



OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL

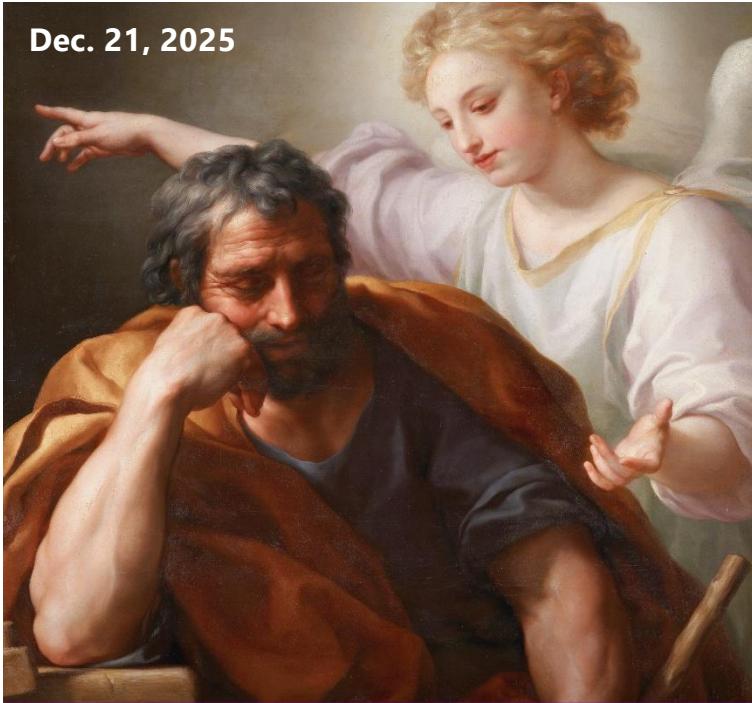
CATHOLIC CHURCH & SCHOOL

300 Fulton Street, Redwood City, CA 94062

Phone: (650) 366-3802 Fax: (650) 366-1421

PARISH CENTER HOURS - Monday-Friday **now from 8:30AM-4:00PM**, break from 12PM-1PM

Dec. 21, 2025



4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

"She will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." - Mt 1:21

"Dará a luz un hijo y tú le pondrás el nombre de Jesús, porque él salvará a su pueblo de sus pecados". - Mt 1, 21

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.
Lectionario I ©1976 Comisión Episcopal de Pastoral Litúrgica de la Conferencia del Episcopado Mexicano.



(Sept. 19, 1957 – Dec. 10, 2025)
May the soul of
Msgr. Romulo "Loi" Vergara,
rest in peace. Amen.

We are still accepting Poinsettias for our Christmas Season decorations.

You may leave them at the vestibule.
Thank you very much.



No CONFESSIONS on **Dec. 27th**
(Saturday)

Fourth Advent Candle/Sunday: Love

"And in the end, everything else will turn out to be unimportant and inessential, except for this: Father, Child, and Love." – St. (Pope) John Paul II

*The fourth candle of Advent represents **Love**, the ultimate love of God that He might send His only Son for us. Called the "**Angel's Candle**," the fourth candle of Advent is lit the Sunday before Christmas, and it is the color **purple**, leading us to eagerly await the new Kingdom of God on earth.*

(hallow app)

PARISH MASSES & LITURGIES

DAILY MASS:	Monday - Saturday, 8:15 AM
SATURDAY VIGIL MASS:	5:00 PM - English
SUNDAY MASSES:	8:00 AM, 10:00 AM - English; 12:00 PM - Español
1st FRIDAY Devotion:	Eucharistic Adoration follows the 8:15 AM Mass
CONFESIONS:	Saturdays, 3:30 PM - 4:30 PM
ANOINTING OF THE SICK, FUNERAL SERVICES or HOUSE BLESSING:	Please call the Parish Center to set an appointment.
BAPTISM - Monthly:	Second Saturday: 10:00 AM - English El cuarto sábado: 10:00 AM - Español Please call at least 2 months prior to the approved date of baptism.
QUINCEAÑERA MASS:	Saturdays at 12 noon. Subject to availability. Please call at least 5 months prior to the approved date of the Mass. Suggested donation is \$500. Stipend for a musician is a separate fee and it depends on availability. Initial deposit required to reserve the date. Our Hall is not available for receptions.
MARRIAGE:	Saturdays at 12 noon. Subject to availability. Please call at least 6 months prior to the approved date of the wedding. Suggested donation is \$700. Stipend for a musician is a separate fee and it depends on availability. Initial deposit required to reserve the date. Our Hall is not available for receptions.

