verna Dagou
Wed. March 17	6 p.m.	In thanksgiving Beatrice Holt, Will and Meg Harrington & David Jennifer Hall
Thu. March 18	7 a.m.	Birthday blessings for KingAsa McCoy requested by Diane Mathurin; and in loving memory of Billie Springer requested by Rick & Kathleen Springer
Fri. March 19	7 a.m.	For Penny Fisher for God's blessings requested by Gail & Scott Killian; & for Abigail Cyntje for God's healing and deliverance requested by Virginie Cyntje

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



## Daily Readings



**Monday: March 15**  
Is 65:17-21  
Jn 4:43-54

**Tuesday: March 16**  
Ez 47:1-9, 12  
Jn 5:1-16

**Wednesday: March 17**  
Is 49:8-15  
Jn 5:17-30

**Thursday: March 18**  
Ex 32:7-14  
Jn 5:31-47

**Friday: March 19**  
2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16  
Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22

Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a

**Saturday: March 20**  
Jer 11:18-20  
Jn 7:40-53

**Sunday: March 21**  
Jer 31:31-34  
Heb 5:7-9  
Jn 12:20-33

## Stewardship of Treasure

March 6	6 p.m.	\$303.00
March 7	7:30 a.m.	\$553.00
	9:30 a.m.	\$1,131.00
	12:30 p.m.	\$335.00

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.

## Save the dates ...

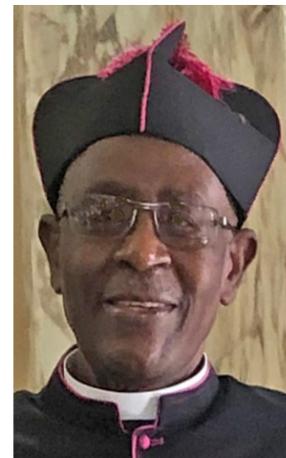


### Acolyte Hayden Smith

Acolyte Hayden Smith has two reasons to celebrate on March 21, 2021. He will make his 75th birthday and will retire as acolyte at OLMC. Come celebrate Mr. Smith's life and service at 4 p.m. Sunday, March 21 at the future site of St. Therese in Coral Bay. To sign up, call 340-776-6339.

### Bishop-elect Jerome Feudjio

Bishop-elect Jerome Feudjio is scheduled to be ordained on April 17, 2021. There will be a commemorative booklet. We are soliciting ads and patrons for the booklet. If you would like to purchase an ad or patron, forms are available at the back of the church. Patrons are \$20, \$50 and \$100. For more information, call the church office at 340-776-6339.



## OLMC Member Birthdays March 13-19

- Li'Undray Dagou March 14
- Rosemund Boyd March 14
- Maxine Nunez March 18
- KingAsa McCoy March 18

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

## 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.

- **CONDOLENCES:** OLMC extends condolences to Brenda Rector Wallace on the passing of her father, Robert Rector; to the Jones family on the passing of Athanas "Ato" Jones; to Franklin Bramble, on the passing of his wife, Audrey; & to Marie Griesmann on the passing of her father Ervin Lugert.
- **PRAYER MEETING:** Prayer Meeting will be held at 7 p.m. Thursday, March 18, 2021. Sandra Donaie will give a talk on "The Danger of Pride and the Power of Humility."
- **CONFESSIONS:** Confessions will be heard at 5:30 p.m. Monday, March 22, 2021. Priests from St. Thomas will be available.
- **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.
- **PHONE CALLS:** Parishioners can expect to receive phone calls from Parish Council members just to check in and update your information.



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

Donations are tax-deductible.

## ~ WISHLIST ~

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

# 'For God so Loved...'

By Adeline Jean

The Mass readings of this Fourth Sunday of Lent call us to reflect more deeply on the fundamental Christian doctrine on the Incarnation. God, the First Person of the Trinity, chose to become flesh thereby assuming human nature in the form of Jesus Christ, the Second Person in the Trinity.

God Incarnated as "God the Son" out of pure love for humankind; He could now be physically present with humankind as He was with Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden. As "God the Son," Jesus' role is that of sacrificial lamb — the one who would be offered up to save humankind from sin. He would win our salvation.

In the First Reading (2 Chronicles 36:14-16, 19-23), an indictment is made against the princes, priests, and people of Judah (that basically means everyone) because of their infidelities and abominations against God through their defilement of His temple in Jerusalem. Though in His compassion God sent messengers/prophets to the Hebrew people so that they could hear His voice through them and change from their sinful ways, they did not accept His mercy. The result was inevitable.

After rejecting God's mercy, the only other option is suffering the consequences of His justice. This meant their nation was almost entirely destroyed and they were sent into captivity and exile in a foreign pagan land, not once, but twice. They were in captivity for so long, 70 years, that those who eventually returned to their homeland after they were released from Babylon, were of a different generation to those who were first exiled.

These circumstances of the Hebrew people teach us a valuable lesson about life in general. All humans sin. That is, we allow our selfish desires to dominate God's invitation to a life of freedom in Him. We decide that our ways are better than His ways. However, God never abandons us. He will come to us in ways that graduate in scale of method and impact until we finally surrender to Him. He will start off with mercy — gentle promptings, then little warnings, finally greater warnings.

If these do not gain our attention, He changes His approach to that of justice — we begin to suffer greater consequences because of our sin. Each person responds to God somewhere along the continuum from mercy to justice; it's different for everyone. That's why the common saying suggests that what is "rock bottom" for one person is not the same for another. "Rock bottom" is that final place where sin drives us into such darkness and hopelessness that we are forced to seek help. In the Second Reading (Ephesians 2:4-10) we learn that we can only cry out for help and call on God by God's grace: "God, who is rich in mercy, because of the great love he had for us, even when we were dead in our transgressions, brought us to life with Christ — by grace you have been saved."

In the Gospel Reading (John 3:14-21), we read the famous scripture, "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life." However, we cannot ignore what follows this scripture: "For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him. Whoever believes in him will not be condemned."

Sin can only keep us in captivity until we hand over our lives to God. Then we become free. We have freedom in Christ. God extends His love to us freely. Our only responsibility as His sons and daughters is to return that love by living according to His laws and His will. We don't return that love solely through piety and prayer but also in service to others. The pinnacle of love is dying to self and living for others. God needs our hands, feet, voice, and finances to help reach, touch, and transform the lives of a sick, diseased, and hurting humanity.

As Catholics we are expected to live our lives for the common good of all, not some. Our actions must lead to human flourishing.

**Prayer:** Lord, "let my tongue be silenced, if I ever forget you!" Amen (Responsorial Psalm, 137)



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# Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Church

Established: July 16, 1962

Diocese of St. Thomas in the Virgin Islands  
P.O. Box 241, 5AA-5AB Cruz Bay, St. John, U.S.V.I. 00831-0241

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Web: [www.olmcvi.org](http://www.olmcvi.org) • E-mail: [olmc@hotmail.com](mailto:olmc@hotmail.com)

The Fourth Sunday of Lent • Year B • March 13-14, 2021

Connect with us on social media



**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.  
12:30 p.m. (Coral Bay)

**Weekday**  
Tuesdays at 6 p.m. (CORAL BAY)  
Wednesdays at 6 p.m.  
Thursdays & Fridays at 7 a.m.



Deacon Michael Jackson Sr. OLMC Project Manager

## 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.



Digna Doway Case Manager, St. John Catholic Charities

Deacon Peter C. Laurencin Stationed: Holy Family



Deacon Cassius Mathurin Stationed: Cathedral

"TOGETHER BUILDING THE KINGDOM OF GOD"