

OUR LADY OF MT. CARMEL PARISH

8404 S. CASS AVE. DARIEN. IL 60561



14TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened,
and I will give you rest.” - Mt 11:28-30

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

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

JULY 5, 2026
FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME



Scan to have the weekly
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

Rev. Jeff Smialek, O.Carm., Pastor

frjeff@ourladyofmtcarmel.org

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

frrob@ourladyofmtcarmel.org

Deacon Ed Ptacek

littlebirdfarm@hotmail.com

Sherry Rochford, Director, Children's Faith Formation

sherry.rochford@ourladyofmtcarmel.org

Jennifer Emanuele, Director, Youth Ministry

jennifer.emanuele@ourladyofmtcarmel.org

Lori Prado, Ministry Associate

lori.prado@ourladyofmtcarmel.org

Susan Haa, Parish Receptionist, Bulletin Editor

receptionist@ourladyofmtcarmel.org

John Hawkins, Business Manager

john@jmhawkins.com

Val Kazich, Admin Asst., Registrar, Religious Ed

val.kazich@ourladyofmtcarmel.org

02 PASTOR'S LETTER

July 5, 2026/Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

PASTOR'S LETTER

I want to wish the community a very happy Independence Day to everyone, especially as we celebrate the 250th anniversary of founding of the United States. As we celebrate this weekend with the backyard bbq's and firework shows, let us also pause to remember and give thanks for all the blessings and freedoms that we have in our country. Let us always hold our nation in prayer and ask for the Lord's blessings upon all the people of our land. I had a wonderful time at the Darien 4th of July parade again. It is wonderful to see a vibrant local community and all our neighbors celebrating together. It was a blast driving the truck and throwing candy out to the children. Happy 4th of July!!!!

This July also marks the end of four years as pastor of OLMC and the start of year 5. Wow, time is flying. It seems like just yesterday that I arrived to this wonderful parish community. I want to thank everyone for all your love and support shown to me over these years. Our Lady of Mount Carmel is a blessed place thanks to all of you and the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. This is also a good time to reflect all that has been accomplished. We have seen a confessional room created, the Mary Garden, the St. Joseph candle rack, the lobby changed with the chairs, sofas and tv screens added, just to name a few. The community has taken to standing in order to show greater reverence during the Liturgy. We have undertaken numerous repairs such as the new upper deck flooring, the new carpet in the church, new patio bricks out front, resurfacing of the parking lot, new automatic opening doors for the disabled, the installation of a new elevator and perhaps the best repair of all, the new plumbing to ensure working toilets!!!! We have started a recycling program and planted numerous trees around the property, as well as the benches out front thanks to an eagle scout project. There was also a major upgrade to security with a new alarm system, automatic locking features on the exterior doors and cameras throughout the building and parking lots. We have accomplished so much, I might be forgetting a few things. We're not slowing down either. This August we will be in a construction zone with a new metal roof and new tile in the lobby being installed. After the roof and tile, I plan to focus on a significant renovation of the basement. All these repairs and renovations are made possible by you!!! Thank you for your love of our parish and financial support over the years to make all this happen. The greatest blessing of all is the growth that our community is experiencing and the many new families that have joined in the last couple of years. Which are all signs of God's blessings upon our parish. Thank you!!!

The most important thing in the experience of success is the ability to remain humble. That is what Jesus is pointing to in today's Gospel. Jesus gives thanks and says that the Father has hidden these things from the wise and the learned and has instead revealed them to the little ones, those who are childlike. We are all reminded to remain simple and humble and to keep our priorities in life straight. The most important thing is our relationship with Jesus Christ and then our good relationships with family and community. We must also take up the yoke of Christ and continue to build the Kingdom.
Happy 4th of July!!!



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

***Our Lady of
Mount Carmel
... Pray for us!
Fr. Jeff***



Readings for the week of July 5, 2026

Sunday: Zec 9:9-10/Ps 145:1-2, 8-9, 10-11, 13-14/Rom 8:9, 11-13/Mt 11:25-30
Monday: Hos 2:16, 17c-18, 21-22/Ps 145:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9/Mt 9:18-26
Tuesday: Hos 8:4-7, 11-13/Ps 115:3-4, 5-6, 7ab-8, 9-10/Mt 9:32-38
Wednesday: Hos 10:1-3, 7-8, 12/Ps 105:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Mt 10:1-7
Thursday: Hos 11:1-4, 8e-9/Ps 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16/Mt 10:7-15
Friday: Hos 14:2-10/Ps 51:3-4, 8-9, 12-13, 14 and 17/Mt 10:16-23
Saturday: Is 6:1-8/Ps 93:1ab, 1cd-2, 5/Mt 10:24-33

03 INTENTIONS & EVENTS

July 5, 2026/Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, JULY 4

4:30pm Lynda Krouse (Evano Family)

SUNDAY, JULY 5

8:15am Rose, Anthony, & Nick Rocco (Nick Rocco)

Pedro Marquez (Family)

Esther Tabular (Family)

Anita Sevilla (Family)

10:00am Bill Abraham (Family)

Eleonora Niziolek (Family)

