

OUR LADY OF MT. CARMEL PARISH

8404 S. CASS AVE. DARIEN. IL 60561



23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"For where two or three are gathered together
in my name, there am I in the midst of them."
- Mt 18:19-20

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 6, 2026
TWENTY-THIRD 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

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02 PASTOR'S LETTER

September 6, 2026/Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

I try to be a cautious driver. I tend to take it slow; there is no need to rush. I am usually right at the speed limit. I admit that I get annoyed at drivers that ride my tail trying to get around me and speeding off well above the speed limit. Driving is certainly a test of patience. The speed limits are there for a good reason, going beyond is a risk to public safety. We are all in it together. A good question to ask, is there a speed limit on love? Some people tend to fall love pretty quickly, we have all heard of the phrase "love at first sight." While we can rush into an early form of love, it takes time to develop that truly deep, lasting agape love that God calls us to. So is there a speed limit on love? I once heard a great line, I don't recall from whom, I can't claim it to be original, "Love moves at the speed of forgiveness." Forgiveness is always the real test of love. It may be quick to fall in love, but it is forgiveness that keeps us in love. Indeed, love moves at the speed of forgiveness.

The reading today all touch on the theme of forgiveness. The Prophet Ezekiel speaks of our obligation to dissuade the wicked from his way. We do have a duty to speak up when someone is acting a way that is hurtful to self and others. However, confrontation alone does not move a person's heart. Confrontation must be tempered with love, forgiveness, understanding and encouragement. Love moves at the speed of forgiveness. St. Paul in his letter to the Romans reminds us, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself. Love does no evil to the neighbor; hence, love is the fulfillment of the law." Love of neighbor is going to require a lot of patience and a lot of forgiveness. Today's Gospel tells of what to do when a brother sins against you. You point out the fault in a spirit of love and forgiveness. Love moves at the speed of forgiveness. Love is also what calls us into community, where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I in the midst of them. We are called into community and relationship with one another. Community is never perfect, that is why it requires love. So is there a speed limit on love? I really do believe that love moves at the speed of forgiveness.

I want to wish everyone a happy Labor Day. I hope you get the chance to get in one more backyard barbeque. We also give thanks for the gift of work. Work is what allows us to make a positive contribution to society and to support our families. Work is an intricate part of human life, whether we like it or not. Our religious education program is off and running. I hope it is a grace filled year for our children and catechists. They bring such life to our parish. The lobby tile should be just about complete. Thank you for your understanding. The new floor is beautiful.



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

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



Readings for the week of September 6, 2026

Sunday: Ez 33:7-9/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7b, 7c-9/Rom 13:8-10/Mt 18:15-20

Monday: 1 Cor 5:1-8/Ps 5:5-6, 7, 12/Lk 6:6-11

Tuesday: Mi 5:1-4a or Rom 8:28-30/Ps 13:6ab, 6c/Mt 1:1-16, 18-23 or 1:18-23

Wednesday: 1 Cor 7:25-31/Ps 45:11-12, 14-15, 16-17/ Lk 6:20-26

Thursday: 1 Cor 8:1b-7, 11-13/Ps 139:1b-3, 13-14ab, 23-24/Lk 6:27-38

Friday: 1 Cor 9:16-19, 22b-27/Ps 84:3, 4, 5-6, 12/Lk 6:39-42

Saturday: 1 Cor 10:14-22/Ps 116:12-13, 17-18/Lk 6:43-49

03 INTENTIONS & EVENTS

September 6, 2026/Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

4:30pm Gene & Jeanette Lang (Daughter)

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

8:15am Mary, Sam, & Tom Ferrucci (Nick Rocco)

Edwin & Florence Moore (Germaine Moore)

Maria Hylak (Family)

10:00am Jean Belford-10th Anniv. (Family)

Robert Lukaszewicz (Family)

Noon Parishoners of OLMC

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

9:00am Judy Romano (Jerry Barich)

Joe Nutile (Cousin)

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

9:00am Francis Vacco Valiaparambil (Family)

Joseph Hamilton (Judy Harazin)

