

# Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish

September 3, 2023 † Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time



## 22<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it."  
- Mt 16:24b-25

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

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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

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

Priest In residence

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

Deacon Guadalupe Villarreal

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Susan Haa, Parish Receptionist, Bulletin Editor

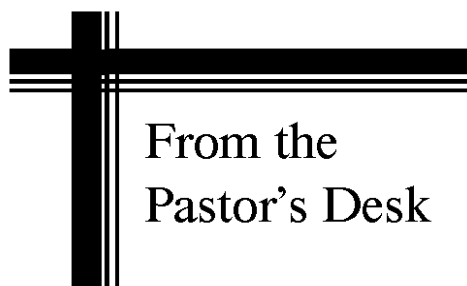
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## From the Pastor's Desk

September 2, 2023

“You duped me, O Lord, and I let myself be duped;” Jeremiah 20:7 This is the opening line of the first reading today. No one likes to be fooled. In today’s age especially we need to constantly beware of scams and guard all our personal information. We do not want to be duped. While God will certainly not scam us, we are often duped by the Lord. Just when we think we have things figured out, just when we know what is going on, things change. That is the constant state in life. The Gospel today tells us that we have to pick up our cross and follow Christ. That perhaps might be the ultimate dupe.

God is telling us that there will be suffering and sacrifice required? Who wants that? That is the hardest thing for people of faith to struggle with. No one is immune from pain in life. We hope that as people of faith we can bring good out of pain and use those difficult experiences to bring Christ to others. Picking up the cross is the hardest thing we can ever do and the most rewarding thing we can ever do. Are we truly ready to follow Christ?

I want to wish everyone a happy and blessed Labor Day. I hope that the holiday is a time for everyone to gather with family and friends for one more backyard cook-out as we mark an end to summer and the start of fall. It is also a day for us to reflect on the value of work. Work is important to the human person. Work brings value, respect and self-esteem to the person. Every job is filled with dignity and respect. Work should be about more than just earning a wage. Work gives human dignity. As we take a day of rest from our labors, let us give thanks to God for the gift that work is in our lives. Let us also pray for those who are seeking employment and meaningful work right now.

The Diocese of Joliet recently gave permission for parishes to return to the reception of the Precious Blood. I understand there is still much fear, and the transmission of viruses is something that we all must be on guard against. Starting this weekend, there will be one minister available with the Precious Blood for anyone who may wish to receive. Reception of the Blood has always been optional. If you are uncomfortable that is understandable. Please always do what is best for your health.

Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Pray for us.

*Fr. Jeff*

### *Readings for the week of September 3, 2023*

Sunday: Jer 20:7-9/Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9 (2b)/Rom 12:1-2/Mt 16:21-27

Monday: 1 Thes 4:13-18/Ps 96:1 and 3, 4-5, 11-12, 13/Lk 4:16-30

Tuesday: 1 Thes 5:1-6, 9-11/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14/Lk 4:31-37

Wednesday: Col 1:1-8/Ps 52:10, 11/Lk 4:38-44

Thursday: Col 1:9-14/Ps 98:2-3ab, 3cd-4, 5-6/Lk 5:1-11

Friday: Mi 5:1-4a or Rom 8:28-30/Ps 13:6ab, 6c/Mt 1:1-16, 18-23 or 1:18-23

Saturday: Col 1:21-23/Ps 54:3-4, 6 and 8/Lk 6:1-5



*Cathy's Corner— The Pharisees and the Theological Virtues*

It is not impossible that the Pharisees being lambasted by Jesus are the reason we have the very first Christian document ever written: the First Letter of Paul to the Thessalonians. From the beginning of the first century until about twenty years after Paul's letter was written in probably 50 CE, many Pharisees were engaged in a robust missionary campaign throughout Gentile communities. Accordingly, synagogues were to be found in places like Thessalonica, the capital of the Roman province of Macedonia and a vital economic, commercial and political center in Paul's world.

Indeed, the apostle chose to evangelize in Thessalonica after he was expelled from Philippi, which was about 100 miles away, rather than lingering in closer cities because they did not, in fact, contain a synagogue, the place Paul would choose to begin his proselytizing. With the converts in that city, Paul would develop a deep affection. Not surprisingly, he also got himself into deep trouble, as his powerful preaching caused a riot to break out. Paul and his companions were thus unceremoniously ejected from Thessalonica as well. Timothy returned, however, and reported back to Paul the strong faith that was thriving in that Christian community, but also some misunderstandings that had cropped up.

