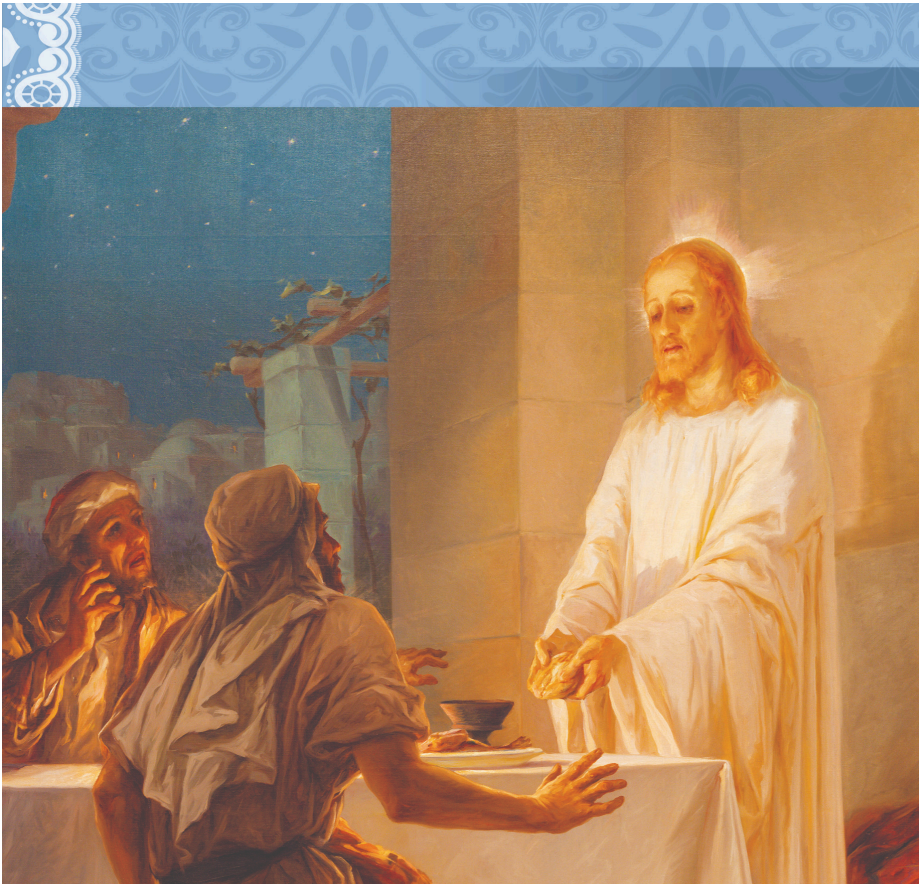


OUR LADY OF MT. CARMEL PARISH

8404 S. CASS AVE. DARIEN. IL 60561



3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER

"And it happened that, while he was with them at table, he took bread, said the blessing, broke it, and gave it to them. With that their eyes were opened and they recognized him, but he vanished from their sight." Luke 24:30-31

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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OUR MISSION

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.

OFFICE PHONE: 630-852-3303 - RELIGIOUS ED: 630-963-3053

APRIL 19, 2026
THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER



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bulletin emailed to you!
parishesonline.com

CONNECT WITH US



ourladyofmtcarmel.org



facebook.com/olmcdarien

MASS SCHEDULE

WEEKEND MASS

Saturday Vigil | 4:30pm

Sunday | 8:15am, 10am & 12pm

WEEKDAY MASS

Monday - Saturday | 9am

RECONCILIATION

Saturday | 3:15pm - 4pm

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday | 8am - 4:30pm

PARISH STAFF

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frjeff@ourladyofmtcarmel.org

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02 PASTOR'S LETTER

April 19, 2026/Third Sunday of Easter

PASTOR'S LETTER

Happy Easter! We continue to celebrate with praise and thanksgiving for our share in the Paschal Mystery through Baptism during this Easter Season. This season lasts for 50 days after Easter Sunday until the Pentecost. Every day is meant to be a new Easter for us. I enjoy doing the Sprinkling Rite during this season to remind us that we through Baptism we share in the Paschal Mystery and are made part of the life of Christ. Baptism and the Resurrection are intricately linked.

