

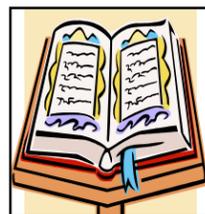
Mass Intentions: Dec. 5-11, 2020

Sat. Dec. 5	6 p.m.	In thanksgiving to Dave Minner and Frank and Agnes Ward
Sun. Dec. 6	7:30 a.m.	In loving memory of Patrick Paul requested by his children
	9:30 a.m.	Birthday blessings for Melchia Athanase requested by her family; & for Catherine Cellaire for healing
	12:30 p.m.	In thanksgiving to Yuri Gaspar
Mon. Dec. 7	6 p.m.	Rest of the soul of Sheldon Hoyte
Tue. Dec. 8		THE FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION (HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION)
(Cruz Bay)	7 a.m.	For the repose of the soul of Patrick Hensley requested by Lisa Etre
(Coral Bay)	6 p.m.	COMMUNION SERVICE
Wed. Dec. 9	6 p.m.	COMMUNION SERVICE
Thu. Dec. 10	7 a.m.	COMMUNION SERVICE
Fri. Dec. 11	7 a.m.	COMMUNION SERVICE



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, 3 men are housed there. We have now opened the other side for women. One woman is 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: Dec. 7 Is 35:1-10 Lk 5:17-26	Friday: Dec. 11 Is 48:17-19 Mt 11:16-19
Tuesday: Dec. 8 Gn 3:9-15, 20 Eph 1:3-6, 11-12 Lk 1:26-38	Saturday: Dec. 12 Zec 2:14-17 Lk 1:26-38
Wednesday: Dec. 9 Is 40:25-31 Mt 11:28-30	Sunday: Dec. 13 Is 61:1-2a, 10-11 1 Thes 5:16-24 Jn 1:6-8, 19-28
Thursday: Dec. 10 Is 41:13-20 Mt 11:11-15	

Stewardship of Treasure

Nov. 28	6 p.m.	\$320.00
Nov. 29	7:30 a.m.	\$254.00
	9:30 a.m.	\$631.00
	12:30 p.m.	\$111.00

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.

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

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

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

OLMC Member Birthdays Week of Dec. 5-11

• Dylan Denis Jr.	Dec. 6
• Stanley Jean Bart	Dec. 7
• Michael Mushalla	Dec. 7
• Barbara Cazaubon	Dec. 8
• Kade Wallace	Dec. 8
• Melchia Athanase	Dec. 10

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

~ CHRISTMAS WISH LIST ~

- Gospel book cover - \$2,295.00
- (6) Solar lights - \$60.00 each
- Processional Cross - \$1,465.00

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.

- **IMMACULATE CONCEPTION:** Tuesday, Dec. 8, 2020, is the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, a holy day of obligation. A Vigil Mass will be held at 6 p.m. Monday, Dec. 7. On Tuesday, Dec. 8, a Mass will be held at 7 a.m. in Cruz Bay; and a communion service will be held at 6 p.m. in Coral Bay.
- **FOOD BOXES:** Any parishioner who did not receive a food box from Catholic Charities on Thursday, are invited to come on Monday, Dec. 7, 2020, at 11 a.m. to pick up a box at the hall.
- **THANK YOU:** Catholic Charities of St. John extends a thank you to St. John Clarence Stephenson and his firemen, Stephen Auguste, Gregory Edward Sr., Lucien Sylvester, Lew Sewer & Love City Car Ferries, and all who volunteered for the USDA food box distribution on Thursday.
- **PRAYER MEETING:** Prayer Meeting will be held at 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 10, 2020. Acolyte Hayden Smith will be the guest speaker.
- **MEMBER REGISTRATION:** Please fill out a parish registration form if you are not registered or if your information needs to be updated.



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.

'Water, Spirit, Peace ...'

By Adeline Jean

The readings of this Second Sunday of Advent proclaim that, without a doubt, we will be baptized with the Holy Spirit. Water baptism is just the beginning of this Baptism, and it can be concluded that the end result is a life of peace.

In the Gospel Reading (Mark 1:1-8) John the Baptist announces, "I have baptized you with water; he [Jesus] will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." Simply put, this teaches us a pneumatologically relevant truth: While God can use human beings to impart a water baptism, only He Himself can bring about a Spirit Baptism.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches that Baptism was instituted by Christ when He was baptized by St. John the Baptist (Matthew 28:19). Jesus later commanded his apostles to go and baptize all nations in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit (Matthew 28:19). Furthermore, the Catechism teaches that Baptism removes original sin and any other sins; Baptism makes us children of God, members of Christ, members of Church, and heirs to the kingdom of heaven; we become permanently related to God; our souls become imprinted with a permanent character that identifies us as children of God. Because of all of this, the Church maintains the position that a person can only be baptized once.

Amid all of these benefits of Baptism, what remains hidden, for the most part, is the presence of the Holy Spirit whom we receive at Baptism. The Holy Spirit comes to the fore in our lives by the way we are spiritually formed. This process can be likened to a child who develops a skill in a particular sport. The innate genes of a parent can facilitate a child developing certain skills that may be useful in a sport. It's a "gift" he/she has received without him/her asking for it or knowing that he/she has it. However, unless someone exposes this child to a sport that allows this hidden gift/talent to be revealed and used, this talent may go undeveloped and wasted. It's the same with the Spirit.

When we receive the Holy Spirit at Baptism His presence may remain dormant and unrecognized unless someone guides or encourages us to develop a deep spiritual life. Such a way of life will allow the Spirit within us to manifest Himself working through us in a variety of ways such as in the way we pray and the gifts and fruits of the Spirit that become part of our nature. Baptism in the Holy Spirit, which many people seek even after the Sacrament of Confirmation, provides an opportunity for the Spirit already present in a baptized person to be stirred up according to some theologians, or, according to other theologians, for a new outpouring of the Spirit to be received.

The person not only becomes aware of or more fully aware of the Spirit's presence but also starts to manifest for the first time or more powerfully the fruits and gifts of the Spirit. The Catechism clarifies that Confirmation increases the seven gifts and fruits of the Holy Spirit in us. This is because we have already received these gifts and fruits at Baptism.

The giver of the Spirit is indeed God Himself. No human being can give the Spirit to another. Lumen Gentium, the Constitution of the Church, notes that the gifts of the Spirit are given by God "to each one as he chooses" (1 Cor 12:11), he also distributes special graces among the faithful of every rank, by which he makes them able and willing to undertake various tasks or services advantageous for the renewal and upbuilding of the church."

The result of a life lived in the Spirit where the fruits and gifts of the Spirit are not only being used to build up the Body of Christ but also become part of our daily living, is peace. One way to truly find peace within ourselves and with the people and world around us is to live close to the Spirit, allowing every aspect of our lives to be guided by and under the control of the Spirit.

Prayer: Holy Spirit lead me into silence and into patient waiting as I anticipate the birth of Jesus and welcome Him into my home, my heart, and my life this Christmas. **Amen**



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Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Church
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The Second Sunday of Advent • Year B • December 5-6, 2020

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*Lighting of the Advent candle
Week One*



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