

Mass Intentions: June 5-11, 2021

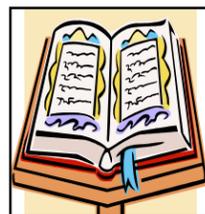
Sat. June 5	6 p.m.	In loving memory of Martha Zeiler requested by Gail & Scott Killian; and birthday blessings for Spice requested by Louise Philbert
Sun. June 6	7:30 a.m.	For David, DJ, Devon, DeMari, Divine & Devante Marsh for God's blessings requested by Madeline Marsh
	9:30 a.m.	In loving memory of Mathilda Connor requested by Gwen Dagou and family
	12:30 p.m.	For the Coral Bay Community
Tue. June 8	6 p.m.	For those suffering with the coronavirus
Wed. June 9	6 p.m.	For the sick in our parish
Thu. June 10	7 a.m.	For an end to violence in our community
Fri. June 11	7 a.m.	For the homeless in our community

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: June 7
2 Cor 1:1-7
Mt 5:1-12

Tuesday: June 8
2 Cor 1:18-22
Mt 5:13-16

Wednesday: June 9
2 Cor 3:4-11
Mt 5:17-19

Thursday: June 10
2 Cor 3:15--4:1, 3-6
Mt 5:20-26

Friday: June 11
Hos 11:1,3-4,8c-9
Eph 3:8-12, 14-19
Jn 19:31-37

Saturday: June 12
2 Cor 5:14-21
Lk 2:41-51

Sunday: June 13
Ez 17:22-24
2 Cor 5:6-10
Mk 4:26-34

Stewardship of Treasure

May 29	6 p.m.	\$468.00
May 30	7:30 a.m.	\$518.00
	9:30 a.m.	\$1,085.00
	12:30 p.m.	\$170.00

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.

Shelter residents get treated to lunch



OLMC Youth Group members prepared lunch for residents of the Our Lady of Charity Shelter on Memorial Day, May 31, 2021.



~ Altar Flowers ~

Thank you to the Joseph family for donating this week's altar flowers. Thank you for your generosity.

~ Charismatic Prayer Group ~

You are invited to come pray, praise, and worship our Lord with us every Thursday at 7 p.m.

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 Bianca Laurencin & Rosemary Joseph & families on the passing of their aunt, Evelyn "Vivi" Compton.
- **PRAYER MEETING:** Prayer Meeting will be held at 7 p.m. Thursday, June 10, 2021. The topic will be "We are called to be our brother's keeper" by Digna Doway.
- **RCIA:** OLMC has opened registration for our RCIA classes, which will begin on June 7. Pick up a registration form at the back of the church.
- **PERPETUAL ADORATION:** We would like to resume perpetual adoration. Sign up at the back of the church.
- **ITEMS NEEDED:** OLMC will hold an online auction to raise funds to build St. Therese Chapel. The auction will begin on June 20. 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 VIHFA 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.

'Corpus Christi: Connecting Two Wedding Feasts'

By Adeline Jean

The readings of this Corpus Christi Sunday transport us into the context of the beauty of a wedding feast where the menu is the Body and Blood of Jesus and the nuptial vow is the self-giving of the groom's life (Jesus' life) to His bride with the expectation of the same self-giving of the Bride, the Church, to Him. Jesus gives us His Body and Blood, commemorating the institution of the Holy Eucharist, within the spiritual context of a wedding feast where only the invited are gathered to celebrate.

At the wedding feast of Cana, when Jesus' mother, Mary, tells Him the wine had run out, he protested, "My hour has not yet come" (John 2:4), yet He still performed the miracle of turning water into wine. We read further that "Jesus did this as the beginning of his signs [the first of seven] in Cana in Galilee and so revealed his glory, and his disciples began to believe in him" (John 2:11). By no coincidence, Jesus' first sign that pointed to His glory and enabled his disciples to believe, was at a wedding feast. This can be seen as a symbolic foreshadowing of the last majestic sign He would work for His disciples at the Last Supper, the beginning of His wedding feast.

