

Mass Intentions: April 10-16, 2021

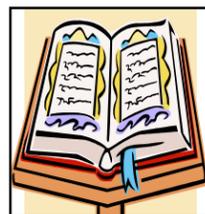
Sat. April 10	6 p.m.	Wedding anniversary blessings for Kendell & Vincentia Laurencin
Sun. April 11	7:30 a.m.	For Peter Zareas for healing; and for the living and deceased members of Adeline & Reynald Jean
	9:30 a.m.	In thanksgiving for the healing, deliverance and mercy received by the Freeman & Solomon families
	12:30 p.m.	For the Coral Bay community
Tue. April 13	6 p.m.	For Angie Zareas for God's blessings & deliverance
Wed. April 14	6 p.m.	Birthday blessings for O'Neil Mohammed requested by Adeline Jean & family
Thu. April 15	7 a.m.	Birthday blessings for Francis Mohammed Jr. requested by Adeline Jean & family
Fri. April 16	7 a.m.	Birthday blessings for Fr. Anthony Abraham from his family and OLMC parishioners

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, 6 men are 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: April 12
Acts 4:23-31
Jn 3:1-8

Tuesday: April 13
Acts 4:32-37
Jn 3:7b-15

Wednesday: April 14
Acts 5:17-26
Jn 3:16-21

Thursday: April 15
Acts 5:27-33
Jn 3:31-36

Friday: April 16
Acts 5:34-42
Jn 6:1-15

Saturday: April 17
Acts 6:1-7
Jn 6:16-21

Sunday: April 18
Acts 3:13-15, 17-19
1 Jn 2:1-5a
Lk 24:35-48

Stewardship of Treasure

April 3	6 p.m.	\$739.00
April 4	7:30 a.m.	\$1,568.00
	9:30 a.m.	\$2,807
	12:30 p.m.	\$210.00

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.

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church Annual Report

Fiscal Year July 1, 2019-June 30, 2020

I. Income & Expenses

A. Income:	
Collections	\$110,852.94
Contributions	\$203,109.73
Fundraising	\$4,885.00
Investment Income	(\$17,863.43)
Other income	\$20,002.80

Total Income \$320,987.04

B. Expenses:

Payroll Expense	\$112,667.37
Church Supplies	\$22,901.46
Diocesan Assessments	\$6,118.04
Utilities	\$27,875.49
Insurance & Taxes	\$48,873.24
Fundraising Expense	\$336.43
Repairs & Maintenance	\$56,566.81
Donations	\$30,067.73
Rectory Supplies	\$18,212.46
Office Supplies	\$10,486.78
Other expenses	\$37,430.67

Total Expenses \$371,536.48

Net Income (\$50,549.44)

Easter Vigil



OLMC Member Birthdays April 10-16

- Dushaune Lionel April 12
- Tim Hanley April 13
- Fr. Anthony Abraham April 16

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.

- **ITEMS NEEDED:** OLMC will hold an online auction to raise funds to build St. Therese Chapel. We are seeking any service such as villa rentals, hotel stays, spa services, sunset sails, day sails, etc. to auction. If you would like to donate, call the church office at 340-776-6339.
- **SCHOLARSHIP:** The Young Adult Group is raising funds for the Ronald Lee Jr. Scholarship Fund. This year, we have three graduates in our parish who have been accepted to many universities and colleges including Hofstra University, St. Bonaventure University, Roanoke College, Marywood University, Radford University, Iowa State University, Purdue University and Drexel University. All donations can be sent to OLMC with memo: Scholarship Fund.
- **RENTAL ASSISTANCE:** V.I. Housing Finance Authority has opened its Emergency Rental Assistance Program. Applications are available at the back of the church. For information, contact VIHFA at 340-777-4432 or Catholic Charities on St. Thomas at 340-777-8518.



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.

'Touching Jesus' Divine Mercy'

By Adeline Jean

The Mass readings of this Second Sunday of Easter or Divine Mercy Sunday invoke the image of what it is like to touch Jesus' Divine Mercy.

