

OUR LADY OF MT. CARMEL PARISH

8404 S. CASS AVE. DARIEN. IL 60561

AUGUST 2, 2026
EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME



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parishesonline.com

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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

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Deacon Ed Ptacek

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Sherry Rochford, Director, Children's Faith Formation

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Lori Prado, Ministry Associate

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Susan Haa, Parish Receptionist, Bulletin Editor

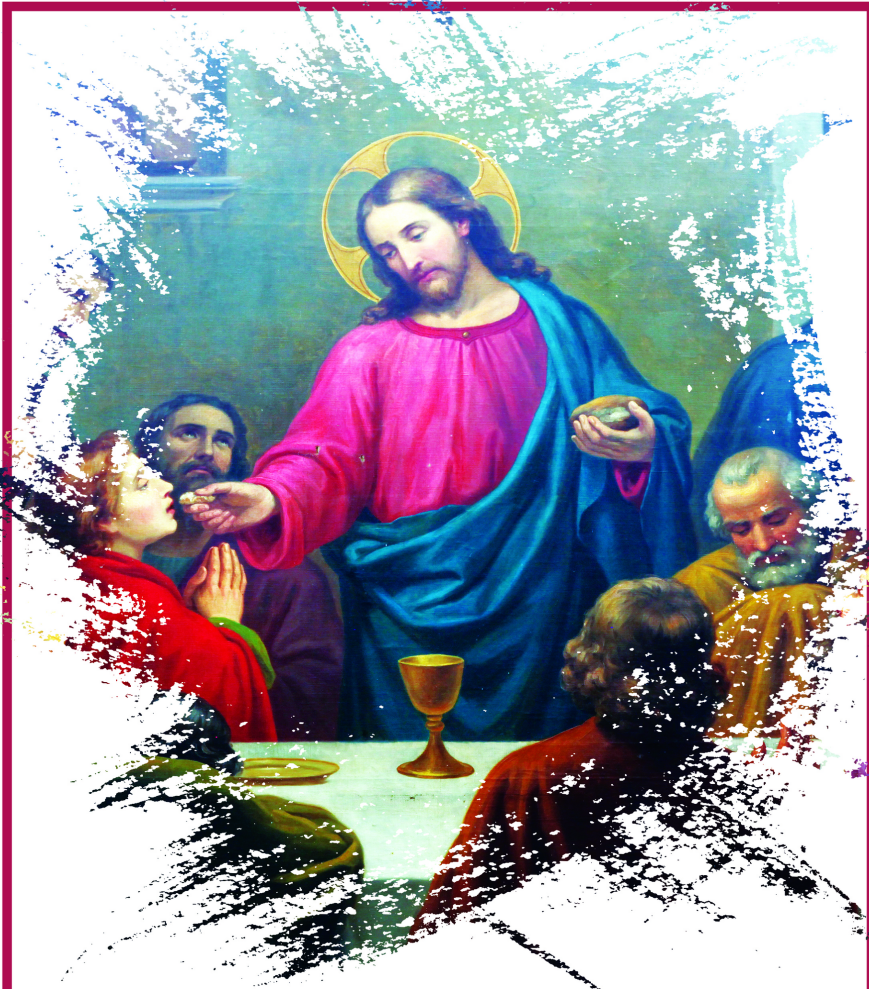
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Val Kazich, Admin Asst., Registrar, Religious Ed

val.kazich@ourladyofmtcarmel.org



HE SAID THE BLESSING, BROKE THE LOAVES,
AND GAVE THEM TO THE DISCIPLES.
—MT 14:19C

18TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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

02 PASTOR'S LETTER

August 2, 2026/Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

There's something wonderful about attending a musical. As soon as you step in the theater, there's a sense of entering a new world created by music, songs, dance and good performance of actors and actresses.

But musicals also reveal something of our searching, needs and wants. A good example of that is the musical, "Oliver." Every day, all the boys in the orphanage go through the same routine. After waking up, they go to a hall for breakfast. They hold bowls that the cook fills with gruel. After finishing the meal, Oliver still feels hungry. He goes back to the cook, showing an empty bowl and saying, "Please, Sir, may I have more?" No one has ever done before, leaving the cook surprised. But Oliver is looking not only for more food, but people who will make him part of their family. He keeps looking for someone to fill not only an empty bowl but an empty heart.

The people in the readings for the weekend are holding empty bowls because their hearts and souls are empty. Some of these people are in exile after Judah was conquered by the Babylon Empire. That army brought to a foreign nation, without any hope of returning home. Everything they valued and loved were gone leaving emptiness. God, who sees their hunger, offers them true nourishment and peace that is God Himself.

That food becomes visible in Jesus, who feeds the people with His words of life and forgiveness. They are so hungry for Christ offered that they follow Him to a deserted place, where Jesus multiplies fish and bread to fill empty stomachs. Empty bowls are filled not only with food for stomachs but food for their souls. The Lord gives them His very self.

