

Our Lady of Mount Carmel

Sunday, September 19, 2021
Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time



PARISH STAFF

Father Abuchi F. Nwosu Pastor
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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

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KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS, Council 9920

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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

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, September 18

1 TM 6:13-16 / Lk 8:4-15

8:30 am Marcy Sugar

by Parish Staff

5:00 pm Rudi Odorizzi

by Ida Odorizzi

Sunday, September 19

Wis 2:12, 17-20 / Jas 3:16-4:3 / Mk 9:30-37

7:30 am Intentions of Wendy Witherow

by Lisa Cangelosi

9:00 am Catherine Meade

by Mary Rondinara

11:00 am August Sibernagel

by Dcn. Tony & Beth Barille

Monday, September 20 – Memorial of St. Andrew

Kim Taegon, priest and martyr and St. Paul Chong

Ha-sang, Catechist, martyr and companions

EZR 1:1-6 / LK 8:16-18

8:30 am Intentions of Matthew Johnson

by Johnson Family

Tuesday, September 21 – St. Matthew, Apostle

EPH 4:1-7, 11-13 / MT 9:9-13

8:30 am Monsignor Stein

by Mary Rondinara

Wednesday, September 22

EZR 9:5-9 / LK 9:1-6

7:00 pm George Suarez

by Boettcher Family

Thursday, September 23 – Memorial of St. Pius of

Pietrelcina, priest

HG 1:1-8 / LK 9:7-9

8:30 am Christopher Walker

by Azzollini Family

Friday, September 24

HG 2:1-9 / LK 9:18-22

8:30 am Margaret Dangler

by John & Katrina Prior

Saturday, September 25

ZEC 2:5-9, 14-15A / LK 9:43B-45

8:30 am Intentions of Mary Burns

by Lisa Cangelosi

5:00 pm Marion Gross

by Frances DeWitt

Sunday, September 26

NM 11:25-29 / JAS 5:1-6 / MK 9:38-43, 45, 47-48

7:30 am Intentions of Liz & Chris Prisco

by JoAnn Lacovara-Friel

9:00 am Intentions of Helen Oravec

by Ron & Ann Johnson

11:00 am Marcy Sugar

by Dcn. Ed & Mary Lou Muller

PLEASE REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING:



Colleen Apter, Ted Cassera, Matt Chapkosky, Fr. Angelus Croce, Stephanie Cuomo, Larry Domonkos, Emma Finnegan, Jason, Henry Kochanski, Bruce Konar, John Kucinski, Linda Kucinski, Susanne Martone, Deacon Ed Muller, Yvette Murphy, Fr. Peter Oddo, Madelyn Patton, George Shammass, Stephanie, Charles Sullivan, Constance Van Hoven, Tom Walaszczyk

This Week the Sanctuary Lamp Burns for Sophia Elizabeth Piorcek



A GOOD STEWARD Sunday

September 12	\$ 2,523.00
Online Giving	\$ 425.00
Diocesan Assessment	\$ 584.00
Online Giving	\$ 130.00

Thank you for your generosity!

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.



St. Paul Inside the Walls Announcement

Come back to St. Paul Inside the Walls on Wednesday, September 22 from 7:30-9:30pm.

All are welcome for conversation, community and cocktails to inaugurate the post-pandemic in-person year! You will also get a sneak peek into the new events and programs we have scheduled for 2021-2022.

This event kicks off a new missionary journey here at St. Paul Inside the Walls, so this is something you definitely don't want to miss!

This event will be held outdoors, weather permitting.

St. Paul's In Person is a free event, but we encourage you to RSVP in advance by going to the link: [inside the walls.org](https://www.insidethewalls.org).