We hear the story of the Road to Emmaus in the Gospel today. This is one of those classic Bible stories that many of us could tell by heart and get most the details correct. As with most Bible stories there are so many layers of meaning. Cleopas (we don't know any more about who he was) and his unnamed friend were walking to Emmaus. Whenever a figure is not given a proper name, it is a good opportunity to insert ourselves into the story, maybe it is meant to be you or I. Jesus' whole life was framed as a journey to Jerusalem, our Heavenly home. So, when we see someone leaving Jerusalem, it's not a good thing. We'll never know the real reason they were leaving, but we know what our reasons for turning our back on Christ and walking away are. I could only imagine how scared and confused they were. We are sometimes scared to be a disciple of Christ today. They may have been running away. Each one of us has run away at some point. We allowed sin and temptation to turn us away from Christ. The amazing thing is that Christ never turns his back on us. Just when these two men were walking away, Jesus comes and walks with them in the wrong direction. Jesus is at first not condemning of them. He doesn't yell at them to change their ways. Jesus walks and listens to them. This is a good reminder that when we have a family member or friend that is making poor life decisions, the best thing we can do is walk and listen to them to understand what is happening in life and how we can best help them. Christ did just that and continued to converse and share about himself with them. They didn't fully understand at first, but Christ kept walking with them. Christ finally seized the right moment to make himself fully known to them. In the breaking of the bread, the two disciples recognized the Lord and had the courage to return to Jerusalem. They were not running away any longer but now running to the Risen Christ. That is the power of the Eucharist, which we celebrate at every mass. The Eucharist has the power to transform us and get us to leave old ways behind and run to Christ. It is not always easy, we may be on the wrong path for a long time, but Christ will keep burning in our hearts until we finally decide to run to Him.

We are getting closer to starting our much-needed replacement of the upper metal roof. I am not sure of an exact start date. It will not interfere with the weekend liturgies. However, there could be some disruption of our weekday routine. Thanks for your patience and support.



**REV. JEFF SMIALEK,
O.CARM., PASTOR**

*Our Lady of
Mount Carmel*

... Pray for us!

Fr. Jeff



Readings for the week of April 19, 2026

Sunday: Acts 2:14, 22-33/Ps 16:1-2 and 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11/1 Pt 1:17-21/Lk 24:13-35

Monday: Acts 6:8-15/Ps 119:23-24, 26-27, 29-30/Jn 6:22-29

Tuesday: Acts 7:51-8:1a/ Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 7b and 8a, 17 and 21ab/Jn 6:30-35

Wednesday: Acts 8:1b-8/ Ps 66:1-3a, 4-5, 6-7a/Jn 6:35-40

Thursday: Acts 8:26-40/ Ps 66:8-9, 16-17, 20/Jn 6:44-51

Friday: Acts 9:1-20/ Ps 117:1bc, 2/Jn 6:52-59

Saturday: 1 Pt 5:5b-14/ Ps 89:2-3, 6-7, 16-17/Mk 16:15-20

03 INTENTIONS & EVENTS

April 19, 2026/Third Sunday of Easter

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, APRIL 18

4:30pm Arlene Brescia (Donatello Family)
Kowalski Family-living (Family)
Mary Lu Stefanski (Family)
Reynaldo Evano (Family)
Faith Teodoro-living (Family)
Daisy San Juan-living (Family)

SUNDAY, APRIL 19

8:15am Margaret Rocco (Nick Rocco)
10:00am Andrea Abbate-44th Anniv. (Family)
Robert Lukasiewicz (Family)
Josephine Abraham (Family)
Noon Mary Tuminello (Thompson Family)
Marie Dulay (Family)
Margaret Cukale (Family)

MONDAY, APRIL 20

9:00am Adam (Friend)

TUESDAY, APRIL 21

9:00am Rose Cesna (Daughter)
Laverne Munsayac-7th Anniv. (Josie)
Samuel Sikora (Family)
Bernie Nutile (Sheri)

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22

9:00am Parishoners of OLMC

THURSDAY, APRIL 23

9:00am Joseph Strejc-30th Anniv. (Family)
Ruth Madden (Family)
William Barker (Eugene Munin)

FRIDAY, APRIL 24

9:00am Margaret Curry (Pat Monahan)
Bill Sherlock-14th Anniv. (Andre & Boys)

