

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish

July 9, 2023 † Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time



14th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“Come to me, all you who
labor and are burdened,
and I will give you rest.”
- Mt 11:28

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

©LPI

Parish Summer Celebration Honoring Our Lady of Mt. Carmel!

Sunday July 16, 2023
Noon Mass followed by Indoor Picnic!

Join us to enjoy a summer BBQ and stay inside...
no bugs, no heat, no rain!

CHURCH PICNIC

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. Greg Houck, O.Carm., Parochial Vicar

frgreg@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

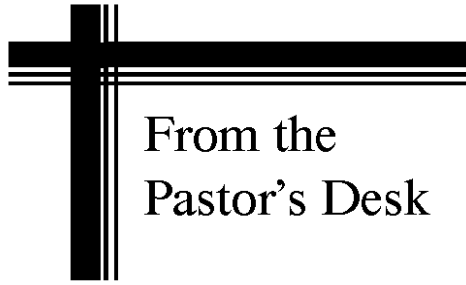
receptionist@ourladyofmtcarmel.org

John Hawkins, Business Manager

john@jmhawkins.com

Val Kazich, Admin Asst., Registrar, Religious
Education

val.kazich@ourladyofmtcarmel.org



July 9, 2023

We are definitely at the peak of the summer season. I hope that everyone had a wonderful celebration of Independence Day on the 4th. It is an important day for all of us to pause and give thanks for our freedoms and the values of democracy on which our nation is founded. Summer is also a time for us to get away and take a vacation. I am sure that many families have some travel plans and that is a good thing. We need to get away from the daily grind and relax. It can be easy for us to become too weighed down by the daily routine,

so a break helps us keep things in perspective. The Gospel today gives us two important points to keep in mind. The first, is to come to God when we are feeling burdened and weighed down. Christ says, “come to me all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest.” A vacation helps, but we must still come to Christ with our burdens. We can find the true peace we are looking for in the Lord. “Take my yolk upon you and learn from me, for I am meek and humble of heart; and you will find rest for yourselves.” Our true unburdening comes when we totally abandon ourselves to the Lord and fully trust in his providential care and love. The second point is that the only way we can abandon ourselves to good is in childlike simplicity of heart. It seems that as we get older and more sophisticated that we put aside childish things. Perhaps it is in those childlike things that we will find the most peace. Maybe we need to appreciate the simpler things in life more such as making time for family and friends, having fun and just “playing” a bit, stop and smell the roses, pet a dog and enjoy nature these summer days.

Next Sunday, we celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel. The feast day is always on July 16th. We are very fortunate that the date falls on a Sunday this year. This is the patronal feast day of our parish and the patronal feast day of the Carmelite Order. This is a huge occasion and a very special day for all of us to celebrate. Our community has been so blessed under the mantel of Our Lady of Mount Carmel. Let us come together to rejoice and give thanks for our parish community. We will celebrate in a special way at the 12-noon mass on the 16th. Then there will be a celebration for all people to attend. There will be plenty of food to share and games for the kids to enjoy. I hope that as many people as possible can attend and celebrate our parish on this great day.

Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Pray for us.

Fr. Jeff

Readings for the week of July 9, 2023

Sunday: Zec 9:9-10/Ps 145:1-2, 8-9, 10-11, 13-14 (see 1)/Rom 8:9, 11-13/Mt 11:25-30

Monday: Gn 28:10-22a/Ps 91:1-2, 3-4, 14-15ab/Mt 9:18-26

Tuesday: Gn 32:23-33/ Ps 17:1b, 2-3, 6-7ab, and 15/Mt 9:32-38

Wednesday: Gn 41:55-57; 42:5-7a, 17-24a/Ps 33:2-3, 10-11, 18-19/Mt 10:1-7

Thursday: Gn 44:18-21, 23b-29; 45:1-5/Ps 105:16-17, 18-19, 20-21/Mt 10:7-15

Friday: Gn 46:1-7, 28-30/Ps 37:3-4, 18-19, 27-28, 39-40/Mt 10:16-23

Saturday: Gn 49:29-32; 50:15-26a/Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7/Mt 10:24-33



Cathy's Corner— The Relevance of St. Benedict's Rule

Listen carefully, my child, to my instructions, and attend to them with the ear of your heart. So begins *The Rule of St. Benedict*, written some 1,500 years ago in a time with as much upheaval as our own. The great Roman Empire was disintegrating, the Christian church was experiencing schism, Germanic tribes were invading the western provinces and a young Benedict of Nursia had fled the decadence of Rome where he had been attending school. In a cave in Subiaco about 30 miles east of Rome he lived in solitude, until he was sought out to become an abbot, eventually founding a monastery on the mountain above Cassino where he wrote the *Rule* for his monks.