Our Lady Queen of Peace - Branchville

Our Lady Queen of Peace in Branchville is hosting a new ministry "Catholic in Recovery" which provides a Catholic solution to those struggling with **ADDICTIONS** or unhealthy attachments. One's personal recovery is supplemented with a Sacramental understanding of Jesus Christ as our Savior and Highest Power, aided by the Holy Spirit. This is a **12 step anonymous meeting** for anyone addicted to alcohol, drugs, food, gambling, pornography, smoking, technology, etc. Meetings will be Mondays, 630 to 7:30 PM. 209 S., Route 206, Branchville, NJ. Any questions call our Lady Queen of peace parish office 973-948-3185
Begins October 18

Quote of the week:

"The Lord sometimes makes you feel the weight of the cross. Although the weight seems intolerable, you are able to carry it, because the Lord, in His love and mercy, extends a hand to you and gives you strength." -- St. Padre Pio

**Catechetical Sunday**

This year the Church will celebrate Catechetical Sunday on September 19th under the theme of "Say the Word and My Soul Shall Be Healed." On this day, catechists are formally commissioned for ministry to the community. Catechetical Sunday is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the role that each baptized person plays in handing on the faith and being a witness to the Gospel. Catechetical Sunday is an opportunity for all to rededicate themselves to this mission as a community of faith.

**Prayer for Catechists**

Loving Father, we pray today for our catechists. We thank you for their gift of ministry in your Church. Grant them your wisdom that they may grow in the understanding and teaching of your Word. Grant them also your love that they may be fruitful heralds of your Word and lead others to love you.

Pour forth your Holy Spirit upon them to grant them wisdom about what is important; knowledge of the truths of faith; understanding of their meaning; right judgement about how to apply them in life; courage to persevere even in the face of adversity; reverence before all that is sacred and holy; and that loving zeal which leads others to a transforming encounter with your Son. We pray this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Religious Education for our Children

As a reminder, Religious Education classes began today.

We wish to thank all parish families who have registered for the upcoming year. We look forward to a faith-filled and fun learning experience.

If you have not as yet registered your child/children you can still so, please contact Dan Salvatore, at (973) 579-2355. You can also access the registration forms on our Parish website: olmcswartswood.org.

We can always use extra help with our CCD program. If you would like to volunteer to teach or be an aide, please contact Dan Salvatore as soon as possible.

A Very Special Thank You

Last Sunday we celebrated Grandparents' Day with refreshments after each Mass. Thank you, Patricia Cholesta, for your hard work in organizing this event.

**Memorial of St. Pius Of Pietrelcina –
September 23rd**

Padre Pio's secret weapon against the evils in the world



***When Padre Pio
wanted to combat evil,
he brought out his
most powerful weapon.***

St. Pio of Pietrelcina witnessed many evils during his lifetime. He lived through both world wars and saw the great violence and hatred that existed in the hearts of many people in Europe.

In the face of such profound evil, Padre Pio had a single weapon.

He said once, "Some people are so foolish that they think they can go through life without the help of the Blessed Mother. Love the Madonna and pray the Rosary, for **her Rosary is the weapon against the evils of the world today.** All graces given by God pass through the Blessed Mother."

Padre Pio prayed the Rosary fervently on a daily basis and even kept a few rosaries under his pillow. One night he wasn't able to find his rosaries, so he called Fr. Onorato of San Giovanni Rotondo and said to him, "**Young man, get me my weapon; give me my weapon.**"

The Rosary for Padre Pio was not a rote string of "Hail Marys," but an intimate offering to his beloved Mother in Heaven. He possessed a great love of the Virgin Mary and remained close to her during his many times of trial.

He attributed everything to the Blessed Mother and believed her powerful intercession could heal both soul and body.

While many of us might struggle to pray the Rosary on a daily basis, Padre Pio would encourage us to persevere. He believed that when the Rosary is prayed devoutly and with the heart, anything is possible.

Scripture Message September 19, 2021

Jesus speaks of his own rejection, torture, and shameful death. True discipleship, he says, is concerned not with status but with service to the poor, with justice and peace.

Autumn Begins September 22nd

Jesus said, "Amen, amen, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat; but if it dies, it produces much fruit" ([John 12:24](#)).

As we look back on the autumns of our life, we can see that each small death we experienced was really a part of the ongoing mystery of growing in our relationship with our Savior. Each encounter with Christ was a surrender to the childish ways to which we clung so closely but from which we were constantly moving away.

You see, God has a plan for each of us: to plant us in the world of sorrow and sin and allow the pressure and pain of human living to crack open the shell of who we are so that the new birth of our faith can manifest itself in our lives. Once we are broken in the soil of our struggles, we are able to reach upward toward the light of His grace and extend our souls to receive the warmth of His loving will with joy.

Prayer for the Beginning of Autumn

O God of Creation, you have blessed us with the changing of the seasons.