Wladyslaw Niziolek (Family)

Wladyslawa Wapiennik (Family)

Noon Louis Munin (Eugene Munin)

Rowena Cotner-living (Maribeth Seecheung)

Sabina McMahon (McMahon Family)

Theresa Dragozetich (Niece)

MONDAY, JULY 6

9:00am Joseph Jude-living (Family)

TUESDAY, JULY 7

9:00am Brenda Narcelles Banez-5th Anniv.
(Family)

Charles Settino (Niece)

WEDNESDAY, JULY 8

9:00am Ronald Carusso (John Segredo)

THURSDAY, JULY 9

9:00am Barbara Dawson (Evelyn Antikauskas)

FRIDAY, JULY 10

9:00am Larry Monahan (Family)

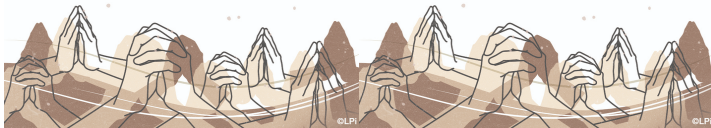
Damian Trenshaw-3rd Anniv. (Mary Ceh)

Pablo Rosete Jr. (Josie)

John Norbut (Family)

SATURDAY, JULY 11

9:00am Timothy Coffey (Eugene Munin)



Our Lady of Mount Carmel Feast Day

Thursday, July 16, 2026

Join us in celebration of the Feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel
with prayer, song, and Mass on July 16, 2026.

We will start this day in person at 10:15 AM with a procession in
honor of Our Lady of Mount Carmel taking place at the

Meditation Garden, 8419 Bailey Rd, Darien, followed by our
special Feast Day Mass at 11:30 AM taking place at the **National
Shrine of St. Thérèse, 8501 Bailey Rd.**

If you are not able to attend in person, please join us online
(<https://www.littleflower.org/>) on the afternoon of July 16th to
watch the Our Lady of Mount Carmel Feast Day Mass.



OUR LADY OF MT. CARMEL PARISH



Join us for an outdoor

LIVING ROSARY



Prayer offering to our Blessed Mother
on the Vigil of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel
Feast Day

WEDNESDAY, JULY 15, 5:00 PM

Meet us at the Parish Prayer Garden
by the front entrance of Church

We await you with unwavering faith!

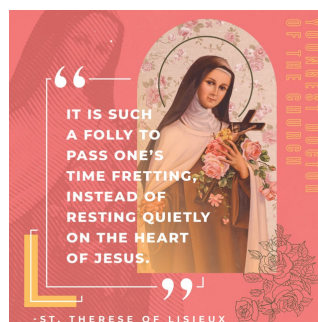


8404, Cass Ave. Darien, IL 60561



PARISHONERS AROUND THE WORLD

Traveling this summer? Share photos of
your family in front of churches you visit.
We'll display them on our lobby screens.
Email: frjeff@ourladyofmtcarmel.org.



**Together in Loss is a grief support
ministry** for anyone who has
experienced the loss of a loved one.
**Summer Gatherings | Wednesdays
July 15th
August 19th
6:30pm- 8:00pm**
For information, contact Lori Prado

04 RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

July 5, 2026/Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Questions of the Week

Question for Children: When you are generous, honest, and loving, how do you know it is Jesus who helps you do that?

Question for Youth: Jesus invites us to bring him our burdens and promises us that he will give us rest. How do you rely on Jesus during times of trouble? When has Jesus helped you?

Question for Adults: As you go about your daily life, dying in love for others, how do you experience Christ giving you consolation and peace?

Activities of the Week

Prayer allows us to let go of our burdens. Have each family member think of one person in the community who has an extra burden of illness, financial trouble, and so forth, and pray for him or her for the week, asking Jesus to lessen his or her burdens.

Reflect on Jesus' statement: "Do you love me?"
Spend time together as a family discussing ways you show your love for Christ.

We really need your help! Spotlight: Station Leaders

All of our stations are written with full, step by step instructions. You do not need to come up with any teaching tools, we have it all for you. You stay in your station through 5-6 repeated rotations. Children come to your room to visit your station and get to learn more about God's creation. WOW GOD! Station leaders should be adults with High school helpers. Three of the six Stations we need help in:

Sticky Scripture-The students will learn the bible verse of the day through interactive play. We also show a video that has a game component to it, to help the students learn about the verse and why it gives us a WOW GOD response.

Imagination Station-Do you like science-y things? This is the station for you!

This year we will be looking at the gift of God's creation with a scientific lens. Craft activities along with a bit of ingenuity help us learn about the amazing power of nature around us. WOW GOD!

Wild Games-In this station (usually outside) the participant engage with other groups in Rainforest themed games and relay races. This is the hit of our VBS.

If you would like to help, call the RE office for more info.



July 20-24

12-3pm

**We still have
room for you!
Sign up now.**

VBS Wish List:

Can you help us with a few supplies? Here are some things we can use: spray foam like Great Stuff, dark green plastic table cloths, sky blue plastic table cloths, wet wipes, paints in shades of green or brown., large canvas fabric for ground cover. Call the RE office, or see us this weekend after Mass, for a full list of needs. Thank-You!

