

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish

December 24, 2023 † Fourth Sunday of Advent



4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

“Behold, you will conceive
in your womb and bear
a son, and you shall
name him Jesus.”
- Lk 1:31

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

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PARISH STAFF

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8404 CASS AVENUE

DARIEN, ILLINOIS 60561

Parish Phone Number: 630-852-3303

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

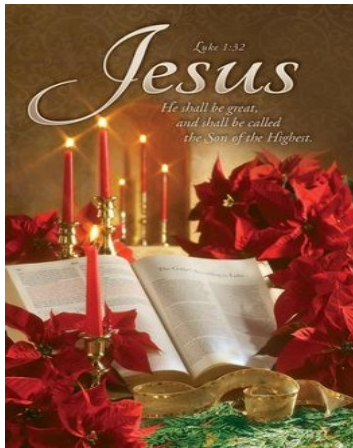
(Call Office to verify Mass times)

Church Office Hours: Monday through Friday,
from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

RECONCILIATION: Saturday 3:15--4PM

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.



I want to wish everyone in the Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish community a very blessed Christmas! This is such a blessed time of the year. I hope that everyone has wonderful celebrations with your families. It is special to have all your loved ones close on this day. I know the children have torn through their presents from Santa with great vigor and are loving all their new toys. Children really do make the holidays magical. Enjoy this most special day and never forget what we really celebrate, the birth of Jesus Christ into time and the pledge his great love and promise to return.

“Do not be afraid; for behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all people. For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you who is Christ and Lord.” Luke 2:10-11 This line was part of gospel proclaimed at Midnight Mass. It is the line spoken by the angel to the shepherds on the sacred night. It reminds us of several important things today. First, this baby is both Christ and Lord! The mystery of Nativity is one of the greatest compliments that we have received. God so loved us that he became one of us, to live as a human being in all things but sin. It is an affirmation of the goodness of humanity and just how special we are and how loved we are by God. No other religion in the world makes the claim that their god humbled himself enough to become a human being, only Jesus Christ! He came to show us in a way that we can understand, through a person that we can relate to. Second, this message goes to all people. We are not to hold our faith in or just to share with a select group of people. All people are welcome! We are called to reach out to, welcome and love all individuals. Yes, to love even those people who don’t look like us, act like us, think like us, love like us. Christ is Lord of all, and all are welcomed in our community. Third, perhaps the most important line in the greeting to the shepherds are the words “do not be afraid.” If we are going to accept Jesus Christ and love our neighbor, it is going to take courage on our part. We have that assurance to not be afraid as we proclaim Christ’s love. What a blessing and a challenge Christmas brings to our faith.

On behalf of all the parish staff, Fr. Rob, Fr. Bob, Deacons Ed & Lupe, I want to thank everyone for your tremendous generosity. Thank you from the bottoms of our hearts. A very blessed Christmas to all!!!

Merry Christmas!!!

Fr. Jeff

Readings for the week of December 24, 2023

Sunday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29/Rom 16:25-27/Lk 1:26-38

Monday: Vigil: Is 62:1-5/Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29/Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/

Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25 Night: Is 9:1-6/Ps 96: 1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13/Ti 2:11-14/

Lk 2:1-14 Dawn: Is 62:11-12/Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12/Ti 3:4-7/Lk 2:15-20

Day: Is 52:7-10/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6/Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14

Tuesday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 8ab, 16bc and 17/Mt 10:17-22

Wednesday: 1 Jn 1:1-4/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12/Jn 20:1a, 2-8

Thursday: 1 Jn 1:5—2:2/Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7cd-8/Mt 2:13-18

Friday: 1 Jn 2:3-11/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6/Lk 2:22-35

Saturday: 1 Jn 2:12-17/Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10/Lk 2:36-40

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE



Sunday, December 24th Mass at 10 AM Only

Christmas Eve December 24

3:00 pm Children's Mass

5:30 pm

Midnight Mass beginning at 12:00 am

Christmas Day December 25: 8:15 am, 10:00 am, Noon

January 1 is NOT a Holy Day of Obligation this year



Jesus is calling YOU – to minister at Mass
Lector ~ Usher ~ Altar Server ~ Choir Member
Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion

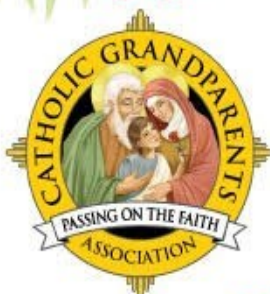
No Experience Necessary

We will be training for all ministries

Contact Cathy Lentz at 630-852-3303 ext 5 or

catharine.lentz@ourladyofmtcarmel.org

Best Wishes



For a Happy and Holy Christmas

-OUR MISSION-

TO HELP GRANDPARENTS PASS ON THE FAITH AND TO KEEP PRAYER AT THE HEART OF FAMILY LIFE



Youth Ministry Christmas Party and Service Opportunity!

All high schoolers are invited to join us Sunday, December 17th to celebrate Christmas with a party and service opportunity. We will have lunch together at **1pm** and then we will head to Burr

Ridge Senior Living from **2pm-3:30pm** to make cookies with the residents. If you would like a ride from OLMC to Burr Ridge, you will need to fill out a permission slip in advance.



