

Mass Intentions: Sept. 24-30, 2022

Sat. Sept. 24	6 p.m.	For Shiquela Monsanto and Armani for God's blessings requested by her family
Sun. Sept. 25	7:30 a.m.	For Madeline Marsh and family for God's continued blessings requested by Madeline Marsh & family; and birthday blessings for Sandra Donaie
	9:30 a.m.	For Felis Burin & family for God's blessings & healing requested by Felis Burin; and for Anthonia Philip-Prosper for a successful surgery and healing requested by Mary Athanase & family
	12:30 p.m.	For the Coral Bay Community
	5:30 p.m.	For the Hispanic Community on St. John
Tue. Sept. 27	6 p.m.	COMMUNION SERVICE
Wed. Sept. 28	6 p.m.	COMMUNION SERVICE
Thu. Sept. 29	7 a.m.	COMMUNION SERVICE
Fri. Sept. 30	7 a.m.	COMMUNION SERVICE

Offer a Mass for your loved ones. Call the office at 776-6339.



St. Michael Prayer

St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle, be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him we humbly pray; and do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly host, by the divine power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who roam throughout the world seeking the ruin of souls.
Amen.

Daily Readings



Monday: Sep. 26
Jb 1:6-22
Lk 9:46-50

Tuesday: Sept. 27
Jb 3:1-3, 11-17, 20-23
Lk 9:51-56

Wednesday: Sept. 28
Jb 9:1-12, 14-16
Lk 9:57-62

Thursday: Sept. 29
Dan 7:9-10, 13-14 or
Rv 12:7-12a
Jn 1:47-51

Friday: Sept. 30
Jb 38:1, 12-21:
40:3-5
Lk 10:13-16

Saturday: Oct. 1
Jb 42:1-3, 5-6,
12-17
Lk 10:17-24

Sunday: Oct. 2
Hb 1:2-3; 2:2-4
2 Tm 1:6-8, 13-14
Lk 17:5-10

Stewardship of Treasure

Sept. 17	6 p.m.	\$99.00
Sept. 18	7:30 a.m.	\$65.00
	9:30 a.m.	\$435.00

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.

For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation and Mission

On Sept. 7, 2021, the Vatican released a preparatory document and handbook for the 2023 synod on synodality to be reviewed by all Catholic dioceses in the world over the next six months.

In that document synodality is described as "the form, the style, and the structure of the Church."

The theme of this Synod is For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation, and Mission

The current Synodal Process is guided by a fundamental question: How does "journeying together" take place today on different levels (from the local level to the universal one),

allowing the Church to proclaim the Gospel? What steps is the Spirit inviting us to take in order to grow as a synodal Church? (PD, 2)

Each bishop is asked to undertake a consultation process with the local Church from Oct. 17, 2021, to April 2022.

Dioceses should organize local gatherings for "synodal consultation," to enable individuals to give their feedback directly to the diocese.

Multiple parishes should come together for these "synodal consultation meetings" so that "a range of people from different socio-economic backgrounds, ethnicities, age groups" can take part.

OLMC Member Birthdays Sept. 24-30

- Kendell Laurencin Sept. 26
- Sandra Donaie Sept. 27
- Wencelsaus Eugene Sept. 28
-

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.

Scan this QR Code to visit OLMC's Website.



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:** On behalf of Fr. Anthony Abraham and OLMC parish, we extend condolences to Digna Doway & family on the passing of her brother, David Toussaint.
- **SECOND COLLECTION:** The second collection is to assist the poor and less fortunate.
- **PRAYER MEETING:** Prayer Meeting will be held at 7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 29 in Cruz Bay. We continue the talk by Fr. Anthony Abraham from the Hope Conference.
- **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:** We are accepting registration for new students for Religious Education. Forms are available at the back of the church. Classes are held on Saturdays at 10 a.m.
- **RCIA:** We are accepting registration for RCIA classes. These classes are for adults who would like to become a Catholic; adult Catholics who may not have made their First Communion or Confirmation; or Catholics who may want to know more about their faith. Please call the church office to sign up at 340-776-6339.
- **COUNCIL OF WOMEN:** Bishop Jerome Feudjio has approved the board for the Diocesan Council for Catholic Women. The board is: Bernadette Patrick, president; Elizabeth John-Baptiste, vice-president; Lita Daniel, secretary; and Maribel Okiye, treasurer. If you would like to be a member, forms are available at the back of the church. Registration for the 2022 international conference closes on Oct. 1, 2022. For more information, call Bernadette at 340-774-3166.



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)
- Donations are tax-deductible.

'Christian Choice is Clear: Live with the Other-worldly Life in Mind'

By Adeline Jean

This Sunday's Mass readings highlight the dichotomous nature of life and encourages Christians to make the right choice — the glories of heaven (the other-worldly life) over the riches of the earth (this-worldly life).

In First Reading (Amos 6:1a, 4-7), the prophet Amos, who is from the Southern Kingdom of Judah, delivers his prophetic message to the Northern Kingdom of Israel. In this reading, Amos chastises the wealthy people of Israel for their luxurious and excessive living. Their excesses are described as drinking wine from bowls and anointing themselves with the best oils.

