

the catholic community of
OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL



Volume 10, Issue 51: December 17, 2023

Third Sunday of Advent



Christmas Masses

Sunday, December 24, 2023 (Christmas Eve)

Mass Times – 4 PM, 6 PM, 12 MIDNIGHT (Prelude Concert begins at 11:30 PM)

Monday, December 25, 2023 (Christmas Day)

Mass Times – 10 AM & 12 NOON



Masses

Daily

Monday – Saturday 8:30 AM

Weekends

Saturday 5:00 PM

Sunday 8:00 AM, 10:00 AM, 12:00 NOON

Holy Days

As announced.

Sacraments

The Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday 4:00 – 4:30 PM, or by appointment.

Please call the Church Office to arrange an appointment.

The Sacrament of Baptism

The second Sunday of each month, except during Lent.

Please arrange for Baptism at least two months in advance.

The Sacrament of Marriage

Please make an appointment with a priest or deacon at least one year in advance.

The Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick

Please call the Church Office to request a visit.

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Mission Statement

“We are the Roman Catholic Community of
Our Lady of Mount Carmel based in Tenafly, New Jersey.
Our mission is the promotion of the holiness of life through
the celebration of the Sacraments, the sharing of the Gospel
and the promotion of Catholic values.

We offer pastoral care through ministries that provide
education, healing, spiritual growth and social outreach
in the Carmelite tradition.”



*“No matter who you are, no matter what you’ve done,
no matter where you’re from, no matter where you’re going,
no matter how good or bad things seem,
you are always welcome.”*

Staff Directory

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TODAY'S GOSPEL MESSAGESunday, December 17th

John 1:6-8, 19-28

A man named John was sent from God. He came for testimony, to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to testify to the light. And this is the testimony of John. When the Jews from Jerusalem sent priests and Levites to him to ask him, "Who are you?" he admitted and did not deny it, but admitted, "I am not the Christ. . . I baptize with water; but there is one among you whom you do not recognize, the one who is coming after me, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to untie."

Reflection

"May we be as bold as John the Baptist, who testified to the light but declared that he himself was not the light. May we bear witness to the light by directing it upon the darkneses in our world, producing glimmers of goodness."

SOURCE: *Pastoral Patterns*, Winter 2023-2024**DAILY READINGS FOR THE WEEK****Monday** Jeremiah 23:5-8; Matthew 1:18-25**Tuesday** Judges 13:2-7, 24-25a; Luke 1:5-25**Wednesday** Isaiah 7:10-14; Luke 1:26-38**Thursday** Song of Songs 2:8-14; Luke 1:39-45**Friday** 1 Samuel 1:24-28; Luke 1:46-56**Saturday** Malachi 3:1-4, 23-24; Luke 1:57-66

**"The Advent mystery is
the beginning of the end
of all in us
that is not yet Christ."**

-Thomas Merton



**Fr. Richard, OLMC Staff,
and the
Parish Advisory Board
invite you to celebrate
*Christmas at Carmel!***

Check out the pages in this bulletin for ways to celebrate the beautiful seasons of Advent and Christmas here at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church!

