

# Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish

September 21, 2025 † Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time



## 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

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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

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Susan Haa, Parish Receptionist, Bulletin Editor

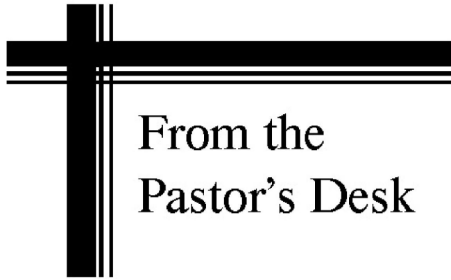
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Val Kazich, Admin Asst., Registrar, Religious Education

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## From the Pastor's Desk

We may recall the event from this past July, where the CEO of a major corporation was caught in an affair with an employee on the kiss camera at a concert. Early this month, the CEO of Nestle was fired for also having an affair with an employee. These were just the most recent instances of an uncountable number of blunders and bad judgement that many notable people have shown. However, it is not just the rich and powerful who show poor judgement, we all do at times. Sadly, these major scandals are nothing new. They have been occurring since the dawn of time. The Prophet Amos in the first

reading today warns people about such actions. Amos warns against those who fix their scales for cheating and think they can buy the poor. Amos gives a stern warning, "The Lord will never forget a thing they have done." That should scare us all to be on our best behavior and always be about doing what is right and fair. The Prophet Amos lived about 750 years before the coming of Christ and in the Gospel, Jesus had to give the same warning and here we are 2000 + years after Christ, and it still hasn't sunk in yet. We keep making the same mistakes. Jesus asks in the Gospel, are we trustworthy and what do we really value in life? They are always good questions for us to reflect on. "Trustworthy" describes someone or something that is honest, reliable, and dependable, and is therefore worthy of trust or confidence. A trustworthy person keeps their promises and can be counted on to do what they say they will do, while trustworthy information is truthful and conforms to fact. Does that describe you? For most of us it probably does, at least the majority of the time. However, there are areas that we all struggle. We have to continually remind ourselves that our word is our bond and that we need to always be about the work of the Lord. The Gospel closes with the admonition, that you cannot serve two masters. We are either serving the Lord or we are serving something else.

On Monday and Tuesday, we will be resurfacing the parking lot. This will cause some disruption, especially to those who attend the 9 am daily mass. Please follow signs as they are posted for where to enter and park. I am beyond thrilled with the new votive candle stand around St. Joseph. What a wonderful addition to our parish! Thank you for your generosity.

Our Lady of Mount Carmel ... Pray for us!  
Fr, Jeff

### Readings for the week of September 21, 2025

**Sunday:** Am 8:4-7/Ps 113:1-2, 4-6, 7-8 (see 1a, 7b)/1 Tm 2:1-8/Lk 16:1-13 or 16:10-13

**Monday:** Ezr 1:1-6/Ps 126:1b-2ab, 2cd-3, 4-5, 6/Lk 8:16-18

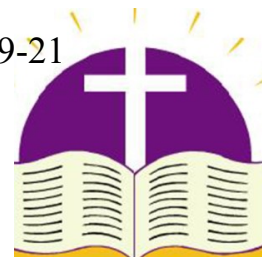
**Tuesday:** Ezr 6:7-8, 12b, 14-20/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5/Lk 8:19-21

**Wednesday:** Ezr 9:5-9/Tb 13:2, 3-4a, 4befghn, 7-8/Lk 9:1-6

**Thursday:** Hg 1:1-8/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b/Lk 9:7-9

**Friday:** Hg 2:1-9/Ps 43:1, 2, 3, 4/Lk 9:18-22

**Saturday:** Zec 2:5-9, 14-15a/Jer 31:10, 11-12ab, 13/Lk 9:43b-45



# OLMC High School Youth Group

## September Meetings

Our meetings take place in the church  
basement from 1 - 3

21: Back to School BBQ: "Survivor  
Games"

There will be delicious food, campfire, and relay  
games to kick off the new school year.



RSVP here:

Questions or ideas you would like to  
share? I would love to hear from you!