As we welcome the autumn months, may the earlier setting of the sun remind us to take time to rest.

May the brilliant colors of the leaves remind us of the wonder of your creation.

May the steam of our breath in the cool air remind us that it is you who give us the breath of life.

May the harvest from the fields remind us of the abundance we have been given and bounty we are to share with others.

May the dying of summer's spirit remind us of your great promise that death is temporary and life is eternal. We praise you for your goodness forever and ever. Amen.



Learn more to look less at yourself and more at each other

Humility, like faith, has fallen on hard times. Social media sites lure us into conversations with friends and strangers that focus on ourselves. We have elevated the word “brag” to a worldwide phenomenon of photos, posts, and accomplishments. Twitter encourages users to tell followers what they think—often unfiltered—and what they are doing—do we really want to know? Some politicians traffic in pride, boasting, with a “me-centric” attitude that has voters asking whether the common man and woman in our country matters any more.

Today's readings especially the second reading and gospel warns about self ambition and problems it could cause to human relationships. In the second reading, for instance, the church where James was pastor was having its own struggle with what he calls “envy and selfish ambition.” As witnessed in our lesson from a couple of weeks back, a dangerous favoritism had edged its way into the community. “Quarrels and fights” had broken out in the fellowship. Thus, James wrote, “Where jealousy and selfish ambition exist there is disorder and every foul practice.” Though we have but these hints as to the severity of the problem, some in that church had forgotten that humility is the hallmark of being a follower of Jesus. One contemporary preacher said it well: “Anytime God’s people develop a pecking order, someone has missed the message of Jesus.” That was true with the apostles in the gospel. Jesus asks them why they were arguing amongst themselves about who was the greatest. We can imagine how disappointed Jesus must have been that His men are drunk with pride and ambition. The other nine disciples may have felt left out, even ignored. The murmuring was deafening!

“To settle a dispute among the apostles over who, in fact, is the greatest, Jesus put before them the most inconsequential person in the room: a small child—a figure of perfect trust, and simplicity, and need.” “Whoever receives one child such as this in my name, receives me,” he said. “And whoever receives me, receives not me but the One who sent me.” **To receive God, he was saying, open your arms.** Embrace the helpless, and needy. Seek out the smallest. To receive God, don’t look above. Look below. The message is unmistakable: *Here* is greatness. It’s not something lofty and unreachable. It’s something you can put your arms around. It dwells in someone as small as a child. But what does it tell us? Jesus wants us to be very humble and as we think about ourselves to also put others into consideration especially those we might consider lower than us, those the society may consider as ‘nobody’.

In fact, during Christ’s earthly ministry, he reached out to the most needy and marginalized in the community. "He chose the most humble. He chose the sick over the healthy...the weak over the powerful...the poor over the rich. He didn’t select scribes and scholars for his apostles; he picked a fisherman and a tax collector, a doubter and a betrayer. He encountered a woman begging for scraps from God’s table, and he performed a miracle where every crumb was collected and saved. He drew to himself those who were broken and needed healing, from the blind and the crippled to the possessed and the spiritually lost. The gospels offer a reassuring message for all of us who feel unworthy or fall short; they offer this blessed hope: Jesus often found *more* among those who, in the eyes of the world, seemed to be *less*.”

The way forward, to use our Lord’s example, is to remember yet again that authentic greatness, generous humility always moves gently, lovingly, thoughtfully in the direction of others. We can easily forget that God Himself practiced the greatest form of humility when He became one of us. Christ summons us to be a people who bow in humble gratitude before the gifts we have been given. God’s word is both telling and showing us that the way to change our world is to love it to Jesus Christ by being God’s people of generous humility. When we are peace-loving, we invite others to find the peace only God can give. When we are full of mercy in the face of hatred and bigotry, we show our Lord’s way of love is indeed the way of life. When we are impartial and sincere, we acknowledge what the founders of this great country enshrined in the Declaration of Independence that “all are created equal.” Such is the way of life, the way of love, the generous humility shown to us by Jesus in his life, his death, his resurrection, and his presence in our midst even now. Jesus loves us that much. As we receive Him again this day in Eucharist, pray to love what is small, what is simple, what is often overlooked. Pray to love those Christ loved. Because as he told us: in loving them, you love him – and the One who sent Him.

– Fr. Abuchi