

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish

September 17, 2023 † Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time



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**8404 CASS AVENUE
DARIEN, ILLINOIS 60561**

Parish Phone Number: 630-852-3303

Religious Education Phone Number: 630-963-3053

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

Rev. Greg Houck, O.Carm., Parochial Vicar

frgreg@ourladyofmtcarmel.org

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

Priest In residence

Deacon Ed Ptacek

littlebirdfarm@hotmail.com

Deacon Guadalupe Villarreal

dcnlupe@ourladyofmtcarmel.org

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Stephanie Rawls, Director, Youth Ministry

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Cathy Lentz, Director, Adult Faith Formation

catharine.lentz@ourladyofmtcarmel.org

Susan Haa, Parish Receptionist, Bulletin Editor

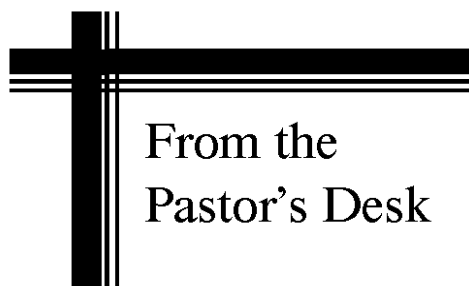
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September 17, 2023

Forgiveness is one of the things we often struggle with in life. Our human nature loved to hold onto a grudge. Often, in our self-righteousness, we pull the pity me routine because of all that I am suffering because of another. We point our finger and say look at how badly that person has treated me. We conveniently forget that all arguments are a two-way street and rarely are we a total victim, most of the time we share some responsibility for the hurt as well. The Gospel today is a challenge to us to learn to forgive. We have been hurt by life and the actions of others. Often the person that we have an issue

with has moved on in life and is not even aware of the hurt. We are the ones torturing ourselves. We are the ones who need to let go of that weight. The Gospel today challenges us to forgive not seven times but seventy-seven times. That is a lot of forgiveness that we need to share in the world. The parable of the wicked servant is a lesson to us that not only need forgiveness ourselves, but we have to give it as well. When we forgive, it often does more benefit to us than to the other. It is weight off our shoulders. It is one less thing we are carrying around in life. Easier said than done, I know. I hope that we can all take this Gospel lesson to heart and bring forgiveness into the world. Who do we need to forgive and who do we need to seek forgiveness from today?

Thank you to everyone for an amazing time last weekend. This place was hopping with life and energy, it's wonderful! RE is off to a great start. I loved seeing so many children and families in the parish again. I hope that our children grow in the grace and wisdom of God during this year. We pray especially for the children who will be making their First Holy Communion and Confirmations this year. The Grandparents Day celebration was fantastic. Thank you to our Catholic Grandparents Association for organizing a wonderful celebration. I love the life of our parish community. We are still looking for more extraordinary ministers of communion, lectors, ushers, choir members, altar servers and catechists. These are very important ways of serving and giving back to the Lord for his blessings. The worship experience is enhanced when you are a more active part of it and help others to have a meaningful time at liturgy. Please consider serving in one of these important roles. Just let any staff member know what you might be interested in helping with.

Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Pray for us.

Fr. Jeff

Readings for the week of September 17, 2023

Sunday: Sir 27:30—28:7/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12 (8)/Rom 14:7-9/Mt 18:21-35

Monday: 1 Tm 2:1-8/Ps 28:2, 7, 8-9/Lk 7:1-10

Tuesday: 1 Tm 3:1-13/Ps 101:1b-2ab, 2cd-3ab, 5, 6/Lk 7:11-17

Wednesday: 1 Tm 3:14-16/Ps 111:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Lk 7:31-35

Thursday: Eph 4:1-7, 11-13/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5/Mt 9:9-13

Friday: 1 Tm 6:2c-12/Ps 49:6-7, 8-10, 17-18, 19-20/Lk 8:1-3

Saturday: 1 Tm 6:13-16/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5/Lk 8:4-15



Cathy's Corner— Easing the Sorrows of Our Lady

It is hard not to wonder if the Blessed Mother, when she heard her son address her as “woman” from the cross, did not think back on the last time he called her that, three years before, at the wedding feast of Cana. In fact, that is her only other appearance in the Gospel of John. Did she regret bringing to his attention the plight of the bride and groom when he told her his hour had not yet come, since that first sign he performed to help them became the beginning of his public ministry? Because when his hour did come, that same hour became the hour she was invited into the house of the beloved disciple as she watched her son dying right in front of her eyes.

