

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish

March 19, 2023 † Fourth Sunday of Lent



8404 CASS AVENUE

DARIEN, ILLINOIS 60561

Parish Phone Number: 630-852-3303

Religious Education Phone Number: 630-963-3053

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday - 4:30 PM Sunday - 8:15 AM - 10 AM - 12 Noon

Weekdays & Saturdays - 9 AM

Holy Day Eve - 7:00 PM Holy Day - 9 AM - 7:00 PM
(Call Office to verify Mass times)

Church Office Hours: Monday through Friday, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

RECONCILIATION: Saturday 3:15--4PM

Parish Mission Statement

We are the Church, alive with Christ, a diverse community rooted in faith, celebrating a liturgy of life. We are prayerfully responsive to the Spirit of the living Gospel, freely and fully ministering to all.

We will be holding our **Holiday Food Drive** for **Easter** on **Sunday April 2nd**. We will only be accepting monetary donations that we then will pass on to people in need to help supplement their food. You could give cash, checks or gift cards. Please put any donations in an envelope & mark the outside with **"Holiday Food Drive Donation", your name & address** then place it in the collection basket. You will get credit for any donation you make. If you pay by check please put "Holiday Food Drive" on the memo line. There will be envelopes for you to use in the back of church if needed.

Please make your donations by March 26th.

Thank You,

Paul Gangi - *Holiday Food Drive Chairperson*



March 19, 2023

I grew up on the far south-east of Chicago. Even though I grew up in a very urban setting, the parcel of land across the street for the whole block was empty. So, it was just an overgrown vacant lot. That lot of course became the neighborhood hang out for many of the local kids as it gave us a safe place to play and were still in easy sight of our homes. The field would get very muddy after a rain, which delighted us kids but made our moms very upset, as you can understand. It was fun playing in the mud, making mud pies and throwing it at each other. We were a mess at the end of day. One more than one occasion mom took the garden hose to wash me off in the yard before I could even come close to the house. It was a fun way to grow up. As we get older the type of mud that we choose to get into

changes. While we may not be rolling in actual mud, we do get into our own sins and they can get more complicated the older we get. The Gospel today is the blind man on whom Jesus put mud on his eyes to restore his sight. Jesus figuratively used the stuff got us dirty to be the source of our healing. That is at the heart of Lent. We need to look at all the things that are perhaps making us dirty and trust that the Lord can use even that dirt to make us clean again. As we continue through Lent, this is a great time to avail ourselves of the Sacrament of Reconciliation. In the Sacrament we can turn over all the mud that is on us and be cleaned again. What a wonderful act of love on the Lord's part. Our parish is offering the Sacrament of Reconciliation on Friday evenings from 6 -7 pm and on Saturday afternoons from 3:15 – 4pm.

This is also Laetare Sunday. It marks the halfway point of Lent. I am looking forward to breaking out the rose (pink) vestments again. Traditionally, this Sunday has been a day of celebration, within the austere period of Lent. This Sunday gets its name from the first few words of the traditional Latin entrance for the Mass of the day. "*Laetare Jerusalem*" ("Rejoice, O Jerusalem") is Latin from Isaiah 66:10.

Fr. Jeff

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — As the prophet Samuel anointed David with oil, the spirit of the LORD rushed upon David (1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a).

Psalm — My shepherd is the Lord; I shall not want (Psalm 23).

Second Reading — You who were once darkness are now light in the Lord. Live as children of light (Ephesians 5:8-14).

Gospel — The man who was blind from birth proclaimed: The one called Jesus made clay with his saliva, anointed my eyes with it, and told me to wash. When I washed, I was able to see! (John 9:1-41 [1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38])

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29; Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22; Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a

Tuesday: Ez 47:1-9, 12; Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9; Jn 5:1-16

Wednesday: Is 49:8-15; Ps 145:8-9, 13cd-14, 17-18; Jn 5:17-30

Thursday: Ex 32:7-14; Ps 106:19-23; Jn 5:31-47

Friday: Wis 2:1a, 12-22; Ps 34:17-21, 23; Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

Saturday: Is 7:10-14, 8:10; Ps 40:7-11; Heb 10:4-10; Lk 1:26-38

Sunday: Ez 37:12-14; Ps 130:1-8; Rom 8:8-11; Jn 11:1-45 [3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45]

Cathy's Corner—Stumbling Not on the Path to the Kingdom

Jesus had just been sparring with the Pharisees and the Herodians who were trying to trap him on whether or not to pay the census tax to Caesar. A few minutes later he was tussling with the Sadducees about whose wife a woman who had been married to seven brothers would be at the resurrection. So it had to be a great relief when the scribe came up to him, impressed with how Jesus had adroitly handled both interrogations, and gave him the softball question about which was the first of all the commandments.

