

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish

October 5, 2025 † Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Each of us is willed
Each of us is loved
Each of us is necessary

Pope Benedict



Respect Life Month

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

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From the Pastor



As we head into the month of October, we really start to see the change in temperatures and fall happening all around us. This means for many of us time to start cleaning up our gardens. The last of the produce is in and its time to prepare the garden beds for winter. What was one so luscious, green and full of life is now brown and decaying. The seeds we planted back in the spring have now done their thing. Are the seeds that were planted in us, however long ago, have they done their thing and grown? How much produce has grown

in our lifetime? The Gospel today has the apostles asking Jesus to “increase our faith.” Jesus responds with, “If you have faith the size of a mustard seed,” you would be able to do great things! A mustard seed is tiny. It’s not like a peach or avocado pit; you can barely see a mustard seed on your fingertip. Do we even have that much faith? Faith is always expressed through our actions. It is in how we love one another and the service we share with those who are in need. Love and service are obligations for the faithful. “When you have done all you have been commanded, say, ‘We are unprofitable servants; we have done only what we were obliged to do.’ Are we doing what we are obliged to?”

One thing that all the faithful are obliged to do is make other disciples. Jesus tells us to go out and make disciples, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. The priests of the Diocese of Joliet recently had our bi-annual convocation, and the theme was “Make”, to make disciples. Bishop Hicks has just released his first pastoral letter to the people of the diocese. He challenges us to make other disciples by our witness. The bishop’s letter is available on the Diocese of Joliet’s webpage and I encourage all parishioners to read it and hopefully be as inspired by it as I am. I want to challenge our parish to “Make” more disciples. I am not sure how yet, if anyone is interested in forming a committee to help me brainstorm ideas, please let me know. Every October we do mass attendance counts, so if you see someone walking around with a counter, don’t be disturbed. October of 2022, our average mass attendance on a weekend was 999. In October of 2023 the average attendance was 1068. In October of 2024, attendance was 1184. From 2022 – 2024, we saw a 18% increase. That is decent growth, however we need to keep the momentum going. Let’s explore ways to “Make” disciples here in Darien.

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

Fr. Jeff

Readings for the week of October 5, 2025

Sunday: Hb 1:2-3; 2:2-4/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9 (8)/2 Tm 1:6-8, 13-14/Lk 17:5-10

Monday: Jon 1:1-2:2, 11/Jon 2:3, 4, 5, 8/Lk 10:25-37

Tuesday: Jon 3:1-10/Ps 130:1b-2, 3-4ab, 7-8/Lk 10:38-42

Wednesday: Jon 4:1-11/Ps 86:3-4, 5-6, 9-10/Lk 11:1-4

Thursday: Mal 3:13-20b/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/Lk 11:5-13

Friday: Jl 1:13-15; 2:1-2/Ps 9:2-3, 6 and 16, 8-9/Lk 11:15-26

Saturday: Jl 4:12-21/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12/Lk 11:27-28





St Vincent De Paul Joliet Diocese
 Phone: 630-293-9755
 Fax: 630-293-9881

Here are the items we do accept:

- Clothing, shoes, boots
- Jewelry
- Hats, gloves, mittens, scarves
- Books, records, CDs, DVDs
- Games, toys, sports equipment
- Housewares: dishes, glassware, kitchen utensils, lamps, small appliances
- Hand tools and power tools
- Linens, curtains, blankets, etc
- Stereos, radios, VCRs, DVD players, Blu-ray players, CD players,
- Gaming consoles, remotes, video games
- Camcorders, cameras, camera lens attachments
- Office supplies
- Office equipment: printers, copiers, scanners, toner cartridges, electric typewriters, word processors
- Furniture: Dressers, tables, sofas, bed frames (not including water bed frames) etc.
- Refrigerators, freezers, stoves/ovens, washers/dryers, air conditioners, dehumidifiers,
- Old clothes (ripped, worn out clothes; just ask that bags or boxes are marked recycling)
- Old book and magazines; just ask the boxes or bags are marked recycling

Here are the items we do not accept:

- CRT "Tube" TVs
- Cribs, car seats, etc.
- Household chemical products: pesticides, paint, paint thinner, drain cleaner, oven cleaner, aerosols, etc.
- Automotive hazardous waste: tires, lead acid batteries, additives, gasoline, oils, antifreeze, etc.
- furnace, trash compactors, water heaters
- Any furniture with the following: stains, animal fur, missing or broken pieces
- Used mattresses or box springs
- Open/partially used personal care: Shampoo, conditioner, nail polish remover, shaving cream, hairspray, shavers, perfume
- Weapons

Saturday, October 18 and Sunday, October 19
 Before and after Masses



This October, we're celebrating the Month of the Rosary! Mike Meyer OLMC parishioner and a member of the **Our Lady of Rosary Markers**, will be collecting rosaries, broken rosaries, beads, medals, and sacramental items **on October 5 and 19** to support **Our Lady of the Rosary Markers**. Founded in 1949, this wonderful nonprofit spreads devotion through the Immaculate Heart of Mary by making and sharing rosaries worldwide.

OLMC

High School Youth Group

October 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

5: Carlos Acutis: Roadmap to Reality Viewing Party

Discover the incredible life of Saint Carlo Acutis in *Carlo Acutis: Roadmap to Reality*. This powerful new documentary film explores his life, legacy, and the impact of technology on young people today. Popcorn and snacks will be served. **8th graders can use this as a Spiritual Experience for Confirmation.



18th & 19th St Vincent de Paul Clothing Drive
Interested in helping load the St Vincent de Paul truck on Saturday, October 18th (3:30 - 5:45) and/or October 19th (7:30 - 12:30)?
Please RSVP with your availability.



