

## Mass Intentions: April 3-9, 2021

Sat. April 3	7:30 p.m.	For Billy Taylor for God's blessings requested by Gail & Scott Killian; and birthday blessings for Ivo Philbert requested by Louise Philbert
Sun. April 4	7:30 a.m. 9:30 a.m.	For OLMC Parish In loving memory of Gustav Fagundo requested by Fagundo & Khoury families
	12:30 p.m.	For the Coral Bay community
Tue. April 6	6 p.m.	For Melita Crabbe for God's healing & deliverance
Wed. April 7	6 p.m.	For Abigail Cyntje for God's healing and deliverance requested by Virginie Cyntje
Thu. April 8	7 a.m.	For the sick in our parish
Fri. April 9	7 a.m.	For Lehron Lewis for God's blessings & protection requested by Diane & Leopold Lewis

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

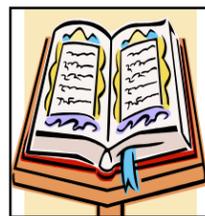
## Daily Readings

**Monday: April 5**  
Acts 2:14, 22-33  
Mt 28:8-15

**Tuesday: April 6**  
Acts 2:36-41  
Jn 20:11-18

**Wednesday: April 7**  
Acts 3:1-10  
Lk 24:13-35

**Thursday: April 8**  
Acts 3:11-26  
Lk 24:35-48



**Friday: April 9**  
Acts 4:1-12  
Jn 21:1-14

**Saturday: April 10**  
Acts 4:13-21  
Mk 16:9-15

**Sunday: April 11**  
Acts 4:32-35  
1 Jn 5:1-6  
Jn 20:19-31

## Stewardship of Treasure

March 27	6 p.m.	\$305.00
March 28	7:30 a.m.	\$510.00
	9:30 a.m.	\$1,232.51
	12:30 p.m.	\$130.00

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.

## Holy Week 2021



## OLMC Member Birthdays April 3-9

- Evelyne Stephen April 3
- Annette Smith April 6
- Bernadette Lafond April 7
- Joanne Brink April 8

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

## ~ WISHLIST ~

- Gospel book cover - \$2,295.00
- Coral Bay office - \$7,979.00

## 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.

- **FUNERAL SERVICES:** Funeral services for Alfred Watt will be held on Wednesday, April 7 at OLMC. The viewing will be at 9:30 a.m. followed by the service at 10:30 a.m.
- **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.
- **MEMBER REGISTRATION:** Please fill out a parish registration form if you are not registered or if your information needs to be updated.



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.

# ‘Witnesses, Because of the Resurrection’

By Adeline Jean

The Mass readings of this Easter Sunday prompt a reflection on what it means to be witnesses for Christ in light of the resurrection.

In the Gospel Reading (John 20:1-9), the actions of Mary of Magdala illustrate the first quality that all witnesses need—bold faith. She came to the tomb early on the first day of the week, which was the third day after Jesus’ burial. Why did she come? Based on her experience of conversion and relationship developed with Jesus, she must have believed that His death was not the end. She would have known of the miracle of the resurrection of Lazarus that took place not long before Jesus’ own demise. She would have heard of what Jesus said to Martha at that time, “I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die” (John 11:25). She probably also heard of Jesus’ teaching in Caesarea Philippi, “The Son of Man must suffer greatly and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and rise after three days” (Luke 9:22). Mary of Magdala might have reflected that if Jesus had said these things, there was a great possibility that He too would not die but rise and live again. She must have gone to the tomb early in the morning expecting a miracle. Her bold faith was rewarded because she beheld the risen Jesus face-to-face and even spoke with Him.

Bold faith comes from knowing the power of God through personal experience and engagement in His word and then by acting on these in faith expecting that God will surely act as we so believe. Bold faith moves God to act in extraordinary ways. Like Mary of Magdala, as witnesses to the resurrection, we too can encounter Jesus and communicate with Him thereby becoming even more powerful witnesses. Witnessing is not about teaching but about telling the story of our personal encounters with God.

Though Jesus was a witness of God in His humanity, in His death, when His divinity was clearly revealed, He became an even more striking witness. Likewise, in dying to ourselves, we rise as powerful witnesses. When we give the Spirit room to work in our lives through prayer, fasting, and self-sacrifice, our witness acquires transformational power.

In the First Reading (Acts 10: 34, 37-43), we hear Peter’s speech at the house of Cornelius, a Roman centurion, where his entire household is gathered. Of significance, Cornelius is considered to be the first Gentile convert to Christianity. Cornelius and his entire household received the Holy Spirit before being baptized.

From this we recognize that Peter does not hesitate to proclaim Jesus to unbelievers. Guided by the Holy Spirit who led Cornelius to him and he to Cornelius, Peter announces that Jesus, who rose on the third day, Easter Sunday, has made Himself known to those whom God has called into mission. They are equipped through their personal relationship with Jesus, the kind that develops between those who spend quality time together. This is not the kind of relationship that develops from mere knowledge of God. Truly knowing Jesus in a personal way is what qualified the disciples to be witnesses.

Therefore, we learn that a second quality witnesses need to have is unquestioned availability. Our main duty is to make ourselves available and God will do the rest.

In the Second Reading (Colossians 3:1-4), Paul exhorts, “If then you were raised with Christ, seek what is above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. Think of what is above, not of what is on earth.” This highlights a third quality of witnesses: the need to crucify the desires of our flesh. The desires of our flesh hold us as slaves to the things of the world. This could be our desire for constant entertainment, love of the finer things in life, need to be in the spotlight, or anything that make us put our focus on ourselves more than on God. To be powerful and effective witnesses, every moment must be guarded so that there is no space for the enemy of our souls to enter in. We have to make ourselves spiritual fortresses by immersing ourselves in the things of God, namely prayer. Every choice and every decision need to be weighed in light of pleasing God and following His will.

**Prayer:** This is the day the Lord has made, and it is like no other! I will rejoice and be glad because He lives, so I too live! **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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**Easter Sunday: The Resurrection of Our Lord • Year B • April 3-4, 2021**

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**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



Deacon Evans Doway  
Stationed: OLMC



Deacon Peter C. Laurencin  
Stationed: Holy Family



Deacon Cassius Mathurin  
Stationed: Cathedral

**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**

**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.

**DEVOTIONS**  
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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.



Simonia Dagou  
Administrative Assistant



Deacon Michael Jackson Sr.  
OLMC Project Manager



Digna Doway  
Case Manager, St. John Catholic Charities

‘TOGETHER BUILDING THE KINGDOM OF GOD’