

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish

March 3, 2024 † Third Sunday of Lent



3RD SUNDAY OF LENT

Since the Passover of the Jews was near, Jesus went up to Jerusalem. He found in the temple area those who sold oxen, sheep, and doves, as well as the money changers seated there. He made a whip out of cords and drove them all out of the temple area. - Jn 2:13b-15a

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

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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 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.

PARISH STAFF

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March 3, 2024

Welcome to March! This year is already off to a fast start. The weather has also made it seem like springtime. However, with the arrival of the month of March we do start to see the first glimmers of spring around the corner. The weather starts to brighten up and new life will begin to bloom around us. This is also the time when we start to think about the annual tradition of spring cleaning. It is a good chance for us to go through all the closets and drawers at home and begin to declutter and freshen up our homes. We also need to spring clean our lives. That is the purpose of Lent and why it coincides with springtime. It is an opportunity for us to engaging the cleaning and

purifying our heart so that we can recognize the new life of Christ springing up, just as the plants will soon be springing up. Our hearts get cluttered easily with unnecessary stuff, distractions and so many worries that weight us down. Lent allows us to unburden our hearts of the excess that we might be carrying. The Gospel for this weekend is Jesus cleaning the temple of the merchants. Jesus saw that the temple, His Father's house, was becoming dirty and defiled. There was too much other stuff going on and not enough focus on true worship of the Lord. Jesus wanted them to get back to the basics and focus on what is most important. That is exactly what Jesus still wants us to do during Lent. We must clean the temple of the Holy Spirit that is in us. We have to get rid of what is cluttering our hearts and get back to doing what God commands, loving the Lord and our neighbor. The best place to start with spring cleaning of our hearts is by examining how well we are living the 10 Commandments. The 10 Commandments is the first reading today and calls us back to the foundations of a good life. We always need to work on sound fundamentals before we move on to more advanced work. Just as in any sport, we must learn the basics before we can do trick shots. The 10 Commandments give us the basic foundations for a good life. How well are we living them out? Do we have good fundamental skills or are we rusty and need some cleaning up? As we enter this third week of Lent, let us examine our hearts and see what needs to be cleaned and what foundations we need to improve on.

We continue with many offerings during Lent to help us with the cleanup and fundamental improvements. Our Carmelite lecture series continues on Tuesday evenings. Fr. Bob Colaresi is back with us for a second week on the spirituality of St Therese of Lisieux. Thursday, March 14 will be the parish reconciliation service at 7pm. There will be multiple priests available to hear confessions. Sharing in the Sacrament of Reconciliation is the best way to prepare for Easter.

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

Fr. Jeff



Come to hear our Eucharistic Revival Speaker

March 13 at 7pm

**The Eucharist: Healing
our Relationship with One Another
and the Earth**

Joyce Donahue, the Liturgical Catechist, will reflect with us on how the Eucharist is calling us to a return to unity and harmony with all of humanity and the world – Don't miss it!



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!



Meals included for each event! Please let me know if you have any dietary restrictions.

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

High School Lent Opportunities

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



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!

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 . . . "Introduction
to St. Therese" by Fr. Bob Colaresi,
O.Carm. Tuesday, March 5 at 7 pm**

Cathy's Corner—Poor But Not Nameless

The rich man does not even have a name. There is no indication that he was selfish or arrogant or deceitful or mean. He was just rich. Every day he walked past a man who was not only poor, but sick and in pain as evidenced by the sores that covered his body. The poor man does have a name - Lazarus. There is no indication that he was kind or gentle or forgiving or generous. He was just poor. And when Lazarus died he was immediately swept up by the angels and carried to the choice position in the bosom of Abraham. And when the rich man died he was condemned to eternal torment in the netherworld.

Which does seem kind of unfair to the rich man whom Jesus never even bothers to name in his story to the Pharisees. But it is in fact just another scriptural example of the preferential option for the poor. Lazarus did not have to be morally righteous to live forever in heavenly comfort. The rich man did not have to be morally bankrupt to be sentenced to perpetual damnation. All he had to do was ignore the poor person right in front of his face.

Because the rich man did need to acknowledge the destitute person who was so pitiable that even the dogs would come and lick his sores. The rich man did need to even have merely given this fellow human being, made just like himself in the image and likeness of God, the scraps that fell from his table so that Lazarus would not have to constantly suffer from the aching starvation that likely ended up killing him. However, the rich man could only do that if he had bothered to look beyond himself and his entitled world to really see that dirty and broken man on his doorstep.

