

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish

December 3, 2023 † First Sunday of Advent



Novena of Our Lady of Guadalupe

Start Date 12/3 @ 6:30 pm.
End Date 12/11 @ 6:30 pm.
Tuesday 12/12 Mass @ 9am.



On Dec 7 & 8th the Rosary will start after the evening mass, say 8:30 pm.

Location the Chapel
The rosary will be bilingual English & Spanish. Everyone is invited.

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 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

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Deacon Guadalupe Villarreal

dcnlupe@ourladyofmtcarmel.org

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*From the
Pastor*



December 3, 2023

We have entered the sacred season of Advent. We will journey together during the next four weeks through this time of preparing our hearts for the coming of the Lord. This time of the year can be a mixed bag for us. The weather has changed, and winter is certainly upon us. It is cold and snow has begun to fall. The days are short, and night comes early. While the holidays are filled with great joy, it is also a time of stress. We get busy with decorating, shopping and often attending many holiday gatherings. We have to clean the house and cook and host the family. We can get so busy and stressed during this time of year that we forget what this season is all about. It is preparing our hearts to receive Christ once again. It is time for us to ponder

Christ's return to this world at some point in time. While we may feel that darkness closing in on us, we take time this season to light candles. The first candle of the wreath is lit this weekend and we will light more candles in the weeks ahead. The light of the flame will dispel any darkness we may be experiencing at this time. We know what lies ahead, the coming of Christ and that is where our hope is found.

We have many special events coming up during Advent. The novena to Our Lady of Guadalupe begins soon, the details are in the bulletin. St. Nicholas will be visiting the parish on November 6. It should be a great evening for the whole family to enjoy learning more about St. Nick and Christmas customs around the world. Friday, December 8th, is the Immaculate Conception, masses will be on 12/7 at 7pm and on 12/8 at 9 am and 7pm. December 10th from 2 – 4 pm, will be the parish Advent afternoon of reflection. There will be a presentation for the adults and activities for the children to enjoy. Monday, December 18th at 7pm, will be the parish Advent Reconciliation Service. There will be multiple priests present to hear individual confessions. This is a wonderful way to get ready to celebrate Christmas. We are very glad to host Simbang Gabi on Wednesday, December 20 at 7pm. This is a very important celebration in the Filipino community and we glad to host it for the first time. Please consider coming out and joining our Filipino brothers and sisters for this important cultural celebration.

Advent blessing and prayers,

Fr. Jeff

Readings for the week of December 3, 2023

Sunday: Is 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7/Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19 (4)/1 Cor 1:3-9/Mk 13:33-37

Monday: Is 2:1-5/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4b, 4cd-5, 6-7, 8-9/Mt 8:5-11

Tuesday: Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17/Lk 10:21-24

Wednesday: Is 25:6-10a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/Mt 15:29-37

Thursday: Is 26:1-6/Ps 118:1 and 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a/Mt 7:21, 24-27

Friday: Gn 3:9-15, 20/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/Lk 1:26-38

Saturday: Is 30:19-21, 23-26/Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Mt 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8

Adoration and Benediction

Friday, December 1
First Friday

There is Adoration at 3 p.m.
and Benediction at 6:30
p.m. in the chapel.

Why not spend some time
with the Lord?



We will be holding our Holiday Food Drive for Christmas on Sunday December 17th. We will only be accepting monetary donations that we then will pass on to people in need to supplement their food. You could give cash, checks or gift cards. Please put any donations in an envelope & mark the outside with "Holiday Food Drive Donation", your name & address then place it in the collection basket. You will get credit for any donation you make. If you pay by check please put "Holiday Food Drive" in the memo. There will be envelopes for you to use in the back of church if needed. You need to make your donations by December 10th for it to go for Christmas.

Thank You,

HFK Presents

The Historical Portrayal of...

"The Legend of St. Nicholas"



You'd better watch out!! St. Nick is coming to Our Lady of Mt. Carmel on **December 6.**

The Old English Father Christmas will tell us the stories of St. Nicholas, the protector of children throughout the ages.

