

# Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish

February 25, 2024 † Second Sunday of Lent



## 2<sup>nd</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT

### Middle and High School Service Opportunity!



### STATIONS *of the* CROSS

Help bring the stations of the cross to life for our parish community on Good Friday, March 29<sup>th</sup> at 3pm. We are looking for students to play all roles from Jesus to the townspeople. Contact Stephanie Rawls to get involved in this beautiful Lenten prayer experience at [stephanie.rawls@ourladyofmtcarmel.org](mailto:stephanie.rawls@ourladyofmtcarmel.org) or 630-852-3303.

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February 25, 2024

We are now in the second week of Lent; the time is flying. I hope Lent so far has been a challenge. This season is not meant to be easy as we all need to reexamine and rethink our current way of doing things and make changes in order to be ready for the Paschal Feast of Easter. The Gospel for this weekend is the Transfiguration. For a long time it struck me as weird that this story should come so early in Lent as in the Gospels it happens right before the entry into Jerusalem. However, the more I have reflected on the Transfiguration over the years, the more it makes sense to have it early in this season. Peter, James, and John are having this incredible experience of witnessing Jesus, with Moses and Elijah. What a gathering of amazing holy men. However, with the exception of Jesus, the rest did not start off that way. Peter certainly had his struggles with faith and needed to repent. Moses doubted himself and told God to find someone else to lead the Israelites out of Egypt. Elijah ran away at first and fled to Mount Horeb to hide because he did not want to do the will of God. However, in the end all three rethanked what was being asked of them and turned around and followed through. That might have been what Moses and Elijah were telling Jesus. The road ahead will be rough, we thought about turning back and giving up, but we chose to be faithful. That is a good lesson for us in Lent. The road is rough, we will go through many ups and downs in life. We are going to have our faith tested and want to give up sometimes. We are going to face temptations and from time to time we might give in. However, there is bountiful mercy with God. It was that mercy that got Moses to except his call to lead the people out of Egypt. It was the mercy of God that got Elijah to confront the prophets of Baal. It was the mercy of God that got Peter to profess his faith after denying Christ. Hopefully, it is the mercy of that God that will get us to turn around and reexamine our lives this Lent. That is why we need to hear to story of Transfiguration early on in Lent.

As we continue this journey of 40 days, we have Stations of the Cross every Friday at 7pm. That Stations are a wonderful prayer that draws us deeper into the passion of Christ as we remember his road to calvary. Additionally, there will be a period of Eucharistic Adoration offered before the Stations begin this Lent. We also have our Carmelite Lecture series on Tuesday evenings at 7pm. Fr. Leopold did a great job last week. Fr. Bob Colaresi will be with us for the next two weeks to speak about the spirituality of St. Therese of Lisieux. Please consider coming out and learning more about our Carmelite Charism. My prayers for a blessed and reflective Lent are with all.

Our Lady of Mount Carmel ... Pray for us.

*Fr. Jeff*

***Readings for the week of February 25, 2024***

**Sunday:** Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18/Ps 116:10, 15, 16-17, 18-19 (116:9)/Rom 8:31b-34/Mk 9:2-10

**Monday:** Dn 9:4b-10/Ps 79:8, 9, 11 and 13/Lk 6:36-38

**Tuesday:** Is 1:10, 16-20/Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23/Mt 23:1-12

**Wednesday:** Jer 18:18-20/Ps 31:5-6, 14, 15-16/Mt 20:17-28

**Thursday:** Jer 17:5-10/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/Lk 16:19-31

**Friday:** Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a/Ps 105:16-17, 18-19, 20-21/Mt 21:33-43, 45-46

**Saturday:** Mi 7:14-15, 18-20/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12/Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

## Young Adult Ministry Upcoming Events

### Game Night (BYOBoardgame)

Wednesday, March 6, 6:00-7:30pm

### Bowling (Location TBD)

Wednesday, March 20, 6:00-7:30pm

### Volunteer at People's Resource Center

Saturday, April 13, 8:30am-12:30pm

Spaces are limited, please let Stephanie know if you would like to go!



# High School Lent Opportunities

Stephanie Rawls, Director of Youth Ministry  
stephanie.rawls@ourladyofmtcarmel.org • (630)852-3303 ext.6



### Parish Lent Retreat

Sunday, February 25th, 2:00-4:00pm

People of all ages can join, but there will be a specific breakout group for High Schoolers. Our topic will be on Transfiguring the earth.



