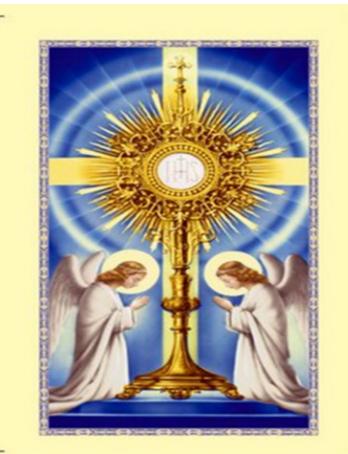


## Mass Intentions: June 12-18, 2021

Sat. June 12	6 p.m.	Birthday blessings for Louise Philbert & Louisa Actville requested by Louise Philbert
Sun. June 13	7:30 a.m.	In honor of Butch & Eileen Fisher's wedding anniversary requested by Gail & Scott Killian
	9:30 a.m.	For Deacon Peter Laurencin for healing requested by Richard & Carol Stockley; & birthday blessings for Louise Philbert requested by the Philbert family of St. Thomas
	12:30 p.m.	For the Coral Bay Community
Tue. June 15	6 p.m.	For Mary Roberts & family for God's protection & blessings requested by Mary Roberts
Wed. June 16	6 p.m.	For Mary Roberts & family for God's protection & blessings requested by Mary Roberts
Thu. June 17	7 a.m.	For Mary Roberts & family for God's protection & blessings requested by Mary Roberts
Fri. June 18	7 a.m.	For Monique & Martin Jongue Jr. for God's blessings & protection requested by Mary Dalmida



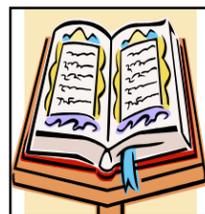
## Perpetual Adoration

We have resumed Perpetual Adoration, which is held Sunday to Saturday, 24 hours a day. If anyone would like to sign up for any particular day(s) or hour(s), please call the office at 340-776-6339.

A list of the current adorers and a sign up sheet are at the back of the church.

*"Can you not watch with me one hour?"*  
-- Matt. 26:40

## Daily Readings



**Monday: June 14**  
2 Cor 6:1-10  
Mt 5:38-42

**Tuesday: June 15**  
2 Cor 8:1-9  
Mt 5:43-48

**Wednesday: June 16**  
2 Cor 9:6-11  
Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

**Thursday: June 17**  
2 Cor 11:1-11  
Mt 6:7-15

**Friday: June 18**  
2 Cor 11:18, 21-30  
Mt 6:19-23

**Saturday: June 19**  
2 Cor 12:1-10  
Mt 6:24-34

**Sunday: June 20**  
Jb 38:1, 8-11  
2 Cor 5:14-17  
Mk 4:35-41

## Stewardship of Treasure

June 5	6 p.m.	\$166.00
June 6	7:30 a.m.	\$531.00
	9:30 a.m.	\$959.00
	12:30 p.m.	\$94.00

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.

## OLMC Member Birthdays June 12-18

- Basil Athanase June 14
- Louise Philbert June 17

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

## ~ 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.

- **PRAYER MEETING:** Prayer Meeting will be held at 7 p.m. Thursday, June 17, 2021. The speaker will be Fr. Anthony Abraham. The topic is "The Church exists for evangelization."
- **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](http://www.myowngiving.com/Default.aspx?cid=1390)

Donations are tax-deductible.

# 'No Greater God Than Our God'

By Adeline Jean

The Mass readings of this Sunday offer an understanding of the conception of living in the greatness of God by living the kingdom of God. As well, they allow us to discover that the greatness of God surpasses human understanding and imagination.

The First Reading (Ezekiel 17:22-24) tells of the greatness of God, the One who commands and what God commands is done whether this defies human understanding or not. Here it is written, "I, the LORD, bring low the high tree, lift high the lowly tree, wither up the green tree, and make the withered tree bloom." This gives a description of God as an omnipotent God — He can make all things possible and similarly achieve the impossible. This type of message given by God through the prophet to the Hebrew people during their time of exile is meant to inspire hope among the people, but, at the same time, remind them that God is a God of mercy and of justice. While God can bring down mighty kingdoms like the Babylonian kingdom in which the Hebrew people are enslaved, God can also make the Hebrew people No Greater God Than Our God bloom again in freedom. God has supreme power. Therefore, if the Hebrew people are suffering at the hands of their enemy, the Babylonians, it is not because the Babylonians are mightier than they are or have more powerful gods than their God, Yahweh. It is because God allowed them to as an act of exercising justice against the Hebrew people who had defied God and committed abominations against God. Yet, in God's mercy they are given a glimmer of hope that just as God raised the Babylonians as a mighty force, the latter can easily be brought low and the Hebrew people can likewise rise again. This is not teaching, not warning, not law. It is practical reality for believers.

Knowing that Mark wrote to an audience of those who, while suffering hardship, were on mission spreading the Good News about Jesus and of the reality of rule of God/kingdom of God, brings contextual meaning to the Gospel Reading. In the Gospel Reading (Mark 4:26-34) Jesus tells what the kingdom of God is like: "This is how it is with the kingdom of God; it is as if a man were to scatter seed on the land and would sleep and rise night and day and through it all the seed would sprout and grow, he knows not how." The kingdom of God is likened to a place where seeds are sown and left to sprout on their own, which is a wonder that no one can understand or explain. While science can possibly give an explanation, it still cannot give a reason for its explanation. Scientists can provide a timeline of growth from a seed to a sapling, but they cannot explain what actually makes this growth possible. It's the same with this world. We live in the rule of God/kingdom of God right here on this earth because God scattered us here in different geographical and other contexts knowing that we can only mature and become whom we were destined to be because of God's greatness.

Jesus also adds a comparison in the Gospel Reading: "To what shall we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable can we use for it? It is like a mustard seed that, when it is sown in the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on the earth. But once it is sown, it springs up and becomes the largest of plants." The kingdom of God can now be seen in a more particular way. When the seeds are sown, they are only small seeds whose potential is yet to be realized. With the right soil, weather conditions, and care, these small seeds become majestic. In like manner, the kingdom of God is seen as a reality that starts off small, seemingly insignificant, but with the right conditions and care, it can become a noteworthy reality. The kingdom of God also is right where we live, work, and seek pleasure. It is wherever we allow God to come in and give God permission to rule. When we let God in and give God the controls, God's greatness will in turn achieve greatness.

The Second Reading (2 Corinthians 5:6-10) reinforces that "we walk by faith, not by sight." To live in total dependence on God, relying on God's utmost greatness as a provider, means Christians cannot depend on their senses — on what can be experienced. We need to depend solely on our faith in God.

**Prayer:** Lord, I claim your promise that "the just one shall flourish like the palm tree, like a cedar of Lebanon shall he grow. They that are planted in the house of the LORD shall flourish in the courts of our God." (Responsorial Psalm, Psalm 92)



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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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The Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time • Year B • June 12-13, 2021

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Most Rev. Jerome Feudjio, Bishop



Deacon Evans Doway  
Stationed: OLMC



Deacon Peter C. Laurencin  
Stationed: Holy Family



Deacon Cassius Mathurin  
Stationed: Cathedral



Rev. Fr. Anthony Abraham, Pastor



Simonia Dagou  
Administrative Assistant



Deacon Michael Jackson Sr.  
OLMC Project Manager



Digna Doway  
Case Manager, St. John Catholic Charities

**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

## 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.

"TOGETHER BUILDING THE KINGDOM OF GOD"