The symbolic importance of a wedding feast in relation to Jesus' giving of His Body and Blood invites several considerations. First, Jesus was reluctant to do what His mother asked, which shows the weakness of human beings. Jesus, in His humanity, had the same fears and apprehensions that humans do. Just as Jesus hesitated when asked to step up and help in a dire situation, we too often hesitate. Some people may know they have been called by God to undertake a particular mission, but they do not go boldly into ministry because they fear they are not ready. The truth is, in terms of our rationalization, we are never ready. However, spiritually, we are always ready because when God calls us, He equips us by the blood of the new covenant (Hebrews 13:20-21). This is the blood that Jesus shed for us, which He invites us to recall as often as possible. For Catholics, this is done every time the Mass is celebrated. Second, though we may be Christians, many of us still seek signs in order to fully believe or to believe with more fervor. Though the disciples had walked with Jesus and were benefitting from His divine wisdom, they were still only frail human beings who had to see to believe.

Third, the fact that Jesus, through the power of His divinity, performs His first sign at a wedding feast is significant in other ways. A wedding must have a bride and a groom, but also in attendance are family members and witnesses who come to celebrate the marriage vows being undertaken. These attendees create a community of love for the married couple as they celebrate and then a community of support as the couple embarks into married life. At the Last Supper, Jesus' apostles were His family (they had journeyed and spent countless time with Him for three years); they were His witnesses (they had seen all the miracles He had performed — and was now about to preform again — and had heard all of His teachings).

Fourth, the Last Supper can be considered as a wedding because Jesus came to wed His bride, the Church, that would be coming into being. The process of its birth started with the institution of His new covenant — the shedding of His blood for the salvation of all. In His divinity, Jesus knew that His time had come. As He entered Jerusalem with His disciples, He tells them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified" (John 12:23). Jesus knew that this entry marked the beginning of the end for Him. Entering into Jerusalem was like crossing the finish line — the race had been run. It was now time for the prize. Ironically, instead of receiving a prize, Jesus gave a prize to all humanity — salvation. The Gospel Reading (Mark 14:12-16, 22-26) recounts: "While they were eating, he took bread, said the blessing, broke it, gave it to them, and said, 'Take it; this is my body.' Then he took a cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, and they all drank from it. He said to them, 'This is my blood of the covenant, which will be shed for many.'" Jesus' sitting at table with the apostles and giving them of His Body and Blood can be seen as symbolizing the nuptial vows at this wedding feast. This is so because at that moment the apostles stood in proxy for the bride because upon their shoulders the new Church would be established. The apostles also played another role. While they symbolically stood as Jesus' bride, similarly, they literally stood as His family and witnesses. They formed a circle of love around Him at the wedding feast of the Last Supper, and then as a circle of support to His bride, the Church, when it came into being, while being part of the Church themselves.

Fifth, at the wedding of Cana, Jesus turned water into wine on the third day of the wedding since it was customary for weddings to last for several days. At the wedding feast of the Last Supper, the wedding actually started on the night of the Last Supper, but it continued for days until Jesus was crucified and rose on the third day. The greatest show of Jesus' glory is revealed through His resurrection, which, like at the wedding of Cana, convinced His disciples that He was truly who He proclaimed to be — the Son of God. The drinking of the inferior wine at the wedding of Cana can be likened to Jesus' drinking of the bitter cup of His passion and death before the best wine — the victory of His resurrection — becomes a reality on Easter Sunday.

Prayer: I will take the cup of salvation, and call on the name of the Lord. I am your servant, the son/daughter of your handmaid; you have loosed my bonds. (Responsorial Psalm, Psalm 116)



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Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Church

Established: July 16, 1962

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The Most Holy Body & Blood of Christ • Year B • June 5-6, 2021

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Simonia Dagou
Administrative Assistant



Deacon Michael Jackson Sr.
OLMC Project Manager



Digna Doway
Case Manager, St. John Catholic Charities

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Deacons: Evans Doway, Peter C. Laurencin, Cassius Mathurin & Michael Jackson Sr.
Acolyte: Hayden Smith
Youth Group President: Kitori Thomas
Young Adults President: Shanekua Tyrell

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

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.

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