Parents, do you need a break or time to finish some last minute Christmas tasks? Our high school youth group is hosting a Parent's Night out on **Friday, December 22nd from 3-6pm**. Sign up on the parish website or contact Stephanie Rawls. Snacks, games, and crafts will be provided for the kids. High schoolers, if you would like to volunteer to help with child-care, please contact Stephanie Rawls.

Cathy's Corner—The Peace that Comes from God

It was a time of peace in the known world, the *pax Augusta*, the peace credited to the Roman emperor Caesar Augustus. It was a peace established by bloodshed, maintained by oppression, enforced by brutality. It was a peace gloried in by the wealthy and powerful and dreaded by the destitute and the insignificant. It was a peace wrought by pain. Into this veneer of tranquility that veiled a people in great affliction, a tiny baby was born of an unknown girl in a nondescript stable of a small village. And in an instant that facade of false peace was shattered by the multitude of heavenly host shining with the glory of the Lord and proclaiming true peace to all people. But the rulers enjoying the spoils of their dominance did not hear their clarion call.

It was the shepherds hard at work throughout that night heard it. The lowly shepherds, poor and ragged, knew before anyone else that the world would never be the same. They knew that the savior had been born in the city of David, a king who had once been a shepherd like themselves. They knew that his peace would be established by smashing the yoke that burdened them, maintained by justice for all nations, enforced by the zeal of the Lord of Hosts. They knew first what we know today: the savior has been born who is Christ and who is Lord. He has come to deliver us from all that is godless and show us how to be eager to do good. Let us with him smash all that burdens the suffering among us and with him raise up the lowliest in our midst. Let us bring his abundant joy to all the world. Glory to God in the highest and true peace to every person, now and forever.

Is 9:1-6; Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13; Ti 2:1-14; Lk 2:1-14



Activities of the Week:

Jessie Tree-4th Sunday of Advent

For Advent, we will be posting a few scripture passages that will help your children learn about the lineage of Jesus through the Jessie Tree. Read about each individual and create an ornament for your tree. You can find the full link on our website.

Isaiah: Isaiah 9:1-6; 11:1-9

Symbol: Scroll

Zechariah: Luke 1:5-25; 57-80

Symbol: Thurible

Elizabeth: Luke 1:36, 39-57

Symbol: Small House

St. Joseph: Luke 2:22-38; 2:41-52

Symbol: Carpenter Tools

Mary: Luke 1:26-38

Symbol: Lily

John the Baptist: Mark 1:1-8

Symbol: Shell

Questions of the Week

Question for Children: If you were to tell someone one thing about Jesus' mother, Mary, what would you say?

Question for Youth: Gabriel's greeting to Mary was, "Hail, favored one! The Lord is with you." This is God's greeting to each of us – he loves us just as we are. What are some of your personal strengths that God rejoices in?

Question for Adults: Name one area of your life where God has surprised you with love, abilities, or even a pregnancy. How is God's Spirit upon you in this dimension of life?

Christmas Question:

Read Matthew 25:31-40. What kinds of gifts would Jesus like for his birthday? How can you give him that gift?

RE News...

NO RE Christmas Break:

There will be no RE on Sunday/Monday, December 24/25 nor Sunday/Monday, December 31/January 1.

We will return to RE on Sunday/Monday, January 7/8, 2024.

Wishing all our families a very blessed and safe Christmas. Peace be to all, as we continue to live Christmas in our hearts throughout the year.

Upcoming Dates

CORE Catechist Meeting

We have many catechists that serve as team leaders for each grade level. We are presently looking for assistant team leaders for the following grades: 1, 4, 5, & 6. Our CORE team meets three times a year to help plan out the upcoming season in RE. If you are on the CORE Team now, or would like to consider joining us, please attend our winter meeting on Tuesday, January 9 at 6:30 for dinner, followed by the meeting at 7:00 Contact Sherry Rochford if you are interested.

