

# Our Lady of Mount Carmel

Sunday, April 25, 2021  
Fourth Sunday of Easter



## PARISH STAFF

Father Abuchi F. Nwosu..... Pastor  
*fatherabuchi@aol.com*  
Father Peter Oddo .....Weekend Assistant  
Deacon Anthony Barile  
Deacon Al Kucinski  
Deacon Edward Muller (retired)  
Dan Salvatore..... Coordinator of Religious Education  
Caroline Mazzola .....Secretary  
Ann Johnson .....Secretary

## PARISH OFFICE

203 Newton-Swartswood Road • Swartswood, NJ 07860  
Hours .....9:00 am - 1:00 pm  
Phone.....973-383-3566  
Fax.....973-383-3831  
Email .....*mtcarmelswartswood@gmail.com*  
Web ..... *www.olmcswartswood.org*

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OFFICE

Hours .....9:00 am - 1:00 pm  
Phone.....973-579-2355  
Email .....*olmcccd@gmail.com*

## YOUTH MINISTER

Aneesha Begraft ..... *mtcarmelyouths@gmail.com*

## DEACON AL KUCINSKI CONTACT INFORMATION

(973)383-4158 ..... *askts@ptd.net*

## KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS, Council 9920

Vincent Kornmeyer ..... Grand Knight  
*olmckofc9920@gmail.com*

## WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday ..... 5:00 pm  
Sunday ..... 7:30, 9:00 & 11:00 am

## DAILY MASSES

Monday-Saturday .....8:30 am (except Wednesday)  
Wednesday ..... 7:00 pm  
First Friday Mass ..... 2:00 pm  
@Homestead Nursing Home  
Holy Days ..... 8:30 am & 7:00 pm

## EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Monday .....9:00 am - 12:00 pm

## SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday .....4:15 - 4:45 pm

## SACRAMENTS OF BAPTISM, MARRIAGE & ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Please contact the office to arrange.

# Masses for the Week

## Saturday, April 24

ACTS 9:31-42 / JN 6:60-69

8:30 am William Long *by Eleanor Long*

5:00 pm Intentions and Healing of Donna Allison  
*by Parish Staff*

## Sunday, April 25

ACTS 4:8-12 / 1 JN 3:1-2 / JN 10:11-18

7:30 am Bill Galgano *by Patricia Cholasta*

9:00 am Norman Oravec *by Ron & Ann Johnson*

11:00 am Steve DeAngelis  
*by Marty & Mary Ann Chapkosky*

## Monday, April 26

ACTS 11:1-18 / JN 10:1-10

8:30 am Lucy Sallette *by Lucille Ambler*

## Tuesday, April 27

ACTS 11:19-26 / JN 10:22-30

8:30 am Health & Blessings of Hugh Marriott  
*by Lisa Cangelosi*

## Wednesday, April 28

ACTS 12:24—13:5A / JN 12:44-50

7:00 pm Stop the Spread of Modern Paganism  
*by Anonymous*

## Thursday, April 29 – Memorial of Saint Catherine of Siena, Virgin and Doctor of the Church

ACTS 13:13-25 / JN 13:16-20

8:30 am Intentions of Tucker Allen *by Godmother*

## Friday, April 30

ACTS 13:26-33 / JN 14:1-6

8:30 am Intentions of Andrew Johnson  
*by Ron & Ann Johnson*

## Saturday, May 1

ACTS 13:44-52 / JN 14:7-14

8:30 am Intentions of Jane Begraft  
*by Derbyshire Family*

5:00 pm Patricia Holden *by Thomas Holden*

## Sunday, May 2

ACTS 9:26-31 / 1 JN 3:18-24 / JN 15:1-8

7:30 am Deceased Members of Muller & Weissner Families  
*by Deacon Ed & Mary Lou Muller*

