

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish

November 16, 2025 † Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time



33rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"It will lead to your giving testimony. Remember, you are not to prepare your defense beforehand, for I myself shall give you a wisdom in speaking that all your adversaries will be powerless to resist or refute." - Lk 21:13-15

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

Reconciliation on Saturdays 3:15-4:00PM

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: To register call The Religious Education Office at 630-963-3053

Church Office Hours: Monday through Friday, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. 630-852-3303 phone number

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

frjeff@ourladyofmtcarmel.org

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

frrob@ourladyofmtcarmel.org

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

Priest In residence

Deacon Ed Ptacek

littlebirdfarm@hotmail.com

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

sherry.rochford@ourladyofmtcarmel.org

Jennifer Emanuele, Director, Youth Ministry

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*From the
Pastor*



This is going to shock no one in our community, but I love sports. Football is my favorite of course, but I do watch all the major sports. I even for several years coached lacrosse despite having never played it and not knowing much about it. I read the rule book, fortunately the head coach was much more experienced. My main contribution was yelling “run faster!” or “Get the ball!” However, running faster was really the key to it all. The boys always wanted to learn new and fancy techniques. The coaches kept saying, practice the fundamentals and run more. You will not be able to do any of those fancy plays for real if you are tired and worn out in the 4th Quarter. You have to have the stamina to keep up. That is developed by practicing the basics and running more. Our spiritual life is kind of the same way. It is more an endurance test than anything else. How much can we endure and keep going. Our readings today make that point for us. Sometimes it is the person with the best endurance, not necessarily the best skill who will win the fight. In this last Sunday in Ordinary time, our readings take on the tone of death and the afterlife. The first reading talks about the Day of Judgment coming like a blazing oven. The second reading, St. Paul talks about endurance kind of the theme for the day. Paul says in toil and drudgery, day and night we worked among you. Not something we like to hear, but endurance to just see things through to the end. The gospel makes the same point for us. It speaks of the wars, famines and earthquakes that we will have to endure. It is not necessarily the end though. They are the bad things that we need to endure, just to get through it. Hopefully to bring some type of peaceful resolution to the problems as well.

We are challenged to look at our life this day. The last Sunday of ordinary time is kind of a downer in its theme and its reading. It challenges us to look to the end. Where are our lives heading. We do give up because practice is too hard. We don’t like running all those miles and would rather sit on the couch. Or do we keep getting up morning after morning and running and running some more. If we hope to make it to the later rounds in the fight we better. Endurance is the key to everything. The last line of the Gospel today says “By your perseverance you will secure your lives.” Keep running my friends. It will come in handy

I am looking forward to our brunch to celebrate New Years Day. We will have mass at 10 am and then proceed across the lot to Alpine Banquets for brunch. Tickets are \$30, children under 12 are half price. I hope you can join us!

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel...Pray for Us!!

Fr. Jeff

Spare A Square?

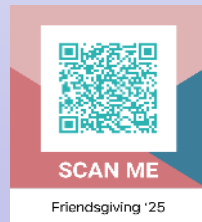


OLMC

High School Youth Group November Meetings

Our meetings take place in the church basement from 1 – 3 pm.
Email Jen Emanuele, Director of Youth Ministry, with questions or suggestions!
Jennifer.emanuele@ourladyofmtcarmel.org

19th: Friendsgiving with Trivia! Bring a friend or two to celebrate with our Friendsgiving feast. Sign up to bring something yummy to eat.



22nd: Thanksgiving Food Drive: In need of service hours or a Confirmation Service Opportunity? Sign up to help our Service Ministry pass out food to our community.



Calling All OLMC Cursillistas!

"Make a friend. Be a friend. Bring a friend to Christ."

Are you a Cursillista at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel?

We're updating our parish Cursillo contact list and want to make sure you're included!

If you've made a Cursillo weekend and are part of OLMC, please reach out to your parish coordinator:

Lori Prado

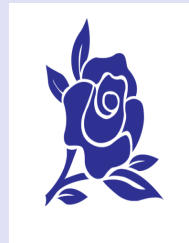
Women's 134th Cursillo – Diocese of Joliet

lori.prado@ourladyofmtcarmel.org

De Colores!



The Darien Woman's Club will hold the Annual Holiday Soap Collection from November 28 to December 18. Soap products (hand soap, body wash, shampoo, conditioner, laundry detergent, dishwashing detergent, etc.) can be dropped off in bins at the following locations: Indian Prairie Public Library, Darien Park District, Mark De Lay School, Concord Elementary School, and Cass Jr. High. This year we are also collecting some paper products such as paper towels and bath tissue. All donated products will be given to local charities including three food pantries and the Family Shelter.



Our Holiday Food Drive for Thanksgiving will be held on Saturday November 22th. We will only be accepting monetary donations that we then will pass on to people in need to supplement their food needs. Please take an envelope home with you, put in any donation you want, write your name & address on it then place it in the collection basket next week. You could give gift cards, checks or cash. If you are giving a large amount in gift cards, please get them in \$25's instead of 1 large amount. If you pay by check please put "Holiday Food Drive" in the memo. You will get credit for any donation you make. Please return your envelopes by Sunday, November 16th at the latest.

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

New Year's Day Parish Brunch

To celebrate 2026, a parish brunch will be held at Alpine Banquets on January 1 after the 10 a.m. Mass. It begins at 11:30 and continues until 3:30. Enjoy breakfast potatoes, scrambled eggs, crispy bacon, suage links, toast, mini pancakes with maple syrup, assorted fresh fruit and cheese crepes. There will be coffee, tea and water stations, along with apple and orange juice. There will also be a mimosa bar. There will be more information in the coming weeks. Please plan on celebrating a new year with fellow parishioners, family and friends! Please contact Fr. Rob if you can volunteer with ticket sales.