CLERGY

Administrator: *Rev. Fr. Andy De Guzman*
Hospital Chaplain: *Rev. Fr. Ernie Jandonero*
Deacon: *Rev. Mr. Raymond Smith*
Deacon: *Rev. Mr. Ricardo Escobar*

adeguzman@mountcarmel.org
frerniej@sfhealingandprayer.com
rsmith@mountcarmel.org
rescobar@mountcarmel.org

LAY STAFF

Parish Secretary: *Luke Mulhall*
Director, Liturgy: *Maria Cornell*
Director, Religious Ed: *Magdalena Hernandez*
OCIA: *Rev. Mr. Raymond Smith*
Confirmation: *Johanna Rasmussen*
Music Cantors: *Kristen Lapinig & Leodan Guerra*
School Principal: *Jennifer Bruzzone*

lmulhall@mountcarmel.org	(650) 366-3802
mcornell@mountcarmel.org	(650) 446-5802
mhernandez@mountcarmel.org	(650) 368-8237
rsmith@mountcarmel.org	(650) 366-3802
jrasmussen@mountcarmel.org	(650) 366-3802
jbruzzone@mountcarmel.org	(650) 366-6127



Pray for our departed parishioners
May they rest in peace
AMEN.



Adoration Chapel
*Open Sundays through Saturdays
from 9am to 9pm*

Community prayer for all the sick at the Church every **2nd Tues of the month** at 7pm.

Clergy Message

The Fourth Sunday of Advent invites us to quiet our hearts and remember that Jesus is near. We wait with hope and joy, confident that God is coming to be with us.

In our reading from Isaiah, God speaks to Ahaz, king of Judah. Ahaz was unfaithful, worshiping false gods—even to the point of sacrificing his own son. When God invited him to ask for a sign, Ahaz replied, “I will not tempt the Lord.” In truth, he had already decided to rely on foreign alliances rather than trust in God.

In response, Isaiah proclaimed that God himself would give a sign: “A virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall name him Emmanuel.” Ahaz’s rejection of God’s authority would lead to Judah’s eventual exile, yet God’s plan could not be thwarted.

Remarkably, this prophecy is fulfilled in Mary. She opens her heart to God’s word when the Angel Gabriel announces God’s plan: “Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. Let it be to me according to your word.” Ahaz said, “I will not ask.” Mary said, “Let it be done.” Which voice will we echo this Advent?

In our Gospel reading, we see Joseph’s a righteous response to the Lord: “When Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took his wife into his home.”

Advent calls us to choose trust over self-reliance. While we may be tempted to go our own way, like Ahaz, let us instead follow Mary and Joseph’s example in saying yes to God’s will. Through Emmanuel, God is always with us. When we trust Him, we discover that the sign is not only given, it is living among us, dwelling in our homes and hearts.

El cuarto domingo de Adviento nos invita a calmar nuestro corazón y recordar que Jesús está cerca. Esperamos con esperanza y alegría, confiados en que Dios viene a estar con nosotros.

En la lectura de P. Isaías, Dios habla con Ajaz, rey de Judá. Ajaz fue infiel, adorando a dioses falsos—incluso hasta el punto de sacrificar a su propio hijo. Cuando Dios lo invitó a pedir una señal, Ajaz respondió: “No tentaré al Señor”. En verdad, él ya había decidido confiar en alianzas extranjeras en lugar de confiar en Dios.

