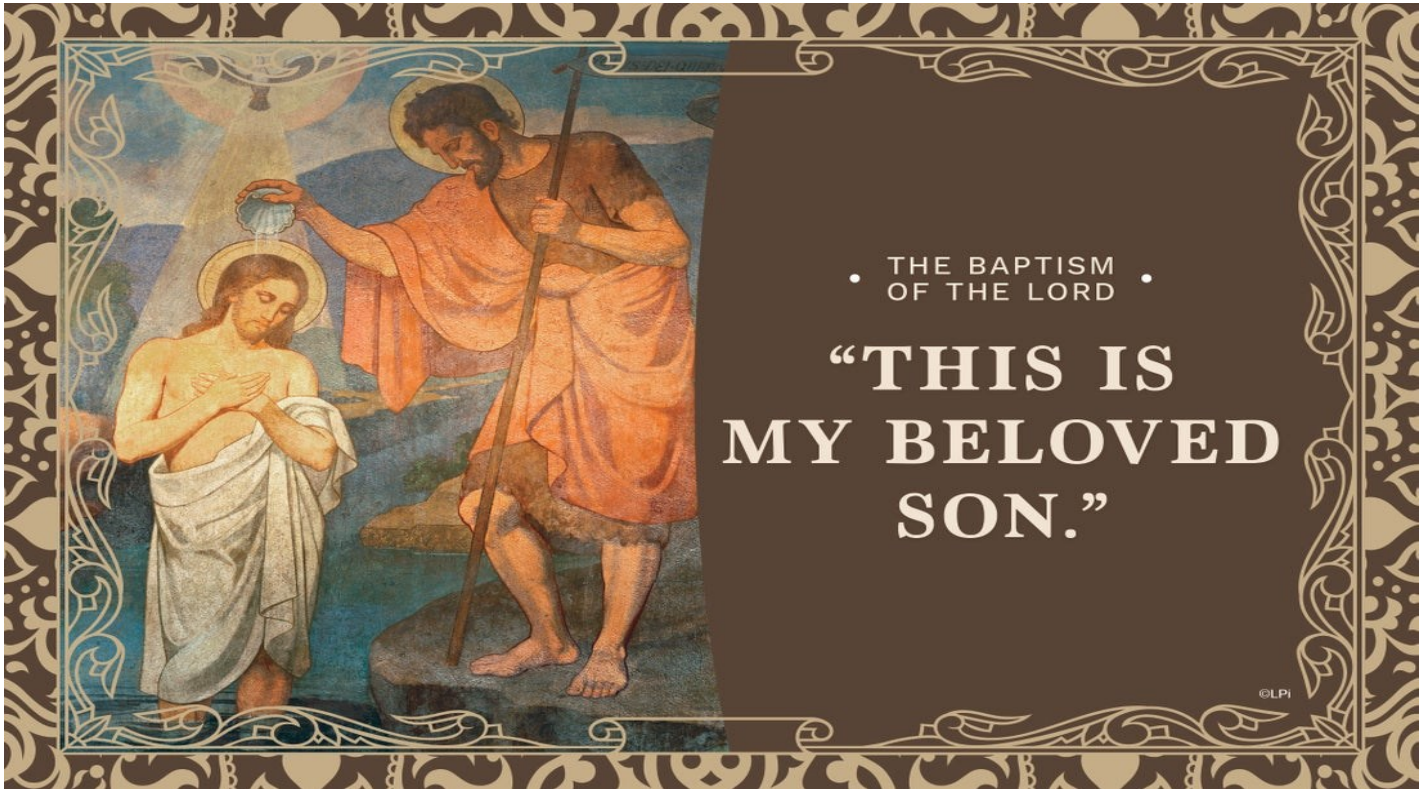


Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish

September 29, 2025 † Twenty-sixth 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

