

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish

March 5, 2023 † Second 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.

PARISH STAFF

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March 5, 2023

We enter into the second week of Lent, and I pray that we are each being drawn deeper into mystery of our Salvation that this season calls us to focus on. Lent is that time to look inward at those things inside of us that need to be changed. However, the look inward should always lead us outward to see the needs of our brothers and sisters. The Gospel this weekend is the story of the Transfiguration. This story of Jesus up on the mountain with Peter, James and John takes place just before Jesus enters Jerusalem on what we call Palm Sunday. There are so many elements to this story that are worth pondering. I have always wondered what Jesus was discussing with Moses and Elijah? The Gospels never say. I tend to think it was a pep talk telling Jesus to stay focused. Jesus must have known that things were

not going to go well in Jerusalem and needed some encouragement. Perhaps Moses and Elijah were there to tell Jesus that everything will be ok? After all, He was still human, and the thought of suffering and death scares us. Part of the challenge of Lent is remember our own mortality. We use the phrase, "Remember that you are dust and unto dust you will return" on Ash Wednesday. Death is frightening, but something we must be constantly preparing for.

Another aspect to Lent is the call to keep our focus on the needs of others. Peter was so caught up in the magic of that moment that he wanted to build tents and stay there forever. Jesus told him no and said that we must enter Jerusalem. Jesus reminded Peter and reminds us that we are not to get caught up ourselves and look out for our own interests, but instead to constantly be asking what is best for those around us and how can I serve others? I hope that we can all focus a little bit more on the needs of others this Lent.

Lent is meant to be a challenge. These 40 days should not easy. This time calls us to focus on our mortality and being prepared. The best way to prepare is to focus on others. As we focus on the mystery of the Transfiguration today, may we each strive to be transformed into better disciples of Jesus Christ.

Fr. Jeff

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — The LORD said to Abram: All the families of the earth shall find blessing in you (Genesis 12:1-4a)

Psalm — We rely on you, O God; show us mercy (Psalm 33).

Second Reading — God has called us to a holy life, not because of our works but according to grace (2 Timothy 1:8b-10).

Gospel — Atop a high mountain, Jesus was transfigured before Peter, James, and John. (Matthew 17:1-9).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Dn 9:4b-10; Ps 79:8, 9, 11, 13; Lk 6:36-38

Tuesday: Is 1:10, 16-20; Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21, 23; Mt 23:1-12

Wednesday: Jer 18:18-20; Ps 31:5-6, 14-16; Mt 20:17-28

Thursday: Jer 17:5-10; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Lk 16:19-31

Friday: Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a; 17b-28a; Ps 105:16-21; Mt 21:33-43, 45-46

Saturday: Mi 7:14-15, 18-20; Ps 103:1-4, 9-12; Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

Sunday: Ex 17:3-7; Ps 95:1-2, 6-9; Rom 5:1-2, 5-8; Jn 4:5-42 [5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42]

Cathy's Corner—Antitheses and Hypertheses and Fiery Gehenna

The Sermon on the Mount is one of the five great discourses in the Gospel of Matthew, containing the well-known Beatitudes, eight in number and beginning with “Blessed are . . .” Also included are the lesser known antitheses, six in total, presented in the very different format of “You have heard it said . . . but I say to you.” An antithesis is defined as “a contrast or opposition between two things” and these statements of Jesus appear to contradict Old Testament teaching. But perhaps on closer examination they do no such thing. For example, to his audience of fellow Jews, Jesus repeated the law given to Moses that “you shall not kill,” proceeding to mandate that you shall not even be angry with your brother or sister.

Rather than a contradiction of time-honored directive, it is in fact an affirmation of it, while deepening it and radicalizing it, making it much more relevant to real life. No different than today, murdering another human being was an extreme and rare occurrence among most people, but exhibiting anger toward another by hurling insulting epithets a commonplace one. No less unusual was ignoring the one hurt by such behavior and proceeding to worship God as if nothing had happened. Or resorting to legal processes because reconciliation has not even been attempted due to obstinacy and acrimony. All of those run-of-the-mill, everyday ways of letting anger preclude treating another kindly and fairly make one liable to judgment just as would committing the act on the far end of that spectrum, murder.