En la respuesta, Isaías proclamó que Dios mismo daría una señal: «La virgen concebirá y dará a luz a un hijo, y lo llamará Emmanuel.» El rechazo de Ajaz de la autoridad de Dios llevaría al eventual exilio de Judá, sin embargo, el plan de Dios no podría ser frustrado.

Sorprendentemente, esta profecía se cumple en La Virgen. Ella abre su corazón a la palabra de Dios cuando el ángel Gabriel anuncia el plan de Dios: “He aquí, yo soy la sierva del Señor. Hágase en mí según tu palabra”. Acaz dijo: «No voy a preguntar». María dijo: «Hágase». ¿Qué voz diremos este Adviento?

En la lectura del Evangelio, vemos la respuesta justa de San José al Señor: “Cuando José despertó de aquel sueño, hizo lo que le había mandado el ángel del Señor y recibió a su esposa.”

El Adviento nos llama a elegir la confianza sobre la autosuficiencia. Aunque podamos ser tentados a seguir nuestro propio camino, como Ajaz, sigamos el ejemplo de María y José al decir SI a la voluntad de Dios. A través de Emmanuel, Dios siempre está con nosotros. Cuando confiamos en Él, descubrimos que la señal no solo se da, sino que vive entre nosotros, habitando en nuestros hogares y corazones.

Deacon Ray

Archdiocesan Annual Appeal

Parish GOAL:

\$72,983

Collected donations:

\$54,230

(As of 12/12/25)

Balance due (until December):

\$18,753

Donation envelopes are in the vestibule.

If you wish to make donations online,
please use this website:

<https://sfarchdiocese.org/aaa/#aaa-donate>



2nd Collection: Dec. 7 - Facility Repair & Improvements Dec. 14 - Religious Education
Dec. 21 - **Liturgy Fund** Dec. 25 – Christmas Offering Dec. 28 – AAA

Registration: If you are new in our community, welcome! [Register at: mountcarmelrc.org/registration](https://mountcarmelrc.org/registration)
Registered parishioners may also update their information on the website.

GO PAPERLESS! Our weekly bulletin is also available online @
<https://parishesonline.com/organization/our-lady-of-mount-carmel-church-94062>
<https://www.mountcarmelrc.org/>

The 2nd collection this Sunday is for **Liturgy Fund**

Thank you very much for your generosity.

Mental Health Ministry

Call: Maria Koenigsberg @
(650) 366-3802
Or email us at:
olmcmentalhealthministry@gmail.com

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Sat., Dec. 20

5:00 PM

Lisa Marie Lombardi

Sun., Dec. 21

8:00 AM

† Huan Phan

10:00 AM

† Nestor Tordilla

12:00 PM

† Erick Perez

Weekdays at 8:15 AM

Mon., Dec. 22

† Marie Imelda Pham & Joseph Tam

Tues., Dec. 23

† Camille Torres

Wed., Dec. 24

† Julie Salas

(4:00pm)

† Jose Rodriguez

(9:00pm)

† Jennifer Garcia

† Camille Torres

Thurs., Dec. 25

(10:00am)

† Jorge Luis Castaneda

(12:00pm)

† Maria & David Valdivia

Fri., Dec. 26

† Rev. Mario Matteucci

Sat., Dec. 27

† Chi Nguen



Good Grief Ministry



Call: Maryann Gonzales @

(650) 366-3802

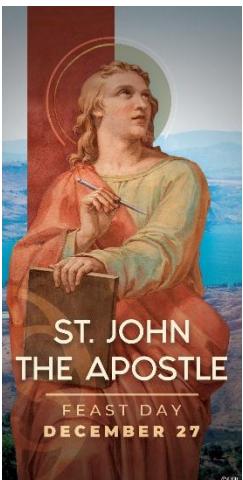
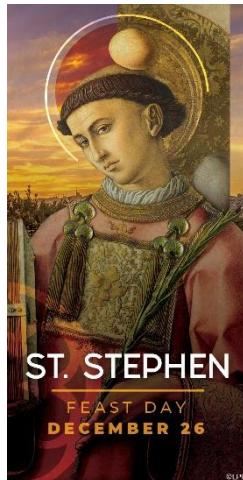
The ministry meets **every 2nd & 4th Thurs of the month 6pm** at the Parish Center.