No one carries an empty bowl to Mass. But many people cup their hands that seem like a bowl when they come forward to receive Holy Communion. It is a gesture of humility that admits to us we have unable to satisfy the hunger and emptiness we feel. Advertisements that promised so much if we bought their product, are not true. For a brief time, there was a passing sense of satisfaction. But the emptiness and hunger returned with a desire for something more.

In hands shaped like a bowl, a priest or Eucharist minister placed the Host, the Body of Christ. We have communion with Him who fills our emptiness with Himself. We have communion with the only One who can satisfy our hunger with His life that flows through our bodies whenever we eat His Body and drink His Blood. A simple word, amen, meaning so be it, is spoken before receiving the Host or taking from the chalice. It is a statement of faith that proclaims not only belief in Christ's true presence under the appearance of bread and wine. But a desire for communion with Him because no one else can satisfy the emptiness of heart and soul. Only Christ can fill empty bowls.

The beautiful hymn, "Gift of Finest Wheat", speaks of the encounter between Christ and His people: "You satisfy the hungry heart with gift of finest wheat, come give to us, O saving Lord, the bread of life to eat."

You may have noticed that tables and baptismal bowls are missing in the lobby. We're getting ready to replace the lobby floor, which is showing signs of age with cracked tile and patch work that has been done over the years. In the new few weeks work will begin.

Last week after the noon Mass, I talked with Sherry Rochford, the parish director of children's faith formation. She was very happy about all that happened during the vacation Bible school. She told me it was the best one ever! The children had a great experience due to all the volunteers and different. Many thanks to all who made the vacation Bible school such a great experience for the children!

Darien Fest will be held next weekend. The parish will have a stand. Check out the bulletin for further information about this great town event!

Just a reminder about the parish school supply drive. The goal was to fill 30 backpacks with school supplies. All backpacks need to be returned on August 2. Volunteers are needed to help organize the school supplies from 1 to 2:30 that same day.

FEATURING
FR. ROB!



**REV. ROB TRAUDT,
O.CARM.,
PAROCHIAL VICAR**

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

Readings for the week of August 2, 2026

Sunday: Is 55:1-3/Ps 145:8-9, 15-16, 17-18/Rom 8:35, 37-39/Mt 14:13-21

Monday: Jer 28:1-17/Ps 119:29, 43, 79, 80, 95, 102/Mt 14:22-36

Tuesday: Jer 30:1-2, 12-15, 18-22/Ps 102:16-18, 19-21, 29, 22-23/Mt 14:22-36 or Mt 15:1-2, 10-14

Wednesday: Jer 31:1-7/Jer 31:10, 11-12ab, 13/Mt 15:21-28

Thursday: Dn 7:9-10, 13-14/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 9/2 Pt 1:16-19/Mt 17:1-9

Friday: Na 2:1, 3; 3:1-3, 6-7/Dt 32:35cd-36ab, 39abcd, 41/Mt 16:24-28

Saturday: Hb 1:12-2:4/Ps 9:8-9, 10-11, 12-13/Mt 17:14-20



03 INTENTIONS & EVENTS

August 2, 2026/Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, AUGUST 1

4:30pm Charles Heery Jr. (Family)

SUNDAY, AUGUST 2

8:15am Penny & Jerry Rocco (Nick Rocco)

Tom Farrell (Mary Fran)

Salaveria, Dela Pena, Arbela, Aro Families (Family)

10:00am John Kapovich (Larson Family)

Elvira Ruvalcaba (Family)

Noon Patrick Michael Callahan (Family)

MONDAY, AUGUST 3

9:00am Cleopatra Tiangco (Family)

TUESDAY, AUGUST 4

9:00am Parishoners of OLMC

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 5

9:00am John & Tom Cleary (Pat Monahan)

Dominick Spataro (Friends & Family)

THURSDAY, AUGUST 6

9:00am Sandy Marinello (Mary Coughlin)

FRIDAY, AUGUST 7

9:00am Michele Neill (Family)

SATURDAY, AUGUST 8

9:00am Tony Smrz-living (Family)

Carmella Morelli (Family)



PICTURES FROM FR. JEFF'S SUMMER VACATION



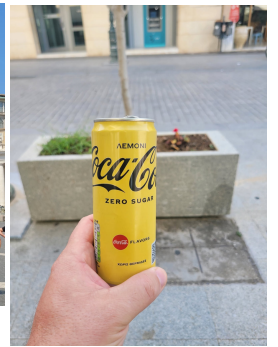
Greece



Turkey



St. Peter's Square, Rome



Lemon Coke in Greece

 Announcing the 48th Annual
Wedding Anniversary
Mass
AUGUST
SUN **30** 1:00 PM
2026
604 N Raynor Ave., Joliet, IL 60435
Couples celebrating anniversaries of 25 years, 50 years, and more than 50 years are welcome to attend. Bishop Dennis Spies will celebrate the Mass at St. Raymond's Cathedral and will lead all couples in a special renewal of wedding commitment.
Deadline to register: August 10, 2026
Questions? Contact Deacon Doug McIlvaine:
815-221-6136
dmcilvaine@dioceseofjoliet.org 



Construction!!!!