To a society deafened by chaos and confusion, he quietly offered a way to listen beyond the clamorous noise for the voice of God. His “little rule for beginners,” as Benedict called it, was directed to the 12 monasteries he founded but has relevance beyond those walls for all of us, even and especially in our own turbulent world. Among the virtues advocated in the *Rule* are restraint of speech, so as never to sin with one’s tongue; humility, so as to give us “a proper sense of self in a universe of wonders,” as explained by Sr. Joan Chittister, O.S.B.; and obedience, so as to put aside one’s own concerns immediately to attend to the request of another. Moderation in all things, exemplified in balance of work, prayer and study infuses the *Rule*. And near the end is found the critical mandate that “All guests who present themselves are to be welcomed as Christ, for he himself will say: ‘I was a stranger and you welcomed me (Matt 25:35).’ Proper honor must be shown to all . . .”

We would do well to take St. Benedict as our own teacher, to attend to his instructions with the ear of our own heart, for they reveal to us the will of the one to whom he was a devoted disciple, Jesus. The will of the one whose heart was moved with pity for all the troubled and abandoned, for all who are strangers and all who are demonized. It is in listening with the ear of our heart that we will hear above the bluster and the babble of our own turbulent world. In that stillness, acrimony and anger melt away. Clear is the voice of the Lord, calling us to do the work that he began, calling us to be laborers for his harvest. In following that mandate, St. Benedict in his *Rule* admonished that “if we wish to dwell in the tent of (God’s) kingdom, we will never arrive unless we run there by doing good deeds.” Benedict might suggest we begin by quietly, humbly, obediently welcoming all as Christ. The abundance of God’s harvest is there for the taking.

Gen 32:23-33; Ps 17:1b, 2-3, 6-7ab, 8b and 15; Mt 9:32-38

**CELEBRATE THE FEAST of
OUR LADY of MOUNT CARMEL**



**JULY 16 –
Begins at Noon Mass**

**Food, Fellowship and Fun
for People of All Ages**

Indoor Picnic – Outdoor Games

**No Cost – No RSVP –
No Reason Not To Attend**

Bishop Hicks' Column

July 2023

A month to refresh and recharge



RECENTLY, I VISITED A PARISH IN OUR DIOCESE. Immediately after the Mass, I was delighted to begin the “meet and greet” in the narthex. Per usual, the topics of conversation were widely varied. I was struck, however, by a comment made by one of the

parishioners. Seemingly out of nowhere, she exhorted me: “Bishop, we are all in need of the month of July!” I think she read the polite—yet confused—look on my face, as she explained, “Life gets so busy and crazy. It seems that July is the only month to slow down, enjoy the warm weather and just chill out!” Nodding with affirmation, I smiled and chuckled as I replied to her, “I think you are right. We all need a little summer in our lives.” With that, a huge smile appeared on her face as she raised her hand to give me an enthusiastic high five.

Truth be told, I love the month of July. I have great childhood memories of mid-summer, specifically about Independence Day. Each year on the Fourth of July, my grandma would host an all-day family gathering at her house in Blue Island, Illinois. My uncles would fire up the large, charcoal grills around 7 a.m. After cooking many pounds of bacon, the eggs then were fried in the drippings. But this annual ritual divided the family down the middle—there were about half of us (including me) who viewed this breakfast as one of the greatest culinary delights of the year. The other half would not permit the grill masters to touch their plates, opting instead for kitchen-made eggs and pancakes with some coffee cake and fruit.

After this grand breakfast, the day would be filled with music, conversation, volleyball, croquet, a beanbag toss, and—for some—a walk to Western Avenue to watch the Fourth of July parade. The day concluded by sitting on lawn chairs and blankets as we watched the fireworks from the local high school as we passed around bug repellent to keep the mosquitoes away.

To this day, I still cherish those family memories of the Fourth of July at my grandma’s. Instead of work, study, or chores, it was a day to truly disconnect from the obligations of life and simply enjoy a full day of food, fun, family, and friends. And like most of us, I relished a break from work and school.

As we enter fully into this month of July, maybe it is not only time to refresh and recharge our lives with some good food, fun, family and friends. Perhaps summertime also is our opportunity to refresh and recharge our *spiritual* lives.

One way to revive ourselves is to immerse ourselves in God’s creation. In contrast to those gray periods of winter, the sun now shines brightly as our days are longer between sunrise and sunset. The flowers are blooming with vivid colors and the canopy of full trees offer coolness and shade. We can open our windows and listen to birds chirp as we bite into garden-fresh tomatoes, peppers, cherries, and watermelon. It is also a time to notice our neighbors, as many people enjoy a morning or evening walk and children ride bikes around the neighborhood.