### Feed My Starving Children

Sunday, March 3rd from 9:30am-1pm

Join us for 8:15am Mass if you can, then we will leave OLMC at 9:30am to drive to Benedictine University. From 10am-Noon, help us pack meals for children in need in third world countries. After, we will get lunch together and head back to OLMC around 1pm.



### Easter Egg Hunt Volunteering

Palm Sunday, March 24 from Noon-2:30pm

Help us put on our 2nd annual Easter Egg Hunt for the children at OLMC. We need help hiding eggs, running games and crafts stations.



### Living Stations of the Cross

Good Friday, March 29th 2:30-4:00pm

Practice on Wednesday, March 27th at 6pm

Help bring the stations of the cross to life for our parish community. We are looking for students to play all roles from Jesus to the townspeople. Open to 6th-12th grades.





# EASTER EGG HUNT

Palm Sunday, March 24

1:30pm

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel youth group invites all children of the parish for an Easter egg hunt. Don't forget to bring a basket to collect your eggs!

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Contact Stephanie Rawls for questions at  
stephanie.rawls@ourladyofmtcarmel.org or call 630-852-3303.



All are welcome –  
no RSVP necessary!

## Our Carmelite Lecture Series for Lent continues . . .

**“From Darkness to Light”**  
by Fr. Bob Colaresi, O.Carm. **Tues-**  
**day, February 27 at 7 pm**

### ***Cathy's Corner—When Following the Law is Not Enough***

Levites were members of the Hebrew tribe of Levi and the only people allowed to be priests. The Book of Leviticus is so named because much of the writing encompasses the prescribed sacrificial and priestly laws. The first part of the book focuses on ritual requirements, that is, how the Israelites were to appear clean before the Lord. But the second half, some of which we read today, reveals what it meant to be a holy people living in the image and likeness of God, in other words, what overt action must be taken by those who would be called children of God.

Do not lie or steal. Pay your laborers that same day so they will be able to eat that night. Do not slander another or even hate that person in your heart. Do not take revenge or bear a grudge. Do not mock or torment the differently abled by cursing a deaf person or placing a stumbling block in front of one who cannot see. All of which can be summed up in the last, much quoted line from Scripture— you shall love your neighbor as yourself.

But the author of the Gospel of Matthew, likely a Jewish Christian with a highly developed understanding of the role of the law in Hebrew Scripture, further expands this obligation to neighbor. Whereas the children of Israel were to treat those they came in contact with in their everyday dealings with justice and impartiality, the followers of Jesus are to go out of their way to seek out those who are in need, those with whom they might not cross paths as they go about their business. The hungry, the immigrant, the homeless, the hospitalized, the prisoner.

It is not enough just to deal fairly with our business associates and be respectful of the people who live next door. We must, as a holy people meant to inherit the kingdom prepared from the foundation of the world, take overt action to care for the people we might not even witness in our daily interactions, but that we need to behold if we are to see our Lord hidden in their eyes, if we are to care for our Lord by caring for them. It is these that the world sees as the least that give us the greatest opportunity to be blessed by the God who is most holy. *Lv 19:1-2, 11-18; Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15; Mt 25:31-46*



## *RE News...*

Day of Lenten Reflection-Lent Retreat for all ages  
Sunday, February 25 from 2:00-4:00 PM

**Adults** will meet with Fr. Rob and discuss "What Color is Your Lent?"

**Teens** will meet with Youth Ministry.

**Families** can join us for a look at Transfiguring the Earth this Lent.

## *Caring for Creation- Activities of the Week*

### **Reduce/Reuse/Recycle Books - Unplug with a Good Book**

During Lent, we will be focusing on ways we can care for our common home- Earth. This second week of Lent, we are asking you to Unplug with a Good Book, as March 1 is the *Global Day of Unplugging*. Our Book Drive was very successful, so now it's time to check out a few copies you may enjoy reading yourself. Check out the offerings on the upper deck. And here is some more information about the purpose of this day:

The U.S. Surgeon General, Dr. Vivek Murthy, recently released an advisory highlighting the epidemic of loneliness and isolation and the role that excessive social media use and other factors play in our mental health and overall wellbeing.

\* One-in-three U.S. adults 18 and over report that they are online "almost constantly".

\* For ages 15-24, time spent in-person with friends has reduced by nearly 70% over almost two decades.