Mind you, there were 613 from which to choose. Still, from the time Moses first set the commandments before the Israelites, there was one that was always the greatest. It was the *Shema*, to be recited morning and evening, to be drilled into the children, bound at the wrist as a sign, worn as a pendant on the forehead, written on the doorposts of the houses and the gates. "Hear, O Israel! The Lord our God is Lord alone! You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind and with all your strength." However, the second commandment Jesus tucked in, to love your neighbor as yourself, was a minor statement buried in the Book of Leviticus, situated strangely between taking no revenge against your fellow countrymen and not breeding any of your domestic animals with another species.

The scribe, though, readily agreed that it was the combination of those commandments that was truly the greatest of all. In fact, he further recognized that this amalgam was worth more than all burnt offerings and sacrifices. As the Lord proclaimed through the prophet Hosea, that was all the Lord wanted from the people of Israel. To not worship the gods of military might and human handiwork. To not reduce their relationship with the Lord to offering some livestock and lighting some incense. But to truly give their devotion to God and truly give their care to each other.

When Jesus heard the scribe's response, he knew that he was wise enough to understand these things. He was prudent enough to know what was most imperative. Jesus knew that the scribe was walking in the path of the Lord, surefooted and steady, that led straight to the Kingdom of God. And that is why Jesus was so pleased with his response. Assuredly, that is all our God has ever wanted from any of us: to hear and obey that greatest of all commandments. With the wisdom to use that as our own navigation tool, neither shall we stumble on the path to God's Kingdom.

Hos 14:2-10; Ps 81:6c-8a, 8bc-9, 10-11ab, 14 and 17; Mk 12:28-34

"Grandpa D and Me, a Spiritual Reflection"

Guest speaker, Mary Michalski, a grandmother, spiritual companion and new author, will share some of the stories of faith and courage found in her book.

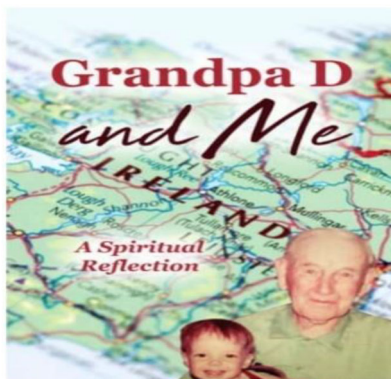
"The collective wisdom of our ancestors, who paved the way for us, along with our own heart's desires and dreams, and even the aging process, can create a better tomorrow for future generations."

Thursday, March 23 at 9:30 a.m.

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church, lower-level

All grandparents are welcome ~ please join us!

catholicgrandparentsolmc@gmail.com

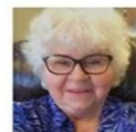


Grandpa D and Me

This book looks at the life of our grandpa, James P Delaney, who came to the States from Ireland at just 12 years of age and never saw his parents or most siblings again in this life.

It attests to my personal transformation after just one visit to Ireland. It looks at our Irish roots of faith and courage and how much we were influenced by them. It looks at a little Irish history; immigration of the past and present, and other current and past issues, including the Catholic Church.

Miracles are a part of every life if we recognize their gracious gift – our dreams can also be insights to be lived. We each can make a big difference just by using the gifts we have been given to help make this a better world for all. Just begin no matter how many years may have already passed you by!



Mary Kearney Michalski, a farmer's daughter, sister, former wife, mom, grandma, lifelong educator, spiritual companion, and one who believes there is an opportunity for new beginnings around every bend in the road. I believe our heart's desires can be enhanced by our dreams and even the aging process. I hope this book reminds all there is value in the collective wisdom of our ancestors who paved the way for us. We need the cumulative wisdom of those gone before us to help create a better tomorrow. It is never too late to start creating a footprint with value for future generations to follow.

