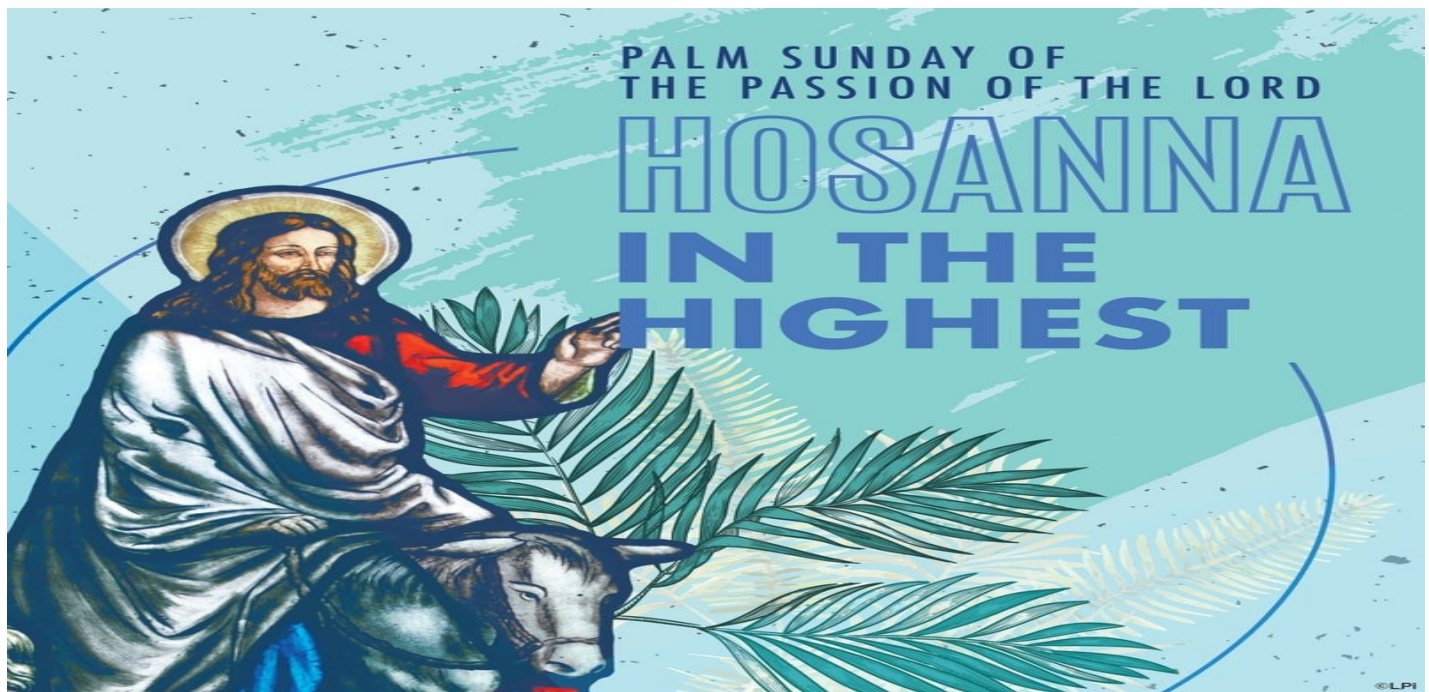


Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish

March 24, 2024 † Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord



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)

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: To register call The Religious Education Office

Church Office Hours: Monday through Friday, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

RECONCILIATION: Saturday 3:15-4:00PM

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.

MARRIAGES: Plans should be made at least six months in advance of a tentative wedding date to fulfill Diocesan guidelines. To schedule a date, call the parish office for an appointment with a priest.