SATURDAY, APRIL 25

9:00am Parishoners of OLMC

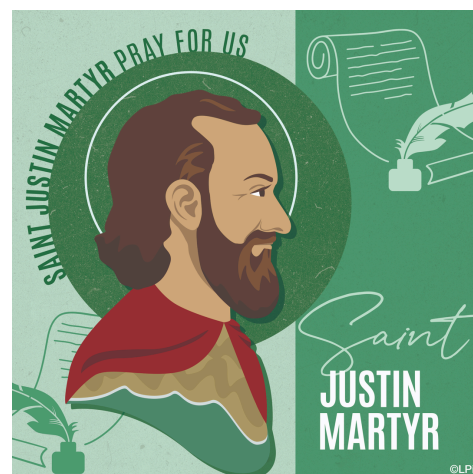
The Mass in the Early Days of the Church

No one may share the eucharist with us unless he believes that what we teach is true, unless he is washed in the regenerating waters of baptism for the remission of his sins, and unless he lives in accordance with the principles given us by Christ.

We do not consume the eucharistic bread and wine as if it was ordinary food and drink, for we have been taught that as Jesus Christ our Savior became a man of flesh and blood by the power of the Word of God, so also the food that our flesh and blood assimilates for its nourishment become the flesh and blood of the incarnate Jesus by the power of his own words contained in the prayer of thanksgiving.

The apostles in their recollections, which are called gospels, handed down to us what Jesus commanded them to do. They tell us that he took bread, gave thanks and said: Do this in memory of me. This is my body. In the same way he took the cup, he gave thanks and said: This is my blood. The Lord gave this command to them alone. Ever since then we have constantly reminded one another of these things. The rich among us help the poor and we are always united. For all that we receive we praise the Creator of the universe through his Son Jesus Christ and through the Holy Spirit.

St Justin (100-165 A.D.) Early Catholic theologian, apologist and martyr. The above was taken from the first apology (explanation) in defense of Christians.



Young at Hearts
Meets on the Lower Level
Join us **May 7th** at **10:00 a.m.**
Hope to see you then!

ADORATION
Eucharistic Adoration
First Friday of the Month
3pm to 6:30pm
Concluding with Benediction

The Faithful Hands
FAMILY CAREGIVER Ministry
Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish

Faithful Hands Ministry
Thursday April 23 | 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Lower Level

Providing care for a loved one with a mental health condition is a sacred journey. Take this time for your Spiritual Self-care. Information: Reach out to Lori Prado



Celebrating the Easter Season

Questions of the Week

Question for Children: What is your favorite time to share a meal with your family?

Question for Youth: The disciples recognized Jesus in the breaking of bread. How have you experienced Jesus at Mass, in the breaking of the Eucharistic bread? How have you experienced Jesus at meals and with friends and family?

Question for Adults: Share about great meals you've been part of, ones which are still memorable to you.

Activities of the Week

In the Emmaus story, the disciples did not fully recognize Jesus until they shared a meal with him. Why is mealtime an important time for your family? When have you experienced Jesus' presence at a family meal?

Plant a tree to help your family continue its celebration of Easter. Let it be a symbol of your family's faith as both grow and mature.

Summer VBS

July 20-24

Registration

now open!

We need your help!

Looking for small group leaders-each group has 5-6 mixed aged children with a jounior helper to assist you. We also need station leaders and help with deocorating.



Pick Up Registration for 2026-2027 RE after all Masses this weekend.

The RE year is almost finished. We are already planning for summer events and next year's curriculum. If you would like to be a part of our amazing team, and we can always use your help, please prayerfully consider joining us. Call the RE office for any questions you may have. Thanks to all of our teammates that have stepped up to help our youngest parishioners grow in their faith. You are truly gift!

YOUTH MINISTRY

April Newsletter

Upcoming Youth Group Meetings

April 26: Celebrate the Graduates!

Our Youth Group will meet over the summer! Schedule coming soon!

Please Pray for our Candidates

April 30th is Confirmation!

Please keep our Candidates in your prayers as they finish their final weeks of preparation.

Summer Retreat: Steubenville

All rising 9th - 12th graders are invited to attend the Steubenville Conference this summer June 26 -28 at Benedictine University. We have a few tickets left! Scan the QR code to sign up today!



Confirmation Reception Help

Calling all 7th graders! We would love your help getting ready for our Confirmation Mass and Reception! Use the QR to sign up to help on April 30th! Let's celebrate this amazing group of Candidates!