Share the Warmth, Spread the Love

Simbang Gabi

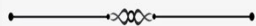
Advent Parish Penance Service

Christmas Eve Prelude Concert

Christmas Masses



MASSES FOR THE WEEK



MONDAY, DECEMBER 18th

8:30 Katherine DiPasquale
Requested by The Sposa Family

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19th

8:30 Nicolo Tarabocchia
Requested by Lino & Marianne Picinic

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20th

8:30 Felix Miguel
Requested by The Hellman Family

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21st

8:30 Joan Roeser
Requested by Kerry Downing

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22nd

8:30 Primo Fineza
Requested by The Fineza Family

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23rd

8:30 Flora Armendi
Requested by Her Family

5:00 Gean Thurner (Birthday Remembrance)
Requested by Her Family

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24th

8:00 Peggy & Chuck Martini

10:00 Mary Gilchrist
Requested by Maureen



*Let us pray for the needs of
the following individuals:*

Carmelo Abbruzzesi	Dikeledi Machaka
Lorna Asuncion	Catherine Marchiona
Brian Bingman	Aria Marrero
Angie Bracconeri	June Miller
Dave Clemens	David Mobley
Tom Cooke	Aaron Monteagudo
Sr. Pat Coyle	Joseph Pae
Sereno Danese	Anastasia Pavur
Denise de Almeida	Meredith Sajdak
James Dockery	John Salvatore
Rachel Durso	Vita Santulli
Corazon E. Evora	Eufrocina Sarreal Paredes
Deacon Lex Ferraiola	Jason Scalora
Cynthia Fineza	Kathleen Selinka Dragon
Terri Giovannone	Margaret Sullivan
Rose Guillen	Roger Sullivan
Michael Kashmer	Betty Supple
Luca Kashmer Floridis	Jocelyn Talla
Kellish Family	Rosario Ugarte
Evan G. Kellish	Diana Valencia
Adam Kokosinski	Sara Van Horne
Charles Machaka	

Please call the Church Office at 201-568-0545 to remove a name from the prayer list or to add someone to the

THE BREAD AND WINE

This week the Bread and Wine are in memory of
Josefina Fineza
requested by The Fineza Family.



THE SANCTUARY LAMP

This week the Sanctuary Lamp is in memory of
The Deceased Members of the Puccio Family
requested by The Antonucci Family.



REST IN PEACE

Please remember in your prayers
Paul Hamel (father of Diane Triolo) and all the
military men and women who have died this week.

Mass Schedule

December 23-24 & Christmas Masses

Regular Weekend Masses (Dec. 23-24)

5 PM, 8 AM & 10 AM

There is no 12 NOON Mass on Dec. 24.

Christmas Eve Masses (Dec. 24)

4 PM, 6 PM, & 12 MIDNIGHT

Prelude concert begins at 11:30 PM.

Christmas Day Masses (Dec. 25)

10 AM & 12 NOON

There is no 8 AM Mass on Christmas Day.



O Antiphons

The Roman Church has been singing the “O Antiphons” since at least the eighth century. They are the antiphons that accompany the *Magnificat* canticle of Evening Prayer from December 17-23. They are a magnificent theology that uses ancient biblical imagery drawn from the messianic hopes of the Old Testament to proclaim the coming Christ as the fulfillment not only of Old Testament hopes, but present ones as well. Their repeated use of the imperative “Come!” embodies the longing of all for the Divine Messiah.

December 17 – O Wisdom of our God Most High, guiding creation with power and love: come to teach us the path of knowledge!

December 18 – O Leader of the House of Israel, giver of the Law to Moses on Sinai: come to rescue us with your mighty power!

December 19 – O Root of Jesse’s stem, sign of God’s love for all his people: come to save us without delay!

December 20 – O Key of David, opening the gates of God’s eternal Kingdom: come and free the prisoners of darkness!

December 21 – O Radiant Dawn, splendor of eternal light, sun of justice: come and shine on those who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death.

December 22 – O King of all nations and keystone of the Church: come and save man, whom you formed from the dust!

December 23 – O Emmanuel, our King and Giver of Law: come to save us, Lord our God!

SOURCE: www.usccb.org



Share The Warmth, Spread The Love

The Parish Advisory Board is sponsoring a collection of socks, hats, gloves, and scarves for adults and children. The Palumbo family, parishioners of OLMC, will be distributing the items on Christmas Eve at The Hoboken Shelter. Donations should be placed in the bin located in the elevator lobby. **Donations are due by this Sunday, December 17th.** Thank you for your kindness and generosity.

DEC. 17

Come join us!
for Simbang Gabi at
Our Lady of Mount Carmel (OLMC)

Sunday, December 17, 2023
4:00pm

Food served after mass in church cafeteria

Malagayang Pasko

Advent Parish Penance Service

St. Thérèse of Lisieux Church
120 Monroe Avenue, Cresskill

Monday, December 18th at 7 PM

Everyone is invited.

“**Advent** is the season
for remembering the closeness
of God who came down to dwell
in our midst.”

—Pope Francis

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Come help decorate for
CHRISTMAS!

**Saturday, December 23rd
following the 8:30 A.M. Mass**

You are invited to decorate
our altar and church for Christmas.
Please RSVP to Rosemary Russell at
rosemaryrussell@gmail.com.



