

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish

January 14, 2024 † Second Sunday in Ordinary Time



2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Jesus turned and saw them following him and said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi"—which translated means Teacher—"where are you staying?" He said to them, "Come, and you will see." - Jn 1:38-39a

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

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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.

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

Sherry L. Rochford, Director, Children's Faith Formation

sherry.rochford@ourladyofmtcarmel.org

Stephanie Rawls, Director, Youth Ministry

stephanie.rawls@ourladyofmtcarmel.org

Lori Prado, Youth Ministry

lori.prado@ourladyofmtcarmel.org

Cathy Lentz, Director, Adult Faith Formation

catharine.lentz@ourladyofmtcarmel.org

Susan Haa, Parish Receptionist, Bulletin Editor

receptionist@ourladyofmtcarmel.org

John Hawkins, Business Manager

john@jmhawkins.com

Val Kazich, Admin Asst., Registrar, Religious Education

val.kazich@ourladyofmtcarmel.org

HAVE YOU TALKED TO GOD TODAY?

January 14, 2024

The Christmas season is now officially over, and we celebrate today the 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time. It is back to the humdrum and mundane routines of life, but hopefully we can find the blessing in the mundane. In the Gospel today, Jesus asks the disciple a very important question, "What are you looking for?" The disciple seemed today almost speechless and could not fully put into words what he was thinking. I doubt any of us could do better. What are you looking for? That is one of the most important questions to reflect on and to try to answer. Are we looking for someone who will solve our problems? Are we looking for someone who will heal our pain? Are we looking for someone who can make everything better? Are we truly looking for the Christ or someone else? That is important for us to figure out. The Apostle Andrew got it and exclaimed, "We have found the Messiah!" Then he did the most important thing ever, he brought his brother along. Once we have found Christ, we can't keep the Good News to ourselves, it must be shared. The Good News isn't good until we give it away. That love of Christ must be shared. As we head into the new year, let us all recommit ourselves to sharing that love of God. Let's all try to bring someone to Christ this year. Let's keep welcoming the stranger to our community and showing them Christ. What are you looking for? We are looking for Christ. We will find the Messiah in the Eucharist, in the Good News and in the love of one another.

I found this poem by Howard Thurman many years ago and like to use it at this time of the year. The Work of Christmas

When the song of the angels is stilled, When the star in the sky is gone, When the kings and princes are home, When the shepherds are back with their flock, The work of Christmas begins: To find the lost, To heal the broken, To feed the hungry, To release the prisoner, To rebuild the nations, To bring peace among others, To make music in the heart.

- Howard Thurman

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

Fr. Jeff

Readings for the week of January 14, 2024

Sunday: 1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19/Ps 40:2, 4 7-8, 8-9, 10 (8a, 9a)/1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20/Jn 1:35-42

Monday: 1 Sm 15:16-23/Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23/Mk 2:18-22

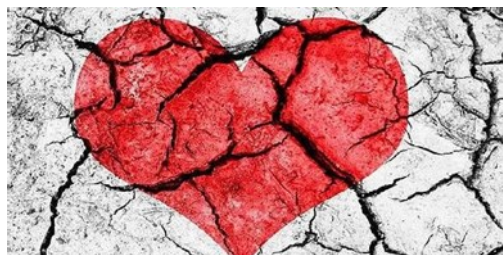
Tuesday: 1 Sm 16:1-13/Ps 89:20, 21-22, 27-28/Mk 2:23-28

Wednesday: 1 Sm 17:32-33, 37, 40-51/Ps 144:1b, 2, 9-10/Mk 3:1-6

Thursday: 1 Sm 18:6-9; 19:1-7/Ps 56:2-3, 9-10a, 10b-11, 12-13/Mk 3:7-12

Friday: 1 Sm 24:3-21/Ps 57:2, 3-4, 6 and 11/Mk 3:13-19

Saturday: 2 Sm 1:1-4, 11-12, 19, 23-27/Ps 80:2-3, 5-7/Mk 3:20-21



Bringing comfort and light through compassionate support

Next meeting January 20

Together in Loss is a **grief support ministry** for anyone who has suffered a loss – no need to be a parishioner