Feast of the Week

Feast of St. Stephen, First Martyr (Dec. 26)

Feast of St. John, the Apostle (Dec. 27)

Feast of Holy Innocents (Dec. 28)



Prayers to Sts. Joseph and Mary

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary,
that never was it known
that anyone who fled to
thy protection,
implored thy help, or
sought thine
intercession was left
unaided.

Inspired by this
confidence, I fly unto
thee, O Virgin of
virgins, my mother; to
thee do I come, before
thee I stand, sinful and
sorrowful. O Mother of
the Word Incarnate,
despise not my
petitions, but in thy
mercy hear and
answer me. Amen.

**Hail, Guardian of the
Redeemer,
Spouse of the Blessed
Virgin Mary.
To you God entrusted
his only Son;
in you Mary
placed her trust;
with you Christ
became man.
Blessed Joseph,
to us too,
show yourself a father
and guide us
in the path of life.
Obtain for us grace,
mercy and courage,
and defend us
from every evil.
Amen.**

A saint for the children and youth



*Oh God, Our Father, thank you for giving us **St. Carlo Acutis**, a life example for the young and a message of love for everyone. You made him become enamored with*

Your Son Jesus, Making of the Eucharist his "Highway to Heaven". You gave him Mary, as a most loving Mother, and, with the Rosary, you made him a poet of her tenderness. Receive his prayer for us. Above all, gaze upon the poor, whom he loved and helped.

Grant for me too, by his intercession, the grace that I need ...

I ask this through Christ Our Lord. Amen

<https://www.carloacutis.com/en/association/preghiera-ufficiale>

Catechism of the Catholic Church JESUS CHRIST

452 *The name Jesus means "God saves". the child born of the Virgin Mary is called Jesus, "for he will save his people from their sins" (Mt 1:21): "there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved" (Acts 4:12).*

453 *The title "Christ" means "Anointed One" (Messiah). Jesus is the Christ, for "God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power" (Acts 10:38). He was the one "who is to come" (Lk 7:19), the object of "the hope of Israel" (Acts 28:20).*

454 *The title "Son of God" signifies the unique and eternal relationship of Jesus Christ to God his Father: he is the only Son of the Father (cf Jn 1:14, 18; 3:16, 18); he is God himself (cf Jn 1:1). To be a Christian, one must believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God (cf Acts 8:37; 1 Jn 2:23).*

455 *The title "Lord" indicates divine sovereignty. To confess or invoke Jesus as Lord is to believe in his divinity. "No one can say 'Jesus is Lord' except by the Holy Spirit" (1 Cor 12:3).*

SIMBÁNG GABÍ

December

21st Sunday 5 pm
St. Raymond Menlo Park

22nd Monday 7 pm
Nativity Menlo Park

23rd Tuesday 7 pm
Mt. Carmel Redwood City

Society of St. Vincent de Paul

Holiday Toys and Food Donations

We continue receiving food for families and toys for children who are struggling in our community during the Christmas season.



Camille Torres

For 30 years, Camille poured her heart into Our Lady of Mount Carmel School as the third-grade homeroom teacher, touching the lives of countless students and families. Generations of students were blessed by her presence, and her impact on our school community will forever be remembered. May she rest in peace. Amen

Baptism & Confirmation

The parents are the first and primary ministers of faith because of their central position during the formative years of the child's life. Through their daily contact with the child, they will share their faith and help the child discover the Father's loving presence in all creation. For this environment to exist the parents must live lives rooted in faith.

WHO MAY BE GODPARENTS?

Baptism:

1184.1 He/she is a baptized, confirmed, and active Catholic who is able to receive the sacraments.

1184.2 He/she is in frequent contact with the parents and is capable of encouraging them and their child to live the faith.