Global Day of Unplugging is organized by Unplug Collaborative, a nonprofit that supports educators, leaders, and event hosts who want to see their communities elevate human connection over digital engagement any day of the year.

Get more info here:

<https://www.globaldayofunplugging.org/>

If not reading a book, take the day to spend time "gaming" with your family. Board games, or card games are really a great way to reconnect with your family! Try cooking something together to enjoy family time even more.

## *Upcoming Dates*

### **Teaching Mass-Sunday, March 3-3:00 pm**

Do you want to know why we do what we do at Mass? Fr. Jeff will lead our third and fifth grade families through the mass step by step. You even get to ask questions along the way! While this is for all third and fifth grade families, you can join us too!

## *First Communion Info*

### **First Communion Retreat:**

**Sat. March 16**

Session 1-10:00- Noon

Session 2 11:30-1:30

Parents, you are an important part of the retreat. Join your children as they learn to prepare to receive Jesus for the first time. Both groups will be together at 11:30 to learn the songs used during the Mass celebration.

### **Breaking Bread Celebrations:**

**March 20 or 21 at 6:30 PM**

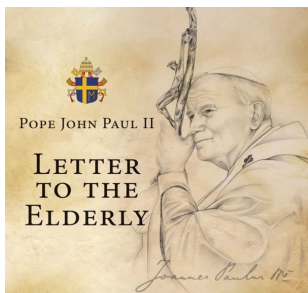
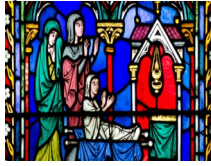
This is a great experience for the whole family. Grandparents, Aunts and Uncles together with the First Communicants and their families will learn about the connection between Baptism and First Communion. First Communicants will be inducted into the Society of the Scapular.

To participate, you just need to RSVP the number of people who are attending on which night. You will provide bread and grape juice, and anything else to make your table setting your own. We provide paper products.

For more info, call the RE office or email [sherry.rochford@ourladyofmtcarmel.org](mailto:sherry.rochford@ourladyofmtcarmel.org)

Banners for First Communion are due by May 5-6, 2024

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 be with you, to visit with you, to pray with you, to offer you the **Body of Christ**. Please contact Cathy Lentz for more info.



In 1978 Pope John Paul II became one of the youngest popes ever elected. At the time of his death in 2005, he was also one of the longest serving popes, having lived into his early 80's. From his own experience of growing old, and only five and a half years before his death, John Paul wrote and shared this moving letter, addressed "To my elderly brothers and sisters". In this letter he shares the beauty, agony, and dignity of growing old and drawing closer to God. "The years pass quickly", he writes, "and the gift of life for all the effort and pain it involves, is too beautiful and precious for us to ever grow tired of it."

Join us on Thursday, February 29 at 9:30 am in the lower level at OLMC as we listen to, and reflect on, the words of St. Pope John Paul II to the elderly. New members welcome!

### **Saturday, February 24, 2024**

**4:30PM** Irene Cholewa-15th anniv (Family)  
Theresa & Lawrence Kowalski (Family)  
Nenita & Nellie Libo-on (Family)  
Casimir & Frances Kowalski (Family)  
Dorie Brescia (Family)

### **Sunday, February 25, 2024**

**8:15AM** Penny & Jerry Rocco (Nick Rocco)  
**10:00AM** Julia Smith-9th anniv (Family)  
Anna & Placeto Angelacci (Family)  
**Noon** Felipe Rosales-1st anniv (Family)

### **Monday, February 26, 2024**

**9:00AM** Sam Stauder (Family)

### **Tuesday, February 27, 2024**

**9:00AM** Phillip Carioto (Daughter)

### **Wednesday, February 28, 2024**

**9:00AM** Marie Dulay (Family)

Catherine-living (Family)

### **Thursday, February 29, 2024**

**9:00AM** Jerin (Family)

### **Friday, March 1, 2024**

**9:00AM** Jay Biskukski (Frank & Fran Modelski)

Jan Snyders (Evelyn Antikauskas)

Mary Clare Karnick (Family)

### **Saturday, March 2, 2024**

**9:00AM** Luis Udarbe (Wife)



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

Capt. 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 Walters

Alex Erkiens

Capt. Michael K. Desmond, Jr., USMC

1st Lt. Mark Marten, US Army

Ted Cook