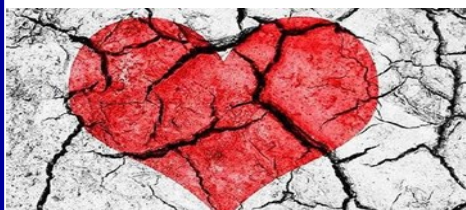
But of course that death ended in his glorious resurrection, saving so much more than the reputation of a bridegroom who ran out of wine at his wedding, which she could never have foreseen as she stood by the foot of that cross. As his first and most devoted disciple, the Blessed Mother certainly was aware that she was just an instrument in God's hands to bring about the salvation of the world and not the reason her son eventually ended up suffering right before her own sorrowful heart.

We too are merely instruments in God's hands. We too are meant to intervene as both Jesus and Mary did when we encounter someone struggling or in need, regardless of whether we are the cause of that suffering. And we must respond as if that person were a member of our own family. As Jesus created such a relationship where there was none between his own mother and the disciple whom he loved, he creates that with us every day, if only we follow the directive he gave from the cross.

St. Paul recognized how hard that can be, how he himself had been a blasphemer and a persecutor and an arrogant man, yet chosen as God's instrument to bring the Good News of salvation to both Godfearer and unbeliever without discrimination. Saved by the grace of our Lord, strengthened by him whom we call the Christ, he worked side by side with those he called his sisters and his brothers, with Timothy who was to him his true child in faith, ministering to that family that is created by love alone.

And our role in that family will look different for each one of us because to each is given a different grace, each has been considered trustworthy by the Lord in a different way. Thus only together can we effectively build that kingdom where no one is an orphan, where everyone is kin. Perhaps we are deft at organizing, so to coordinate a food or clothing or school supply drive. Perhaps we are practiced teachers, so to volunteer to tutor those in desperate need of the skills to find meaningful employment. Perhaps we are compassionate listeners, so to bring healing through being deeply attentive to those drowning in fear and despair.

Allowing ourselves to be the instruments in God's hands we are meant to be may bring glorious consequences we can never foresee, if we but open ourselves to the sorrow and suffering of even those we find ignorant, of even those whom we see as unbelievers. St. Paul bears witness to what profound transformation can be the result, wrought of course by the abundant grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. In truth his Blessed Mother still weeps at the suffering she sees in our wounded world. Let it be our own faith and love that eases her sorrow because she sees also how we work to mold that world into one family, sharing with all the grace, mercy and peace that comes only from our God. *1 Tm 1:1-2, 12-14; Ps 16:1b-2a and 5, 7-8, 11; Jn 19:25-27 (alt. Lk 2:33-35)*



Bringing comfort and light through compassionate support

Next meeting September 20

***Together in Loss* is a grief support ministry for anyone who has suffered a loss**

**Join us the third WEDNESDAY of the month
from 6:30 to 8:00 pm**

No RSVP necessary and no need to have attended in the past

Contact Cathy Lentz for more information at catharine.lentz@ourladyofmtcarmel.org

or 630-852-3303 ext 5



Register on the website or contact Cathy Lentz at 630-852-3303 ext 5 or catharine.lentz@ourladyofmtcarmel.org

**Join Fr. Bob in his exploration of
the Gospel of Luke
Tuesdays from 9:45 to 11:15 am
September 26; October 3, 10, 17, 24, 31;
November 7, 14, 21
In person or via Zoom
Recordings will also be available to view
\$20 fee for materials**

Come celebrate your faith at a sacred place of peace, beauty, and prayer! Join us as we travel to the highest elevation in southeast Wisconsin for a day of spiritual renewal ~ bring your friends & family members and register soon! Under the care of the Discalced Carmelite Friars of Holy Hill, the Basilica and National Shrine of Mary Help of Christians draws hundreds of thousands of pilgrims annually ~ enjoy the scenic views, walk the life-sized Stations, attend a Catholic Mass of worship, visit the cafe or gift store - all ages are welcome to join us!



GRANDPARENTS PILGRIMAGE

Saturday, September 30

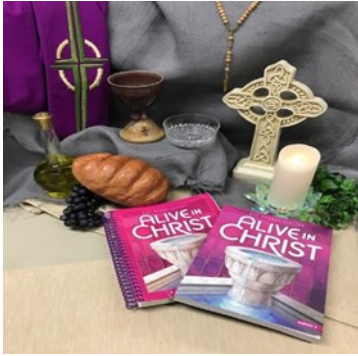
HOLY HILL



The National Shrine of Mary, Help of Christians
Transportation to/from OLMC: 8:15 am – 4:45 pm
Register in the parish office: \$44 per person
Parishioners welcome, limited seating, first come



catholicgrandparentsolmc@gmail.com



Re News

RE is now in session, but if you have not registered, or if you know a family that is looking to register, we are still taking registrations. It's never too late to start your faith journey!

Help Wanted! RE 22-23

What is a Catechist?