Readings for the week of November 16, 2025

Sunday: Mal 3:19-20a/Ps 98:5-6, 7-8, 9 (see 9)/2 Thes 3:7-12/Lk 21:5-19

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

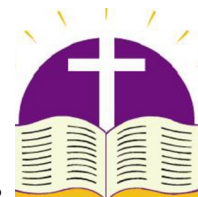
Tuesday: 2 Mc 6:18-31/Ps 3:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Lk 19:1-10

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





RE News...

We will be celebrating those who have gone before us this month. Please bring a picture of your deceased loved ones to add to our table on the upper deck. We will remember them in prayer through the month of November.

Service Opportunities

Help us fill the pantry after Thanksgiving! Our Family Service Day is on Saturday, December 6 and we will be collecting food from our neighbors, separating the donations, and learning about the Food Pantry. Pick up information packets in the RE office. Hand out the flyers to your neighbors and pick up the food between 10:00-11:00 on Saturday, December 6. Bring any donations back to church. We will then have a simple lunch. Call the RE office for more info.

Our service opportunity for December is called "Just Like Me" and we are asking that your child purchase a toy they like to donate to a child just like them. We are asking for small items, but it should be something your child would like to receive. Take a card from our "Just Like Me Tree" and have your child decorate the card, write a small note, and add his or her first name only to the card. Then return the gift unwrapped to the tree. We will be donating the items to the Darien Lion's Club toy drive. Contact the RE office for more information.

Catechetical Opportunities

Catechists: did you miss the Catechetical Institute Training on Catechesis for Persons with Disabilities last month? Well, we are offering it again on Wednesday, November 19 at 6:00 PM. This is a wonderful workshop with lots of tools and best practices to help you in the classroom. Please contact Sherry Rochford if you will attend. We will serve dinner.

PGC-All volunteers who have work with children or vulnerable adults must be compliant with the Diocesan Safe Environment policy. Please check your VIR-TUS account to make sure your training is up to date. Please contact Sherry Rochford with any questions.

Questions of the Week

Question for Children:

Jesus teaches us that work is good for us. What kind of work do you do during the week? How does it help you?

Question for Youth:

Jesus tells us that even though bad things will happen, we are safe in God. When have you felt the safety of God's life in your own life?

Question for Adults:

Paul's words to the Thessalonians are tough: if you want to eat, you must work! How does this translate into our society today? How do you reconcile this with Jesus' command to love and feed the poor?

Activities of the Week

Remind the family that your faithfulness and love is a reflection of God's love for the world. Make a poster with a large circle in the center representing a mirror. Within the mirror, draw pictures or make a list of ways that your family can reflect God's love within and beyond the household.

Is there someone you know who is having trouble right now? What can you do to help that person persevere in faith?

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. Our first practice will be **Monday, November 17 at 6:00**. We will have a brief information meeting and let the children sign up for roles. Children's Choir will have their first practice.

All are welcome to come after the 10 am Mass next Sunday, November 16 and enjoy donuts and coffee with your fellow OLMC parishioners.

Feel free to stop by the upper deck after Mass for a treat, some conversation and fellowship.

We would love to see you there!



***Together in Loss* is a grief support ministry for anyone who has experienced a loss of a loved one.**

Saturday November 22
10a.m.-11:30 a.m.

For Information-Contact

Lori Prado:

(lori.prado@ourladyofmtcarmel.org)



Saturday, November 15, 4:30PM

Janet Nilles (McMahon Family)
Thomas Conley (Family)
Malcolm Fisher Sr. —4th anniv (Family)
Cecelia Fisher (Family)

Sunday, November 16

8:15AM Anna Modelski (Frank & Fran Modelski)
Margaret & Marco Rocco (Nick Rocco)

10:00AM Fred & Josephine Ryczyn (Family)
Helen Arnold (Family)

Milton & Eleanora Weilbacher (Bernice)

Noon Gene & Jeanette Lang (Daughter)

Monday, November 17, 9:00AM

Ofelia Ruiz (Friends)

Josie & Susan-living (Self)

Tuesday, November 18, 9:00AM

Rita Kremer (Pat Monahan)

Fr. Arturo Obmaces, SVD (Family)

Tony (Grace)

John Benish Jr. (Family)

Wednesday, November 19, 9:00AM

Benigno Banez (Family)

Patricia Owens "Patty" (Friends)

Andrew Lally (Margaret & Martin Minogue)

Thursday, November 20, 9:00AM

Eugenio Ramos (Family)

Silver & Cion Mapusao (Esterban Family)

Scarlet Sikora (Family)

Friday, November 21, 9:00AM

Bernard Karacsonyi (Joyce & Steve Fedeczko)

Amy Averion-living (La Prieta Prayer Group)

Saturday, November 22, 9:00AM

Elenonora & Wladyslaw Nizuilek (Family)

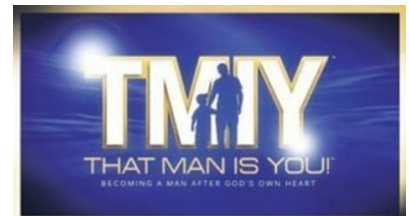
That Man Is You! – Now Meeting Saturday Mornings

Men of the parish are invited to join That Man Is You!, a dynamic men's program that combines faith, fellowship, and personal growth.

Sessions are held Saturday mornings from 6:30 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. in the church basement.

Come enjoy coffee, brotherhood, and meaningful discussion as we seek to deepen our relationship with God and strengthen our roles as husbands, fathers, and leaders.

All men are welcome—bring a friend!



For more information contact

Joe Kenny CrusaderJoe87@gmail.com or Gerry Leganski GerryLeganski@gmail.com