Likely just a few months after Paul had left his beloved Thessalonians, then, he sent them a letter, the first writing in what would eventually be called the New Testament. In the earliest mention of what are now called "the theological virtues," Paul wished to affirm "their work of faith and labor of love and endurance in hope of our Lord Jesus Christ." Paul himself had modeled those virtues for them and that was no small part of why they turned from worship of idols to serve the living and true God - recognizing, of course, as Paul did, the primacy of the power of the Holy Spirit.

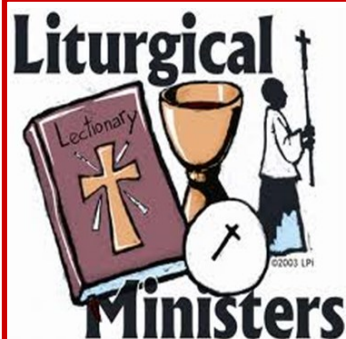
Paul was, in every way, the antithesis of the Pharisee he himself had once been. Many were, as Jesus called out, religious leaders who failed in their responsibility to effectively lead their followers to the kingdom of heaven by falsely interpreting God's commandments and hypocritically refusing to practice what they preached. For such as these, Jesus hurled his harshest condemnations. Because they were in truth leading their followers not to eternal life, but to everlasting punishment, Gehenna.

A sobering thought for all of us, who every day are called to model for someone we encounter a life grounded in the theological virtues, whether for our children, our co-workers, our volunteer group, our worship community. There is a communal aspect to all actions we take, and we who profess faith in the living and true God must exhibit our faith by our works, labor with love for others and endure in the hope that we will experience eternal life. Because the kingdom of heaven can never be reached alone. And everlasting punishment yawns when by our actions we encourage others to imitate our selfishness and conceit.

But the power of the Holy Spirit is all around us. Through faith in our God we can even build on foundations created by false teachers, as Paul did on the communities created by the Pharisees, bringing to our world faith, hope and love, being for our sisters and brothers the hands and feet of the one who through whom we all are saved. And giving thanks always for each person we meet, who afford us yet another opportunity to make happen.

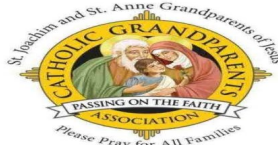
*1 Thes 1:1-5, 8b-10; Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a, and 9b; Mt 23:13-22*

Are you or is someone you love home-bound and unable to attend Mass?  
**Ministers of Care** from the community of *Our Lady of Mount Carmel* are here to visit with you, to pray with you, to offer you the **Body of Christ**.  
 Contact Cathy Lentz at 630-852-3303 ext 5 or  
[catharine.lentz@ourladyofmtcarmel.org](mailto:catharine.lentz@ourladyofmtcarmel.org)  
 to receive a visit.



Jesus is calling YOU – to minister at Mass  
*Lector ~~~ Usher ~~~ Altar Server ~~~*  
*Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion*  
 We will be training in September – contact Cathy Lentz for  
 more information – 630-852-3303 ext 5 or  
[catharine.lentz@ourladyofmtcarmel.org](mailto:catharine.lentz@ourladyofmtcarmel.org)





### GRANDPARENTS MASS

Sunday, September 10

10:00 a.m.

Bring your Grandpa, Grandma, Nana, Papa  
Celebrate Grandparents Day with the OLMC community!

### 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



**Our Lady of Peace** with  
**Our Lady of Mount Carmel**  
invite you to be *Nourished* in  
*your caregiving ministry*

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

Cathy Lentz at 630-852-3303 ext 5 or [catharine.lentz@ourladyofmtcarmel.org](mailto:catharine.lentz@ourladyofmtcarmel.org)  
for more information

Caring for a loved one is rewarding, BUT it is not  
always easy.  
Family caregivers need **information**, **strength** and  
**connection** during the caregiver journey.  
*Let us provide that for you, all with a Christ-  
centered view.*

**NEXT MEETING: SEPTEMBER 9**

**8:30 am to 10:00 am  
at Our Lady of Peace**

*Thrive• Empower• Advance•*

Young at Heart is a group for men and women age 55+  
which meets once a month for fellowship.

Join us for our introductory gathering September 7 at  
10:00am in the Upper Deck.

For more information contact Barbara Jo Miller at 630-985-1043





## RE NEWS

RE Stats September 10 & 11. If you have not registered yet, please do so ASAP. We are still looking for a few catechists and room parents so we can start the year off! Prayerfully consider joining the team!