9:00 am Robert Miller *by Boettcher Family*

11:00 am Anthony P. Barile, Sr.  
*by Deacon Tony & Beth Barile*

### PLEASE REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING:



Ted Cassera, Fr. Angelus Croce, Stephanie Cuomo, Emma Finnegan, Henry Kochanski, John Kucinski, Linda Kucinski, Fr. Peter Oddo, Larry Domonkos, Susanne Martone, Deacon Ed Muller, George Shammas, Stephanie, Charles Sullivan, Constance VanHoven, Brooke Zaleski

### A GOOD STEWARD

#### Sunday

April 18	\$ 2,427.00
Online Giving	\$ 465.00
Campaign for	\$ 611.00
Human Development	
Online Giving	\$ 85.00

*Thank you for your generosity!*

\*Next weekend's 2<sup>nd</sup> collection is for Diocesan Assessment

*This Week the Sanctuary Lamp Burns for Frances and William Wilks*



### WOMEN AND MEN OF THE ARMED FORCES

We ask God the Father, through the intercession of St. Michael the Archangel, to protect all the men and women in our Armed Forces. May they be brought back safely to those whom they love: Capt. Jason Gieniewski,



**St. Catherine of Siena,**  
**Virgin and Doctor of the Church**

The Italian mystic St. Catherine of Siena (1347-1380) was a woman of intense prayer and close union with God. She was also active in political affairs and influenced the return of the papacy from Avignon to Rome.



The twenty-fifth child of the Benincasa family, Catherine was born in Siena. She was a cheerful, bright, and intensely religious child, who later said she had vowed her virginity to Christ at the age of 7 when she had her first vision of Him. At 13 she joined the Dominican Sisters of Penitence in Siena. By the time she was 20, Catherine had become so widely known for her personal holiness and asceticism that she attracted a group of spiritual disciples—priests and laymen, men and women.

The many letters she dictated during the next 10 years show that her interest broadened from the religious to the political affairs of the time. The city-state of Florence was at war with the Pope and was torn by opposing factions. In 1376 Catherine was persuaded to act as a mediator and bring peace to Florence. She visited Pope Gregory XI at Avignon, which had been the seat of the papacy for over half a century. Catherine believed that peace would not come to Italy until the Pope returned to Rome. Pope Gregory himself wanted to move the papacy back to Rome but he had been unable to summon sufficient courage in the face of considerable opposition from his advisers. Catherine's deep spirituality and insistent words provided just the right kind of gentle, forceful persuasion.

In 1377 the Pope returned to Rome. But he died a year later and his successor, Urban VI, was harsh, unyielding, and antagonistic. Catherine kept in touch with him, once writing, "For the love of Jesus crucified, Holy Father, soften a little the sudden movements of your temper." The Pope did not follow her advice and lost the allegiance of the cardinals. Declaring that he had not been validly elected, they returned to Avignon to elect another pope. This was the beginning of the Great Schism. Catherine was crushed, and she attempted to win the allegiance of some political leaders to Urban. Her strength failed, however, and she died in Rome on April 29, 1380, surrounded by her spiritual "children." She was canonized in 1461.

Dear Parish Family,

Christ is Risen, Alleluia!

We have shared the Lenten desert journey of fasting, prayer and almsgiving and prepared for the Resurrection of Christ and our victory over sin and death. We now celebrate the Easter season, which lasts until Pentecost Sunday. During this time, we as a parish can make the most of this special time in the liturgical year by receiving Holy Communion frequently, celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation, reading Scripture, and being witness of the Gospel to those in our lives.

Let us all share the hope that comes from the Risen Lord, today and every day.

In Christ,  
Fr. Abuchi

**Chancery eNews - Diocese of Paterson**

**Office of Vocations**

**Quo Vadis Retreat:**

"Where are You Going?" A one-day Retreat for young men, high school age (including those entering high school this fall), to help them in discerning their Vocation in Life. The day will include several talks and fun activities: zip-line, indoor rope climb, and archery. Barbeque by the Knights of Columbus, outdoor Mass celebrated by Bishop Sweeney. Music by Dan Ferrari. Please consider inviting one or two young men in your parish who might have a Vocation to the Priesthood to this one-day Retreat at Camp Shiloh in Hewitt on **Friday, June 25, 2021**. See the Website below for more information such as flyers and registration forms.

