

OUR LADY OF MT. CARMEL PARISH

8404 S. CASS AVE. DARIEN. IL 60561



26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"Amen, I say to you, tax collectors and prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God before you." - Mt 21:31

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

SEPTEMBER 27, 2026
TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME



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bulletin emailed to you!
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

frrob@ourladyofmtcarmel.org

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02 PASTOR'S LETTER

September 27, 2026/Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Ok, I love food as if that is not obvious. Perhaps I love it a little too much. Well, that is life sometimes; we all over indulge on things from time to time. One of my favorites, I have a weakness for Chinese food. I love sweet and sour dishes. Sweet and sour chicken is the best! At first, you taste that sweetness in your mouth and then after a second or two that little twinge of bitterness hits. Oh, I am making myself hungry thinking about it.

So often our lives are like sweet and sour too. We have our good moments and we have our bad moments. That is the nature of relationships. I am sure just about every married couple would describe their marriage as sweet and sour. There are good days and there are bad days. Well so too is our relationship with God, sweet and sour, there are good days and there are bad days. I am sure that we have all at times said yes, I will do that. Whether it was for a family member, at work or for God, but we never follow through. Sometimes intentionally and sometimes unintentional. We get busy, life gets in the way and the road to hell is paved in good intentions. Yea, I will get around to that someday.

Then on the other hand we have the experiences, when it is heck no I am not doing that! But after a little more thought, we give in. Conscience does make cowards of us all. I remember once going to visit my mom on a bad winter day. Her next-door neighbor, who was also a widow in her 80's was outside trying to shovel the sidewalk. I pulled into the driveway; I quickly waved and started heading in. I would have liked nothing better than to go inside, be warm and visit with my mom. Half way up the front stairs, I had to stop. I just could not do it. I had to turn around go to the neighbor and say you go inside, I will finish for you. Sometimes we all catch our self, just like the first son in today's gospel. No, I will not, but then after some reflection gives in and does what is right.

We never know how the spirit is moving some people. The ones we least expect might actually be the good ones out there. It also causes us to look at our own motivations. Which type of person are we being like? Are we doing like the first son, at first saying no, approaching with skepticism, but ultimately accepting? Or are we being like the second son? Are we only here because we have to be? Do we put on a good show Sunday morning but on Monday we are totally different people. Is God someone that only matters one day out of the week? There are a lot of people like that in the world. Instead, we are called like in the Letter to the Philippians to a selfless life. I recall a line by Pope Benedict XVI many years ago, "Holiness does not consist in never having erred or sinned. Holiness increases the capacity for conversion, for repentance, for willingness to start again and, especially, for reconciliation and forgiveness."

Our long-time janitor, Ishamel Martin, retired a few weeks ago. He didn't want any type of farewell recognition. We wish well in the next chapter of life. We're in the process of figuring out the best direction for our maintenance and janitorial needs. The finishing touches on our tile work are almost complete. Just in time for the roof replacement to begin!



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

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



Readings for the week of September 27, 2026

Sunday: Ez 18:25-28/Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9/Phil 2:1-11 or 2:1-5/Mt 21:28-32

Monday: Jb 1:6-22/Ps 17:1bcd, 2-3, 6-7/Lk 9:46-50

Tuesday: Dn 7:9-10, 13-14 or Rv 12:7-12ab/Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 4-5/Jn 1:47-51

Wednesday: Jb 9:1-12, 14-16/Ps 88:10bc-11, 12-13, 14-15/Lk 9:57-62

Thursday: Jb 19:21-27/Ps 27:7-8a, 8b-9abc, 13-14/Lk 10:1-12

Friday: Jb 38:1, 12-21; 40:3-5/Ps 139:1-3, 7-8, 9-10, 13-14ab/Mt 18:1-5, 10

Saturday: Jb 42:1-3, 5-6, 12-17/Ps 119:66, 71, 75, 91, 125, 130/Lk 10:17-24

03 INTENTIONS & EVENTS

September 27, 2026/Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

4:30pm Dorie Brescia (Family)

Romarico Trinidad (Family)

Donald Rivas (Ronald Rivas)