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

9:00am Stanley Gancarz (Frank & Fran Modelski)

Harry Borucki (Daughter Evelyn)

Rosario Baradi (Family)

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

9:00am Fr. Peter Mary Rookey (Sheri)

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

9:00am Helen Baggeck (Frank & Fran Modelski)

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

9:00am Catherine & James Tracy (Pat Monahan)

Patricia Owens-1st Anniv. (Family)



A Prayer for the 25th Anniversary of September 11

Heavenly Father, God of peace and consolation,

On this 25th anniversary of September 11, we entrust to Your infinite mercy the souls of all who lost their lives. Grant them eternal rest, O Lord, and let Your perpetual light shine upon them.

Bring comfort to those who still grieve, and hear our prayers for the brave first responders who mirrored Christ's love through their selfless sacrifice.

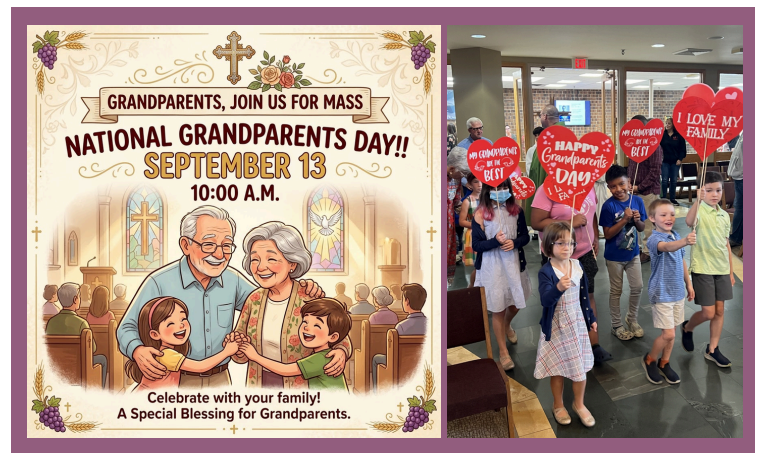
Lord, make us instruments of Your peace. Where there is hatred, teach us to bring Your love, and where there is darkness, Your light. Guard our nation and unite us in faith, hope, and charity.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.



In Commemoration of the 250th Anniversary of the Journeys that Shaped America (USCCB)
Sept. 20, 2026 | 2 PM
Christ the Servant Parish
8700 Havens Dr, Woodridge



Welcome

Join us in welcoming the following to the Our Lady of Mount Carmel family:

Abdon & Esthela Serna

Robert & Kailey Deubel

Pawel & Carolyn Godowski

James & Katharine Binder



Together in Loss

Join our grief support ministry for anyone experiencing the loss of a loved one. Our next gathering will be

Saturday, September 19th | 10-11:30am

04 RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

September 6, 2026/Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time



RE FAMILIES

WELCOME BACK!

We are so happy to have you back and we are looking forward to another great year.



RE Updates

Still not registered? That's okay, we are still taking registrations!

We are currently looking for a few more people willing to share their faith with our youngest parishioners. Don't worry, you do not need to be a professional teacher. We are looking for 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, catechists for 1st & 3rd grades

Substitutes and aides-Can also use a parking lot helper

Sunday 11:00 AM-Teen helpers, an Adult Aide for 5th grade, office help & substitutes

Monday 5:00 PM-7th grade Catechist, Substitutes, Aides, and Parking Lot Attendant

Monday, 7:00 PM-Catechist for grades 5 & 6

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

Called CHRISTOS. CHRISTOS meets twice a month on

Saturdays from 3-4 PM



SAVE THE DATES:

NO RE-September 6-7 Labor Day

RE September 13 & 14

Family Faith Session-September 15 at 7:00

1st Communion Parent Meeting-September 29 at 7:00

Question for Children: What is one thing you would do for someone whom you loved?

Question for Youth: Jesus tells us about the importance of community and friendship. When have you helped heal an argument between friends? How did that feel?

Question for Adults: How do you make sure you follow the way of love as described by Paul in today's reading? What steps do you take to eliminate the unloving — grudges, hatred, prejudice, or others.