This can be used as a Confirmation Service Opportunity as well as High School Service Hours.



19: Pumpkin Painting

Connect with creation in a creative way while we paint pumpkins to decorate our parish.

Please RSVP so we have enough pumpkins and food.



26: Trunk or Treat

This is a service opportunity. We will need help setting up, running games, and clean up.

Please RSVP up to help.





RE News... It's not too late to register for RE. We still have room in most sessions. Contact the RE office for more information.

Help Wanted

Who We need. . . YOU! RE has started but we are still short on Catechists. Right now, we still need Catechists in: Sunday 9:00- 6th & 4th, Sunday 11:00-7th Monday 5:00- 7th

We also need substitutes, parking lot attendants, hallway monitors, substitutes (did I say substitutes?), and occasional or seasonal help for various retreats.

October is the Month of the Rosary

As we enter the month of October, we reflect on the Rosary, and we ask that your family pray the World Mission Rosary together for the families of the World at least once this October.

The World Mission Rosary was envisioned by Archbishop Fulton John Sheen in 1951, when he was national director of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith. He made the request on a radio show, asking that his listeners "Embrace the world in prayer."

For each of the following weeks, we ask your family to pray a decade of the Rosary for one of the Continents of the world.

This week we will pray the Mission Rosary Prayer for Africa (on the Green Beads):

We Pray for the Families of Africa. Ubuntu- an ancient African philosophy that speaks to the interconnectedness of all things and of each other: I am because we are. Ubuntu understands that we need to work together in order to succeed. The prayer: As we pray for all the families in Africa, may we recognize that we need each other in order to survive. May we realize that no one is beyond the reach of God.

Our world is in need of much prayer, so why not take the time to pray for all our brothers and sisters around the world, as well as for all of us here in our country. God bless you!

Catechist Workshop: Catechesis for Persons with Disabilities

Saturday, October 18 from 9-12:30

This is a required course from the Catechetical Institute at Franciscan University. This workshop counts as your course for the year. Please call the RE office to let us know you will be there. We will serve Breakfast.

Notes for Parents

Week 5: October 5-6 4th grade parents will meet. This will also be our Reconciliation Meeting.

Questions of the Week

Question for Children: Jesus teaches us that our faith is powerful and with it, we can do great things. We can forgive, love, and share with others. Which of these do you do most often?

Question for Youth: The Gospel tells us even a little bit of faith is enough to make amazing things happen. How are you keeping your faith alive and growing? What good things happen in your life because of your faith?

Question for Adults: Being "in Christ" means living as Christ teaches. What signs do you see in your life of generosity, forgiveness, hospitality, or any other of Jesus' teachings?

Activity of the Week

Together as a family make a sign that says Have Faith, and put it on the refrigerator. During the coming week when a hardship occurs in the family, have the involved family members look at the sign and recall how their faith will give them the courage to face the hardship.

What's Happening in RE

Hello Parents! Thank you again for bringing your children to our RE Program! This last week, most of our classes focused on Creation and what happened in the garden after Adam and Eve chose to eat the fruit they were told not to. Questions you can ask are, what happens when we break our promises to someone? What are some consequences for poor decision making?

Our second graders met their 8th grade buddies last week, and they will meet periodically to work on prayers together.

Our 6th grade retreat was a great success! I was so impressed with the insights they came up with. They really understood what creates barriers between us and God, others, the natural world, and even ourselves. It was a pleasure to work with your children!

Pet Blessing
Sunday, October 12
2:00PM

All God's
Creatures



The Handbell Choir needs players for the Christmas Midnight Mass. Rehearsals will begin October 12, and continue each Sunday after the noon Mass in the 6th grade classroom. Contact Val Kazich, 630-963-3053 or Karen Krueger, 10am/12pm Choir Director.



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

Saturday Oct. 18 10:00 am to
11:30 am

For Information-Contact Lori
Prado:

(lori.prado@ourladyofmtcarmel.org)

Saturday, October 4, 4:30PM

Laverne Munsayac (Kathi)
 Matthew Bier (McMahon Family)
 Arlene Brescia (Karen & Mike Flavin)
 Chirley Radom (Friends)

Sunday, October 5

8:15AM Louis & Theresa Ricci (Nick Rocco)

10:00AM Jame Joseph Novak (Sy Family)

Andrea & Rosa Abbate (Family)
 Frances Chapukonis (Jerry Barich)
 Stephanie Ramos (Sy Family)
 Michael Szkwarko (Family)
 Andrew O'Connor (Family)

Noon Gene & Jeanette Lang (Daughter)

Monday, October 6, 9:00AM

Steve Abramowicz (Sheri)

Tuesday, October 7, 9:00AM

Al Meacham (Family)

Wednesday, October 8, 9:00AM

Joseph Strejz (Family)

Thursday, October 9, 9:00AM

Prudencio Sobredo (Family)
 Gary Matts-4th anniv (Family)

Friday, October 10, 9:00AM

Jim Susic (Donatello Family)
 Walter Wadas Family (Evelyn Antikauskas)
 Bon De Ocampo-2nd anniv (Family)

Saturday, October 11, 9:00AM

Eleonora & Wladyslaw Niziolek (Family)

WELCOME

We welcome the following to the
 Our Lady of Mount Carmel family!

Nicholas & Danielle Christiano
 Juanita Zqotl
 Frank & Lee Pantaleon
 Chris & Sara Marsik
 Carmen & Melissa Grande McCassa
 Mike & Julie Neri
 Kevin Snyder & Cindy Hart
 Martin & Martha Kapolnek
 Patrick & Michelle Sciorla