Imelda Arteaga-6th Anniv. (Family)

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

8:15am Elena Sorquia (Sy Family)

William Hoffman (Nick Rocco)

10:00am Ruperto Acosta (Family)

Noon Donald Antikauskas (Wife Evelyn)

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

9:00am Phil Gurgone (Family)

Dora Pedrosa (Family)

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

9:00am Judy Vodar (Family)

Michael Sislow Jr. (Mom & Jerry)

Paul Knight (Wife)

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

9:00am John Benish (Family)

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1

9:00am Peggy & John Lattner (Pat Monahan)

John Benish (Family)

Ken Bala (Family)

Remigio Echeverri (Family)

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2

9:00am John Benish (Family)

Virginia Scheckel (Daughter)

Maria Theresa Prado-1st Anniv. (Family)

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3

9:00am Dennis Miller (Susan Neuberg)

FOOD PANTRY UPDATES



We are open Tuesday and Friday from 1 to 3 PM.
Anyone in need can visit the pantry twice per month.

CURRENT NEEDS FALL 2026

PLEASE no canned goods until further notice except as noted below.
Also note that donated items must be in their original packaging. We cannot accept open items or repackaged bread products.
All donations may be placed in the blue bin in front of the kitchen, perishable items may be placed in the refrigerator in the kitchen.

- **Fresh Fruit, vegetables, milk, bread, eggs**

Please deliver these on Tuesday and Friday mornings or make arrangements for drop off: Foodpantry@ourladyofmtcarmel.org

- **Canned chicken or Spam**
- **1lb cans or bags of regular coffee**
- **Cookies and crackers**
- **Cereal and oatmeal**
- **Paper towels, Kleenex, toilet paper**
- **Feminine products, all sizes, including Poise pads**
- **Adult large and XL incontinence products**
- **Cleaning supplies like Comet, dish soap and Lysol spray and wipes**

Questions: email foodpantry@ourladyofmtcarmel.org

UPCOMING CLOTHING DRIVE



Just a reminder: our clothing drive is on Saturday, October 17th, and Sunday, October 18th. Please consider your donations. Our last drive in April was very successful, filling a truck and part of another. All items donated go to those in need. More details will follow.

Thank you!

Here I am! Send me!

Isaiah 6:8

Have you been feeling called to serve our parish community? We invite you to prayerfully consider one of our liturgical ministries:

- **Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion**
- **Lector**
- **Usher**
- **Greeter**

These ministries are a beautiful way to share your gifts, grow in faith, and help make our parish a welcoming and prayerful community. For more information or to learn how to get involved please contact:

Lori Prado:

lori.prado@ourladyofmtcarmel.org



04 RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

September 27, 2026/Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Catechist Corner:

Following Jesus: The Challenge of Discipleship

Join us for a light dinner and reflection,
Wednesday, September 30 at 6:30 PM
Catechists, this experience will count
toward your CE requirements



First Communion Parent Meeting
Tuesday, September 29 7:00
Please Call the RE office for more info

Good news! Our program is growing!

So we still need faith filled people just like you to bring Christ alive to all our little disciples.

Our current needs are:

Sunday 9:00 AM:

Pre School Adult to help the teen leaders Substitutes and aides-Can also use a parking lot helper

Sunday 11:00 AM:

1st grade Catechist (to split the class), office help & substitutes

Monday 5:00 PM:

1st grade Catechist, Substitutes, Aides, and Parking Lot Attendant

Monday 7:00 PM:

Catechists for grades 5 and 6.

We are looking for a few people to help with our Special Needs program.



**CHRISTOS meets twice a month on
Saturdays from 3-4 PM-**

CHRISTOS begins October 17.

Catechist Orientation on October 10

Question for Children: How do you show your love for Jesus by doing what he asks, even when it is difficult for you?

Question for Youth: Today's parable reminds us that it isn't what we say that counts as much as what we do. How would someone know you are a Christian through your actions?

Question for Adults: How and when were you like each of the sons in the Gospel?

