

# Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish

November 19, 2023 † Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time



## 33<sup>rd</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“Well done, my good  
and faithful servant.”  
– Mt 25:21

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

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### 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](mailto:frjeff@ourladyofmtcarmel.org)

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

[frrob@ourladyofmtcarmel.org](mailto:frrob@ourladyofmtcarmel.org)

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

Priest In residence

Deacon Ed Ptacek

[littlebirdfarm@hotmail.com](mailto:littlebirdfarm@hotmail.com)

Deacon Guadalupe Villarreal

[dcnlupe@ourladyofmtcarmel.org](mailto:dcnlupe@ourladyofmtcarmel.org)

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

[sherry.rochford@ourladyofmtcarmel.org](mailto:sherry.rochford@ourladyofmtcarmel.org)

Stephanie Rawls, Director, Youth Ministry

[stephanie.rawls@ourladyofmtcarmel.org](mailto:stephanie.rawls@ourladyofmtcarmel.org)

Lori Prado, Youth Ministry

[lori.prado@ourladyofmtcarmel.org](mailto:lori.prado@ourladyofmtcarmel.org)

Cathy Lentz, Director, Adult Faith Formation

[catharine.lentz@ourladyofmtcarmel.org](mailto:catharine.lentz@ourladyofmtcarmel.org)

Susan Haa, Parish Receptionist, Bulletin Editor

[receptionist@ourladyofmtcarmel.org](mailto:receptionist@ourladyofmtcarmel.org)

John Hawkins, Business Manager

[john@jmhawkins.com](mailto:john@jmhawkins.com)

Val Kazich, Admin Asst., Registrar, Religious  
Education

[val.kazich@ourladyofmtcarmel.org](mailto:val.kazich@ourladyofmtcarmel.org)



November 19, 2023

I am not a big fan of classical music, I much prefer rock, but I remember hearing a story about a well-known conductor named Sir Michael Costa. He was holding a rehearsal one day the mighty chorus rang out, accompanied by scores of instruments, the piccolo player--a little pint-sized flute--thinking perhaps that his contribution would not be missed amid so much music, stopped playing. Suddenly, the great leader stopped and cried out, "Where is the piccolo?" He noticed the importance of even the smallest contribution. We all have something we can do for the good of the community. The Gospel for this weekend is the story of the master who gave talents to three different servants. The first two used their talents and made a profit. The third buried his talent and did nothing. This is a challenge to us to reflect on what am I doing to help? What is my talent or gift and how

can I put it to the benefit of others? We can all do something.

All our ministries (lectors, ushers, extra-ordinary ministers of the Eucharist, greeters, choir members, food pantry volunteers, RE catechists and many more) are all great ways to serve and use a talent for the good of our community. I challenge everyone, especially all who are not already serving in a ministry, to ask what can I do? What can you do for the good of this parish community? The parish council will be holding a ministries recruitment drive in December, but now is the time to start considering in what ways you can help out. Even that small piccolo player made a significant contribution. I am always open to new initiatives. If you see a need that is not being addressed, please let me know and we can look at ways to serve together.

This is the weekend before Thanksgiving Day, I want to wish everyone a blessed day. I know that I always need to say thank you for the gifts that I have received from God, family, friends and the OLMC community. As we feast on Thursday, let's all take a moment to say thank you to God and to each other and to always remember gratitude.

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

*Fr. Jeff*

### ***Readings for the week of November 19, 2023***

**Sunday:** Prv 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 (see 1a)/1 Thes 5:1-6/

Mt 25:14-30 or 25:14-15, 19-21

**Monday:** 1 Mc 1:10-15, 41-43, 54-57, 62-63/Ps 119:53, 61, 134, 150, 155, 158/Lk 18:35-43

**Tuesday:** 2 Mc 6:18-31/Ps 3:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Lk 19:1-10

**Wednesday:** 2 Mc 7:1, 20-31/Ps 17:1bcd, 5-6, 8b and 15/Lk 19:11-28

**Thursday:** 1 Mc 2:15-29/Ps 50:1b-2, 5-6, 14-15/Lk 19:41-44

**Friday:** 1 Mc 4:36-37, 52-59/1 Chr 29:10bcd, 11abc, 11d-12a, 12bcd/Lk 19:45-48

**Saturday:** 1 Mc 6:1-13/Ps 9:2-3, 4 and 6, 16 and 19/Lk 20:27-40





We will be holding our Holiday Food Drive for Thanksgiving on Sunday November 19th. We will only be accepting monetary donations that we then will pass on to people in need to 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" in the memo. There will be envelopes for you to use at the back of church if needed. Please make your donations by Sunday, November 12th.