Learn about the origins of:

- St. Nicholas characters in various countries
- Popular Christmas symbols
- Worldwide Christmas traditions



"This was a delightful program! A beautiful telling of some of the best Christian and ethnic traditions..." —Bloomington, IL

"Very impressive, interesting, engaging, and professionally done. I already look forward to his next performance with us." —Lisle, IL



Young At Heart is NOT meeting in December.
Stay tuned for our next meeting date.

See you in 2024!



Our Lady of Peace with
Our Lady of Mount Carmel
invite you to be *Nourished* in
your caregiving ministry

Caring for a loved one is rewarding, BUT it is not always easy.

Family caregivers need **information**, **strength** and **connection** during the caregiver journey.

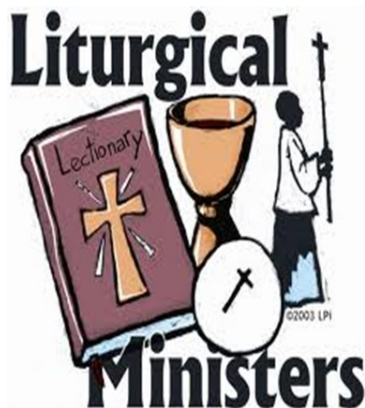
NEXT MEETING: DECEMBER 9

8:30 am to 10:00 am

at Our Lady of Peace

ALL ARE WELCOME!

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



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

Cathy's Corner—Only Say the Word and My Soul Shall be Healed

The centurion, a military officer so named because he commanded a hundred men, was a Gentile, and likely not familiar with the writing of the Prophet Isaiah in the Hebrew Scriptures. So he was probably also unaware of Isaiah's teaching that the glory of God did not abide merely in Jerusalem but filled the whole earth, giving shelter and protection to all who dwell there, not just to those who shared the belief of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. Indeed, the mountain of the Lord's house shall be the highest, proclaimed the prophet, raised above the hills, that all nations shall stream toward it.

Yet even without that knowledge, the centurion had the faith, and the humility, and the sensitivity, to approach an itinerant preacher from a foreign religion to ask for a cure for his servant. Out of respect for the Jewish faith and trust in Jesus' power, he indicated that this could occur with just a word from the man's lips, sparing him the ritual defilement brought about by entering the home of a Gentile. Unbeknownst even to himself, he was climbing the mountain described by Isaiah, drawn by the light emanating from the one he called out to as his Lord.

It is no wonder that Jesus was amazed. In fact, this declaration was such a remarkable confession that to this day we repeat it before we receive the precious Body and Blood of the Lord at every liturgy to remind ourselves not only of our own unworthiness, but also of the ability of our Lord to bring to our souls the healing for which we yearn, despite that unworthiness.

As we begin our Advent journey, let us take that prayer we say so often to heart. Let the centurion whose words we echo be our own model. A model of sensitivity, so we respect the power and beauty in all religious traditions. A model of humility, so we treat even the least among us with the dignity and respect befitting a child of God. A model of faith, so we truly believe in God's limitless ability to heal even when we cannot see it with our own eyes. Like the centurion we are not worthy, but like the centurion's servant we will be healed.

Is 4:2-6; Ps 122:1- 2, 3-4b, 4cd-5 6-7, 8-9; Mt 8: 5-11



Activities of the Week:

Immaculate Conception

December 8th is the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of Mary and celebrates Mary being conceived without sin. It is also a Holy Day of Opportunity!

Mary said "yes" to God's call without knowing what it would mean. Her story shows that nothing is impossible with God. Think of one area of your family life that you think is impossible. During prayer time this week, ask God for assistance with that family situation.

Gather with your family and say the Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary together. Ask Mary to give you the courage to listen to God as she did.

Each of us has a place in the unfolding story of our family history. How have you carried on the story of faith in your family?

Review the Hail Mary with your children. Make sure they can each say it from memory.

Jessie Tree

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.

Adam and Eve: Genesis 3:1-24

Symbol: Apple

Noah: Genesis 6:11-9:17

Symbol: Arc/Rainbow

Abraham & Sarah:

Genesis 12:1-7, 15:1-6

Symbol: Camel

Isaac: Genesis 22:1-19

Symbol: Ram

Rebecca: Genesis 25:19-34 & Ch. 27

Symbol: Well

RE News...