Knights of Columbus Initiation Degree Exemplification is scheduled for a live presentation at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel at 3:30 PM on March 19.

Candidates should be there before 3:15.

Since the founding of the Knights in 1882, the initiation ceremonies for the first three degrees of Knights membership — focused on the principles of charity, unity and fraternity — have been separate and open to members only. The fourth degree, dedicated to the principal of patriotism, was added later and this initiation also is secret and for members only. But for the last few years, the Knights have adopted a new ceremony. Called the Exemplification of Charity, Unity and Fraternity, it combines the initiation for the first three degrees into a single ceremony that will be open to family, friends and fellow parishioners.

Although we will welcome walk-ins (important to be there early), we ask for those interested to contact our Grand Knight, Ray, ray.wachowski@gmail.com, so he can send some forms/links to be filled out.

- RECRUITMENT is each Knight's Responsibility - invite Catholic Men (18 & older) family & friends to join.



On June 11, 2023 Father Ed Ward will be celebrating his 50th Anniversary of Ordination to the priesthood at the 12:00PM Mass. Come one, come all. A reception will follow!

Middle and High School Service Opportunity!



STATIONS of the CROSS

Help bring the stations of the cross to life for our parish community on Good Friday, April 7th at 3pm. We are looking for students to play all roles from Jesus to the townspeople. Contact Stephanie Rawls to get involved in this beautiful Lenten prayer!

High School Youth Group

March 19th at 1:00pm

Join us Sunday, March 19th to celebrate St. Joseph's feast day! We will celebrate the Italian way with a pasta bar, zeppole, and will be collecting donations for our parish food pantry to make a St. Joseph's Table.

St. Joseph is commonly known for following God's will in silence and being the protector of his family, but there is so much more to this great Saint! Come and learn more about what makes Saint Joseph an extraordinary intercessor.

Contact Stephanie Rawls for questions or details - if you would like to come and need gluten free pasta, please let me know!!
630-852-3303 ext.6
stephanie.rawls@ourladyofmtcarmel.org



RE News...

Registration for 23-24 will be coming out soon! Make sure you are on the look out for it. We will NOT have sessions on Saturday next year.

Questions of the Week

Question for Children: What are the things that Jesus wants you to do as his friend?

Question for Youth: Jesus helped a blind man see—and he helps each of us see the world differently. How do you see differently because you believe?

Question for Adults: Share how you, as a child of the light, in the power of Christ, produce goodness, justice, and truth for the world. What specific actions do you take to do this?

Activities of the Week

Use a candle to communicate to your children the light of Christ. Pass the candle around to each family member. Have family members take turns telling the person holding the candle, what good things they see in him or her.

As we continue our Lenten journey, evaluate your family resolutions of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. Are our Lenten practices helping us to see the light of Christ in others? What Lenten practices help us see the light of Christ in ourselves?

CHRISTOS Reunion

There has been some interest in doing a reunion for all previous CHRISTOS families. We would love the opportunity to share this time with anyone interested.

Additionally, we are currently working with the Diocese to pilot a program for Young Adults with special needs called Faith Pathways. Our first meeting will be held here at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel on Sunday, April 23 at 7:00 PM. Please call the RE office for more info.

First Communion Info

Bread Breaking Celebrations

March 22 or 23 @ 6:45 pm

Please contact the office ASAP to RSVP

We will have just one Mass at 11:00 AM for First Communion on Saturday, May 20. Practice will be held on Thursday, May 18 at 6:30 for readers, Gift Bearers, and Banner Carriers, with a PRACTICE FOR EVERYONE AT 7:00 PM.

SAVE THE DATE!

Our Vacation Bible School will happen on the week of July 10-14 from 12:00-3:00 PM each day, with a celebration and Ice Cream Social on Friday, July 14 at 3:00. Watch for Sign-up info soon.

We are still looking for helpers and leaders for stations and small groups. We would like to keep each group to 6 young participants, with 1-2 Jr. Leaders (Grades 5-7), and one Adult Leader, or 2 High School Leaders. We also need station leaders. Our next training session will be Tuesday, April 4th at 7:00 in the 3rd grade classrooms.

The theme this year is STELLAR: an outer space odyssey where we learn how to Shine Jesus' Light. Each day is filled with songs, activities, crafts, games and FUN! Each day we will look at a bible point and make our Catholic Connections to that point. Please contact the RE office for more info.