Thank You,  
Paul Gangi - *Holiday Food Drive Chairperson*

## HFK Presents

The Historical Portrayal of...

### "The Legend of St. Nicholas"



You'd better watch out!! St. Nick is coming to Our Lady of Mt. Carmel on **December 6.**

The Old English Father Christmas will tell us the stories of St. Nicholas, the protector of children throughout the ages.

Learn about the origins of:

- St. Nicholas characters in various countries
- Popular Christmas symbols
- Worldwide Christmas traditions



"This was a delightful program! A beautiful telling of some of the best Christian and ethnic traditions..." —Bloomington, IL

"Very impressive, interesting, engaging, and professionally done. I already look forward to his next performance with us." —Lisle, IL



<u>Sunday Collections as of 11/12/23:</u>		
YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Difference
\$315,630	\$313,730	\$1,900

Take the Placement Test at Montini Catholic Saturday, December 2, 2023 at 8AM

Montini Catholic's Academic Scholarship Program awards students up to \$10,000 over their four years of high school. Scholarships\* are awarded to students based on national percentile ranking and must be taken on this date, and at Montini, for eligibility. In addition, students taking our December 2nd test are given first consideration for financial aid. Visit [montini.org/admissions](https://montini.org/admissions) to register.



### ***Cathy's Corner—What Can Be Accomplished with Faith the Size of a Mustard Seed***

In 1889, an Italian immigrant landed in New York. She and her six female companions had no knowledge of the English language. Upon arrival, they were told that the place they had intended to stay was no longer available. The seven women were also informed that they should return to Italy, because America was not kind to Italians. Undaunted, Mother Frances Xavier Cabrini, along with her missionary sisters, chose to stay in this unfamiliar and unfriendly land. She had been sent by Pope Leo XIII to minister to the great needs of the Italian immigrants in the United States and that is what she intended to do.

The first naturalized American citizen to be canonized, Mother Cabrini left an indelible mark on our own Chicago, where she came in 1899 to care for first-generation Italians, many of whom were impoverished and struggling to feed their families. But her love for the little ones of God, the ones despised and ignored by those with earthly power, did not end there. Despite her fear of water, she crossed the Atlantic Ocean more than 30 times, caring for the poor, the sick, the uneducated and the abandoned. By the time she joined the saints in heaven, she had founded 67 hospitals, orphanages and schools throughout the world that ministered to whomever was in need, regardless of nationality.

Indeed, from childhood Mother Cabrini longed to bring Christ's love throughout the globe. She had from the start the faith the apostles asked Jesus for, perhaps in the beginning only the size of a mustard seed, but that was more than enough. Forever to live in a fragile and delicate state of health, she was refused admission for that reason to the religious order which had trained her to be a teacher. She chose to forgive that injustice, instead drawing a group of women to herself and founding the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus to care for poor children in schools and hospitals. In her own ministry she always sought justice, indeed she loved justice, and so was filled with wisdom and the Holy Spirit so to move the mountains that impeded her mission of compassion, which at one point even entailed her filing a lawsuit against a corrupt contractor and enlisting her sisters to complete the project.

Throughout it all, she remained a gentle woman who still never shied away from confronting the princes of this world to defend the lowly. Tireless in her care, even as she was breathing her last she was preparing Christmas candy for the local children in her room at Lincoln Park's Columbus Hospital, one of the many she had established. May we follow in her footsteps of love and care to the hungry and the destitute, and most especially to those who come to our borders longing only for peace and safety. Mother Frances Xavier Cabrini, Universal Patron of Immigrants, pray for us!

*Wis 6:1-11; Ps 82:3- 4, 6-7; Lk 17: 11-19*

## *RE News*

### **Save the Dates:**

**NO RE November 20-26 Thanksgiving Break**

**A Visit from St. Nicholas  
Wednesday, November 6 @6:30**



### Upcoming Dates

#### **Thanksgiving Baskets:**

Your child's class will be putting together a food basket to help "Feed the Hungry" on Thanksgiving. Monday's classes are asked to bring in NON-PERISHABLE items by Monday, November 13<sup>th</sup>. Sunday families can bring perishable items, but not before the 19<sup>th</sup>. Those who will receive a Thanksgiving Food Basket will receive them on Sunday, November 19<sup>th</sup>. Please call the RE office with any questions.