**Website:** <https://PatersonVocations.org> (Parish Resources) to Download Bulletin Ads & Flyers

**Contact:** Father Ed Rama, Vocation Director (cell) 973-997-2527  
or [Erama@Patersondiocese.org](mailto:Erama@Patersondiocese.org)

**Wine and Cheese Gathering**

The next Wine and Cheese Gathering will be Saturday, May 1 after the 5 PM Mass. There will be dishes of assorted cheeses, fruits, etc. **Wine of course!** We will follow safety standards for COVID-19. Hope to see you there!



**Fourth Sunday of Easter Readings****First Reading – Acts 4:8-12**

Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said:  
 “Leaders of the people and elders:  
 If we are being examined today  
 about a good deed done to a cripple,  
 namely, by what means he was saved,  
 then all of you and all the people of Israel should  
 know that it was in the name of Jesus Christ the  
 Nazorean whom you crucified, whom God raised  
 from the dead; in His name this man stands  
 before you healed. He is *the stone rejected by  
 you, the builders, which has become the  
 cornerstone*. There is no salvation through  
 anyone else, nor is there any other name under  
 heaven given to the human race by which we are  
 to be saved.”

**Responsorial Psalm – 118:1, 8-9, 21-23, 26, 28, 29**

**R. (22) The stone rejected by the builders has become the cornerstone.**

Give thanks to the LORD, for He is good, for His  
 mercy endures forever. It is better to take refuge  
 in the LORD than to trust in man. It is better to  
 take refuge in the LORD than to trust in princes.

**R. The stone rejected by the builders has become the cornerstone.**

I will give thanks to you, for you have answered  
 me and have been my savior. The stone which the  
 builders rejected has become the cornerstone. By  
 the LORD has this been done; it is wonderful in  
 our eyes.

**R. The stone rejected by the builders has become the cornerstone.**

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the  
 LORD; we bless you from the house of the  
 LORD. I will give thanks to you, for you have  
 answered me and have been my savior. Give  
 thanks to the LORD, for He is good; for His  
 kindness endures forever.

**R. The stone rejected by the builders has become the cornerstone.**

**Second Reading – 1 Jn 3:1-2**

Beloved:  
 See what love the Father has bestowed on us  
 that we may be called the children of God.  
 Yet so we are. The reason the world does not

know us is that it did not know Him.  
 Beloved, we are God’s children now;  
 what we shall be has not yet been revealed. We  
 do know that when it is revealed we shall be like  
 Him, for we shall see Him as He is.

**Alleluia**

**R. Alleluia, alleluia.**

I am the good shepherd, says the Lord;  
 I know my sheep, and mine know me.

**R. Alleluia, alleluia.**

**Gospel – JN 10:11-18**

Jesus said:

“I am the good shepherd.

A good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.  
 A hired man, who is not a shepherd  
 and whose sheep are not his own,  
 sees a wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs  
 away,

and the wolf catches and scatters them.

This is because he works for pay and has no  
 concern for the sheep.

I am the good shepherd,  
 and I know mine and mine know me,  
 just as the Father knows me and I know the  
 Father;

and I will lay down my life for the sheep.

I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold.  
 These also I must lead, and they will hear my  
 voice,

and there will be one flock, one shepherd.

This is why the Father loves me,  
 because I lay down my life in order to take it up  
 again.

No one takes it from me, but I lay it down on my  
 own.

I have power to lay it down, and power to take it  
 up again.

This command I have received from my Father.”



**Quote of the week:** “He will provide the way and the means, such as you could never have imagined. Leave it all to Him, let go of yourself, lose yourself on the Cross and you will find yourself entirely.”