1184.3 A baptized, confirmed, and active member of the Orthodox Church may be a Godparent. In such a case an Orthodox Priest must be consulted because of ecumenical considerations. Members of other Christian Churches may be Christian witnesses to the Baptism.

Confirmation:

1243.1 Sponsors: The ordinary practice is that there be individual sponsors for each candidate being confirmed. It is desirable that the Godparent at Baptism be the sponsor at Confirmation to better express the relationship between Baptism and Confirmation. Parents may present their children for Confirmation and in this way be sponsor. The sponsor for any candidate may be male or female.

1243.2 Pastors will see that the sponsor, chosen by the candidate, is spiritually qualified for the office. The sponsor should be sufficiently mature for this role, belong to the Catholic Church and have been initiated in the three Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and the Eucharist. The sponsor should also be a person of faith, actively participating in the life of the Church, especially by receiving the Eucharist regularly.

1243.3 The sponsor should be of an age and living proximity that will enable the sponsor to be present to the candidate as he/she grows in the life of faith. The custom of having proxy sponsors for someone who is and who will continue to be separated by long distances from the candidate is discouraged.

(from Archdiocese of San Francisco website)

<https://sfparishconnect.com/docs/sacraments/>

SPECIAL LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS

Dec. 24 (Wed.)

8:15am – English Mass of the Day

4pm – English Mass (Christmas Vigil)

9pm – Bilingual Mass (Christmas Night Mass)

Dec. 25 (Thu.)

Christmas Day

10am – English Mass

12nn – Spanish Mass

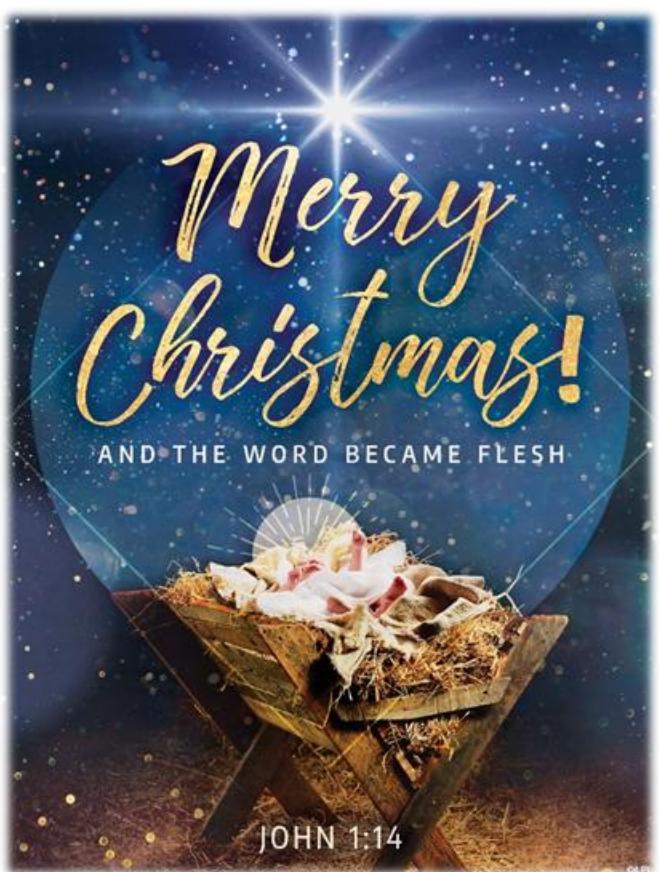
Jan. 1 (Thu.)

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

A holy day of obligation

10am – English Mass

12nn – Spanish Mass



Our Lady of
Mount Carmel School
PS, TK, K-8

A Standard of Excellence.

Our rigorous, Catholic education prepares students for a lifetime of academic success.

APPLICATIONS OPEN
FOR 2026-2027
SCHOOL YEAR

LEARN MORE

📞 (650) 366-6127
✉️ info@mountcarmel.org
📍 301 Grand Street
Redwood City, CA

🌐 www.school.mountcarmel.org
✉️ @olmcpadres
📍 @mountcarmelschool



“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

(Jn. 3:16-17)