So said Jesus in what some scholars would call a “hyperthesis,” a returning to the original will of God but in its most superb and extravagant definition. Because the mercy of God is superb and extravagant. God forgets the sins of the most wicked of people should they turn from their wickedness, the prophet Ezekiel proclaims. And the Lord God rejoices when that happens, when someone chooses to do what is right and just, chooses a virtuous life so to abide forever with God.

But it is far too easy for any of us to turn away from a path of virtue, to break faith and commit sin as Ezekiel speaks of as well. It is far too easy because that starts with the smallest and most trifling of unkind acts. Which is why Jesus minces no words about the path to fiery Gehenna from what might seem to us minor fits of angry words or insignificant refusals to reconcile with others. Performing an act of worship alone will not put us back on the right path; only asking forgiveness from the one we have wronged will. It may not seem a superb and extravagant way to live, but Jesus would insist otherwise.

Ez 18:21-28; Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-7a, 7bc-8; Mt 5:20-26



Our Lady of Peace with
Our Lady of Mount Carmel
invite you to be *Nourished*
in your caregiving ministry

Caring for a loved one is rewarding, BUT it is not always easy.

We understand family caregivers need somewhere to turn to for information, strength and connection during the caregiver journey.

Let us provide that for you, all with a Christ-centered view.

NEXT MEETING: MARCH 11

8:30 am to 10:00 am at Our Lady of Peace

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Thrive • Empower • Advance

Cathy Lentz 630-852-3303 catharine.lentz@ourladyofmtcarmel.org OR
Kellie Moore 630-323-4392 kmoore@olopdarien.org for more information

Lenten Fast for Creation Care

This Lent, consider a Lenten Sacrifice focused on Care for God's Creation



Why a Lenten Creation Care Fast? Plastic waste is clogging landfills and waterways, disrupting ecosystems & poisoning food chains.

WEEK THREE: The average American uses 156 water bottles/year. Limited demand means only a small portion of the plastic in your recycling bin gets recycled. Plastic takes centuries to degrade and breaks down into smaller pieces that harm wildlife when mistaken by animals for food. During Lent, let's sacrifice convenience in favor of protecting God's wonderful gift to us of Creation.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
MARCH	6	7	8	9	10	11	12

Plastic Fast - Use Less Disposables! Pick recyclable alternatives to plastic (i.e., — metal pop cans); Avoid fast food plastic containers and straws. Carry re-usable bottles, cups, utensils, and “to-go” containers. Use re-usable canvas shopping bags instead of plastic bags.



40 DAYS FOR LIFE™

life is precious -defend it

Spring Campaign
February 22nd - April 2nd



Put your faith in action by joining your fellow parishioners for the Spring 2023 *40 Days for Life* prayer vigil to end abortion.

Please consider committing to a specific hour of prayer at the Access Health abortion clinic in Downers Grove during the hours of 7AM to 7PM from February 22nd to April 2nd, and bring a friend. Another option would be to sign up your church for an entire day or even half a day to pray.

For more information and to sign up, go to www.40daysforlife.com/downersgrove. Access Health Clinic is located at 1700 W. 75th Street, Downers Grove.

PRAY TO END ABORTION

If you have already pledged your support to the Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal (CMAA), thank you! If we all participate, we can meet our parish's CMAA goal of \$82,800. Each and every gift, large or small, makes a difference.

If you still need to make your gift, please prayerfully reflect on how you can best support the CMAA this year and ensure all in our diocese know that *we belong to God*. There are many options for giving, from pledging to monthly recurring gifts. Pledge envelopes are still available in the church, or you can return the pledge card you received in the mail from the diocese or make a gift online at jolietdioceseappeal.org.

