

Mass Intentions: Dec. 19-25, 2020

Sat. Dec. 19	6 p.m.	In loving memory of Patrick Paul requested by his children; & for Ryan & Rose Simon for traveling mercies requested by Janice Mathurin
Sun. Dec. 20	7:30 a.m.	For Judson Currey for healing requested by his family
	9:30 a.m.	In loving memory of Edward & Teresita Nunez requested by their daughter; & in loving memory of Benedict Regis requested by the Regis family
Tue. Dec. 22	12:30 p.m.	For the Coral Bay community
	6 p.m.	In thanksgiving to Suzanne and William Osborn & Kevyn Salsburg
Wed. Dec. 23	6 p.m.	In thanksgiving to Tom & Gina Lane & Robert & Nancy Moscardini
Thu. Dec. 24	6 p.m.	For Peter Zareas for healing requested by Angie Zareas
	10:30 p.m.	Birthday blessings for Reanna Victorin requested by Colleen & Martin Victorin
Fri. Dec. 25	7:30 a.m.	Birthday blessings for Julia Joseph-Mingo
	9:30 a.m.	OLMC Parish
	12:30 p.m.	For the Coral Bay community



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 house 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

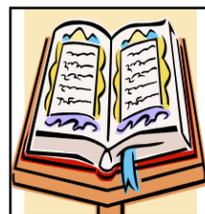
Monday: Dec. 21
 Sg 2:8-14
 Lk 1:39-45

Tuesday: Dec. 22
 1 Sm 1:24-28
 Lk 1:46-56

Wednesday: Dec. 23
 Mal 3:1-4, 23-24
 Lk 1:57-66

Thursday: Dec. 24
 2 Sm 7:1-5
 Lk 1:67-79

Daily Readings



Friday: Dec. 25
Vigil: Is 62:1-5/Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/Mt 1:1-25

Night: Is 9:1-6/Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14
Day: Is 52:7-10/Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18

Saturday: Dec. 26
 Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59
 Mt 10:17-22

Sunday: Dec. 27
 Sir 3:2-6, 12-14
 Col 3:6:12-2
 Lk 2:22-40

Stewardship of Treasure

Dec. 12	6 p.m.	\$292.00
Dec. 13	7:30 a.m.	\$329.00
	9:30 a.m.	\$558.00
	12:30 p.m.	\$115.00

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.

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Church

CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR'S MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve, Thursday, December 24:
 Mass: 6 p.m. (Vigil)
 Carols: 9:30 p.m.
 Mass: 10:30 p.m.

Christmas Day, Friday, December 25:
 Mass: 7:30 & 9:30 a.m.
 12:30 p.m. (Coral Bay)

New Year's Eve, Thursday, December 31:
 Mass: 6 p.m. (Vigil)
 Holy Hour: 9:30 p.m.
 Mass: 10:30 p.m.

New Year's Day, Friday, January 1:
 Mass: 8:30 a.m. & 11:30 a.m. (Coral Bay)

OLMC Member Birthdays Week of Dec. 19-25

- Ronald Lee Jr. Dec. 21
- Deacon Cassius Mathurin Dec. 24
- Julia Joseph-Mingo Dec. 24
- Reanna Victorin Dec. 24
- Noellise Powell Dec. 25

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

~ CHRISTMAS WISH LIST ~

- Gospel book cover - \$2,295.00
- (4) Solar lights for St. Therese chapel- \$107.00 each
- Wheelchair for Ervince Phillip

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.

- **NO MASS:** There will not be any Mass on Thursday morning, Dec. 24.
- **PRAYER MEETING:** Prayer Meeting will resume in January.
- **MEMBER REGISTRATION:** Please fill out a parish registration form if you are not registered or if your information needs to be updated.
- **TITHES/OFFERINGS:** If anyone would like to give their tithes, you can:
 - **A.** Drop your offering envelope in the church mailbox on the office door
 - **B.** Mail it to the church at P.O. Box 241, St. John, VI 00831
 - **C.** PayPal: Our Lady of Mount Carmel (olmc@hotmail.com)
 - **D.** Online giving: <https://www.myowngiving.com/Default.aspx?cid=1390>



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.

'The Spirit Makes All Things Possible'

By Adeline Jean

The readings of this Fourth Sunday of Advent reveal how God makes all things possible through the power of the Holy Spirit.

In the First Reading (2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8-12, 14, 16), we meet David, from whom Jesus, whose birth is announced in the Gospel Reading (Matthew 1:1-17), descended. What both of these scriptures have in common is that a revelation was God made and was accepted. King David pondered why he was living so comfortably while God resided in a tent. This made him decide to take matters into his own hands. He even obtained the blessing of Nathan the prophet who said to him, "Go, do whatever you have in mind, for the LORD is with you." Yet, that same night, the Spirit of the Lord spoke to Nathan telling him to remind David of all He had done for him and of all He was going to do as well. David accepted the Lord's word, and this led him to lift up a prayer of thanksgiving to God (18-29).

Mary also had her own life plan, which the Lord interrupted, promising her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you... for nothing will be impossible for God." Like David, Mary did not probe for the details, did not question the Lord's reasoning, did not doubt that God had actually spoken to her or that he could and would do what He promised. Instead, David and Mary accepted God's proposal and even praised Him, David's prayer of Thanksgiving, and Mary's Magnificat. They praised Him without knowing all the details, more so, not knowing how the impossible could be possible.

God does not make mistakes. He knows what He is doing every step of the way in our lives. He permits everything to happen in our lives. Our response should be like the examples set by David and Mary. David a repentant sinner, and Mary immaculately conceived, were equally called and both recognized the majesty of God.

When God speaks, our response should not be hesitation, doubt, or fear. We have to believe that God always has our best interest at heart because He has the perfect plan for our lives. Jesus' coming is part of that plan. We have the chance each Christmas to remember that Jesus came into this world as a reflection of God's love for us, a love that knows no bounds.

At the same time, Christmas allows us to anticipate the Second Coming of Christ. The Second Coming of Jesus' will mean that the righteous souls will be brought back to life and taken up to heaven together with the righteous who are alive on the earth.

There is no Christian who does not anticipate this Second Coming because this is the foundation of our faith. The Holy Spirit makes it possible for us to hear the Lord's word, to embrace it, and to allow the Lord to work in our lives in ways that are only possible through our complete surrender.

Prayer: Jesus, give me the gift of acceptance. May I accept your will, your plan for my life, my destiny without question, without grumbling, without fear. Amen

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



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Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Church

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The Fourth Sunday of Advent • Year B • December 19-20, 2020

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Lighting of the Advent candle Week Three



"TOGETHER BUILDING THE KINGDOM OF GOD"