

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish

July 30, 2023 † Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time



17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure buried in a field, which a person finds and hides again, and out of joy goes and sells all that he has and buys that field."
- Mt 13:44

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

Religious Education Phone Number: 630-963-3053

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

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Rev. Greg Houck, O.Carm., Parochial Vicar

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

Priest In residence

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Deacon Guadalupe Villarreal

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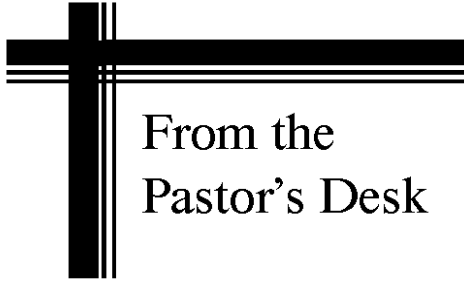
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From the Pastor's Desk

July 30, 2023

Wow, it is scary to think that we are at the end of July. That means that summer is almost over! Schools will be starting in just a few weeks, much to the chagrin of the students probably. I certainly hope our young people enjoy the time they have remaining before it is back to doing homework and taking tests.

The Gospel today has the parable of the man finding a treasure in a field and then selling all he has to buy the field. It tells us of finding what really matters in life, which is a good relationship with the Lord. However, that comes at a price. There are several interesting questions that this short parable raises for us. If he found this treasure in a field, why didn't he just take it? It sounds like the person was alone and no one else saw the treasure. If there were people around, then there might be competition to get it or someone might have just stolen it. Whoever the previous owner of the field was, he or she must not have known the treasure was there. This parable raises many good questions for us to reflect on. Which is what a parable is supposed to do. They are not meant to be straightforward. A parable is supposed to tease our brains a bit and get us to think about the deeper message. Despite the many questions the parable to the treasure in the field raises, the main point is that the person was willing to make the sacrifice to gain the treasure. The person bought the field. I am sure it cost the person a good amount of money. It didn't come easy. That is the nature of eternal life, it doesn't come easy. We too will have to make sacrifices and give up much in order to achieve it. Good things don't come easy, and neither will eternal life. I hope that we are willing to do what it takes to buy the field with the treasure in it.

Two weeks ago, the Diocese of Joliet gave permission for parishes to resume the reception of the Blood of Christ from a common cup. It was banned during covid for logical reasons. Each parish was instructed to go slow on the implementation and always keep the needs and health of the community as primary. You may have noticed that the clergy have stopped using individual chalices and all receive from a common chalice. I hope that by the end of August, we will resume the option to receive the Blood of Christ here at OLMC. I will be exploring the best ways with our extraordinary ministers to do so in the healthiest and most hygienic manner possible.

Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Pray for us.

Fr. Jeff

Readings for the week of July 30, 2023

Sunday: 1 Kgs 3:5, 7-12/Ps 119:57, 72, 76-77, 127-128, 129-130 (97a)/Rom 8:28-30/Mt 13:44-52 or 13:44-46

Monday: Ex 32:15-24, 30-34/Ps 106:19-20, 21-22, 23/Mt 13:31-35

Tuesday: Ex 33:7-11; 34:5b-9, 28/Ps 103:6-7, 8-9, 10-11, 12-13/Mt 13:36-43

Wednesday: Ex 34:29-35/Ps 99:5, 6, 7, 9/Mt 13:44-46

Thursday: Ex 40:16-21, 34-38/Ps 84:3, 4, 5-6a and 8a, 11/Mt 13:47-53

Friday: Lv 23:1, 4-11, 15-16, 27, 34b-37/Ps 81:3-4, 5-6, 10-11ab/Mt 13:54-58

Saturday: Lv 25:1, 8-17/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 7-8/Mt 14:1-12



Cathy's Corner— Cultivating Manna in Our World Today

According to a *New York Times* article published a little over ten years ago, “manna is real and some chefs have been cooking with it.” The word itself is said to have been derived from the Hebrew *man hu*, meaning “what is it?” We may well ask the same question. The dozens of varieties of manna encountered today are mostly dried plant sap or honeydew excreted from the bugs that have eaten it. It is sweet from the glucose and fructose it contains. Modern day chefs might not consider the existence of manna as God’s answer to a prayer, but it still does appear as if out of nowhere, without being cultivated.