BAPTISMS: Are held the first and third Sunday of each month at 1:30PM. Parents and godparents are requested to attend a catechesis class. Call the parish office for arrangements

PARISH STAFF

Rev. Jeff Smialek, O.Carm., Pastor

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Rev. Rob Traudt, O.Carm., Parochial Vicar

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

Priest In residence

Deacon Ed Ptacek

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Deacon Guadalupe Villarreal

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March 24, 2024

Palm Sunday

We enter into Holy Week today, Palm Sunday. This week stands at the height of the year for Christians around the world. The celebrations of the Triduum are soon to be here and next weekend is the great Feast of the Lord's Resurrection, Easter! This is a holy time of the year. I hope that we can all enter into the Paschal Mystery in a deeper way this week. However, it all begins today. Jesus makes his joyful entry into Jerusalem. The crowds are wild with joy to see him. They are cutting down palm branches and having a huge parade to welcome him into the city. However, who did they come out to see? There were hundreds, maybe thousands of people welcoming Jesus today, what happened to them all when the passion began? We see three main groups of people. The first and largest group are all the people who turned so quickly. These are the fair-weather sports fans. When the weather is nice and things are going well, they are glad to support you. But when things get tough, they are nowhere to be found. It was the same with Jesus. As soon as the persecutions started and things got rough, they ran away. They were not going to suffer and be inconvenienced by this. They quickly fled and went back to old ways when Jesus asked just a little bit more from them. The next group are the people, such as many of the early apostles, who got scared. They wanted to remain close to Christ, but became paralyzed, at least momentarily by fear. They too ran and hid because they didn't want to be caught and have to suffer. The good thing was that these people later realized their blessings and came back to Christ with even great faith than before. The final and smallest group were the few that remained faithful to the end, such as Mary his mother, the other women at the foot of the Cross, and the beloved disciple. As we celebrate again Jesus' entry into Jerusalem, which of these groups of people do think you might fall into? That is a tough question to ask ourselves. We all want to say that we would remain faithful, but I am sure that many of us have experience doubt. It is hard to remain faithful during difficult times and in the face of temptation. Let us pray during this Holy Week that we may all continue to grow in faithfulness and in our calling as disciples.

The Triduum is the most sacred time of year for us and the liturgies are amazingly beautiful. We will celebrate the Lord's Last Supper on Holy Thursday at 7 pm. On Good Friday, the live stations of the cross presented by the youth of our parish will be at 3 pm. The Celebration of the Lord's Passion will be at 7pm on Friday. The Easter Vigil liturgy will be at 8 pm on Holy Saturday. There are NO 9 am masses on the days of the Triduum. On Easter Sunday, we will have the usual mass times of 8:15 am, 10 am and 12 pm. I hope to see you there. I pray that Holy Week is a blessed time for all.

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

Fr. Jeff

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Holy Thursday No 9:00am Mass

7:00pm Lord's Last Supper

Good Friday No 9:00am Mass

3:00pm Live Stations of the Cross

7:00pm Lord's Passion

Holy Saturday No 9:00am Mass

1:00pm Blessing of Easter Baskets

8:00pm Easter Vigil

Easter Sunday Masses at 8:15am, 10:00am, and Noon



SUMMER YOUTH EVENTS SIGN UP NOW!

Includes Incoming 8th Graders through Graduating High Schoolers

Joliet Youth Day

Saturday, June 1, 9:00am-5:00pm

Lewis University

- \$75 Per Person (Includes Lunch)
- Engage with National Keynote Speakers
- Experience Uplifting Praise & Worship
- Deepen Your Faith with Eucharistic Adoration and Reconciliation
- And So Much More!

One of 25 Steubenville Youth Conferences across North America that serve 40,000+ young people annually.

Alive in You Mission Camp

Tuesday, July 9 - Sunday, July 14

Benet Academy

- \$300 Per Person (Includes Meals and Lodging)
- Serve in our local community with hundreds of other students from across the country
- Engage with National Keynote Speakers (TBA)
- Praise & Worship
- Fun & Games
- And So Much More!

MINISTRY TEAM



Sign Up By April 14th

Please Note: We NEVER want cost to be a reason a student does not join us for an event. If you need financial support for either event, please contact Stephanie Rawls at stephanie.rawls@ourladyofmtcarmel.org or 630-852-3303.

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!

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



STATIONS of the CROSS

Middle and High School Service Opportunity!

Help bring the stations of the cross to life for our parish community on Good Friday, March 29th 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 or 630-852-3303.