### Questions of the Week:

**Question for Children:** Jesus tells us that we each called to follow him. What is hard for you to do to follow Jesus?

**Question for Youth:** In order to follow Jesus, we have to do hard things, to carry our own crosses. What is a cross that you are carrying right now? In what ways can you ask Jesus to help you with your cross?

**Question for Adults:** Jesus gives us the core truth to life and eternal happiness — the cross. Name the cross that you carry. How is it bringing you closer to God?

### Activities of the Week

This Sunday, Jesus tells us: “Deny yourself, take up your cross, and begin to follow in my footsteps.” Make footprints on paper using the outlines of each family member’s foot. Cut the footprints out, and ask each person to print on his or her foot one way he or she will follow the way of Jesus this week.

As a family, discuss how you have experienced the Paschal Mystery. What events were crises for you? How were you able to survive them? What events have you celebrated as a family? How have these events been life-giving?

### Care-Takers Retreat

We are going to be hosting a retreat day for People who care for persons with disabilities on Saturday, September 23. While this retreat will be for the caregivers, we will have sessions for your children and adults you are caring for. Call the RE office for more information.

### HELP WANTED

Have you ever thought of being a Catechist? Well, we are looking to train and mentor a few good people to help us with our program.

In addition, we are looking for “Room Moms and Dads” who will start the children off with attendance and a simple work sheet or craft at the beginning of class. This only requires 15-20 minutes of your time. All materials are provided. Please contact the RE office if you are interested.

Right now, what we need is:

Sunday 9 AM: 2<sup>nd</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, & 2-7<sup>th</sup>

Sunday 11 AM: 6<sup>th</sup>

Monday 5 PM: 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>

Monday 7PM: 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>

We are also looking for a few dedicated individuals who would be interested in helping Children with Special needs through our CHRISTOS program. We have a few families interested, and we need a team to help reorganize this great program. Call Sherry for more info.

### ALL Catechist Meeting

All catechists are invited to join us for an evening of faith sharing and fellowship as we prepare for the new year.

We will start with New Catechists at 6:00 PM, social at 6:30 PM and training at 7:00PM. We will be covering “Real Presence” before we break out in grade level meetings. Call the RE office for more info.



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



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 Welters  
 Alex Erkiens  
 Capt. Michael K. Desmond, Jr., USMC  
 1st Lt. Mark Marten, US Army  
 Ted Cook

### **Mass Intentions for the Week**

#### **Saturday, September 2, 2023**

**4:30PM** Theresa Smith (Sandy & Tom Burzinski)  
 Joseph C. Polito (Frank & Fran Modelski)  
 John Sparks-2nd anniv (Family)  
 Nancy Jimenez (Evano Family)

#### **Sunday, September 3, 2023**

**8:15AM** Margaret & Marco Rocco (Nick Rocco)  
 Deacon William Sayre (Rita Thompson)  
 Barbara Grady (Rita Thompson)  
 Dr. Cornelio Casacang (Family)  
**10:00AM** Jean Belford-7th anniv (Family)  
 Attilio DiNello (Judi & Bill Tamkevic)  
**NOON** Ricardo C. Barretto (Felisa & Rafael Barretto)

#### **Monday, September 4, 2023**

**9:00AM** Daniel Caruso (Family)

Joseph C. Polito (Friends)

Felitas Angliongto (Andrea Tutor)

#### **Tuesday, September 5, 2023**

**9:00AM** Al & Loretta Schwarz, Merlin & Clara  
 Schwarz, Eloise Schwarz, Carl Pavel, James Pavelek  
 (Family)

Margie Begley-anniv (Family)

Mary Lynch- anniv (Family)

#### **Wednesday, September 6, 2023**

**9:00AM** Antonia Relota (Andrea)

Dante & Dolly Parinas (Sister)

Ricardo Fontanilla-living (Family)

Paul Knight (Friend)

#### **Thursday, September 7, 2023**

**9:00AM** Judy Ramono (Jerry Barich)

Michael Sislow Jr. (Mom & Jerry)

Jennifer L. Bielat (Pelling Family)

Joe & Bernie Nutile (Sheri)

#### **Friday, September 8, 2023**

**9:00AM** Francis Vacco Valiaparambil (Family)

Joseph Polito (Judy Schroeder)

#### **Saturday, September 9, 2023**

**9:00AM** Rosario Baradi (Family)

Stanley Gancarz (Frank & Fran Modelski)

Harry Borucki (Daughter Evelyn)

Ricardo C. Barretto (Felisa & Rafael Barretto)

HAPPY  
**Labor Day**