Touching Jesus gives us faith. We touch Him most deeply when we touch His suffering. When we mediate on the suffering of Jesus, we benefit immensely. Jesus revealed this to Saint/Sister Faustina: "There is more merit to one hour of meditation on My sorrowful Passion than there is to a whole year of flagellation [scourging of oneself] that draws blood; the contemplation of My painful wounds is of great profit to you, and it brings Me great joy" (Diary, 369); "Remember My Passion, and if you do not believe My words, at least believe My wounds" (Diary, 379). The importance of recognizing Jesus as alive and real in our lives is made possible when we touch His wounds as was the experience of Thomas the apostle in the Gospel Reading (John 20:19-31). Wounds cannot hide and do not lie. We cannot deny Jesus' suffering once we touch His wounds, the source of His Divine Mercy, through spending time meditating on His suffering.

Similarly, when we reflect on our own lives, many of us will realize that the periods of our greatest suffering helped us to grow the most. The sacrifices we make of prayer and mortifications (our versions of flagellation) will not change us as much as one experience of intense suffering would — physical, emotional, familial, or otherwise. As such, if we take the time to touch Jesus' wounds by meditating on His sufferings, it will change us more greatly than any other sacrifice we can make. This is because we are taking the time to remember Him at the worst moment of His life, when, though divine, the suffering He experienced in His human nature was real.

While it is wonderful to have amazing spiritual experiences of the divine, we know from the lives of the saints, that most of their spiritual growth took place during the dark nights of their souls. St. John of the Cross and St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta are just two such saints. When many saints felt the most abandoned by God, God was working mightily in their lives, changing them, as well as working through them, touching the lives of others. These are moments of doubt, yet what makes the difference is belief amid the spiritual dryness — believing despite not seeing. Jesus tried to communicate to Thomas the faith that will be needed when He's gone: "Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed." Jesus' suffering also makes the suffering of others rewarding.

Touching Jesus' suffering opens our eyes to the needs of others because it takes our eyes off of ourselves. This, coupled with receiving the Holy Spirit, enables the impossible to become possible. Understanding this explains why it was easy for the disciples in the early Church to give up their personal possessions and to pool all of their resources for common use as is noted in the First Reading (Acts 4:32-35). Mercy begets mercy.

In living for the common good, the early Church set a model of Christian living that can be applied in different contexts. In the familial context, it shows that as a family we need to piece together our monetary, physical, professional, and spiritual resources for the good of the entire family, immediate and extended. In the church context, we need to minister together as a family of God, bringing together the spiritual gifts and charisms the Lord has endowed us with individually and as a community for the good of the entire congregation and that of individual congregants. In the societal context, we Christians need to work with the public sector for the common good of all. This calls for direct and indirect engagement in public theology whereby Christians engage in dialogue within the Church, as well as within the wider society. This dialogue is necessary to promote the welfare of the society in question through discussing and acting upon issues that are of common interest to promoting the common good. Such a public theology promotes action and transformation as its purpose is dialogue with society, not just talking to society.

The Second Reading (1 John 5:1-6) reiterates the importance of faith in Jesus. Faith is the weapon we use to conquer the world — its politics, its contradictions, its sin. "And the victory that conquers the world is our faith. Who indeed is the victor over the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? This is the one who came through water and blood, Jesus Christ." Jesus' humanity reached its pinnacle as He was baptized and His divinity simultaneously revealed, and it culminated with the shedding of His blood. On the cross, as He is pierced with a spear by a soldier, water and blood issued from His side — His water/love (Baptism offered to us whereby we receive the Holy Spirit) and His blood/mercy (reconciliation and salvation). The Second Reading says, "The Spirit [we have received] is the one that testifies, and the Spirit is truth." The Spirit teaches us all truth. One such truth is the value of our suffering, another is the value of meditating on the suffering of Jesus.

Prayer: Thank you Lord that your mercy endures forever and your love is everlasting. 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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Divine Mercy Sunday • Year B • April 10-11, 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

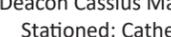
Youth Ministry:
Mondays at 5 p.m.

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

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



Deacon Peter C. Laurencin
Stationed: Holy Family



Deacon Cassius Mathurin
Stationed: Cathedral



Digna Doway
Case Manager, St. John Catholic Charities

"TOGETHER BUILDING THE KINGDOM OF GOD"