"So, as I look out at you, I think: Who are catechists? They are the people who keep the memory of God alive; they keep it alive in themselves and they are able to revive it in others." (Pope Francis-Homily at the Mass for Catechists-2013)

Are you a faith filled person who enjoys sharing your time with children? Then you ARE qualified to help our kiddos! We will help with any training, but your faith is what carries you through. Our teacher's guides have step by step instructions along with tips and training points along the way. You can check out the curriculum for grades 1-6 at <https://aliveinchrist.osv.com/family> You can also get the Questions and Activities of the week there.

Help Needed

As we are receiving more student registrations, we may need more catechist and help. Right now, we are looking specifically for:

Sunday 9:00-
Room Assistants, & a grade 6 catechist

Sunday 11:00-
Office Assistance

Monday 5:00-
Catechists for grades 4, 5, & 6, Office Help & Parking lot supervisors

Monday 7:00 -6th grade catechist and Parking lot supervisors.

Thanks to our RE team members! Without your help we would not have the program we have. You are amazing!

Questions of the Week:

Question for Children: Jesus says we should forgive from our heart. When did you ask forgiveness of someone you hurt? How did you feel?

Question for Youth: Jesus challenges us to forgive. Who needs your forgiveness? From whom do you need to ask forgiveness?

Question for Adults: Jesus tells us to forgive seventy times seven, which means always and forever. Name a time this past week when you forgave someone. Name, too, a time when you accepted another person's forgiveness.

Activity of the Week

Consider stories or movies where one of the characters seeks vengeance. What was the outcome of this story? Consider also stories or movies where one of the characters is humble and forgiving. What was the outcome of this story? Discuss the natural consequences of humility.

Upcoming Dates

Family Faith gathering (Home School)-Tuesday, September 19 -7:00-8:15 PM

**First Communion Parents' Meeting
Tuesday, September 26 at 7:00 PM**

**Methods 1-Catechist Meeting
Saturday, Sept. 30th 9:00-Noon**

A refresher course for veteran catechists as well as important information for newer catechists.
Mass-9:00-Social after Mass Session until Noon

Important Info for all returning Catechists:

Remember returning Catechists and RE Volunteers must verify that their background checks are updated and complete the state required Mandated Reporter Training (online). Check with Sherry to see that your safe environment requirements are up to date.



Mary Anne Trochim **James Curley**
Julie Ann Lacey **Kim Hoover**
Nancy Kososki **Diana Clohecy**
Nancy Jisisju **Bill Haran**
Loren Davis **Susan Nugent**
Evelyn Swartz **Abby Grace McCarver**
Jean & Mark Boyd **Allen Raineri**
Jamie Carpenter
Kevin & Jenne Gallmeier
Bridget Gallmeier Raineri



Sgt. Ryan Thomas 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
 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

ENS Allison Early, NAVY
 CPO Michael Early, USMC
 Elliot Broccardo, USMC
 Lindsey Johnson
 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
 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

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, September 16, 2023

4:30PM James Karnick-1st anniv (Lambke Family)
 Carm Benbow (Niece)

Nancy Jemenez (Evano Family)
 Theresa & Lawrence Kowalski-living (Family)
 Cecelia Fisher-16th anniv (Daughter Donna)

Sunday, September 17, 2023

8:15AM Alexandra Kalz (Frank & Fran Modelski)

Eleanor Czachor (Donatello Family)

Penny & Jerry Rocco (Nick Rocco)

10:00AM Sean Kenny (Dad)

NOON Lou McClelland (Eugene Munin)

Ricardo C. Barretto (Felisa & Rafael Barretto)

Asuncion Mapusao & Leona Moody

(Esteban Family)

Monday, September 18, 2023

9:00AM John Pawlak-10th anniv (Family)

Tuesday, September 19, 2023

9:00AM Jose Mendoza (Family)

Victoria Villaluz (Family)

Esperanza Sobredo (Family)

Lorenzo Sugide (Family)

Dennis DeGrazia (Niece)

Thomas Abraham (Family)

Wednesday, September 20, 2023

9:00AM Pietro Storino Family)

Josephine Ryczyn (Family)

Thomas Abraham (Family)

Thursday, September 21, 2023

9:00AM Arlene Monahan (Family)

Marilyn King (Friend)

Sandra Cavelli (Niece)

Friday, September 22, 2023

9:00AM Joseph C. Polito (Friends)

Frances Carioto (Granddaughter)

Saturday, September 23, 2023

9:00AM Dale Brunsen (Frank & Fran Modelski)

Brian Monahan (Family)

Brendan Snyder (Martin & Margaret Minogue)

Ricardo C. Barretto (Felisa & Rafael Barretto)

Joe, Caroline & Tom Angelucci (Family)