How can we build a better Christmas? Parents are invited to join us as we "Conspire" to put Jesus at the center of Christmas. We will look at the "Advent Conspiracy" each week before Christmas while your children are in RE. We will meet on the upper deck. For more information, call the RE office or watch the video that was sent in an email prior to Thanksgiving.

Upcoming Dates

Christmas Eve Children's Mass:

Can you believe it's time to look at Christmas schedules already? We are so busy this time of year, so I wanted to put out a reminder to save the dates for practice. We have had to change the day for practice as we have a few conflicting events on Monday, so our practices will be on Tuesdays from 6-7 PM. There is still time to have your child join us!

Advent Retreat/Celebration:

Sunday, December 10 from 2:00-4:00. Please call the RE office if you are joining us so we have enough supplies.

Family Mass:

Our next Family Mass is Sunday, December 17 at 10:00. Sign up now to read, greet, or bring ups gifts. We will have Reader practice on Monday, December 11 at 6:30 PM and/or Thursday, December 14 at 6:30 PM.

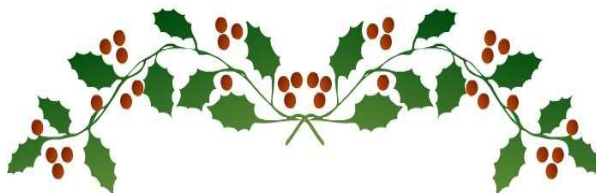
We are also looking for a few families to help usher. If your family would like to help in any way, please contact Sherry ASAP so we can get you the readings or other info right away.

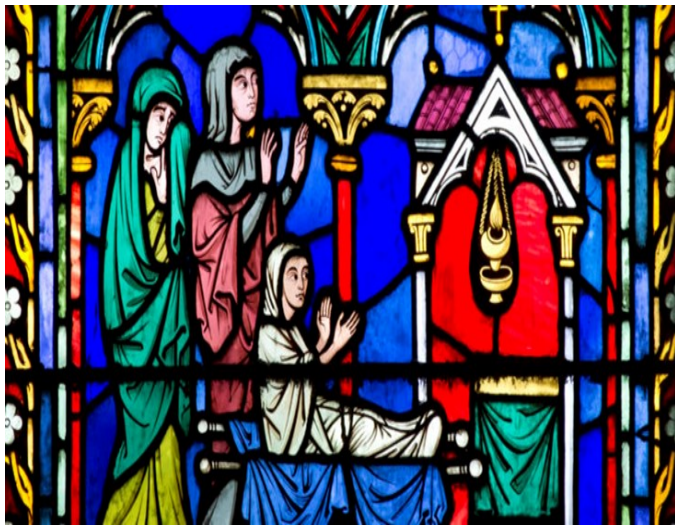
Questions of the Week

Question for Children: What things do you do to get ready for a big event or celebration?

Question for Youth: How do you share the Good News of Jesus with others?

Question for Adults: Name one thing you can do to help "prepare the way of the Lord?"





**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.

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, December 2, 2023

4:30PM Joseph McCue (McMahon Family)
Eleonora & Wladyslaw Niziolek (Family)

Sunday, December 3, 2023

8:15AM Jim Susic Sr. (Donatello Family)

Lisamma Abraham (Family)

10:00AM Michelina Tudisco (Family)

Corazon Fimca (Family)

NOON Peter Jurkash (Pauline Reidy)

Monday, December 4, 2023

9:00AM Daniel Caruso (Family)

Bill Goss (Wife)

Lisamma Abraham (Family)

Tuesday, December 5, 2023

9:00AM Lisamma Abraham (Family)

Wednesday, December 6, 2023

9:00AM Lisamma Abraham (Family)

Thursday, December 7, 2023

9:00AM John Piotrowski (Pat Monahan)

Michael Sislow Jr. (Mom & Jerry)

Lisamma Abraham (Family)

Friday, December 8, 2023

9:00AM John & Donna Geraghty (Family)

Lisamma Abraham (Family)

Avery Krashen (Ampy)

Saturday, December 9, 2023

9:00AM Lisamma Abraham (Family)



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

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