Activities of the Week

To focus on how faith is lived in your family, brainstorm Christian actions and list them on a poster board. Place the poster in a prominent area of the house for all to see. Have the family place a sticker next to each action as they demonstrate it during the week.

Look through the newspaper this week to find stories about people who actively live their faith.

YOUTH MINISTRY

September Newsletter

Upcoming Youth Group Meeting 10/4

Join us on a nature walk at Waterfall Glen. Meet at Waterfall Glen at the parking lot off of Cass and Northgate Road at 1:15. Please bring a signed permission slip. Scan to RSVP.



Service Opportunities!

High Schoolers looking for service opportunities, we have many available.

Scan the QR to sign up for one or multiple events.

October:

- 10/17 & 10/18 - Fall Clothing Drive
- 10/25 - Burr Ridge Senior Living visit

November:

- 11/1 - Trunk or Treat with the Saints
- 11/8 - Burr Ridge Senior Living visit
- 11/21 - Thanksgiving Food Drive

December:

- 12/13 - Burr Ridge Senior Center visit
- 12/18 - Parent's Night Out
- 12/19 - Christmas Food Drive



OCIA CORNER



Our OCIA classes started last week. September 20th through October 4th our OCIA group will meet Sundays at 11:00am. We have an exciting year ahead. Please keep the participants in our OCIA Program in your prayers!

If you are or know someone who is interested in becoming Catholic or completing initiation, don't hesitate to get in touch with Jen Emanuele:
jennifer.emanuele@ourladyofmtcarmel.org.

06 SPECIAL EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

September 27, 2026/Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

OLMC Giving Report - General Fund

Date	Church Collection	Online Giving	Total
9/21/2026	\$10,255.01	\$3,881.00	\$14,136.01
9/14/2026	\$13,363.75	\$4,638.00	\$18,001.75
9/7/2026	\$18,430.05	\$5,569.00	\$23,999.05
8/31/2026	\$14,151.00	\$4,108.00	\$18,259.00
Total			\$74,395.81

8/3/26-8/24/26
TOTAL

\$67,000.51

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



LOST AND FOUND

If you've lost a coat, umbrella, shoes, glasses, or a water bottle, check the parish office for a recent influx of items in the lost and found bin. Thank you!

WELCOME

Welcome new parishoners to the OLMC family!

Jonathan & Ashley O'Malley

Mark & Alexa Bordick

Daniel & Erika Gutierrez



*Revelation of the Father
Fall Semester*

September 19, 2026 to December 19, 2026

The Revelation of the Father calls men to take the next step in their leadership by discovering that the heart of God the Father is reflected in their own hearts. Men are made for heroic love, faithful commitment, and enduring spiritual fatherhood. Their hearts are designed for sacrifice, and their strength is meant to be lived through covenant.

This is more than formation—it is a renewal that restores men, strengthens marriages, builds families, and forms not spectators, but builders: men prepared to become architects of an authentically Christian civilization and the foundation of a new springtime of Christianity.

Join us for food, fellowship, and faith as we explore **The Revelation of the Father**.

Time: 6:30 a.m. to 8:00 a.m.

Location: Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church 8404 Cass Ave Darien, IL

All men are welcome. For questions, contact;

Peter Beronio (630) 596-7850 pbberonio@gmail.com

Joe Kenny (630) 334-2858 crusaderjoe87@gmail.com

Gerry Leganski (630) 312-391-8446 gerry.leganski@gmail.com



Pope Leo XIV has appointed Bishop Brendan J. Cahill as the seventh bishop of the Diocese of Joliet. The announcement was made by Bishop Dennis E. Spies, Apostolic Administrator of the Diocese of Joliet.

Bishop Cahill has served as bishop of the Diocese of Victoria, Texas, since his appointment by Pope Francis in 2015. His biography and the official announcement of his appointment are available on the Diocese of Joliet's website, www.diojoliet.org.

Bishop Cahill's installation Mass will be scheduled for November 2026. Additional details regarding the installation will be announced as they become available.



Fall Campaign
September 23rd- November 1st

Put your faith in action by joining your fellow parishioners for the Fall 2026 **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 8AM to 6PM from September 23rd to November 1st, 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