Activities of the Week

Jesus said that when two or more people come together in his name — he will be there. To help your family experience the power of praying together, pray the Lord's Prayer aloud in unison. Pause for a moment of silence. Invite family members to silently pray for one another. Close by thanking God for the gifts of faith and family.

Work out a practical guide for resolving disagreements in your family. Write it down and post it where everyone can see it.

YOUTH MINISTRY

August Newsletter

Upcoming Youth Group Meetings

Sept 20th: Youth Group Meeting!

Join us for our first Youth Group Meeting on September 20th from 1:00 – 2:45. We will discuss our faith, enjoy some lunch and play yard games outside. Bring a friend!

Interested in staying up to date with our High School Youth Group? Scan the QR code to view our exciting calendar this year. Looking forward to seeing you there!



Confirmation 2027!

Year 1 Students are 7th grade or older who are on their **first year** of Confirmation Prep.

Year 2 Students are 8th grade or older who are on their **2nd consecutive year** of Confirmation Prep.

Upcoming Parent Meetings

Year 1 parents are invited to their student's RE class the week of **September 13 or 14th**. Please plan to stay the entire session.

Year 2 students and parents are asked to attend our Confirmation Meeting on **Tuesday, September 8th, 7:00 – 8:00 pm.**

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. **Classes start on September 13th at 11:00 am.**

I look forward to meeting with you all then!

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 6, 2026/Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

OLMC Giving Report - General Fund

Date	Church Collection	Online Giving	Total
8/31/2026	\$14,151.00	\$4,108.00	\$18,259.00
Total			\$18,259.00

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

\$67,000.51

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



Retrouvaille is a program designed to help married couples who are struggling. We will help you learn to communicate on a deeper level, approach conflict constructively, build a stronger marriage, and rediscover the love you once had.

Our next weekend is coming
September 18 – 20, 2026
at the Carmelite Spiritual Center in Darien, IL

For more information call us at (815) 246-2080, email us at JolietRegistration@HelpOurMarriage.org, or visit us online at www.HelpOurMarriage.org/Joliet



Knights of Columbus Council 3738

Reverse Raffle

\$5,000 Grand Prize

Link to purchase online [Reverse Raffle - KofC Reverse Raffle](#)
Or see a member of KOC #3737 St. John Council

Saturday, September 26th, 2026; 6pm-10pm

6pm-7pm: cocktails/appetizer

7pm-7:50pm: Dinner

8pm-9ishpm: Reverse Raffle ~ \$5000 to a single winner

\$100 ticket includes food & open bar for 1 person.

Additional person for food & open bar at \$25.00

Consolation prizes drawing to win \$50 for every 10 tickets selected

Minimum 100/Maximum 175 tickets will be sold.

Winners need not be present.

Tickets will be available at Cruisn' Nights or you can also reach out to Steve Conklin (steve.conklin@marriott.com)

Where can you go these days that guarantees you four hours of great company, delicious food and beverages for you and a guest for \$125. And then have a chance to win \$5,000!!



BLOOD DRIVE

Proudly sponsored by The Darien Woman's Club
and the Indian Prairie Public Library

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2026

12:30 PM to 6 PM

Indian Prairie Public Library
401 Plainfield Rd. Darien, Illinois

Appointments recommended

HOW TO DONATE:

Call 877-258-4825

Visit vitalant.org

Walk-ins are also accepted.

Blood Drive Code: ORDO398G

Please consider donating
to this worthwhile event.
You could save a life!



JOIN BISHOP SPIES, PRIESTS & DEACONS ACROSS THE DIOCESE OF JOLIET FOR A Night of Prayer, Music, & Adoration



**This will be
outside.
Please bring
your own
blanket or
chair**

Wednesday, September 23rd

7:00PM

Dupage County Campus
503 N. County Farm Road, Wheaton

As our nation marks its 250th anniversary, people across the Diocese of Joliet are invited to gather for a historic public Consecration to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Join Bishop Spies, priests, deacons, and people across the Diocese for an hour of candlelit Eucharistic Adoration as we pray for our nation.



MORE INFO