#### **Family Mass:**

Our Family Mass was this weekend. If you would like to participate in the next one, please contact the RE office. Sunday, December 17 will be our next Family Mass at 10:00. We will have Reader practice on Monday, November 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM and/or Thursday, November 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM.

We are also looking for a few families to help usher. If your family would like to help in any way, please contact Sherry ASAP so we can get you the readings or other info right away.

#### **Christmas Eve Children's Mass:**

Can you believe it's time to look at Christmas schedules already? We are so busy this time of year, so I wanted to put out a reminder to save the dates for practice. We have had to change the day for practice as we have a few conflicting events on Monday, so we will have our first info meeting and practice on **Tuesday, November 28 at 6:00-7:00.** Watch your child's folder for more info.

#### **Advent Retreat/Celebration:**

Sunday, December 10 from 2:00-4:00. Please call the RE office if you are joining us so we have enough supplies.

### Questions of the Week:

**Question for Children: Name one talent or gift that God has given you and tell how you have used it.**

**Question for Youth: Name three talents that you have. How can you use these talents in the next week to make someone's life better?**

**Question for Adults: Using Jesus' parable as your starting point, describe in your own words how you are using your own gifts to enrich the reign of God.**

### Activities of the Week

The Gospel today asks us to use our gifts and risk everything for the sake of the Gospel. Give a cardboard circle to each member of the family. Instruct each person to write his or her name on a circle and then to pass the circle to the person on the left. This person should write on the circle one gift that the family member has. If the children are too young to write, do this orally while someone in the family writes. Take time to affirm the talents you see in one another. Talk about ways to use your gifts to help build God's Kingdom.

### Did You Know?

. . . that there are seven gifts of the Holy Spirit? They are wisdom, understanding, counsel, knowledge, fortitude, piety, and fear of the Lord (which is also called wonder and awe). When one is confirmed, the bishop or priest says, "Receive the Gift of the Holy Spirit," as he anoints the one being confirmed.

Can you identify someone in your life that has lived out one of these gifts? How did his or her actions demonstrate a relationship between the individual and God, or the individual and his or her community?



# Creation Care Corner

## Gratitude, Generosity and Stewardship

In his Encyclical, *Laudato Si': On Care for Our Common Home*, Pope Francis encourages us to imitate God's generosity, calling for an attitude of "...gratitude and gratuitousness, a recognition that the world is God's loving gift, and that we are called quietly to imitate his generosity in self-sacrifice and good works."

Pope Francis further explains, "One expression of this attitude is when we stop and give thanks to God before and after meals. I ask all believers to return to this beautiful and meaningful custom. That moment of blessing, however brief, reminds us of our dependence on God for life; it strengthens our feeling of gratitude for the gifts of creation; it acknowledges those who by their labours provide us with these goods; and it reaffirms our solidarity with those in greatest need." (*LS* 222, 227).

We show our respect and gratitude to the Creator by our stewardship and recognition of his bountiful creation as a precious gift requiring our care.

**Happy Thanksgiving Weekend!**

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

## Mass Intentions for the Week

### Saturday, November 18, 2023

**4:30PM** Lauretta McCue (McMahon Family)

Eleonora & Wladyslaw Niziolek (Family)

Nancy Jemenez (Family)

Richard Sakre (Sheri)

### Sunday, November 19, 2023

**8:15AM** Rickey Schulz (Nick Rocco)

Sean Kelly (Kenny Family)

**10:00AM** Helen Arnold-11th anniv (Family)

Margaret Majka (Paluchowski Family)

Margaret Scheckel (Pam & Jim Jurkowski)

**NOON** Gene & Jeanette Lang (Daughter)

Arvella Czajka (Family)

### Monday, November 20, 2023

**9:00AM** Parishioners of OLMC

### Tuesday, November 21, 2023

**9:00AM** Mitch Cholewa (Family)

Rosie Dulay (Paula)

### Wednesday, November 22, 2023

**9:00AM** Parishioners of OLMC

### Thursday, November 23, 2023

**9:00AM THANKSGIVING—for all parishioners**

### Friday, November 24, 2023

**9:00AM** Edmund Majewski (Donatello Family)

Sotero Quilang (Paula)

Don Brescia (Family)

Pietro, Archangela, Rose, Henry & Lorraine  
(Storino Family)

### Saturday, November 25, 2023

**9:00AM** Paul Lang (Family)

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 Walters

Alex Erkiens

Capt. Michael K. Desmond, Jr., USMC

1st Lt. Mark Marten, US Army

Ted Cook