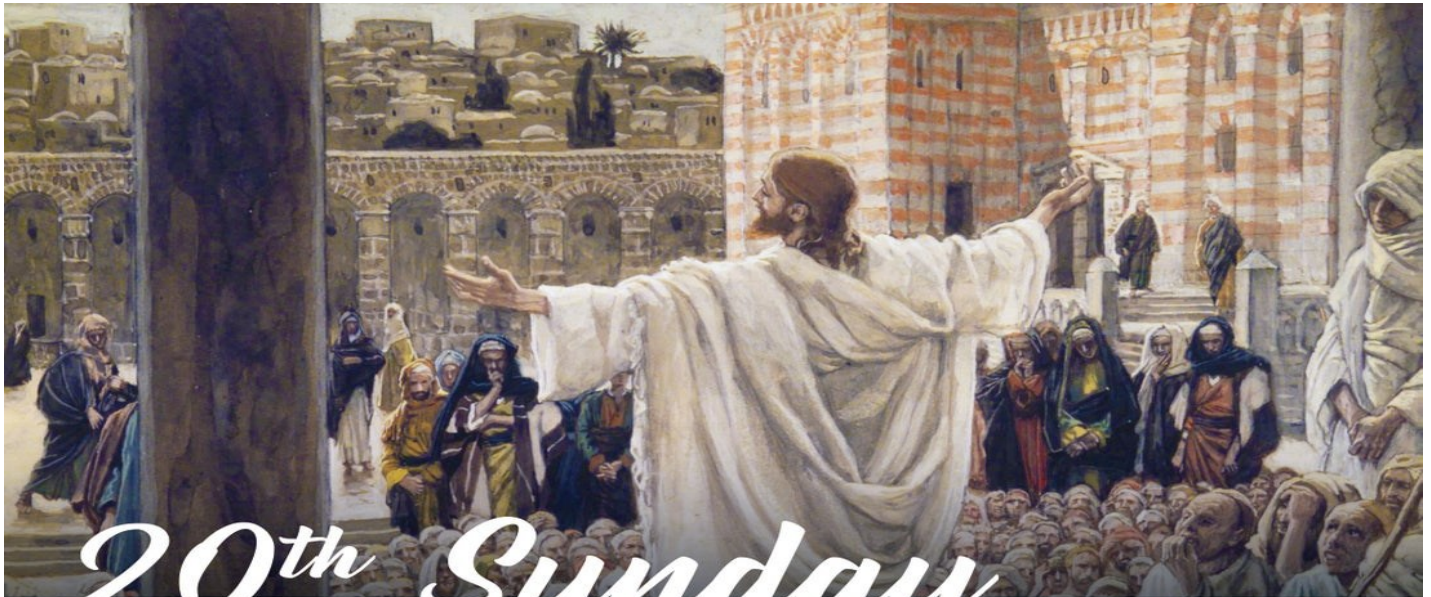


Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish

August 17, 2025 † Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time



20th Sunday

I N O R D I N A R Y T I M E

Jesus said to his disciples: "I have come to set the earth on fire, and how I wish it were already blazing!" - Lk 12:49

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

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MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday - 4:30 PM **Sunday** - 8:15 AM - 10 AM - 12 Noon

Weekdays & Saturdays - 9 AM

Holy Day Eve - 7:00 PM **Holy Day** - 9 AM - 7:00 PM

Reconciliation on Saturdays 3:15-4:00PM

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: To register call The Religious Education Office at 630-963-3053

Church Office Hours: Monday through Friday, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. 630-852-3303 phone number

Parish Mission Statement

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.

MARRIAGES: Plans should be made at least six months in advance of a tentative wedding date to fulfill Diocesan guidelines. To schedule a date, call the parish office for an appointment with a priest.

BAPTISMS: Are held the first and third Sunday of each month at 1:30PM. Parents and godparents are requested to attend a catechesis class. Call the parish office for arrangements.

