

# OUR LADY OF MT. CARMEL PARISH

8404 S. CASS AVE. DARIEN. IL 60561



## EASTER SUNDAY

"Do not be afraid! I know that you are seeking Jesus the crucified. He is not here, for he has been raised just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay." - Mt 28:5b-6

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.

**APRIL 5, 2026**  
EASTER SUNDAY OF THE  
RESURRECTION OF THE LORD



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bulletin emailed to you!  
parishesonline.com

## CONNECT WITH US



[ourladyofmtcarmel.org](http://ourladyofmtcarmel.org)



[facebook.com/olmcdarien](https://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

**Rev. Jeff Smialek, O.Carm., Pastor**

[frjeff@ourladyofmtcarmel.org](mailto:frjeff@ourladyofmtcarmel.org)

**Rev. Rob Traudt, O.Carm., Parochial Vicar**

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**Deacon Ed Ptacek**

[littlebirdfarm@hotmail.com](mailto:littlebirdfarm@hotmail.com)

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

# 02 PASTOR'S LETTER

April 5, 2026/Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

## PASTOR'S LETTER

**Happy Easter!!**

**Alleluia, He is risen!!!** Let the holy anthem rise. What a joyous day. We celebrate today the Resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. I hope everyone enjoys a wonderful day with family and friends and truly rejoices in the gift of our salvation won through the Paschal Mystery that we just celebrated. May the peace of the Risen Christ continue to reign in your hearts.

Easter is the celebration of that God of life and Easter is not just celebrated one day. Easter is celebrated for fifty glorious days beginning today culminating on the Solemnity of Pentecost. This is the "mother of all feasts" because we remember the great love of the Father for us, whose Son, Jesus Christ, by dying destroyed death and by rising restored all of us to life. This is the feast of the Passover of the Lord; the new day; the new creation; the new life; the eighth day. Easter reminds us that there is light ahead of us and darkness and fears are to be left behind. This year's particular Easter should also remind us of the beginnings of the Church when the disciples were still hiding at their place for fear of persecution and uncertainty about life, but the Risen Lord was calling them out to meet again in Galilee. Therefore, this Easter should challenge us to continue what Jesus taught His disciples and to live by His example. It teaches us to take courage that despite the challenges we face in our world, the Risen Christ, through the power of the Holy Spirit, should be more present and active in our lives than ever. Let us make Him live and be glad that he came to save us! When we live the new life of the Resurrection, where we are, taking the advantage of having more personal relationship with Christ, may we become the best version of ourselves. I invite you to become what St Augustine referred to as an "Easter People", a people transformed into disciples and stewards who commit to give their time, talent and treasure in witness. My prayer for you this Easter is that you live as people deeply touched by the Resurrection and proclaim that: Christ is risen, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Our parish offers a special "welcome home!" to all those among us this weekend who are 'coming back' to the Church after being away for whatever reason. If you are 'returning' or seeking the Catholic faith for the first time, we would love to hear from you with any questions you might have. Please contact the office anytime.

I need to extend a thank you to the entire parish community for a beautiful celebration of the Triduum and Easter. Our choirs were wonderful! Our lectors, extraordinary ministers, servers, ushers and mass coordinators did fantastic jobs. A huge shout out to our art & environment team for the decorations. Thank you to Fr. Rob and Deacon Ed for their assistance. Thanks to the parish staff who worked so hard to prepare for this weekend. Thanks to all!!!

**Alleluia, Christ is Risen!!!**



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

*Our Lady of  
Mount Carmel*

*... Pray for us!*

*Fr. Jeff*

### Readings for the week of April 5, 2026

**Sunday: Acts 10:34a, 37-43/Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23/Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8/Jn 20:1-9 or Mt 28:1-10 Or Lk 24:13-35**