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

Priest In residence

Deacon Ed Ptacek

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Complacency is that feeling of contentment, satisfaction and not really feeling like you need to work or improve. It is one of the most dangerous things in our lives. Coaches are always yelling at athletes to never to be complacent. The Bears don't have to worry about that, but we do. It is because of the fact that you are doing well, that you can't let your guard down. When you are on top, that is the time to double down and work even harder. The examples of sports teams that fell apart are endless. In the business world the examples of corporations that went out of business are endless. At least part of the reason for business failures of once successful groups might be complacency. How many former shopping or department stores are out there, it is a list a mile long, Marshall Field, Montgomery ward, Sears, Zayre, Venture, just to name a few of the stores I remember shopping at as a kid that are no longer in business. Now, there are many economic and demographic factors at work, but perhaps also complacency. We have our little niche, our little market share and that is enough. Then suddenly, another store comes along that is doing it bigger and better than you. The sad part is when complacency creeps into our spiritual lives. It is easy to do. I am an ok person. Hey maybe I am not the best, but at least I am not the worst. I try to do good and go through the motions and do the minimal. I am happy with my own little world; it is safe and comfortable. I don't need to do anything more. That is exactly the wrong mindset. The prophet Amos gives the people a tongue lashing about being spiritually complacent. Woe to you the complacent in Zion. That is not something anyone wants to hear. The complacent will be the first ones sent into exile.

The Gospel is that great story of Lazarus and the rich young man. The problem there is also one of complacency. The man begs to send an angel back to my brothers so that they may not follow the same path. Abraham tells him no, they have the prophets, don't be complacent. We do not have the fortune to be complacent. Did you know that in the world 3 people die each second, 180 people in a minute, 259,000 die each day. 94, 600,000 a year. No, my friends, we do not have the luxury of being complacent any longer.

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

*From the
Pastor's
Desk*



Readings for the week of September 28, 2025

Sunday: Am 6:1a, 4-7/Ps 146:7, 8-9, 9-10 (1b)/1 Tm 6:11-16/Lk 16:19-31

Monday: Dn 7:9-10, 13-14 or Rv 12:7-12ab/Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 4-5/Jn 1:47-51

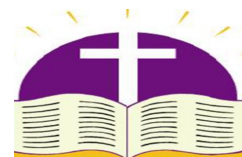
Tuesday: Zec 8:20-23/Ps 87:1b-3, 4-5, 6-7/Lk 9:51-56

Wednesday: Neh 2:1-8/Ps 137:1-2, 3, 4-5, 6/Lk 9:57-62

Thursday: Neh 8:1-4a, 5-6, 7b-12 (458)/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11/Mt 18:1-5, 10

Friday: Bar 1:15-22/Ps 79:1b-2, 3-5, 8, 9/Lk 10:13-16

Saturday: Bar 4:5-12, 27-29/Ps 69:33-35, 36-37/Lk 10:17-24



OLMC High School Youth

October Meetings

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

5: Carlos Acutis: Roadmap to Reality Viewing Party * 8th

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.



“Because you were there, I changed my mind. I was looking for a sign from God”... and Baby David was born!

You can be that sign from God! Join us to pray for moms and their babies during a 40 day prayer vigil. Select the same hour to pray each week or different hours whenever you can. Or if you can't join us on site during this Fall season, pray from home.

When: Wednesday, September 24 to Sunday, November 2
8AM to 5PM daily (Sundays optional)
Location: Access Health Center 1700 W. 75th St., Downers Grove

Sign up anytime online at:
www.40daysforlife.com/downersgrove
Click on “Log in/Signup” then “Register”

The Food Pantry's current needs are:

Clean paper grocery bags
Toilet Paper, Paper Towels,
Kleenex

Feminine Products
Diapers and wipes
Coffee, 1 lb bags or cans

*Thank you for your support of
this ministry!!*



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**), 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.



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.