Amos similarly indicts all Christian believers, who, for different reasons, may become swell-headed because of their possessions. Believers should never forget our ancestors, all the matriarchs and patriarchs who have gone before us in the Church. More than that, believers should never forget Jesus and what He did for all humankind, choosing death so that we might live. As Christians, we should take pride in our greatest possession, Jesus Christ. Contemplating the sacrificial death of Jesus should awaken in us the desire to also die to ourselves and to die for others. Jesus died to save all humanity from eternal death. We too are invited to follow Jesus and to die so that others might live. We die to ourselves mainly by surrendering our will to that of God's in every area of our lives so that it is no longer we that live but Christ who lives in us (Galatians 2:20). We die to ourselves in many ways but always with the same intent—that our efforts and actions will make a difference in the life of another or others in leading them to salvation.

The Second Reading (1 Timothy 6:11-16) begins with a call to all Christian believers to live as Christ did in richness of virtue and not as the rich do by placing value on wealth that perishes and living as gluttons of affluence. As an alternative, we are called to store up our treasures in heaven that will endure eternally and not on earth where they will decay or be liable to be stolen (Matthew 6:19-21). Therefore, as Christians, we are called to pursue the exact qualities that Jesus displayed—righteousness, devotion, faith, love, patience, and gentleness. These are the riches that really count, the ones that will not rot but last. These qualities will enable us to live devoted to God and to be flawless witnesses to Christ, always mindful, through faith, of the coming revelation in Jesus of the one and only invisible God.

The Gospel Reading (Luke 16:19-31) begins as the First Reading does with an indictment of the rich, but in the form of a parable as opposed to Amos' blunt approach. Jesus uses parables to send powerful messages in subtle ways. In this famous parable, the rich man lives blind to and unaware of the poor beggar, Lazarus, lying at his door. The rich man is described as one who is "dressed in purple garments and fine linen," as well as one who "dined sumptuously each day." To the contrary, Lazarus is portrayed as one "covered with sores, who would gladly have eaten his fill of the scraps that fell from the rich man's table." This reading goes further than the First Reading in that it offers a dichotomy between the have's and the have not's. Though God gave the rich man the opportunity to recognize the beggar right at his door, the rich man missed that opportunity.

This is a clear example of how God works. God places people and situations right before our eyes with the expectation that we would recognize His calling out to us, inviting us to respond with open hearts and hands. Like the rich man, the allures of this world to work for more, to consume more, and to possess more can blind us to those right in our homes, workplaces, and neighborhoods who need our help. We are so busy acquiring, investing, and planning for the future that we forget to live in the present. Jesus himself teaches, "So do not worry about tomorrow; for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own" (Matthew 6:34). When we focus on the present, we become more in tuned with the world and the people around us. We will thus be less likely like the rich man who recognized too late God working in his life.

As twenty-first century Christians, we have the benefit of over two thousand years of Christian history, the witnesses of the patriarchs and saints, the Tradition of the Church, scripture, and the Word of God, yet we are living in a world that is falling deeper and deeper into sin. Sin has become the norm and takes the center place in society while Christian living has come to be identified with the life that the minority of society engage in and has been relegated to the margins of modern society.

Prayer: Lord, may I become blind to riches and numb to the attractions of this world but alert to the needs of others. Amen



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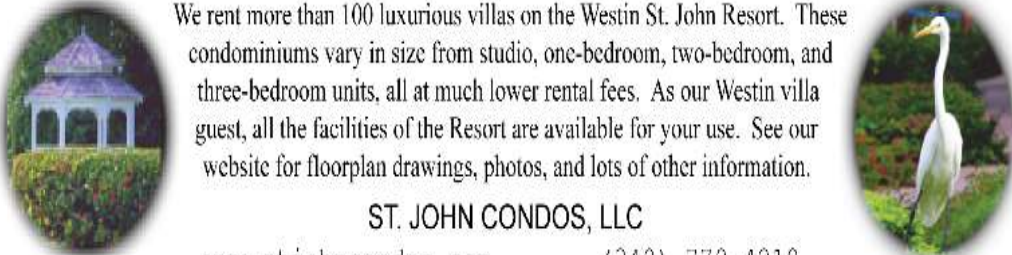
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Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Church

Established: July 16, 1962

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The Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time • Year C • September 24-25, 2022

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Most Rev.
Jerome Feudjio, Bishop



Rev. Fr. Anthony
Abraham, Pastor

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Administrative Assistant: Simonia Dagou
Rel. Ed. Coordinator: Julia Mingo
Parish Council President: Liniue Dagou
Deacons: Evans Doway, Peter C. Laurencin, Cassius Mathurin & Michael Jackson Sr.
Acolyte: Hayden Smith
Youth Group President: RayNesha Noel
Young Adults President: Shanekua Tyrell

Week in Preview

Youth Ministry:
Mondays at 4:30 p.m.

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

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

Masses

Weekend

Saturdays: 6 p.m.
Sundays: 7:30 a.m.
9:30 a.m.
12:30 p.m. (CORAL BAY)
5:30 p.m. (SPANISH)

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
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Hours

The Church is open
Mondays to 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 to Fridays:
9:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Pastor's Hours
Tuesdays to Fridays:
9:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Call for an appointment



The Rich Man & Lazarus
Luke 16:19-31

"TOGETHER BUILDING THE KINGDOM OF GOD"