Young Adult Ministry Upcoming Events

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!
Theology on Tap with Speaker Mike Gormley the "Lay Evangelist"
Wednesday, April 17, 6:30pm
Blanchette Catholic Center
Contact Stephanie if you would like to carpool to and from OLMC!

Contact Stephanie Rawls, for more information at stephanie.rawls@ourladyofmtcarmel.org

Sunday: Mk 11:1-10 or Jn 12:12-16/Is 50:4-7/Ps 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24 (2a)/ Phil 2:6-11/Mk 14:1—15:47 or 15:1-39

Monday: Is 42:1-7/Ps 27:1, 2, 3, 13-14/Jn 12:1-11

Tuesday: Is 49:1-6/Ps 71:1-2, 3-4a, 5ab-6ab, 15 and 17/Jn 13:21-33, 36-38

Wednesday: Is 50:4-9a/Ps 69:8-10, 21-22, 31 and 33-34/Mt 26:14-25

Thursday: Chrism Mass: Is 61:1-3a, 6a, 8b-9/Ps 89:21-22, 25 and 27/Rv 1:5-8/Lk 4:16-21

Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper: Ex 12:1-8, 11-14/Ps 116:12-13, 15-16bc, 17-18 (see 1 Cor 10:16)/1 Cor 11:23-26/Jn 13:1-15

Friday: Is 52:13—53:12/Ps 31:2, 6, 12-13, 15-16, 17, 25 (Lk 23:46)/

Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9/Jn 18:1—19:42

Saturday: Easter Vigil: Gn 1:1—2:2 or 1:1, 26-31a/Ps 104:1-2, 5-6, 10, 12, 13-14, 24, 35 (30) or Ps 33:4-5, 6-7, 12-13, 20-22 (5b)/Gn 22:1-18 or 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18/Ps 16:5, 8, 9-10, 11 (1)/Ex 14:15—15:1/ Ex 15:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 17-18 (1b)/Is 54:5-14/Ps 30:2, 4, 5-6, 11-12, 13 (2a)/Is 55:1-11/Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6 (3)/Bar 3:9-15, 32—4:4/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 (Jn 6:68c)/Ez 36:16-17a, 18-28/Ps 42:3, 5; 43:3, 4 (42:2)/Rom 6:3-11/Mk 16:1-7

Cathy's Corner—God's Most Precious Possessions

Susanna was the very beautiful and God-fearing wife of the extremely wealthy Joakim, who was often visited by two elders of the people who had just been appointed judges and who both wished to have Susanna as their own. One day they hid in her garden and when she was alone endeavored to have their way with her, threatening to lie that they had seen her with another man. That accusation by two judges, pursuant to the law of Moses, would mandate her death by stoning. Still Susanna bravely refused their advances. But God stirred up the young Daniel to save her by cleverly exposing the inconsistencies in the stories of the old men who claimed her indiscretion occurred under a tree. When separately interviewed by Daniel, one said it was the very small mastic tree and the other the majestically tall oak.

The scribes and Pharisees also endeavored to use a woman for their own selfish purposes, dragging her from her adulterous act before Jesus to attempt to trap him in front of a crowd of witnesses into violating Mosaic law. After all, if the religious authorities were really concerned with the adulterous act itself, they would have adhered to the dictate of Leviticus which mandated that both "the adulterer and adulteress shall be put to death." Jesus did in fact follow the prescribed law which directed that the witnesses to the illegal deed, of which there were required to be two or three, were to be the first to throw a stone, adding in the condition that he or she also be without sin. Not surprisingly, the crowd drifted silently away.

Susanna had done nothing wrong and the woman caught in adultery had sinned, but both of them were being treated as nothing more than an object to satisfy the desires, whether physical or political, of individuals who held more power than they did. But even the most powerful of people are no match for the God for whom the powerless are God's most precious possession. The evil elders were themselves put to death and the scribes and Pharisees left to walk away in humiliation in front of all the temple-goers.

To side with the powerless is to side with God. To see every person, no matter what is said about them or what they have been accused of, as a human being to be treated with dignity, listened to with compassion, and accorded every mercy, is to see as God sees. Let no one be an object to us save of our gentle patience and our loving care.