VBS Decorating Days:

Monday-Thursday, July 6-9 12-3pm or 5-8pm

We will also have our training and orientations during the evening hours. All helpers should attend one evening session, based on your availability.

Father of all nations and ages,
we recall the day when our country
claimed its place among the family of nations;
for what has been achieved we give you thanks,
for the work that still remains we ask your help,
and as you have called us from many peoples
to be one nation,
grant that, under your providence,
our country may share your blessings
with all the peoples of the earth.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

YOUTH MINISTRY

July Newsletter

Upcoming Youth Group Meetings

July 15th VBS Set Up – come help set up for VBS!

July 20 – 24 VBS! We need your help!
Come help run our VBS groups!



Pre-VBS Tutoring

One of our newly Confirmed Confirmandi is offering **Middle School Math Tutoring** (grades 4–6) before VBS, July 20 – 24th from 10:45 – 12:00!

Interested parents should email: avalizasoyeh@gmail.com to sign their child up. Scan the QR for more information!



MIDDLE SCHOOL MISSION TRIP



A huge thank you to all of our Middle School Missionaries, Chaperones, and Youth Group Volunteers! We had a successful mission trip to the Northern Illinois Food Bank, Feed My Starving Children and back here at OLMC.

OCIA CORNER



For those who may be interested in beginning their journey towards receiving and those planning to receive their Initiation Sacraments next Easter Vigil, please know we will begin to meet in the Fall. The start date will be in September. More specific information will be shared in July. I look forward to meeting with you all then!

If you are or know someone who is interested in becoming Catholic or completing initiation, please contact Jen Emanuele:
jennifer.emanuele@ourladyofmtcarmel.org.

06 SPECIAL EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

July 5, 2026/Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

OLMC Giving Report - General Fund

Date	Church Collection	Online Giving	Total
6/29/2026	\$12,099.00	\$4,089.00	\$16,188.00
6/22/2026	\$10,707.00	\$7,111.00	\$17,818.00
6/15/2026	\$9,606.15	\$4,781.00	\$14,387.15
Total			\$48,393.15

*Please note a correction to last week's published collection total.



**PLEASE CONSIDER SIGNING
UP FOR AUTOMATED ONLINE
GIVING**

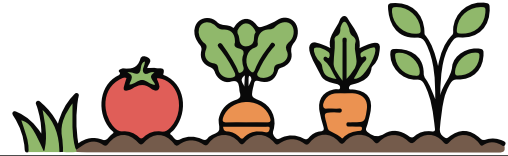


HELP NEEDED

The harvest is great; the laborers are few.

1. We needed help to water the garden on Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays, and Sundays.
2. We also need anyone to pull weeds any day of the week.
3. Lastly, we need harvesters on Mondays and Thursday for the food pantry.

Contact Deacon Ed at 630-254-6934



A Swing and a Prayer Golf Outing

Join Catholic Charities, Diocese of Joliet for A Swing and a Prayer, our annual golf outing benefiting programs and services that provide hope, help, and support to individuals and families throughout the Diocese of Joliet.



Tuesday, August 25, 2026 at Cog Hill Golf & Country Club, Lemont.

Enjoy a day of golf, fellowship, and fun while supporting the important programs and services provided by Catholic Charities. Golfers will receive 18 holes of golf with cart, lunch at the turn, drinks on the course, cocktail hour, buffet dinner, and the opportunity to participate in contests and win prizes.

Sponsorship opportunities are available for businesses, organizations, and individuals who wish to support the event and the mission of Catholic Charities.

To register or learn more, visit <https://catholiccharitiesjoliet.org/event/swing/> or call 815-724-1140.



Knights Bingo return to Westmont with **SUNDAYS BINGO** beginning **July 12** at TECO Taiwan Cultural Center **55 E 63rd St.** (near McDonalds) All about FUN, no computers – 9 Bingo Cards for \$20 or \$25 for 18 cards for 10 games each pay \$100 plus each has 3 cards for a \$300 progressive game; as listed to a single winner. Also, other games are played ~ Doors open at 11, Bingo starts at Noon, usually done before 3pm

For more info: Hank3738knights@aol.com

REFLECTIONS ON CHURCH HISTORY

For

AMERICA'S 250th BIRTHDAY

Reflections on Church History's July talk will be on the 1815 Battle of New Orleans, the Ursuline Nuns, and Our Lady of Prompt Succor. Why did Andrew Jackson attribute his victory over British forces to the prayers of the Ursuline Sisters? Why is this forgotten battle crucial in American history?

Our Lady of Prompt Succor — Patroness of Louisiana and New Orleans

General Andrew Jackson at the Battle of New Orleans, 1815

FRIDAY, JULY 17, 7:15 PM

OUR LADY OF PEACE PARISH CENTER, ROOM 110

PRESENTED BY KEVIN HANEY

Coming **SEPTEMBER 25, 2026: HISTORICAL ORIGINS OF THE SACRED HEART DEVOTION AND THE FRENCH REVOLUTION**

(Children under 18 are welcome to attend, but must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.)