

Mass Intentions: Oct. 17-23, 2020

Sat. Oct. 17	6 p.m.	For Angie Zareas for God's blessings & protection
Sun. Oct. 18	7:30 a.m.	For Lisa Etre in thanksgiving for 40 years on St. John
	9:30 a.m.	Birthday blessings for Gwenda Dagou and Lakeya Abbott requested by their families
	12:30 p.m.	For Angie Zareas for God's blessings & protection
Tue. Oct. 20	6 p.m.	COMMUNION SERVICE
Wed. Oct. 21	6 p.m.	COMMUNION SERVICE
Thu. Oct. 22	7 a.m.	COMMUNION SERVICE
Fri. Oct. 23	7 a.m.	COMMUNION SERVICE

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

Prayer for the Sixth Bishop of the Diocese of St. Thomas in the V.I.

Eternal God, shepherd and guide,

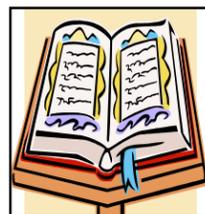
In your mercy give to your Church's ministry in the Diocese of St. Thomas in the V.I., a shepherd after your own heart and a man filled with the Holy Spirit who will walk in your ways. With loving care, watch over your people.

Give us a leader of vision, love, hope and joy; and a teacher of your truth. May your kingdom be built up and your name glorified; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Monday: Oct. 19

Eph 2:1-10
Lk 12:13-21

Daily Readings



Tuesday: Oct. 20

Eph 2:12-22
Lk 12:35-38

Wednesday: Oct. 21

Eph 3:2-12
Lk 12:39-48

Thursday: Oct. 22

Eph 3:14-21
Lk 12:49-53

Friday: Oct. 23

Eph 4:1-6
Lk 12:54-59

Saturday: Oct. 24

Eph 4:7-16
Lk 13:1-9

Sunday: Oct. 25

Ex 22:20-26
1 Thes 1:5c-10
Mt 22:34-40

Stewardship of Treasure

Oct. 10	6 p.m.	\$253.00
Oct. 11	7:30 a.m.	\$342.00
	9:30 a.m.	\$511.00
	12:30 p.m.	\$87.00

Thank you for your offerings. May God bless you.

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.

A Coronavirus Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ, you traveled through towns and villages "curing every disease and illness." At your command, the sick were made well. Come to our aid now, in the midst of the global spread of the coronavirus, that we may experience your healing love.

Heal those who are sick with the virus. May they regain their strength and health through quality medical care.

Heal us from our fear, which prevents nations from working together and neighbors from helping one another.

Heal us from our pride, which can make us claim invulnerability to a disease that knows no borders.

Lord Jesus Christ, healer of all, stay by our side in this time of uncertainty and sorrow.

Be with those who have died from the virus. May they be at rest with you in your eternal peace.

Be with the families of those who are sick

or have died. As they worry and grieve, defend them from illness and despair. May they know your peace.

Be with the doctors, nurses, researchers and all medical professionals who seek to heal and help those affected and who put themselves at risk in the process. May they know your protection and peace.

Be with the leaders of all nations. Give them the foresight to act with charity and true concern for the well-being of the people they are meant to serve. Give them the wisdom to invest in long-term solutions that will help prepare for or prevent future outbreaks. May they know your peace, as they work together to achieve it on earth.

Whether we are home or abroad, surrounded by many people suffering from this illness or only a few, Lord Jesus Christ, stay with us as we endure and mourn, persist and prepare.

In place of our anxiety, give us your peace.

Jesus Christ, heal us.
Amen.

OLMC Member Birthdays Week of Oct. 17-23

- Evelyn Louis Oct. 17
- Julia Hogroian Oct. 19

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

Our Lady of Mount Carmel thanks all those who are donating plants to the church. 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

TO ALL OUR PARISHIONERS AND VISITORS, IN LIGHT OF THIS CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC, PLEASE STAY SAFE. MASKS ARE REQUIRED TO ATTEND MASSES. SOCIAL DISTANCING WILL BE IN EFFECT. OUR PRAYERS ARE WITH ALL OF YOU. GOD BLESS.

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.