[Jennifer.emanuele@ourladyofmtcarmel.org](mailto:Jennifer.emanuele@ourladyofmtcarmel.org)

## October Meetings

Our meetings take place in the church  
basement from 1 - 3

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.

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.



WHERE & WHEN can find a Joyful Again! retreat?

Retreats are held **throughout** the year at several Chicagoland parishes, as well as other facilities.

Participants leave after Saturday's session and return on Sunday morning. Occasionally, the program is held at a facility with private overnight accommodations.

### WEEKEND/WEEKDAY SCHEDULE

See a complete calendar at:  
[www.joyfulagain.org/retreat](http://www.joyfulagain.org/retreat) Saturday/  
 Wednesday Sunday/Thursday 8:45 a.m.  
 to 7:30 p.m. 8:45 a.m. to 3:15 p.m.

Please plan to stay for the entire program.

For further information please call 708-354-7211  
 Website: [www.joyfulagain.org](http://www.joyfulagain.org)



## Downers Grove RECYCLING EXTRAVAGANZA

Saturday, October 4, 2025

9:00AM-12:00PM

Belmont Train Station - Parking Lot H

Enter via Chase Ave (if coming from Belmont, turn west on Curtiss)  
 5000 Belmont Road, Downers Grove

- Electronics (**pay in advance: [recycling.eworksesi.org](http://recycling.eworksesi.org)**), textiles
- ON-SITE document shredding
- Bicycles, tricycles, accessories, helmets, pumps, etc
- Latex & oil paint (**for a fee-pay onsite**), aerosol cans
- Books, keys, crayons, Christmas lights, bread tags, CDs & DVDs...
- Medical equipment - walkers, wheelchairs, crutches, nebulizers, ...
- Medicine, expired pills, epipens, lancets, syringes (**in safe container**)
- Eyeglasses, sunglasses, hearing aids
- Soccer uniforms and gear in good condition
- Furniture for Sharing Connections: dressers, tables, chairs, end tables, coffee tables
- Non-perishable food & diapers for West Suburban Food Pantry

Sponsored by:



With support from:



## NexTrex

### NexTrex Recycling Challenge

*Our Lady of Mt. Carmel hopes to collect more than 1,000 pounds of soft film plastics and packaging (which are hard to recycle plastics) in the next 12-month span, to obtain a Trex® furniture bench made by recycling these materials. The box for collecting plastics will be kept near the entrance to our church.*



Trex Bench

**\*\*PLEASE NO; FOOD ITEMS, NAPKINS, PAPER, HARD PLASTIC, PET BAGS THAT CONTAIN MEAT\*\***

### What can be recycled?

*All plastic must be clean, dry and free of food residue.*



Grocery bags



Bread bags



Bubble wrap



Dry cleaning bags



Newspaper sleeves



Ice bags



Plastic shipping envelopes



Ziploc & other reclosable food storage bags



Cereal bags



Case overwrap



Salt bags



Pellet wrap & stretch film



Wood pellet bags



Produce bags





## *RE News...*

Even though RE has started, registration is still open. It's not too late to register for RE. We still have room in most sessions. Contact the RE office for more information.

### *Thank-You!*

We have had so many new people step up to help our youngest Parishioners learn about their faith and we just wanted to say thank you! Without your help, our program would not happen. You are truly a great blessing.

While we have had more parents step up to help us out, we also have a few classes that are a bit too full, so we need to open another session. Please prayerfully consider helping us out at one of the following sessions:

Right now, we are looking for catechists in the following sessions:

Sunday 9:00- 6th  
(But we could use more to set up  
third classrooms as needed)  
Monday 5:00- 5<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup>  
Monday 7:00-7<sup>th</sup>

If you are not available all the time, consider signing up as a substitute or a retreat leader. We offer seasonal retreats as well as grade level retreats throughout the year. We still need office help, parking lot attendants, and hallway monitors.

Please remember that all volunteers with children or vulnerable adults do need to be compliant with our Safe Environment policies.