PARISH STAFF

Rev. Jeff Smialek, O.Carm., Pastor

frjeff@ourladyofmtcarmel.org

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

frrob@ourladyofmtcarmel.org

Rev. Robert Carroll, O. Carm., Ph.D.

Priest In residence

Deacon Ed Ptacek

littlebirdfarm@hotmail.com

Deacon Guadalupe Villarreal

dcnlupe@ourladyofmtcarmel.org

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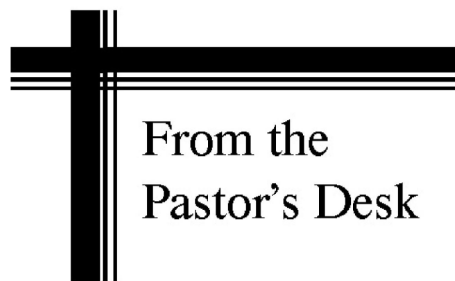
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From the Pastor's Desk

Well summer is almost over, and schools will be starting soon, however there still might be time for a little more summertime fun. There is nothing like a good backyard fire and roasting some marshmallows and maybe if you are lucky, making s'mores

Fire is an amazing thing. It is one of the things that really helped define and build humanity. Our use of fire has separated us from wildlife and allowed for human development. We probably at first associate fire with destruction and think of a house on fire or a great forest fire. But we also need fire to cook our food, keep us warm in

the winter and most importantly to cook our marshmallows and S'mores! We could not live without fire.

In the Gospel today, Jesus tells us that he has come to set the world ablaze. Ablaze with what? Love for one another and with life. But he wishes that the world was already burning. Why is it not already burning? That is up to us. Why is the world not already on fire with love? Well too often we let our own insecurities and desires get in the way. We prefer to hate rather than love. Sadly, sometimes hating is easier to do. It is hard to really get to know, to understand and to love one another.

We also can't do it all on our own. One flame roasting a marshmallow will take all night. It needs a big fire. A big fire is just a collection of small flames. We each have a small flame, but when we bring them together, we can form a large fire. That will change things. That will get our meals cooked, keep us warm and light up the world with our love.

We also know that it won't be easy and people will hate us for doing good. That is the point of the rest of the gospel today. People will hate us for trying to bring love into the world. The choice is up to us, no flame, small flame or a blaze? We'll get a lot more done and cook those s'mores a whole lot faster when we work together to bring Christ's love into the world.

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

Farewell to Deacon Lupe

Dear Parish Community,

Our beloved Deacon Lupe Villareal has asked the Diocese for retirement. He wants to live the good life and split his time between his home in Mexico and here. What a blessing! We are sad to see him leave our community. However, we are so grateful for all he has done for OLMC during his almost three years of ministry here. He has made a lasting impact on our parish, and we have been enriched by his service and example. This weekend, August 16-17, will be his last time with us as a full-time deacon. Please thank him and wish him well in this new phase of life. Please pray for Deacon Lupe and Carmen in their retirement.

They will always have a home here at Our Lady of Mount Carmel whenever, they are back visiting. May God bless them abundantly.

--

Fr. Jeffery Smialek, O.Carm.

Pastor

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish
Darien, IL



Readings for the week of August 17, 2025

Sunday: Jer 38:4-6, 8-10/Ps 40:2, 3, 4, 18 (14b)/Heb 12:1-4/Lk 12:49-53

Monday: Jgs 2:11-19/Ps 106:34-35, 36-37, 39-40, 43ab and 44/Mt 19:16-22

Tuesday: Jgs 6:11-24a/Ps 85:9, 11-12, 13-14/Mt 19:23-30

Wednesday: Jgs 9:6-15/Ps 21:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Mt 20:1-16

Thursday: Jgs 11:29-39a/Ps 40:5, 7-8a, 8b-9, 10/Mt 22:1-14

Friday: Ru 1:1, 3-6, 14b-16, 22/Ps 146:5-6ab, 6c-7, 8-9a, 9bc-10/Mt 22:34-40

Saturday: Ru 2:1-3, 8-11; 4:13-17/Ps 128:1b-2, 3, 4, 5/Mt 23:1-12



Retrouvaille is a program for married couples who are struggling to stay together. You will learn how to communicate calmly and respectfully, and then you'll learn tools for handling conflict and other stresses together – in a way that strengthens and uplifts your marriage! Since its inception, Retrouvaille has helped over 200,000 married couples rebuild their marriages, and we can help you too if you are willing to work hard. Our next weekend program is:

September 19th – 21st, 2025 at the Carmelite Spiritual Center in Darien, IL

Call us today at 815-246-2080, email us at JolietRegistration@HelpOurMarriage.org, or visit us at www.HelpOurMarriage.org/Joliet for more information.



GRIEF & LOSS SUPPORT GROUP

Recognizing the profound impact of loss, we've developed an exclusive support program in collaboration with Modell Funeral Home. Our team of compassionate mental health professionals specializes in guiding individuals through the intricate journey of grief, offering expertise in healing, resilience, and emotional well-being. You're not alone in this journey; together, we'll navigate towards a place of healing and renewed optimism. Discover solace and strength on your path of grieving and healing with the Ellie Mental Health Grief and Loss Support Group. In this group we will provide a nurturing and empathetic space to openly share your emotions, learn effective coping strategies, and find your way towards renewal and hope.

At Ellie Mental Health, we understand the profound impact that grief and loss can have on individuals. To aid in processing your loss, we have developed a support program exclusively for clients of Modell Funeral Home. We are a group of empathetic and authentic providers with expertise in grief, loss, healing, resiliency, and emotional health.

Weekly Beginning: October 3
Time: 12:30pm
Duration: 60 minutes

- 6-Week Support Group
- Come when available, for 1 or all sessions
- Limited to 12 clients per group



Sign-up via Email
 Elliel08101@elliementalhealth.com

Every Tuesday, Starting October 3
 at Ellie Mental Health
 745 McClintock Dr. Suite 100
 Burr Ridge, IL 60527



Join us for the Diocese of Joliet **JUBILEE MASS FOR GRANDPARENTS AND ELDERLY** *Pilgrims of Hope*

Saturday, October 4, 2025
11:00 AM
Cathedral of St. Raymond
 604 N Raynor Ave, Joliet, IL

RSVP by scanning
 the QR code or by
 calling 815-221-6192



Questions? Call Jim Elias 815-221-6134

ANNOUNCING THE 47TH ANNUAL

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS



August 17, 2025
2:00 p.m.

Cathedral of St. Raymond
 604 N Raynor Ave., Joliet, IL
Registration Required

Couples celebrating anniversaries of 25 years, 50 years, and more than 50 years, are welcome to attend. Bishop Ronald A. Hicks will celebrate the Mass and will lead all couples in a special renewal of wedding commitment.

Pre-registration is
 required by August 8,
 2025. Scan the QR code
 or website link:
<https://forms.office.com/r/qu9fbEpflr>



Office of Lifelong Lay Formation
 Questions? Contact Jim Elias
 (815) 221-6134
jelias@dioceseofjoliet.org

DIocese of Joliet





RE News...

RE Registration is still open.

It's not too late to register for RE. We still have room in all sessions.

To guarantee your preferred spot, please register ASAP.

RE begins on September 7-8.

Contact the RE office for more information.

Help Wanted

Who We need. . . YOU!

If you have ever considered working with our youngest parishioners, then now is the time to say YES! There are several ways that you can help us. We are looking for catechists and assistant catechists for all sessions. We would like enough faith filled people to work together in a team-teaching capacity.

People ask if they need to be a teacher by trade to "become" a catechist. The simple answer is no, because what our children really need are faith filled individuals sharing their faith by the way they live. While being a teacher is beneficial, practicing faith is integral. Pope Francis said this in his message to participants in the First International Catechetical Symposium:

Catechesis is not a "job" or a task that is external to the person who is a catechist; because one "is" a catechist and all of life revolves around this mission. In fact, being a catechist is a vocation of service to the Church; what was received as a gift from the Lord should be transmitted in turn. Thus, catechists must constantly return to that first announcement of kerygma which is the gift that changed their life. It is the fundamental proclamation that must continuously resound in the life of Christians, even more so in those who are called to proclaim and teach the faith.