OCIA CORNER



What an exciting time in our Church! We have a group of participants who will be continuing their OCIA journey, meeting weekly, in September! **If you are or know someone who is interested in becoming Catholic or completing initiation, please contact Jen Emanuele: jennifer.emanuele@ourladyofmtcarmel.org.**

The Ministry of OCIA not only involves committed participants, but it also includes dedicated members from our parish to walk alongside them. If you would like to be apart of our group's OCIA journey, please reach out to Jen to discuss.

06 SPECIAL EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

April 19, 2026/Third Sunday of Easter



Diocese of Joliet

Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal

Our OLMC Parish goal is \$88,000, and we have raised \$78,000 through 4/12/26. We are \$10,000 away from our goal! Please consider donating at the link below. Thank you for all of your support!

<https://giving.diojoliet.org/annual-appeal>

2026 ANNUAL APPEAL	\$78,000	\$88,000
OLMC PARISH GOAL	raised	goal

2026 Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal Update



EARTH DAY!
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22



SCARCE | ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION



Electronics Recycling & Textiles & Book Collection

Co-sponsored by CTS Green Team, eWorks Electronics Services, & SCARCE Environmental Education

Items Accepted: **Computers & peripherals (disposal fee for TVs and monitors), Office Equipment & Products, Small Home Appliances, Home Entertainment, and Textiles & Clothing**

Saturday, May 16 | 8:30am-11:30am

Christ the Servant Parking Lot

8700 Havens Drive, Woodridge

For a detailed list of items accepted, visit

<https://www.scarce.org/event/woodridge-recycling-event-hosted-by-christ-the-servant/>



Are you widowed and still hurting? Please join us.

Announcing our next 2 retreats in April and May 2026:

What: Joyful Again! 2-day Workshop & Spiritual Retreat

When: April 25th & 26th 2026

Where: Bellarmine Jesuit Retreat House, Barrington IL
Overnight Accommodations available

What: Joyful Again! 2-day Workshop & Spiritual Retreat

When: May 30th & 31st 2026

Where: St Joan of Arc Parish, Lisle IL.

No overnight accommodations available at this event.

For further information, call: 708-354-7211.

info@joyfulagain.org | www.joyfulagain.org

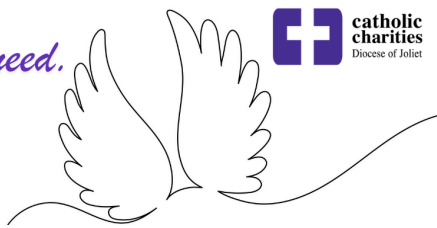
Legion of Mary
ROSARY CRUSADE

THE LEGION OF MARY HAS A NEW ROSARY CRUSADE.

We are looking for 100 million Rosaries starting now and continuing all over the world. We are asking people to pray the Rosary for peace in the world, peace in the Church, and peace in the womb. (Or for an end to abortion.) You are welcome to pray as many Rosaries as you like, or if you would like to be counted, you can email me at rshennum56@gmail.com



Be an angel
to someone in need.



Catholic Charities Angel Fund

You can help bring hope to neighbors in need by supporting the Catholic Charities Angel Fund. Your gift helps provide **food, shelter, counseling, and other essential services** to families, seniors, and individuals across the Diocese of Joliet.

Thanks to a generous angel donor, all donations will be matched (up to \$50,000), doubling your impact. **Please consider donating by May 3.**

Visit catholiccharitiesjoliet.org, call 815-724-1140, or mail a gift to:

Catholic Charities Angel Fund- 16555 Weber Rd., Crest Hill, IL 60403
On behalf of those served by Catholic Charities, thank you!

Join Us
For a
presentation on the cause for the canonization of Venerable Augustus Tolton



6:30-8 pm, Tuesday, May 5
at the Cathedral of
St. Raymond Nonnatus

604 N Raynor Ave, Joliet, IL 60435
Parish Commons - Door 26



Join **Bishop Perry** from the Archdiocese of Chicago for his presentation on the cause for the canonization of Father Augustus Tolton



KINDLY RSVP

Sponsored by Diocese of Joliet
Black Catholic Ministry

For more information, contact blackcatholicministry@dioceseofjoliet.org