**Monday: Acts 2:14, 22-33/Ps 16:1-2a and 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11/Mt 28:8-15**

**Tuesday: Acts 2:36-41/Ps 33:4-5, 18-19, 20 and 22/Jn 20:11-18**

**Wednesday: Acts 3:1-10/Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8-9/Lk 24:13-35**

**Thursday: Acts 3:11-26/Ps 8:2ab and 5, 6-7, 8-9/Lk 24:35-48**

**Friday: Acts 4:1-12/Ps 118:1-2 and 4, 22-24, 25-27a/Jn 21:1-14**

**Saturday: Acts 4:13-21/Ps 118:1 and 14-15ab, 16-18, 19-21/Mk 16:9-15**



# 03 INTENTIONS & EVENTS

April 5, 2026/Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

## MASS INTENTIONS

### SATURDAY, APRIL 4

8:00pm Easter Vigil

### SUNDAY, APRIL 5 EASTER SUNDAY

8:15am Intentions for all Parishoners

10:00am Intentions for all Parishoners

Noon Intentions for all Parishoners

### MONDAY, APRIL 6

9:00am Alice Barzyk (Frank & Fran Modelski)

Marie Scully (Monahan Family)

Joe Stockhauson & Maxine LaFaire (Pat Monahan)

Edward Bovard (Wife & Family)

Adam (Friend)

Agnes Cross (Family)

Frances Carioto (Granddaughter)

### TUESDAY, APRIL 7

9:00am Mariam (Family)

Mariamamma Vadakava (Family)

### WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8

9:00am Alexandra Moyer (Frank & Fran Modelski)

Gene Rubel (Sheri)

### THURSDAY, APRIL 9

9:00am Pat Pochocki (Cindy Sevier)

Thomas (Family)

Gregoria Rosete (Josie)

### FRIDAY, APRIL 10

9:00am Jeffrey J. Marshall (Family)

Jack Mueller (Nancy)

Dominick DeMasi (Family)

### SATURDAY, APRIL 11

9:00am Phil Gurgone (Family)



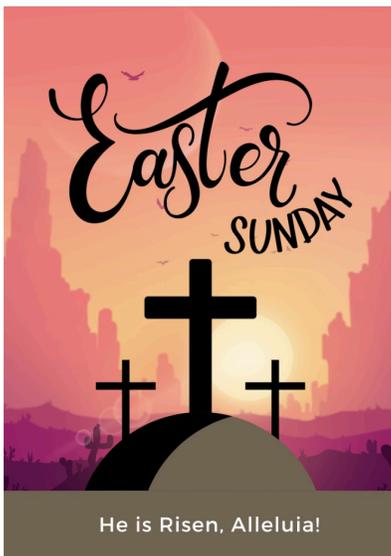
# Welcome

**WELCOME THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS TO OUR PARISH!**

**NEAL & LINDSEY PATTERSON**

**CHERIE FERGUSON  
CAROL DEALBA**

**SEAN ALMAZAN  
MATTHEW & AMY CHOWANIEC**



*Carrying Christ*

**Ministers of Care**

Share Christ's Love Through Communion  
To the sick, elderly and medical restricted  
To arrange for a Minister of Care,  
Contact: Lori Prado  
(lori.prado@ourladyofmtcarmel.org)

*Liturgical Ministries*

"Your Gifts Are God's Blessings –  
Share Them!"

Sign up for Ministry Opportunities!  
Contact Lori Prado

**Advocate Good Samaritan Hospital**

**Volunteers Needed**

Catholic Communion Ministry  
Good Samaritan Hospital – Downers Grove  
Contact Gail Miskowicz-Retz  
Gail.Miskowicz-Retz@aah.org | 630-852-5347

**ALTAR SERVER MINISTRY**

**INTERESTED IN BECOMING  
AN ALTAR SERVER?**

Altar Servers play an important role in assisting the priest during Mass while growing closer to Christ through service at the altar. This ministry is open to parish youth in 4<sup>th</sup> grade and older who have received **First Communion**, are responsible, and willing to learn. **Training is provided.** Contact Lori Prado.

*Altar Servers*

We are an Easter people and Alleluia is our song!

Wishing you a very Happy Easter from all of us in the Catholic Grandparents Association.

# 04 RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

April 5, 2026/Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

## Easter

### Questions of the Week

**Question for Children:** When have you seen someone do a good deed for someone else?

**Question for Youth:** Jesus' closest friends had trouble believing that the tomb was empty. Resurrection is surprising. What does Jesus' resurrection mean in your life?

**Question for Adults:** Name one way or time when you experience the presence of the Risen Christ? Is it at meals? With those whom you love? At other times?

### Activities of the Week

Celebrate this day with the special activities that are traditional in your family. Help your children understand the meaning of these customs and how they help us to celebrate Jesus' Resurrection.