Current volunteers, please contact Sherry to see what you may need.

### *First Communion Parent Meeting*

This is just a brief note to Save the date for our meeting on Tuesday, September 23 at 7:00 PM. You will receive your materials to begin First Holy Communion preparation at home. This meeting is for parents only. We will start in the church. If you have any questions, please call the RE office at 630-963-3053 X 3

### *Questions of the Week*

**Question for Children:** Clothes, food, toys all cost money. How do you keep your faith more important than money?

**Question for Youth:** The Gospel tells us that money can get in the way of serving God. How can you use all that you have (possessions, money, time, talent) to serve God?

**Question for Adults:** Money is an important part of modern life. Suggest one or two ways you can keep the need for money in balance with your faith.

### *Activity of the Week*

For the evening prayer this week, remember to pray for government leaders. Remind your family of the responsibility we all have to pray for those who are in charge of our civic well-being.

### *Notes for Parents*

RE is now back in full swing! We are still taking registrations so no worries if you are a little late. Thank you to all who have stepped up to help us bring the faith alive to the students in RE!

We will have "Getting To Know You" for our catechists and parents. Parents, you can meet your child's catechist and learn a bit more about what happens in any particular grade. The dates are as listed:

**Week 3: September 21 & 22-1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade parents will meet.**

**Week 4: September 28-29-2<sup>nd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade parents will meet.**

**Week 5: October 5 & 6 -4<sup>th</sup> grade parents will meet.** This will also be our Reconciliation Meeting for Grade 4.

### *6<sup>th</sup> Grade Retreat-Sat., Sept. 27*

We are sprinting through Salvation History! We will start with Mass at 9:00 AM, have a light breakfast and then learn about the Patriarchs, Judges, Kings, Prophets, and of course Jesus. Call the RE office for more info.

Next week Monday 9/22 and Tuesday 9/23 the parking lot will be resurfaced and lines repainted. It will cause some disruption to the routine. They will be doing the upper lot on Monday, which should not conflict too much. However on Tuesday, the lower lot will be done. The Frontage Road entrance will be closed and no one can park on the lower lot. Everyone will have to use the Bailey road service entrance and park on the upper lot. They will leave a path so that we can walk from the upper lot to the Church. The food pantry will be closed on Tuesday.



### REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN

#### NAMI Family to Family

A free 8-week educational course  
for adult family members (18+)  
and others who have  
adult loved ones (18+)  
with a mental illness.

DATE: Tuesdays, September 9, 2025 – October 28, 2025

TIME: 6:30 PM – 9:00 PM

WHERE: Our Lady of Mount Carmel  
Contact Lori Prado for information  
lori.prado@ourladyofmtcarmel.org

COST: FREE

TO REGISTER, GO TO [NAMIDUPAGE.ORG](https://namidupage.org)

-Click on Family Services, and click on Educational Courses for Families



### **Saturday, September 20, 4:30PM**

John Pawlak (Family)

Arlene Brescia (Donatello Family)

### **Sunday, September 21**

**8:15AM** Roy Randich (Jim & Ida)

Tom Farrell (Mary Fran)

**10:00AM** Ann Pizzuto (Gloria & Ed Burjek)

Dan Belford-17th anniv (Family)

Constance Considine (Patti & Donna)

**Noon** Fr. Mike O'Keefe-living

(Jankowski & Westwater Families)

Sandra Cavello (Niece)

### **Monday, September 22, 9:00AM**

Frances Carioto (Granddaughter)

### **Tuesday, September 23, 9:00AM**

Dale Brunsen (Frank & Fran Modelski)

Brian Monahan (Family)

### **Wednesday, September 24, 9:00AM**

Parishioners of OLMC

### **Thursday, September 25, 9:00AM**

Lori Belgio (Family)

### **Friday, September 26, 9:00AM**

Chad Marchigiani (Family)

Pablo Rosete-23rd anniv (Josie)

### **Saturday, September 27, 9:00AM**

Elena Sorquia (Sy Family)

Donald Antikauskas (Wife Evelyn)