We meet the third SATURDAY of the month from 10:00 to 11:30 am

No RSVP necessary and no need to have attended in the past

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

Cathy's Corner—Having Hearts Governed By Our God

Israel wanted to be like all the other nations and have a king. It did not matter that they had been freed from the subjugation of the Philistines under the judgeship of Samuel, who had guided them in their wholehearted return to the Lord. Nor did they care that a monarchy was proven militarily unnecessary as evidenced by their victory in battle subsequent to Samuel's pleas to the Lord. The children of Israel used the illicit behavior of Samuel's sons, whom he had appointed as judges, as a convenient excuse, but the bottom line was they wanted a king ruling over them like everyone else had. Samuel took offense, but the Lord saw it for what it was, a people who would choose a human ruler over a divine one.

Did the Israelites believe they could control flesh and blood better than they could the Almighty? Samuel made it very clear they would in fact have absolutely no ability to preclude this monarch from taking anything from them he might want: money, animals, servants, even their sons and daughters. But the people cared only about having a king to wage war against all the other kings. At any cost.

And really it is a great deal easier to have someone tell us what to do rather than decide for ourselves what is the right course of action. It takes very little self-reflection to follow the crowd who is following the leader who is fighting everyone else to establish our dominance. The path of least resistance, however, is governed by a king other than our God. We do not even notice the price we pay in personal integrity and common decency. When we allow human leaders to strip from us even our most basic goodness in order to maintain the status quo and a false sense of superiority, we have rejected God as ruler of our hearts.

We must stand up to those who would pull us along that path. We must stand up for those who would get trampled underfoot. The four friends of the paralytic defied the crowd to get close enough to Jesus to heal their companion. And Jesus saw their faith. Let us as well show our faith in the King of Kings and defy all who would try to crowd our God out of our hearts.

1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a; Ps 89:16-17, 18-19; Mk 2:1-12



***LAUDATE DEUM WEEKEND IS COMING
JANUARY 27-28***

OLMC is answering Pope Francis' call to *care for our common home* – our Earth

Find out how easy it can be to follow the Gospel call to love the precious world our God has given us!



Mommies for Mary!

All Mommies and their children

come pray the Rosary

With our Holy Mother!

Please join us on Friday,

January 26th @ 10:30 a.m.

We will gather on the Upper Deck!

Contact [Lori Prado](#) for more information

lori.prado@ourladyofmtcarmel.org



**Join Fr. Bob in PART 2 of exploring the
*Gospel of Luke***

Tuesdays from 9:45 to 11:15 am

January 23, 30; February 6, 13, 20, 27;

March 5, 12, 19

Ends the week before Holy Week

In person or via Zoom

Recordings will also be available to view

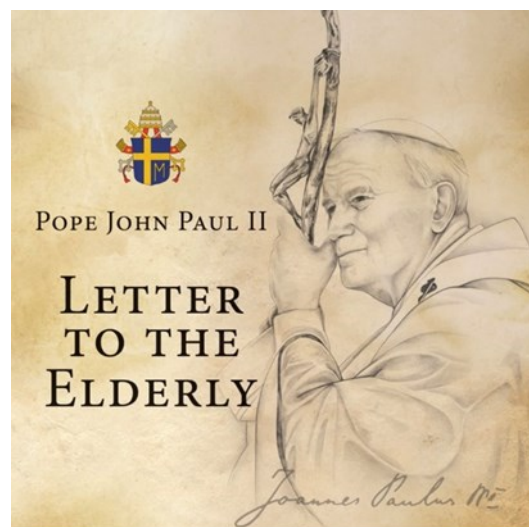
\$15 fee for materials

Register on the website or contact

Cathy Lentz

at 630-852-3303 ext 5 or

catharine.lentz@ourladyofmtcarmel.org



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 January 18 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!





RE News...

No RE this Sunday or Monday for
Martin Luther King's Birthday
Family Mass on Sunday, January 21 at 10:00

Questions of the Week

Question for Children: What can you do this week to show that you are a follower of Jesus?

Question for Youth: Andrew seemed to know immediately that he should follow Jesus. Do you have that same sense of confidence in your faith in Jesus? What helps? What makes it hard?