Talk about how the Risen Christ lives in the hearts of his followers today. Discuss ways that your family can be signs of new hope and new life to each other and the community this week.



**There is no RE  
April 5 - 6  
for Easter Break**

**May your family  
have a blessed  
Easter Season**



**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 junior helper to assist you. We also need station leaders and help with decorating.**

### Service Day-April 11- 10:00-12:30

**We still need cleaning supplies for our drive! Please donate any of the following supplies to help us with our Cleaning Supply Drive. Bring them to the RE office by April 8:** buckets, mops, paper towels, wipes, window cleaner, all-purpose cleaners, disinfectants, furniture polish, or any item that can be used for general house cleaning. The food pantry can always use any kind of paper goods as well.



**In addition to the cleaning buckets, we are going to start the food pantry garden, in order to get ready for the planting season. Extra hands make light work. See you on April 11!**

**Contact the RE office for more info.**

# YOUTH MINISTRY

April Newsletter

## Help Needed: OLMC Clothing Drive

Our Service Ministry needs help with our Spring Clothing Drive. Use the QR code to sign up for a time that works for you on 4/18 or 4/19!



OLMC Clothing Drive

## Upcoming Youth Group Meetings

**April 12:** Bowling at Tivoli Bowl

**April 26:** Celebrate the Graduates!

## Confirmation Reception Help

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



## 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADERS INVITED!

8<sup>th</sup> Graders are invited!

**BOWLING  
YOUTH GROUP  
PARTY**

8<sup>th</sup> Graders are invited to our annual Youth Group Bowling Party! Come see what our Youth Group is all about and what we have planned for next year! Scan the QR to RSVP!

**APRIL 12 - 1:30 - 3:30 PM**

938 Warren Ave Suite A,  
Downers Grove

## Summer Retreat: Steubenville

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



# 06 SPECIAL EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

April 5, 2026/Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

**OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL CHURCH**  
**CLOTHING DRIVE**  
 April 18 & April 19

- ✓ CLOTHING
- ✓ SHOES
- ✓ BELTS & PURSES
- ✓ ACCESSORIES
- ✓ TOYS
- ✓ SMALL HOUSEHOLD ITEMS & BOOKS

8404 S Cass Ave  
 Darien, IL, 60561  
 United States

## Hope is in Bloom

### Donate Blood

**MONDAY**  
**APRIL**  
**6th**  
 2:30 PM to 7 PM

**BLOOD DRIVE HOSTED BY**  
**K OF C ST JOHN COUNCIL # 3738 &**  
**UNCLE BUB'S BBQ**

GIVE HOPE & LIFE THIS APRIL DONATE BLOOD. EVERY DONOR WILL SAVE UP TO THREE LIVES!

Uncle Bub's BBQ - 132 S. Cass Ave. Westmont Versiti Coach

Appointments appreciated; Walk-ins welcome!

To schedule, go to [www.versiti.org/IL](http://www.versiti.org/IL), load the Versiti Donor app, call (800) 7TO-GIVE, or scan the QR code.----->

PLEASE BRING A PHOTO ID.

All donors will receive a Uncle Bub's BBQ sandwich.

Call (800) 786-4483 with eligibility questions.

**Darien Historical Society & Darien Woman's Club**  
**Annual Plant Sale**

Getting ready to plant this spring? Support two local organizations that benefit the community by ordering plants through their annual fundraiser. Order deadline is **Monday, April 7**. Plant pickup is Saturday, May 3 at Old Lace School. Details and order form can be found on <https://www.darienwomansclub.org/fundraising>

**Catholic Ministries**  
**Annual Appeal**  
 Diocese of Joliet

**2,000 teens. One weekend.**  
**Lives changed for Christ.**

Izzy came to the Diocese of Joliet's first-ever Steubenville Youth Conference unsure of what to expect. She left with a renewed faith, a deeper desire to pray, and a changed heart. Your support through the CMAA makes transformative experiences like this possible for teens across our diocese.

"Come here," Izzy said. "You'll want to continue in your faith and grow."



Watch the video and see the good your donation to the CMAA brings to our community

**Be an angel**  
*to someone in need.*

**Catholic Charities**  
 Diocese of Joliet

**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](http://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!**