–St. Catherine of Siena



**“ The good shepherd would stand and fight, even risk his very life for his sheep. ”**

Would a babysitter be as willing to sacrifice his or her life to protect a child under their care, the way that a baby’s parents would? Probably not. This would also apply in business. The business owner and the employee would not always work on the same level of passion or sacrifice to do what it takes to hold the company. I think it is difficult to find the same quality of caring and sacrifice from those who merely work for a paycheck than business owners. With this above description, you can imagine why Jesus said He is a good shepherd and not a hired shepherd.

"A few years ago, Catholic News Service profiled a shepherd in Italy named Fabrizio Innocenzi who oversees about 60 sheep in the hills of Roviano, 40 miles east of Rome. He said that sheep actually need a shepherd, because they have no natural hierarchy, no leader of the flock." The sheep learn to trust the shepherd, Innocenzi said, as “they hear and understand the voice, the smell, the behavior of the person who is looking after them every day." He further said, a shepherd needs to be someone who is “in tune with nature, decisive” and willing to bear the long hours, inclement weather, hard work and sacrifice—and do it out of devotion to his flock. **A good shepherd, he said, should “not be afraid of anything.”** Doesn’t that describe Christ? Among the sheep a true shepherd knows the ones that are vulnerable and likely to stray from the group. They are the ones he pays close attention and even sometimes carries them. In the gospel we just heard, Jesus takes it even further describing Himself as: “I am the good shepherd,” adding “A good shepherd lays down his life for his sheep" He said. Drawing on an image very familiar to His hearers, Jesus likened Himself to a good shepherd, one whose love and knowledge of His sheep was so great He would do anything to protect the flock, or to provide for the flock.

“In fact, to illustrate His point, Jesus contrasted the difference between the shepherd who owns the flock, to the hired hand who merely worked for the shepherd. The difference between shepherd and hired hand might not be obvious when there was no danger or stress. But if a crisis arose, if real danger presented itself—such as an attack by a wolf or a band of robbers—if the flock was so threatened that the shepherd might risk life and limb protecting the sheep, then the difference between shepherd and hired hand would become obvious. The good shepherd would stand and fight, even risk his very life, while the hired hand would run to protect his own life and abandon the sheep to the enemy.” With this analysis, Jesus identified His mission and passion for His followers by applying this metaphor to Himself. “I am the Good Shepherd. The Good Shepherd lays down his life for his sheep,” He said.

Of course, we already know the rest of the story and we know at the end of His earthly ministry He would be laying down His life on the cross for His sheep (us). Although He had already predicted crucifixion to His disciples, they would only grasp His message after everything He had predicted happened. That is, laying down His life for the sheep is exactly what Jesus would do on Calvary. He was not just speaking in allegory or parable. Jesus would die on the cross on Calvary. Throughout His ministry, He truly cared for the sheep. He spoke against injustice of His time. He restored the outcasts and sinners of society who were thrown out. He cared, cured and healed the sick. He provided and fed His audience. He also encouraged His sheep to forgive, to be peaceful and to live in harmony. He is indeed the Good Shepherd; which makes us the sheep in His flock. Don’t you think we can sleep more soundly at night knowing that Jesus is our Good Shepherd? Don’t you think we can worry less about a world populated by wolves knowing that our Good Shepherd knows our needs, and is powerful and loving enough to do whatever it takes to provide for us and protect us?

Today is Good Shepherd Sunday. Today has been designated as “Word Day” of prayer for Vocations and the Church asks us to continue to pray for the Church’s leadership. To pray for young men and women to respond to the call to the priesthood and religious life. Mostly to pray that our pope, bishops, priests will indeed make themselves available and model their lives like Christ-The Good Shepherd who cares, nurtures and provides for the sheep. That is why their call is truly a vocation and not a job. -- Fr. Abuchi