In the Book of Exodus it was a gift of the Lord from heaven, given in response to the complaints of the ravenous Israelites without even the tiniest of reprimands that once again they were ungratefully grumbling that they were better off enslaved in Egypt. Indeed, some even ignored Moses’ directive to gather only what they needed to eat for the day. Manna has no protein and cannot be harvested in quantity. The children of Israel found when they tried to do so, by the next morning it was wormy and rotten. Still, the Lord blessed them abundantly with the manna they needed every day.

We too are blessed abundantly every day with the manna we need as well: the precious seeds of the kingdom of God. Jesus’ parable of the sower poses the critical question of how we will receive them. Are we a paved path, so hardened in our own self-absorption and so focused on our own comfort and enjoyment that no heavenly seed of generosity can penetrate? Are we so littered with rocks that crave approval and fear taking an unpopular stance that the divine seed of defending those facing discrimination and rejection shrivels immediately under the critical gaze of others? Are the thorns of prioritizing our work over our relationships so deeply embedded that the sacred seed of compassionate caring is choked by indifference and disaffection? Each of these seeds, poured out on us by our gracious Lord, in good soil can produce one hundredfold the luxurious garden of love and peace that is the kingdom of God.

To paraphrase *The New York Times*, these seeds are real and some people have been cultivating with them. Right here in front of us. Every day. Like the manna, both then and now, they appear as if out of nowhere, in the diverse and sundry ways that people do minister to each other, volunteering at the food pantry, giving an elderly neighbor a ride to church or the store, listening to the troubles of a co-worker, forgiving for yet another time an inconsiderate friend. These seeds may seem so small, but they are as sweet as manna. And they bloom into the most beautiful of trees that feed more and more and more from their fruit, because kindness has a way of being passed on to the next person in need. Thus never do even the cultivators hunger as they grow the Kingdom of God.

Ex 16:1-5, 9-15; Ps 78: 18-19, 23-24, 25-26, 27-28; Mt 13:1-9

Garden for the Food Pantry is doing great. I want to thank the 9/10 people who showed up last Saturday. We spread cardboard to eliminate weeds, spread two cubic yards of wood chips, fertilized, watered, and harvested in less than two hours. The master did send laborers. We harvested zucchini, cucumbers, squash, basil, and a few other herbs. The tomatoes, beans, brussels sprouts, celery, peppers, and egg plants are all doing well.



Change for First Fridays

Beginning August 4, Adoration will begin at the usual time of 3:00 p.m. but will end with Benediction at 6:30 p.m. instead of 8:30 p.m.



Don't Miss Catholic Charities' Golf Outing Fundraiser

Catholic Charities is thrilled to announce its annual charity golf outing, "A Swing and a Prayer," to be held on Thursday, August 24th, at the prestigious Cog Hill Golf and Country Club. This exceptional event will raise funds for Catholic Charities' vital programs and services, while providing a day of camaraderie, golfing excellence, and philanthropy.

Event Details:

 **Date: Thursday, August 24th**

 **Location: Cog Hill Golf and Country Club**



Attendees will enjoy:

 Food and drinks throughout the day.

 On-course games

 Raffle and Silent Auction

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS

August 27, 2023
2 p.m.

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

Pre-registration is required by July 28, 2023. Scan the QR code or click link below:

<https://forms.office.com/r/rEGVcG8qhG>



The 45th Annual Diocesan Wedding Anniversary Mass will be celebrated on Sunday, August 27, at 2 p.m. at the Cathedral of St. Raymond in Joliet. Couples celebrating anniversaries of 10 years, 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.





RE News

RE starts on Sunday, September 10.

There is still time to sign your children up, or you can call the RE office for info. WE are also looking to keep classes smaller so we will need more help for extra classes

Questions of the Week

Question for Children: If you could be with Jesus, what would you trade from your own things for that?