So, if you feel called, we offer the tools and resources you need to fulfill this task. It's not about the knowledge you have, but the willingness to share what you really believe and practice. If you are reading this, then you are already involved. Please prayerfully consider helping our young parishioners.

We also need office help, parking lot attendants, hallway monitors, substitutes, and occasional or seasonal help for various retreats.

Please remember that all volunteers with children or vulnerable adults do need to be compliant with our Safe Environment policies.

Current volunteers, please contact Sherry to see what you may need.

Questions of the Week

Question for Children: What is one way you can be closer to Jesus today?

Question for Youth: We are assured that God will be with us as we go through life, so what strategy do you use to keep God in mind as you deal with the ups and downs of life as a young adult?

Question for Adults: Share about a time when life's struggles were so difficult for you that you nearly "threw in the towel." What signs did you see then that God remained with you?

Activities of the Week

Talk about the challenges which your family faces at this time? How can you work together to overcome those challenges?

Hold a family picnic this week as summer vacation draws to an end or as our society gets ready to return to the regular activities of early autumn. On the picnic, hold a race – like the one suggested in today's second reading. Afterward, talk together about what it means to keep one's eye on the goal in a race.

Prayer for Summer

Father, Creator of all, thank You for summer!

Thank you for the warmth of the sun
and the increased daylight.

Thank You for the beauty I see all around me
and for the opportunity to be outside and enjoy
Your creation.

Thank You for the increased time I have to be with
my friends and family, and for the more casual pace
of the summer season.

Draw me closer to You this summer.

Teach me how I can pray
no matter where I am or what I am doing.
Warm my soul with the awareness of Your presence
and light my path with Your Word and Counsel.

As I enjoy Your creation, create in me
a pure heart and a hunger and a thirst for You.

- Author Unknown

***Together in Loss* is a grief
support ministry
for anyone who has
experienced a loss.**

**Please note next meeting
will be**

Wednesday, August 20th

6:30 p.m.-8 p.m.

**For information-Contact
Lori Prado:**

(lori.prado@ourladyofmtcarmel.org)

**NAMI Family to Family
Our Lady of Mt. Carmel
September 9th-October 28th
Tuesday 6:30-9:00 p.m.**

**For more information, contact:
Lori Prado**

lori.prado@ourladyofmtcarmel.org



Saturday, August 16, 4:30PM

Patricia Heery (Family)

Margie O'Leary (Sheri)

Emma, Lawrence & Theresa Kowalski-living
(Family)

Sunday, August 17

8:15AM Dec'd Members Ostrowski/Curley
Families

Bill & Norine Fisher (Nick Rocco)

Roy Randich (Jim & Ida)

Richard Meister (Janice Meister-Kelly)

10:00AM Tom & Karen Krueger-living –50th ann
10:00 Choir

Jim Murawski (Family)

Noon Tony Corso (Evelyn Antikauskas)

Monday, August 18, 9:00AM

Laverne Munsayac (Josie)

John Norbut (Vieni Family)

Tuesday, August 19, 9:00AM

John Biskupski (Frank & Fran Modelski)

Larry Monahan-13th anniv (Family)

Jose Ramos Sr. (Family)

Luisa Barretto (Family)

Wednesday, August 20, 9:00AM

Mary Clare Karnick (Family)

Thursday, August 21, 9:00AM

Edmund Majewski (Donatello Family)

Kathleen Kasperski-2nd anniv (Germaine)

Charles Antikauskas (Evelyn Antikauskas)

Sonia Jimenez (Alvin Manuel)

Rose Sunny (Sheri)

Friday, August 22, 9:00AM

William Mulcahy (Eugene Munin)

Saturday, August 23, 9:00AM

Susan Nees (Family)

Rick Schulz-2nd anniv (Kay)

Ricardo Barretto (Family)