Make a purchase at Metropolitan Plant & Flower Exchange valued at \$50 or more and Metropolitan will donate \$10 to Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, Tenafly.

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**“The Advent season is a time
of preparation that directs our hearts and
minds to Christ’s second coming at the end of
time and to the anniversary of Our Lord’s
birth on Christmas.**

From the earliest days of the Church, people have been fascinated by Jesus’ promise to come back. Our Advent readings call us to be alert and ready, not weighted down and distracted by the cares of this world (Luke 21:34-36). Like Lent, the liturgical color for Advent is purple since both are seasons that prepare us for great feast days. Advent also includes an element of penance in the sense of preparing, quieting, and disciplining our hearts for the full joy of Christmas. The *General Instruction of the Roman Missal* notes some differences to the Mass that should be observed during the season. For instance, the priest wears violet or purple during Advent, except for the Third Sunday of Advent (Gaudete Sunday) when rose may be worn.”

SOURCE: www.usccb.org



“This Moment”

by Deacon Lex Ferraiola

A moment is all that is guaranteed to any one of us. And that moment is now—this moment. The past is gone, it lives on only in our memories. Our future here on earth may or may never happen.

Our life is a tapestry of moments sewn together in a pattern created over time. The treasures that we store up within our hearts shape this pattern day by day. In the end, it could be a pattern that reflects the material possessions, credentials, and honors that we have accumulated. Or, it could be a pattern that reflects acts of love—love of God and love of others.

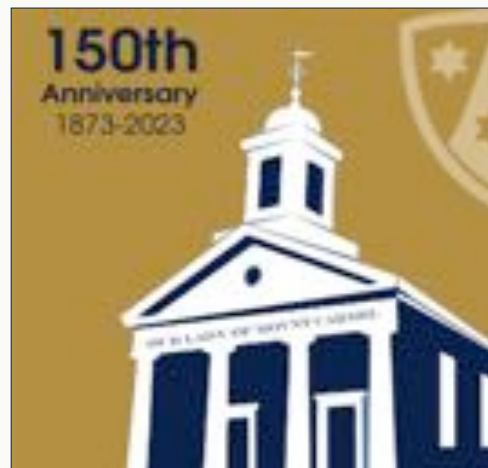
Our lives could be demanded from us this day, this night. And, if our soul were to be taken up by God, and if we were to stand side by side with him and look down at the tapestry of the life we have lived, what pattern, what treasures would we see?

We would see a pattern that reflects how well we loved God and treated others. Were we loving and caring, or bitter and angry? Were we kind and forgiving, or did we carry a grudge? Were we inclusive, non-judgmental, and accepting, or did we shut people out of our lives because they were different or didn't measure up to our moral standards? Were there family members and friends whom we locked out of our hearts because of some real or imagined slight that we can't even remember?

Each day, each moment of life that God gives us is precious. But, in any one of those moments our earthly life can suddenly come to an end. If that moment were to come today, what unfinished business would we leave behind? Death leaves us no chance to say 'goodbye'; no chance to say 'I'm sorry'; no chance to say 'I forgive you.'

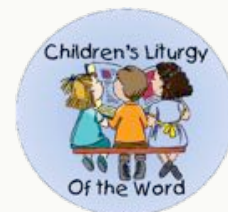
Let us not be overly concerned and anxious about material possessions, credentials, and honors. Rather, let us be rich in matters of love. Let us examine our lives and reach out with contrition where needed, and with forgiveness to those who have hurt us. Let us be instruments of healing in all the circles of our lives. Let us love and serve the Lord by loving and forgiving and serving each other.

A moment is all that is guaranteed to any one of us. And that moment is now.



OLMC Celebrates 150 Years!

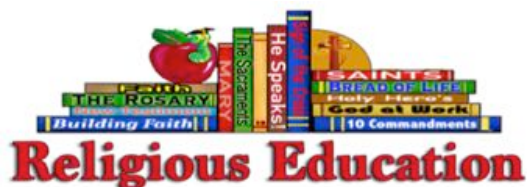
Welcome to Children's Liturgy of the Word and Coffee & Conversation!



Children's Liturgy of the Word is being offered to children in grades K–5 during the 10 A.M. Mass on Sunday, January 21st.