- **YOUTH GROUP:** Youth Group meeting will be held at 5 p.m. Monday, Oct. 19, 2020.
- **PRAYER MEETING:** Prayer Meeting will be held at 7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 22, 2020. The guest speaker will be Deacon Cassius Mathurin. The topic is "Peace of mind in a troubled world."
- **BOOK OF THE DEAD:** The Book of the Dead has been placed in the back of the church. Write the names of your deceased loved ones. They will be remembered on All Souls Day and throughout November.
- **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:** We are accepting registration for students for Religious Education classes. Forms are available in the office. Classes are on Saturdays at 10 a.m.
- **BISHOP BEVARD:** Best wishes and prayers for former Bishop Herbert Bevard can be mailed to: The Most Reverend Herbert A. Bevard
1801 Grace Street
Wilmington, NC 28405-2751



Our Lady of Mount Carmel has purchased land in Coral Bay to build this chapel, which will be named, St. Therese. To make a donation, make checks payable to Our Lady of Mount Carmel, memo line: Coral Bay Chapel. Donations are tax-deductible.

**‘There is No Other’
by Adeline Jean**

This Sunday’s Mass readings put forth the truth that many try to avoid, deny, or discredit — that the Lord is God and there is no other like Him. He has the power to call into being, to accomplish the impossible, and to decide on the order of things.

In the First Reading (Isaiah 45: 1, 4-6), we hear an astonishing pronouncement made by the Lord because it is about a pagan and it is addressed to a pagan: “Thus says the LORD to his anointed, Cyrus, whose right hand I grasp....I have called you by your name, giving you a title, though you knew me not. I am the LORD and there is no other, there is no God besides me.”

What makes this such a surprise is that in the Old Testament we typically hear the Lord speaking to and about the Hebrew people. Previously in Isaiah 44:28, Cyrus was even referred to as “His anointed.” Cyrus the Great was the king of Persia, who, when the Hebrew people were in exile in Babylon (under several Persian kings), finally granted them their freedom and allowed them to return to their homeland and to rebuild their temple in Jerusalem.

We can surmise that God, by His own declaration, called Cyrus His anointed into being just for a moment like this. He used a pagan to do the impossible: to grant His chosen people their freedom.

In the Second Reading (1 Thessalonians 1: 1-5), we hear similar words being echoed of people being called/chosen, not pagans, but Christians, to do the work of God. Paul writes, “You were chosen. For our gospel did not come to you in word alone, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with much conviction.” These two scriptures show us that God has ultimate power. He can use whomever and whatever He chooses to accomplish His work.

In the Gospel Reading (Matthew 22:15-21), we hear Jesus’ own voice speaking with conviction, “Repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God.” This is not what the Pharisees expected to hear. Their intent was to incriminate Jesus into making a questionable statement. Jesus illustrates by His response that God alone decides on the order of things. We live in both a secular world, as well as a spiritual one. We need to live according to the laws of each. Too often we try to hold the laws of the secular world accountable for the laws of the spiritual world and vice versa.

The question is always, “Should one affect the other?” Jesus clearly makes the distinction to give to Caesar (the secular) what is necessary and to God (the spiritual) what is required. This does not suggest that one should affect the other. In the US, though the historical trend has been for a separation of Church and State, when it comes to the general elections, politicians promote just the opposite. The important issue in all this is how can we ensure through our decision to vote that we are giving to Caesar, as well as to God, while at the same time safeguarding this right for others at the same time.

We cannot vote for issues that benefit us only while hurting others. There are certain aspects of life, which, though legislated, would still exist and persist whether there was no legislation at all. These issues are connected to personal preferences. But, can or should we hold everyone, regardless of their belief, hostage to our beliefs to the detriment of other areas of their lives?

There are other areas of life that citizens have no control of once legislation is made because they are at the mercy of such decision-making. These are the issues that affect everyone, regardless of their belief system. These are the issues we should highly consider when voting because they have the potential to cause great harm to the majority if legislated unfairly.

Today’s readings speak of the political and invites us to consider the political in our spiritual forum of Mass this Sunday. However, what cannot be disputed is the fact that after all the polls are taken, all the political propaganda is disseminated, and all the campaigning is over, ONLY God has the power to call into being, to accomplish the impossible, and to decide on the order of things.

Prayer: Lord, as we prepare for general elections, send us a Spirit of Truth and Right Judgment, of Wisdom and Understanding, of Knowledge and Discernment to guide all Americans as we prepare to vote and as candidates campaign.

Amen



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Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Church
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Diocese of St. Thomas in the Virgin Islands
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The Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time • Year A • October 17-18, 2020

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Pastor: Rev. 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

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



Simonia Dagou
Administrative Assistant

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.



Deacon
Michael Jackson Sr.
Project Manager

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

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.



Digna Doway
Catholic Charities
Case Manager

“TOGETHER BUILDING THE KINGDOM OF GOD”