Perhaps it is easier for impoverished people to trust in the Lord, to be ones whose hope is the Lord because the world has turned its back on them. Maybe it is effortless for the wealthy person to rather trust in human beings, and seek one's strength only in oneself because the world has so greatly benefited them. So true the statement of Jeremiah that more torturous than all else is the human heart – who can understand it? Fortunately for us we do not need to do the Lord's work of probing the minds and testing the hearts of our sisters and brothers. We need only truly see the indigent in our midst and care for their necessities. Because all it really takes is for us to adopt God's preferential option for the poor for our roots to be ever planted firmly beside the waters of eternal life. Jer 17:5- 10; Ps 1: 1-2, 3, 4 and 6; Lk 16:19-31



Facilitated by Cathy Lentz
For info 630-852-3303 ext 5 or [cath-
arine.lentz@ourladyofmtcarmel.org](mailto:cath-arine.lentz@ourladyofmtcarmel.org)

**There are now more opportunities to
be Nourished in caring for a loved
one! We are now meeting the second Sat-
urday AND the fourth Friday of the month
NEXT MEETING: MARCH 9 9:00 to
10:30 am at Our Lady of Peace
ALL ARE WELCOME!**



RE News...

Teaching Mass- Sunday, March 3 at 3pm

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!

Caring for Creation-Water for Life

DID YOU KNOW:

Even though the earth is covered in water, only 2.5% of it is fresh water.

Only 1% of the world's water is usable to us because most of the Fresh water is locked in the polar ice caps or so deep beneath the earth that it is too costly to bring that water to the surface.

We use most of the water here in the USA.

Many families in the world do not have access to clean drinking water. In fact, here in the USA many places are suffering from water shortages, while other places like Flint Michigan are still suffering from their contaminated drinking water.

This third week of Lent let's fast from overusing water. Here are some ways your family can support this cause:

BE AWARE!

Every time you turn on the faucet, drop a penny, or bean, into a cup or bowl in your table. At the end of the week, talk about how much water you and your family use. Think of ways you can save water in your home. In the following week, repeat the procedure and see if your family used less water. Continue in this manner until Easter Sunday.

PRAY!

Offer in prayer those who do not have clean water. Pray for all people to consider our natural resources as precious gifts from God, and to use them in ways that sustain the environment, not hurt it.

DONATE!

Consider a donation to the food pantry with the counting tools used in your experiment to determine how much you will donate.

For More info, see:

<https://www.wildlifetrusts.org/actions/how- conserve-water>

Upcoming Dates

Family Mass-Sunday, March 17 at 10:00

We will celebrate another family Mass together. Please contact the RE office if you would like to participate in anyway. We can use your family to help the Ushers, be a Reader or Greeter, or you may choose to bring up the gifts. This month, 4th and 5th grade families will sponsor. Please bring a cleaning supply for the food pantry if you can.

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

**Young At Heart is meeting
March 7 at 10:00 am**



**Join us on the Upper
Deck
For Fun and Games!**

We will be holding our **Holiday Food Drive** for **Easter** on **Sunday March 24th**. We will only be accepting monetary donations that we then will pass on to people in need to help supplement their food needs. You could give cash, checks or gift cards. Please put any donations in an envelope & mark the outside with **"Holiday Food Drive Donation", your name & address** then place it in the collection basket. You will get credit for any donation you make. If you pay by check please put "Holiday Food Drive" on the memo line. There will be envelopes for you to use in the back of church if needed.

Please make your donations by March 17th.

Thank You,
Paul Gangi - Holiday Food Drive Chairperson

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 Bavon
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 2, 2024

4:30PM Vesta Calucin-17th anniv (Sisters)

Sunday, March 3, 2024

8:15AM Jose Macairan (Wife)

Christine, Frank & Frank Jr. Poli (Nick Rocco)

LaVerne Brodzinski (Ostrowski Family)

10:00AM Scott Arnold-9th anniv (Family)

Noon Gene & Jeanette Lang (Daughter)

Monday, March 4, 2024

9:00AM Richard Rice (Eugene Munin)

Tuesday, March 5, 2024

9:00AM Joseph DeMasi (Family)

Tony Corso (Evelyn Antikauskas)

Tracey Gannon-12th anniv (Gannon Boys)

Wednesday, March 6, 2024

9:00AM Brian & Nancy Monahan (Monahan Family)

Mildred Brockman (Sisters)

Kathleen O'Connell (Eugene Munin)

Thursday, March 7, 2024

9:00AM Xandra Kaczala (Frank & Fran Modelski)

Marie Coffey (Eugene Munin)

Michael Sislow Jr. (Mom & Jerry)

Judy Romano (Jerry Barich)

Jossy & Susan Tonio (Family)

Karol Wolek (Family)

Friday, March 8, 2024

9:00AM Dorothy Siraky (Frank & Fran Modelski)

Dorothy Apolinski (Evelyn Antikauskas)

Lt. Gene Munin (Eugene Munin)

Glicerio O. Josol (May Josol, Daughter)

Saturday, March 9, 2024

9:00AM Mary Walega (Frank & Fran Modelski)

Adam Smith (Evelyn Antikauskas)

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