How will you refresh and recharge this summer? Perhaps it is the promise of a long-awaited family vacation to a nearby campsite, lake, or amusement park. Or maybe you’ll take a trip to sightsee or visit family and friends afar. During your travels, consider stopping at a shrine or spirituality center along the way.

For others, a “staycation” sounds heavenly. Maybe July will provide you the time to leisurely read a recommended book, clean out the garage, play a board or card game, walk the dog a little longer, or leisurely lay in a hammock or favorite lawn chair and just stare up at the trees or the stars.

On the spiritual level, if you find yourself traveling away from home this summer, please do not take a vacation from attending Mass. Instead of looking at it as a way to merely fulfill an obligation, remember that you’re participating in and receiving the greatest gift that God has given to us—Jesus Christ in the Holy Eucharist. Attending a different Catholic church also can invigorate us while we experience new congregations, listen to different homilists, and worship with other choirs and musicians.

As Catholics, we are reminded that while we embrace the downtime of summer, there is no need to take a break from God! In fact, it’s a wonderful time to invite Jesus Christ into your summer experience. For like I was told in the narthex after Mass, we need the month of July! This is the perfect month to refresh and recharge our spiritual lives.

May you have a happy summer and may God bless and protect you always.

DIOCESE OF JOLIET





RE NEWS

We are now taking registrations for the 2023-2024 RE Year. Classes start on September 10. Check out the website <https://www.ourladyofmtcarmel.org/childrens-religious-education> for more info. We also can use your help! (see below)

Questions of the Week:

Question for Children: When you are generous, honest, and loving, how do you know it is Jesus who helps you do that

Question for Youth: Jesus invites us to bring him our burdens and promises us that he will give us rest. How do you rely on Jesus during times of trouble? When has Jesus helped you?

Question for Adults: As you go about your daily life, dying in love for others, how do you experience Christ giving you consolation and peace?

Activities of the Week

Reflect on Jesus' statement: "Do you love me?" Spend time together as a family discussing ways you show your love for Christ.

Jesus will help us serve as Peter did, but we need to be open to him. Have the members of your family draw or write about their conflicts and burdens. Instruct them to place these papers in an appropriate container for burning. Remind the family that this burning symbolizes our letting go of the conflicts and struggles by placing them in Jesus' hands.

HELP WANTED

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.



VBS

Our STELLAR event is ready to blast off on Monday, July 10! Join us for an Ice Cream Social and Cosmic Celebration on Friday, July 14 at 4:00 PM Everyone is invited!

Please pray for all our helpers, and participants as they learn how to SHINE, LIKE JESUS' LIGHT!

Thank you to everyone who has helped us take our event and imaginations to outer space! Your donations and prayers, help and creativity, has been a blessing to all of us!

Family Mass

We will not have a family Mass in July, but we need your help for the Feast Day of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Celebratory Mass on July 16 at Noon. We need greeters and ushers. Families, we would love to have you and your children help us greet! We will also have a picnic after the noon Mass. Call the RE Office for more info. VBS Campers, please where your t-shirts!

Save the Date

Want a taste of what VBS was like? Join us (and all our campers) for a reunion, Family night out on August 24, at 6:30 PM-It just so happens to be National Shooting Star Day! Call the RE Office for info.



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 Welters
 Alex Erkiens
 Capt. Michael K. Desmond, Jr., USMC
 1st Lt. Mark Marten, US Army
 Ted Cook

Mass Intentions for the Week
Saturday, July 8, 2023

4:30PM Sabrina McMahon (McMahon Family)
 Mary Alice Lindenmeyer-living
 (Michael & Andrea Meyer)

Sunday, July 9, 2023

8:15AM Dot, Pat & Tom Sesto (Nick Rocco)
 Tom O'Connell (Maggie Phillips)

10:00AM William Abraham (Family)

Joan Vinkler (Joan Grassman)

NOON Barbara Dawson (Evelyn Antikauskas)

Monday, July 10, 2023

9:00AM Don Brescia (Donatello Family)

Tuesday, July 11, 2023

9:00AM Timothy Coffey (Eugene Munin)

Ron Cisek-1st anniv (Wife & Family)

Wednesday, July 12, 2023

9:00AM Parishioners of OLMC

Thursday, July 13, 2023

9:00AM Jose Macairan (Wife)

Margaret McCarthy (Family)

Gene Chesen-32nd anniv (Donna & Del Kolacki)

Helen Ganiec-2nd anniv (Family)

Friday, July 14, 2023

9:00AM Sam Gurgone (Connie Gurgone)

Robert Delany (Family)

Gregoria Rosete-16th anniv (Josie)

Saturday, July 15, 2023

9:00AM Anna & Placeto Angelucci (Family)



Rosary Group
 Every Wednesday
 7PM
 Outside in the Gazebo