We will be installing new tile in the lobby! Work will begin on Monday, August 3 and is expected to take about three weeks to complete. The installation crew has agreed to work 12 pm - 8 pm in order to allow us to have the daily mass and funerals in the morning. It may require some traffic flow changes in the mornings for daily mass. The weekends should be manageable but furniture in the lobby will be removed and areas sectioned off. Thanks for your understanding and patience.
Fr. Jeff

04 RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

August 2, 2026/Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

RE Updates

Still not registered? That's okay, we are still taking registrations. You may pick up your packets in the RE office. Tell a friend about our program

Join us Sunday, August 23 after the noon Mass for a celebration and open house for the new RE year. We will provide Hotdogs, chips, and drinks. Please feel free to bring a side dish or dessert to share. We will have games and activities for all families. RE officially begins on August 30-31. Call the RE office for more information.

As always, we are looking for a few great people willing to share their faith with our young parishioners. If you would like to join our amazing team, we can sure use your gifts and talents. Check our website for updated needs, or call the RE office to find out how you can help. May God bless all of you!

Questions of the Week

Question for Children: What are the ways that Jesus shows he loves you?

Question for Youth: Jesus was very attentive to his followers. He cared for them and for their needs. What are your needs? What can Jesus do to help you?

Question for Adults: In your experience, what "false obstacles" have you or people you know experienced separating them from Christ? Things such as divorce? Or marrying outside the church? Or not attending Mass? Or others?

Activities of the Week

Jesus told his disciples to feed those in need. Reflect on how Jesus can feed others through your family. Plan a trip to a soup kitchen. If possible, make arrangements to prepare and serve the food.

Clean out your closets. Most families have an abundance of clothing that is packed in closets and dresser drawers. Have each family member stack that clothing in a box. Together take the boxes to a homeless shelter, Goodwill, or any other agency that is in need of clothing.



Rainforest Falls 2026

We had 72 kids and
55 JR. High,
High School, and
Adult Volunteers

Thanks to everyone who
made this year such a
success. WOW God!

YOUTH MINISTRY

August Newsletter

Upcoming Youth Group Meetings

August 2nd: School Supply Drive
 Help organize donated school supplies
 1:00 - 2:30. Lunch will be provided.
 Scan the QR to RSVP

SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE
UPDATE
AND GRATITUDE

THANK YOU!!!
OUR PARISH IS BEYOND GENEROUS! EVEN BEFORE THE COMPLETION OF THE SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE WE HAVE ENOUGH SUPPLIES TO FILL ALL 30 BACKPACKS!

WE ARE ON TRACK TO FILL OVER 50 BACKPACKS! WHAT A GIFT TO SHARE WITH OUR NEIGHBORS AT THE FOOD PANTRY. THANK YOU!!

IF YOUR TEEN WOULD LIKE TO HELP ORGANIZE, COME ON AUG 2ND 1 - 2:30. THIS IS GREAT SERVICE PROJECT.

Confirmation 2027!

If your student is beginning their 2nd consecutive year of Confirmation preparation start thinking about

- Confirmation Sponsor
- Confirmation Name
- Baptism Certificate - if Baptized at a different church

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. 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

August 2, 2026/Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

OLMC Giving Report - General Fund

Date	Church Collection	Online Giving	Total
7/27/2026	\$9,758.00	\$3,860.00	\$13,618.00
7/20/2026	\$12,159.00	\$3,882.00	\$16,041.00
7/12/2026	\$15,765.50	\$4,896.00	\$20,661.50
7/5/2026	\$11,759.60	\$6,822.00	\$18,581.60
Total			\$68,902.10

6/15/26-6/29/16
TOTAL

\$48,393.15

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



We are happy to say that we are now part of the Darien Business Alliance and as such, we will have a tent in the business expo at the 38th annual Darien Fest on August 8 & 9 from 1-5. We will be looking for help from our friends to help at the table. Please scan the QR code to sign up for times to help.

Thank you all and stop by to see us!

OUR LADY OF MT. CARMEL

DARIEN FEST BUSINESS EXPO

GAMES FOR KIDS-ASK A PRIEST-FUN FOR ALL

Help us greet the Community!

**AUGUST 8 & 9
1-5 PM**

RIGHT BY HINSDALE SOUTH HS

SCAN HERE TO SIGN UP TO HELP US IN THE TENT

SCAN ME

Knights Bingo returns to Westmont!

BINGO

Knights of Columbus

**SUNDAYS BINGO
BEGINNING JULY 12**

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

SCHEDULE
Doors open at 11am,
Bingo starts at Noon,
usually done before 3pm.

- 10 Games each pay \$100 (single winner)
- Each pack has 3 cards for a \$300 Progressive Game (as listed, single winner)
- Also, other games are played!

For more info:
Hank3738knights@aol.com



Calling All ASL Interpreters!

Join the Diocese of Joliet Deaf Ministry

- Competitive pay, 2 hour minimum, and meaningful interpreting opportunities.
- Must hold RID or Illinois BEI certification
- Must complete Virtus and background check.

Apply today:

Email: vayala@dioceseofjoliet.org
or call 815.221.6165



DEAF MINISTRY
DIOCESE OF JOLIET

18TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