Family Faith-The Church

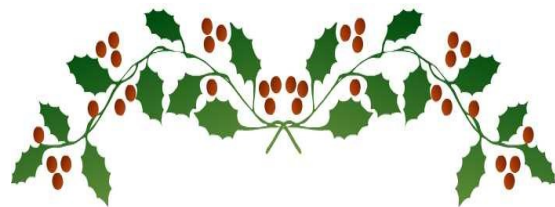
Tuesday, January 16 at 7:00 PM

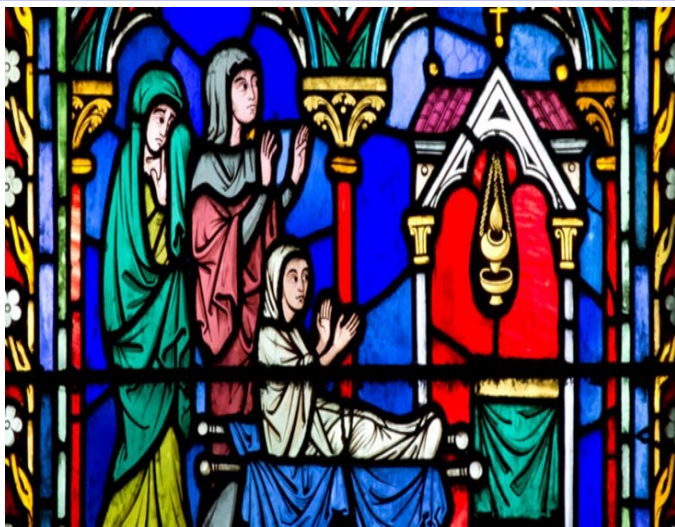
Family Mass-Grades 7 & 2

Our next Family Mass on Sunday, January 21 at 10:00 will be presented by our 7th and 2nd graders. We are looking for students in 7th grade to serve as readers and jr. ushers, while 2nd graders will serve as greeters and gift bearers. Contact Sherry Rochford for more information.

2nd Grade Reconciliation Retreat

For Parents and children Saturday, January 27-10:30-Noon OR 12:30-2:00





**Are you or is someone you love
homebound and unable to attend
Mass?**

Ministers of Care from the community of *Our Lady of Mount Carmel* are here to visit with you, to pray with you, to offer you the **Body of Christ**.

Contact Cathy Lentz at 630-852-3303 ext 5 or catharine.lentz@ourladyofmtcarmel.org for a visit.

ENS Allison Early, NAVY
CPO Michael Early, USMC
Elliot Broccardo, USMC

Lavine, Army
SPC Jonathan Poynton
Joe Barker
Sgt. J. Bartlett Pvt.
Cpl. Joseph Belgis, USMC
Wayne R. Zefeldt, Army
S. Sgt. Michael Mullahy
Ryan Pertile, Army
Major Thomas Bessler
Mike Noonan
Adam Kowalski, Army
Capt. James Lucas US Army
Sgt. Greg Burnett
Sgt. Meghan Callham, USMC
Ron Caruso Jr.
Specialist Drew Stocks
Christine Christensen, USAF
Lt. Joseph A Vacek, USMC



Sgt. Ryan Thomas
Diahann Bavan
Ronan Randy S. BA.SAT-U.S.Navy
Derek McCarthy
Joe Michalski
Steve Baker, Lt
Luke Fluder
Pfc Drew Hillebold, Army
Vincent Napoli, USMC
Nikolas Horskey, Army
Lt. Col Jason O'Neil, USMC
Capt. Tim Wilson
Rachael Smith
Kevin Pope
Dave Rawlings
LCpl Daniel Holakovsky, USMC
Tom Reiter
Nathaniel Rozgo

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, December 23, 2023

4:30PM Fred Ryczyn (Family)
Ruth Barry (Daughter)

Sunday, December 24, 2023

10:00AM Catherine Lamb (Evano Family)
Julia Ravina (Pax & Rose Ravina)
Jerry Reszel (Family)
Pietro, Archangela, Rose, Henry & Lorraine
(Storino Family)

3:00PM Children Mass

5:30PM For All Parishioners

Midnight For all Parishioners

Monday, December 25, 2023

MERRY CHRISTMAS!!

8:15AM For All Parishioners

10:00 AM For All Parishioners

Noon For All Parishioners

Tuesday, December 26, 2023

9:00AM John Swies (Family)
Lisamma Abraham (Family)
Epifania & Alevandro Fontanilla (Family)
Pietro, Archangela, Rose, Henry & Lorraine
(Storino Family)

Wednesday, December 27, 2023

9:00AM Elaine Payonk (Frank & Fran Modelski)
Shirley Chesen (Donna & Del Kolacki)
Lisamma Abraham (Family)

Thursday, December 28, 2023

9:00AM Lisamma Abraham (Family)

Friday, December 29, 2023

9:00AM Antonia Lim (Andrea)

Lisamma Abraham (Family)

Saturday, December 30, 2023

9:00AM Margaret Cleary (Granddaughter)

Ronald R. Caruso (Family)

Lisamma Abraham (Family)

Nellie Libo-On (Family)



Colin Cusack
Michael Sklodowski, Army
Nick Radziwon, US Navy
Gwen Zemaitis Baker
James Lucas US Army
Capt. Melissa Sprague
Capt. Mark Sprague
Zach Wallace
James Chipman
Keith Thomas
L.C. David Treadwell
Timothy Vaughn, USAF
Zachary Bell
Christopher Johnson USCG
Sgt. Eric Kuchta, Army
Pvt Dylan R. Hagan
Danielle Monahan SrA

Robert DeMatio
Frank Andrew McKenna, Navy
Captain Jackson Panice
Ryan Snyder
Capt. James Lienau
Sgt. Kevin Gallmeier Jr.
Pat Gill Petty Officer
Brian Sheenhan, Army
Joseph Higgins
Gary Hogan
Kevin Hornett
Dan Eugene Bavan
Dan Welters
Alex Erkiens
Capt. Michael K. Desmond, Jr., USMC
1st Lt. Mark Marten, US Army
Ted Cook