Remember, if we raise more than our goal, the diocese will return to us 70 percent of the amount over goal. This is an amazing opportunity for our parish.





RE News...

We are looking for a few catechists and seasonal helpers. We are still looking for a 6th Grade Catechist on Monday at 7:00PM

Questions of the Week

Question for Children: Share about a time when you felt especially close to God or Jesus.

Question for Youth: Have you ever had a "mountain top" experience where you felt exceptionally close to God? How was your life changed by that experience?

Question for Adults: Perhaps this reading calls us, not to cling to the familiar, but to leave the comforts of the parish and reach out to the world around us. In your neighborhood or community, who is waiting to hear the Good News?

Activity of the Week:

We grow in our knowledge of Jesus through prayer. As a family, share some experiences of prayer. Encourage family members to share their favorite forms of prayer. Remember that prayer can take many forms, such as silent meditations, song, journaling, litanies, the Rosary, Mass, spontaneous conversations with Jesus, and so forth. Arrange for your family to come together for prayer. Also encourage family members to spend some time in prayer on their own.

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.

Upcoming Dates

Family/Parish Lent Event

Join us on Sunday, March 12 as we take a deeper look at the Lenten Gospel Readings also known as the Scrutinies. Families will get the opportunity to break open each of the three Scrutinies with activities, crafts, and prayer. Call the RE Office for more info.

Family Mass, Sunday, March 19 at 10:00 We are collecting cleaning supplies for the Food Pantry. We need Readers, Greeters, Ushers, and Gift Bearers. Call the RE office if you would like to help.

First Communion Information

First Communion Retreat

Our First Communion Retreat for anyone receiving the sacrament of Holy Communion this year, will be held on Saturday, March 18 from 10:00-12:00 or 11:30-1:30. Call the RE Office for more info.

Bread Breaking Celebrations

Our Bread Breaking Celebrations will be held on Wednesday, March 22 and Thursday, March 23. Please contact the RE office for detailed info.

Operation Rice Bowls-CRS

This Lent, join us as we participate in Operation Rice Bowl through CRS 25% of all donations stay within the diocese to help fight hunger locally. Pick up your Rice bowl in the back of Church.



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 David	Kim Hoover

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, March 4, 2023

4:30PM Gene & Jeanette Lang (Daughter)

Sunday, March 5, 2023

8:15AM Ed Shoudis (Brescia Family)

Christine, Frank & Frank Jr. Poli (Nick Rocco)

10:00AM Dr. Cornelio Casaclang Jr. (Friend)

Tracey Gannon-11th anniv (Gannon Boys)

Scott Arnold-8th anniv (Family)

NOON Tony Corso (Evelyn Antikauskas)

Joseph DeMasi (Wife)

Monday, March 6, 2023

9:00AM Brian & Nancy Monahan (Monahan Family)

Kathleen O'Connell (Eugene Munin)

Tuesday, March 7, 2023

9:00AM Xandra Kaczala (Frank & Fran Modelski)

Mildred Brockman (Sisters)

Marie Coffey (Eugene Munin)

Judy Romano (Jerry Barich)

Domingo Echevari (Family)

Michael Sislow Jr. (Mom & Jerry)

Wednesday, March 8, 2023

9:00AM Dorothy Siroky (Frank & Fran Modelski)

Dorothy Apolinski (Evelyn Antikauskas)

Lt. Gene Munin (Eugene Munin)

Glicerio Oculam Josol (Family)

T.J. Meehan-living (Family)

Thursday, March 9, 2023

9:00AM Mary Walega (Frank & Fran Modelski)

Adam Smith (Evelyn Antikauskas)

Frances & Phillip Carioto (Sheri)

Friday, March 10, 2023

9:00AM Dr. Cornelio Casaclang (Friends)

Adela Sabuquia (Family)

Saturday, March 11, 2023

9:00AM Parishioners of OLMC



PFC 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

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

