

Mass Intentions: May 1-7, 2021

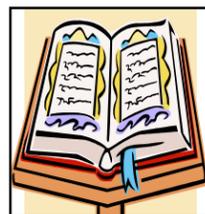
Sat. May 1	6 p.m.	Birthday blessings and God's healing & deliverance for Diane Mathurin
Sun. May 2	7:30 a.m.	For Marvelin Jules for God's blessings, deliverance & healing; & for Catherine & Anthony Mathurin for God's blessings & healing requested by Madeline Marsh
	9:30 a.m.	Birthday blessings for Ryan Francis & Dominic Prosper requested by Rosalie Francis & family; & birthday blessings for Anthonia Phillip-Prosper requested by Mary Athanase & family
	12:30 p.m.	For the Coral Bay community
Tue. May 4	6 p.m.	For Marvelin Jules for God's blessings, deliverance & healing;
Wed. May 5	6 p.m.	For the sick in our parish
Thu. May 6	7 a.m.	For those suffering from the coronavirus
Fri. May 7	7 a.m.	For souls in purgatory

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: May 3
1 Cor 15:1-8
Jn 14:6-14

Tuesday: May 4
Acts 14:19-28
Jn 14:27-31a

Wednesday: May 5
Acts 15:1-6
Jn 15:1-8

Thursday: May 6
Acts 15:7-21
Jn 15:9-11

Friday: May 7
Acts 15:322-31
Jn 15:12-17

Saturday: May 8
Acts 16:1-10
Jn 15:18-21

Sunday: May 9
Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48
1 Jn 4:7-10
Jn 15:9-17

Stewardship of Treasure

April 17	6 p.m.	\$289.00
April 18	7:30 a.m.	\$608.00
	9:30 a.m.	\$1,462.00
	12:30 p.m.	\$129.00

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.

Archaeological survey



Archaeologist Carlos Solis and crew conduct an additional phase 1 archaeological survey at St. Therese Chapel in Coral Bay.

~ Altar Flowers ~

Thank you to Roger Abraham and Melissa Sieuchand for donating this week's altar flowers. Thank you for your generosity.

~ Wish List ~

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

OLMC Member Birthdays May 1-7

- Dominic Prosper May 1
- Diane Mathurin May 2
- David Minner May 4

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

Parish Announcements

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 Eugene & Nico-demus Marius & family on the passing of their brother, Peter Clavier Charlery & nephew, Denver Charlery.
- **DAY OF PRAYER:** National Day of Prayer will be held at 6:30 p.m. May 6 at Nazareth Lutheran Church. The theme is "Lord, pour out your love, life and liberty" (2 Cor. 3:17).
- **ALL-NIGHT VIGIL:** All-night vigil will be held on Friday, May 7 beginning at 8 p.m. The sign-up sheet is at the back of the church.
- **SAVE THE DATE:** Magnificat, St. John, USVI Chapter invites women of all ages to an event on Sunday, May 30, 2021, at 6 p.m.
- **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. This year, we have three graduates in our parish who have been accepted to many universities and colleges. 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 to assist residents with their rent. Applications are available at the back of the church. Contact VIH-FA at 340-777-4432, Catholic Charities on St. Thomas at 340-777-8518 or St. John Community Foundation at 340-693-9410.



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.

'Through Him, With Him, In Him'

By Adeline Jean

The Mass readings of this Fifth Sunday of Easter reveal that as part of His preparation for departure, Jesus reassures His disciples that through their connection with Him, they will always be connected to the Father, even when He's gone. As our direct link to the Father, as the vine that is linked to its source, Jesus' humanity and divinity are also linked. Jesus the vine is the Living Water that brings to us from the Father what we need to survive. By analogy, Jesus can be compared with an umbilical cord that connects a baby to its mother. Apart from Him we suffer spiritual death. In His human nature, Jesus brought to life those who walked with Him as they embodied His teachings and learned from His example. In His divine nature, Jesus brought back to life the deceased because all power was with Him and in Him and worked through Him, the vine. Jesus' disciples came to agency as a result of their experience of both His humanity and divinity.

In the Gospel Reading (John 15:1-8), Jesus tells His disciples: "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower. He takes away every branch in me that does not bear fruit, and every one that does he prunes so that it bears more fruit. You are already pruned because of the word that I spoke to you. Remain in me, as I remain in you." By describing Himself as "the" vine, and not "a" vine, Jesus is identifying Himself as the direct link to His Father. There is no other. Through, with, and in Jesus, the vine, all are connected to the Father.

Through Him, we have access to the Father — physical and spiritual access. Elsewhere in His teaching, Jesus teaches that when we see Him, we see the Father, so we have visual/physical access in that what we see and experience in Jesus' life is a reflection of who His Father is. Jesus is the utmost image of God. By praying through Jesus, we also have spiritual access to the Father. The one prayer Jesus taught us, the "Our Father," makes an automatic connection because we begin by saying the words, "Our Father," addressing our Father in heaven directly. With Him, we are able to accomplish our call and mission in this life. In the Gospel Reading Jesus adds, "I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in me and I in him will bear much fruit, because without me you can do nothing." With Jesus we accomplish the ultimate divine purpose for our lives here on earth. As a people of God, we are In Him in the sense that as a united Church we stand with Jesus by faith and in works. "We talk the talk and walk the walk." That is, we commit ourselves to teaching and modeling prayer and worship, as well as to serving within the Church and beyond in the wider community.

In the Second Reading (1 John 3:18-24) we are encouraged: "Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have confidence in God and receive from him whatever we ask, because we keep his commandments and do what pleases him. And his commandment is this: we should believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and love one another just as he commanded us." This teaching needs to be considered in light of the Gospel Reading that ends announcing, "If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask for whatever you want and it will be done for you. By this is my Father glorified, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples." Putting together these two readings we learn: In order to receive whatever we ask of the Father we must believe in the name of His Son Jesus, love one another, and remain in the Father and in His word.

In the First Reading (Acts 9:26-31), we meet Saul the convert. Saul became pruned through the word spoken to him by Jesus Himself. The apostles walked with Jesus during the three years of His ministry hearing His words and being pruned by them. However, Saul had a one-time initial encounter with Jesus, and heard only a few words, yet his entire life became pruned instantly. Saul is a prototype of the power of pruning. His murderous contemptuous heart of stone was removed because it was not bearing fruit. His determination, passion, and commitment were pruned because these were areas that could be used for the glory of God. Saul was pruned when the light encircled him and he heard the voice of Jesus. Through that supernatural encounter, Saul became filled with all the graces he needed to begin a new life as a Christian missionary. Saul's experience and that of the disciples teach us that pruning is different for each individual. The time taken depends on the time needed in order for a person to line up his or her will with that of God's.

Prayer: I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people (Psalm 22) because you are forming me into a beautiful work of art that will one day be displayed in heaven. **Amen**



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Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Church

Established: July 16, 1962

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The Fifth Sunday of Easter • Year B • May 1-2, 2021

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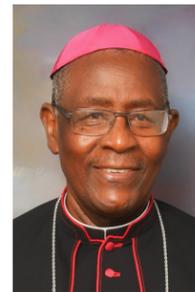
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Rev. Fr. Anthony Abraham, Pastor



Simonia Dagou
Administrative Assistant



Deacon Michael Jackson Sr.
OLMC Project Manager



Digna Doway
Case Manager, St. John Catholic Charities

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.

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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.

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