Question for Adults: In what ways do you experience being called by Jesus? What does he want you to do?

Activities of the Week

Choose one of the following persons to interview: your mother, father, grandparent, aunt, uncle, teacher, pastor, or some other person you admire. Ask the person to tell you how he or she knew what special task God had in mind for them. Who helped them? With whom did they discuss it? What were the signs of God's special call to them? Share your findings with your family.

Prayer for the Week

We are now entering Winter Ordinary Time in our Lectionary year. While during Ordinary Time we do not celebrate any particular aspect of the Christian mystery, it is by no means ordinary. "Ordinary" simply refers to the ordinal numbered weeks between seasons. We still celebrate many wonderful Saints and feasts during this time. So, make sure to look for special moments every week. Winter is delightful when we view it as a part of creation. Take the time to enjoy the snow!

Loving Creator, thank you for all the joys a snow day can bring. Thank you for the laughter of children and the warmth of a welcoming family. Help us to appreciate all your gifts and help us to be good stewards of those gifts. We pray this in Jesus' name.

Amen.

Upcoming Dates

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.

Catechist Meeting & Appreciation Dinner

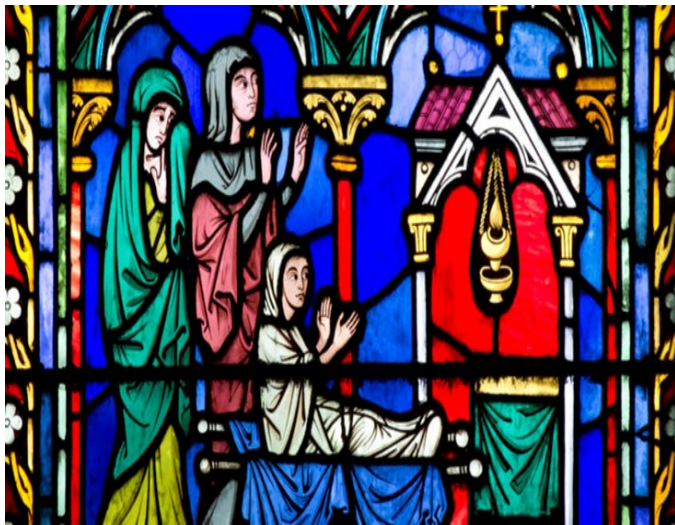
We would like to thank all our catechists and RE volunteers for helping us with a great program. We will have simple celebration and meeting on Tuesday, January 30 at 6:30 for dinner, followed by the meeting at 7:00. Contact the RE office for more information.

Reconciliation for Grades 2 & 4

First Reconciliation for 2nd graders and Reconciliation for 4th graders will be held on Monday, January 29 at 6:30 or Tuesday, February 6 at 6:30. Parents and children are invited to receive the Sacrament.

4th Grade Parent/Child Retreat

Our 4th graders will be having a retreat for Reconciliation on Saturday, February 3. You may choose session 1 (10:30-12:00) or Session 2 (12:30-2:00).



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

Ministers of Care from the com-
munity 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 [cath-
arine.lentz@ourladyofmtcarmel.org](mailto:catharine.lentz@ourladyofmtcarmel.org) for a visit.

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, January 13, 2024

4:30PM Bill Gowans (Family)

Sunday, January 14, 2024

8:15AM Fr. Jerry Sesto (Nick Rocco)

10:00AM Therese Joyce

(Nick & Deb Tenerelli)

Frank & Theresa Lach (Family)

Jerry Capasso (Family)

Noon Gene & Jeanette Lang (Daughter)

Monday, January 15, 2024

9:00AM Parishioners of OLMC

Tuesday, January 16, 2024

9:00AM Dale Donatello (Donatello Family)

Wednesday, January 17, 2024

9:00AM Jerome J. Bukowski

(Frank & Fran Modelski)

Thursday, January 18, 2024

9:00AM Keith Stockhausen (Pat Monahan)

Librada Manaligod (Friends)

Friday, January 19, 2024

9:00AM Parishioners of OLMC

Saturday, January 20, 2024

9:00AM Marie Gancarz

(Frank & Fran Modelski)



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