Dn 13:41c-62; Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6; Jn 8:1-11



RE News...

No RE Sunday or Monday, March 24-25

No RE Sunday, March 31 or Monday, April 1

We will return April 7& 8

Have a great Spring Break

Questions of the Week

Question for Children: Name one thing that you will do each day this week to remind you that Jesus died and rose to new life for you.

Question for Youth: We hear the story of Jesus' death each year. What did you hear differently this year? How has your faith changed in the past year?

Question for Adults: Identify and share one way that you personally "die in Christ."

Activity of the Week

Together with your family discuss the Lord's Passion and its meaning for us. Invite family members to share what part of the Passion story touches them most. Have each family member write the message "Jesus died and rose to new life for me" on a small sheet of paper. Invite each person to discuss what that message means to him or her.

Caring for Creation-Week 6-Speak Out!

DID YOU KNOW:

No matter where you live, there's a good chance that most of the people around you are already thinking about or even worried about climate change. Talking with people can create the space for change and help us find ways to work together and make everyone feel part of the solution. Research shows that one of the main reasons people decide to engage in climate action is because someone they know and respect asks them to. So by sharing what you're doing to take action, you give others the confidence to make a change and be part of the solution too.

However you choose to do it, try to approach the conversation with an open mind. We're all in different places - remember, there was a time when you didn't think climate change was a huge problem, too. While one conversation won't solve everything, you can play an important part in helping others respond to the climate crisis in a way that expresses who they are and what they care about most.

Taken from "Don't Look Up-Count us in" <https://dontlookup.count-us-in.com/>

BE AWARE!

Whether you believe in Climate Change or not, the fact is we are stewards of all the gifts God gives us and that includes the resources we tend to take for granted. What we are asking is to evaluate ways we can continue to reduce, reuse, or recycle so we can share the resources more effectively. Our natural resources are limited, so we pray that everyone take a consideration for all concerned.

PRAY!

Heavenly Father, we pray for opportunities to talk about the climate crisis and its solutions with friends and family. May your Holy Spirit fill us with boldness and wisdom to communicate effectively, and so prompt others to get involved in efforts to tackle climate change. Amen

DONATE!

Continue to share what you have with the Food Pantry here on site. Watch for some collections coming up in April-Earth Day is April 22 and the theme this year asks us to consider using fewer plastics.

St. Vincent DePaul Truck will be here April 13th and 14th before and after all the Masses. **Items accepted for donation at St. Vincent de Paul include clothing, books, dishes, toys and appliances.** Other acceptable donations include jewelry, furniture, pots, pans and holiday decorations. Designated items can be donated at attended collection centers, donation centers or by truck pick-up. To schedule a pick-up, contact your local St. Vincent de Paul chapter, or visit the organization's official website.

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
Diahan 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

Saturday, March 23, 2024

4:30PM Irene Cholewa (Family)
Reynaldo Evano (Family)
Bill Gowans-living (Family)
Tom Farrell (Mary Coughlin)
Ellen Nowak (Family)
Jerry Barich-living (Wife)
Theresa Dragozetich (Niece)

Sunday, March 24, 2024

8:15AM William Harte (Ostrowski Family)
Mary, Anthony & Jerry Poli (Nick Rocco)
10:00AM Margaret Bechina (Marty Bechina)
Frances Chapukonis (Jerry Barich)
Andrea Abbate (Family)

Noon Gene & Jeanette Lang (Daughter)

Monday, March 25, 2024

9:00AM Tom Farrell (Mary Coughlin)

Tuesday, March 26, 2024

9:00AM Patricia Klimala (Frank & Fran Modelski)

Wednesday, March 27, 2024

9:00AM Elena Sorquia (Family)
Dorothy Harchalk (Frank & Fran Modelski)
Domingo Echevari (Family)
Eduardo Rosete (Josie)
Judy Wilson (Sheri)
Michael Fogarty (Family)

Thursday, March 28, 2024

9:00AM HOLY THURSDAY-no Mass

Friday, March 29, 2024

9:00AM GOOD FRIDAY-no Mass

Saturday, March 30, 2024

9:00AM HOLY SATURDAY-no Mass

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