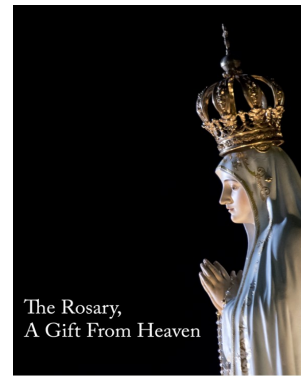
Help Wanted

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 &

Monday 5:00- 7th

We also need office help, parking lot attendants, hallway monitors, substitutes, and occasional or seasonal help for various retreats.



Notes for Parents

"Getting To Know You" sessions continue. See the schedule for your child's grade below.

Week 4: September 28-29-2nd and 5th grade parents will meet.

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

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."

Colors of the World Mission Rosary

Green symbolizes the forests and grasslands of Africa.

Blue represents the oceans surrounding the islands of the Pacific and all the nations of Oceania.

White symbolizes Europe, home of the Holy Father, shepherd of the world.

Red recalls the fire of faith that brought the first missionaries to the Americas.

Yellow is for the morning light of the East, symbolizing Asia and the Middle East.

To pray the World Mission Rosary, reflect on each area of the world according to the particular color bead at the time you announce each mystery.

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!

Questions of the Week

Question for Children: Jesus teaches us to share what we have with others. What do you have that you are able to share?

Question for Youth: The Gospel story tells us that we are judged by what we do or don't do for the poor and needy. How are you currently reaching out to those in need? What more could you do?

Question for Adults: What choices can you or have you made to balance your own life with those who are homeless, poor and in need of assistance for daily living? How does this Gospel reading inform you about that?

Activity of the Week

As a family, make plans to do one activity in the coming weeks that shows your responsibility to the poor and needy. You might volunteer to work in a local soup kitchen or food pantry, or assist such service organizations as Habitat for Humanity. Other possibilities include organizing a food drive at your church or volunteering to mentor young children at a school or after school program in your community. After you have completed your project or activity, talk about how you as a family can continue to care for the poor and needy on an ongoing basis.

What's Happening in RE

Hello Parents! We have been having a lot of fun as we kick off our new year. Over the past few weeks, we have learned a little bit about each other as we are getting to know each other more and more. We are praying for each other too. In addition, most of our students learned about the Kerygma or the most basic parts of Jesus' story that the disciples believed were the most important.

October moves us to the Season of Creation and many of our classes will continue to learn how wonderfully made we all are. Thank you for bringing your children to our RE Program!

The members of the Knights of Columbus Council #3738 would like to thank Father Jeff and the entire OLMC Parish Community for their outpouring of support of our annual Intellectual Disabilities (ID) / Tootsie Roll Drive at the weekend masses of September 13th & 14th. We raised over \$2,600.00 for this worthy cause because of your overwhelming generosity. A very heartfelt thank you to all.

*Thank
you!*

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 27, 4:30PM

Dorie Bescia (Family)

Ann Pond (McMahon Family)

Sunday, September 28

8:15AM Arlene Brescia (Ostrowski Family)

10:00AM Ruperto Acosta (Family)

Phil Gurgone (Family)

Arlene Brescia (Dolores Gurgone)

Noon Nancy Hovanec (Family)

Shirley Radom (Family)

Monday, September 29, 9:00AM

Paul Knight-1st anniv (Tyrell Family)

Winnie Mannion (Mary Ceh & Joseph Cep)

Michael Sislow Jr. (Mom & Jerry)

Angelina Parinas (Levita)

Tuesday, September 30, 9:00AM

John Benish (Family)

Wednesday, October 1, 9:00AM

Peggy Lattney (Pat Monahan)

John Benish (Family)

Rudy Smrz (Wife)

Ken Bala-6th anniv (Family)

Thursday, October 2, 9:00AM

John Benish (Family)

Al Meacham (Family)

Eileen Clune (Ellen Benish)

Friday, October 3, 9:00AM

Ann Pizzuto (Gloria & Ed Burjek)

John Anderson-12th anniv (Wife Irene)

Saturday, October 4, 9:00AM

David Lombardi (Pat Monahan)

Benedicto Tutor (Andrea Tutor)