All are invited for Coffee & Conversation hosted by OLMC Academy to be held in the cafeteria following the 10 A.M. Mass on Sunday, January 21st. Come and take a tour of the Academy and see what we have to offer!



Class Schedule

Sunday, December 17th (8:45-9:55 AM)
 Tuesday, December 19th (3:30-4:45 PM)
 Sunday, December 24th (NO CLASS)
 Tuesday, December 26th (NO CLASS)

**“Joy springs from a grateful heart.
 Truly, we have received much,
 so many graces, so many blessings,
 and we rejoice in this.
 Perhaps we need to ask ourselves:
 Are we good at counting
 our blessings?”**

—Pope Francis

The symbolism of the Advent wreath is beautiful. The wreath of evergreens depicts the immortality of our soul and the new, everlasting life promised to us through Christ. The circle of the wreath symbolizes the eternity of God's love for us. A tradition is that each of the four candles represents one thousand years, a total of four thousand years from Adam and Eve until Christ's birth.

The third Sunday of Advent, also called Gaudete Sunday, is the Sunday of rejoicing. The light of the candles signifies Christ, the Light of the world. Some Advent wreaths have a white candle placed in the middle of the wreath, which represents Christ and is lighted on Christmas Eve.



Sacrament of Confirmation

Are you registered? If your child is in ninth grade and intends to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation this school year, please be sure to register for this sacrament. Registration can be done online at www.olmc.us. Go to 'SACRAMENTS' and 'Confirmation.'

**CONFIRMATION SESSION
 SUNDAY, January 7th
 9:00 A.M. in the Titus Room**

Please enter the building via the south parking lot
 (main Academy entrance/Clinton Avenue)
 and take the stairs down to the Titus Room.

Please contact Elliot Guerra with any questions or concerns at guerra@academyolmc.org.

Sacrament of First Reconciliation

Children in second grade are getting ready to prepare to receive the sacrament of First Reconciliation. Be sure your child is registered for this sacrament! Please continue to work with your child on the workbook that you received at last month's First Reconciliation Parent Meeting.

The celebration of First Reconciliation will take place on Saturday, January 20, 2024 at 11 AM for children whose last name begins with A-L and at 1:30 PM for children whose last name begins with M-Z.

If you have any questions, please contact the Religious Education Office at 201-871-4662 or reled@olmc.us.



Let us introduce you to the Academy staff and the programs we have to offer.

Visit our Web site at www.academyolmc.org.

Experience the OLMC Difference!

The Academy of Our Lady of Mount Carmel is an educational community with roots in the Roman Catholic faith that teaches gospel values. Within our Carmelite tradition we are dedicated to helping students see God in themselves, in each other and in the world around them. We strive to educate the whole person—intellectually, spiritually, physically, socially and emotionally—while building a strong foundation of ethical and moral ideals.



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“December is here and we find ourselves deep in the spirit of Christmas. As a Catholic school we have the privilege to enter this season with an attitude of prayer and deep reverence. Take time to breathe in and soak in some spiritual blessings this week. May God surround you and your families with much peace, love, and joy.”

—Barbara Verdonck, Principal



Family Advent Activity: Today is known as Gaudete Sunday—the Third Sunday of Advent. Today at Mass the priest will be wearing pink vestments. Light the pink candle on your Advent wreath. **Today's candle is the candle of JOY.** It symbolizes joy because we are at the midpoint of Advent and represents the joy of sharing Christ. It reminds us of the joy of the shepherds as they heard the good news of Jesus's arrival. Talk with one another about things that make you joyful. Do something today to bring joy to someone!



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**“If we wish to serve God
and love our neighbor well,
we must manifest our joy
in the service we render
to God and them.**

**Let us open wide our hearts.
It is joy which invites us.”**

—Saint Katharine Drexel



CHRISTMAS ALTAR FLOWERS

If you would like to make a donation to help with the cost of flowers that will decorate our church for Christmas, please fill out the form below. Donations may be made in memory of a loved one or for a special intention. Checks should be made payable to Our Lady of Mount Carmel and can be placed in the collection box or returned to the Church Office.

– PLEASE PRINT –

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