Mary Anne Trochim	James Curley
Julie Ann Lacey	Barb Schunk
John Guzior	Frank Jasek
Jeanette Seebock	Nancy Kososki
Gentle Cabrera	Bridget Gallmeier Raineri
Nancy Jisisju	Kevin & Jenne Gallmeier
Bill Haran	Susan Nugent
Evelyn Swartz	Abby Grace McCarver
Jean & Mark Boyd	Allen Raineri
Jamie Carpenter	Diana Clohecy
Loren Davis	Kim Hoover

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, March 18, 2023

4:30PM Gene & Jeanette Lang (Daughter)

Sunday, March 19, 2023

8:15AM Margaret, Sergio & Ann Vatta (Nick Rocco)

Ann Zimmermann Huesta (Rita Thompson)

Ralph Moore (Germaine)

10:00AM Fortunato Ravine (Pax & Rose Ravina)

Joselito Reyes-13th anniv (Family)

Nick Orlando-3rd anniv (Family)

NOON Bill Dziak (Mary)

Maria Manaligod (Friends)

George (Family)

Monday, March 20, 2023

9:00AM Pat Garges-living (Melanie Ruta)

Jim Nieciak-living (Melanie Ruta)

Marlene & Jeff Carioto (Sheri)

Rose & Smitty DeGrazia (Granddaughter)

Tuesday, March 21, 2023

9:00AM Edward Stankzewski

(Frank & Fran Modelski)

Wednesday, March 22, 2023

9:00AM Capt. Peter John Cross (Family)

Martin Korando (Family)

Thursday, March 23, 2023

9:00AM Rose Storino (Family)

Domonto DeLaRea (Family)

Friday, March 24, 2023

9:00AM Frances Chapukonis (Jerry Barich)

Catherine Lamb (Family)

Frank Sible (Wife Linda)

Michael Bagasbas (Family)

Saturday, March 25, 2023

9:00AM Mary Chacko-6th anniv (Family)



SPC Jonathan Poynton

Joe Barker

Sgt. J. Bartlett Pvt.

Cpl. Joseph Belgis, USMC

Wayne R. Zefeldt, Army

S. Sgt. Michael Mullahy

Ryan Pertile, Army

Major Thomas Bessler

Mike Noonan

Adam Kowalski, Army

Capt. James Lucas US Army

Sgt. Greg Burnett

Sgt. Meghan Callham, USMC

Ron Caruso Jr.

Specialist Drew Stocks

Christine Christensen, USAF

Lt. Joseph A Vacek, USMC

Colin Cusack

Michael Sklodowski, Army

Nick Radziwon, US Navy

Gwen Zemaitis Baker

James Lucas US Army

Capt. Melissa Sprague

Capt. Mark Sprague

Zach Wallace

James Chipman

Keith Thomas

L.C. David Treadwell

Timothy Vaughn, USAF

Zachary Bell

Christopher Johnson USCG

Sgt. Eric Kuchta, Army

Pvt Dylan R. Hagan

Danielle Monahan SrA

Sgt. Ryan Thomas Lavine, Army

Lindsey Johnson

Diahann Bavan

Ronan Randy S. BA.SAT-U.S.Navy

Derek McCarthy

Joe Michalski

Steve Baker, Lt

Luke Fluder

Pfc Drew Hillebold, Army

Vincent Napoli, USMC

Nikolas Horskey, Army

Lt. Col Jason O'Neil, USMC

Capt. Tim Wilson

Rachael Smith

Kevin Pope

Dave Rawlings

LCpl Daniel Holakovsky, USMC

Tom Reiter

Nathaniel Rozgo

Robert DeMatio

Frank Andrew McKenna, Navy

Captain Jackson Panice

Ryan Snyder

Capt. James Lienau

Sgt. Kevin Gallmeier Jr.

Pat Gill Petty Officer

Brian Sheenhan, Army

Joseph Higgins

Gary Hogan

Kevin Hornett

Dan Eugene Bavan

Dan Welters

Alex Erkiens

Capt. Michael K. Desmond, Jr., USMC

1st Lt. Mark Marten, US Army

Ted Cook

Rosary Group
Every Wednesday
7PM
In the Chapel