Question for Youth: Today's gospel reminds us that God's kingdom is worth sacrifice. What do you need to sacrifice in order to follow God in your own life? Why are you willing to make that sacrifice?

Question for Adults: Using Jesus' parable as your starting point, describe in your own words what the Reign of God is for you personally, and use a parable to describe it: "The reign of God is ____."

Activities of the Week

The Kingdom of God is a treasure beyond price. Take time to examine your treasures in this life. Make a family treasure box. Have the members of your family place one of their prized treasures in the box. If their treasure cannot be placed in the box, have them write its name on a piece of paper and put that in the box. Talk about those treasures and why they are so meaningful to each person. Sit down around the treasure box. Talk about God's love and the treasure of God's kingdom. Have your family write down some spiritual treasures that they wish to cultivate. Place the notes in the treasure box.

Enjoy the treasure of family time together. Go on a picnic, go swimming, or do some other family activity you enjoy.

HELP WANTED

RE is starting soon! Have you ever thought of being a Catechist? Well, we are looking to train and mentor a few good people to help us with our program.

In addition, we are looking for "Room Moms and Dads" who will start the children off with attendance and a simple work sheet or craft at the beginning of class. This only requires 15-20 minutes of your time. All materials are provided. Please contact the RE office if you are interested.

Family Mass

Our next Family Mass is Sunday, August 20, at 10:00. We need your family to help us with the readings, greeting, gifts, and ushering. If you and your family would like to sign up, please email Sherry to get the readings and sign up for any role your family likes. sherry.rochford@ourladyofmtcarmel.org

A Stellar Family Night

Join us on Thursday, August 24 for a night with the stars! This evening is for families to celebrate Shooting Star day. It will also be a VBS Reunion. Please contact the RE office for more info or to sign up as we will need supplies. The evening will start at 6:00-7:30. (Note Time Change as it is a school night too.)



Mary Anne Trochim **James Curley**
Julie Ann Lacey **Barb Schunk**
Kim Hoover **Loren Davis**
Jeanette Seebock **Nancy Kososki**
Bridget Gallmeier Raineri **Nancy Jisisju**
Kevin & Jenne Gallmeier
Bill Haran **Susan Nugent**
Evelyn Swartz **Abby Grace McCarver**
Jean & Mark Boyd **Allen Raineri**
Jamie Carpenter **Diana Clohecy**



Sgt. Ryan Thomas 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
 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

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

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, July 29, 2023

4:30PM Jerzy Paluta (Michael & Andrea Meyer)

Sunday, July 30, 2023

8:15AM Maria & Nick Rocco (Nick Rocco)

Tom Swies (Family)

Ronald R. Caruso (Family)

10:00AM Scott Arnold-8th anniv (Family)

Kevin Bueno-living (Arnold Zinia & Family)

NOON Gene & Jeanette Lang (Daughter)

Gentel Cabrera (Family)

Thelma Fong (Family)

Monday, July 31, 2023

9:00AM Lloyd Stauder-10th anniv (Pat Monahan)

Mathew Abraham (Family)

Dick Walsh-10th anniv (Family)

Tuesday, August 1, 2023

9:00AM Adrian Bico-living (Remy)

Myrna Nicola-living (Remy)

Wednesday, August 2, 2023

9:00AM Charles Heery Jr. (Family)

Linda Goldbin (Frank & Fran Modelski)

Joseph Patrick Bacani (Parents)

Thursday, August 3, 2023

9:00AM Aleta Nawrot (Nawrot Family)

Benjamin Szyanal-living (Family)

Friday, August 4, 2023

9:00AM Dr. Cornelio Casacang (Friends)

Daniel Caruso (Family)

Catherine Casacang (Family)

Theresa Ranola (Sheri)

Saturday, August 5, 2023

9:00AM John & Tom Cleary (Pat Monahan)

Reynaldo & Simon-living (Family)

Christopher Szyanal-living (Family)

