

# Our Lady of Mount Carmel

Sunday, February 19, 2023  
Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time



## PARISH STAFF

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Deacon Al Kucinski

Deacon Edward Muller (retired)

Dan Salvatore ..... Coordinator of Religious Education

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## YOUTH MINISTER

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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, February 18

HEB 11:1-7 / MK 9:2-13

8:30 am Peter Healey

by Parish Staff

5:00 pm In Thanksgiving

by Marty &amp; Mary Ann Chapkosky

Intentions of Eileen Thomas and Her Family

by Bill &amp; Charlene Nagy

### Sunday, February 19

LV 19:1-2, 17-18 / 1 COR 3:16-23 / MT 5:38-48

7:30 am Tamara Kutyla

by Parish Staff

9:00 am Intentions of Luke Condit

by Dan &amp; Dina Salvatore

11:00 am Barbara Froetscher

by Froetscher Family

### Monday, February 20

SIR 1:1-10 / MK 9:14-29

8:30 am In Memory of Karl Weisser

by Dcn. Ed &amp; Mary Lou Muller

### Tuesday, February 21

SIR 2:1-11 / MK 9:30-37

8:30 am Fred Kutyla

by Kevin Kutyla

### Wednesday, February 22 – Ash Wednesday

JI 2:12-18 / 2 COR 5:20—6:2 / MT 6:1-6, 16-18

8:30 am Health &amp; Blessings for Elsie Allen

by Parish Staff

7:00 pm Victor Sr. &amp; Dean Paternostro

by Parish Staff

### Thursday, February 23

DT 30:15-20 / LK 9:22-25

8:30 am Miguel Angel Caicedo

by Adrian Martinez Gomez

Carmine &amp; Marie Curulli

by Mazzola Family

### Friday, February 24

IS 58:1-9A / MT 9:14-15

8:30 am Intentions of Cassandra Salayko

by Salayko Family

### Saturday, February 25

IS 58:9B-14 / LK 5:27-32

8:30 am Vittoria Guerrera

by Salayko Family

5:00 pm Eileen Condon

by John &amp; Katrina Prior

### Sunday, February 26

GN 2:7-9; 3:1-7 / ROM 5:12-19 / MT 4:1-11

7:30 am Leroy Lindsey

by Patricia Cholasta

9:00 am Cornelia Shea-Sheppard

by Parish Staff

11:00 am Rocco Sallette

by Lucille Ambler

### Please Remember To Pray For The Following:



Colleen Apter, Ted Cassera, Matt Chapkosky, Stephanie Cuomo, John, Heather Drew, Emma Finnegan, Denise Holloway, Jason, Patricia Johnson, Bruce Konar, Mike Maldonado, Ellen Mathesen, Susanne Martone, Deacon Ed Muller, Yvette Murphy, Fr. Peter Oddo, Madelyn Patton, Linda Perotti, Don Poling, Rosemary Sciascia, Birute Rusinko, George Shammas, Stephanie, Charles Sullivan, Dannielle Tompson, Thomas Trogani, Constance Van Hoven, James Welden

### *This Week the Sanctuary Lamp Burns For Carmine & Marie Curulli*



### A GOOD STEWARD

February 12 -----	\$ 2,429.00
Online Giving -----	\$ 415.00
Diocesan Assessment -----	\$ 513.00
Online Giving -----	\$ 105.00

*Thank you for your generosity!*

*\*Next week's second collection is for  
Eastern Europe*

### 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.



### Sponsor Certificates/Letter of Eligibility:

Letters of recommendation for sponsors of the Sacraments can be issued only to active registered members of the parish who are receiving the Sacraments on a regular basis but also who have completed their Sacrament of Initiation (Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation).

**In observance of President's Day Monday, February 20, the office will be closed and there is no Eucharistic Adoration.**

**Lent 2023 at OLMC**  
***Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving***

**Confession**

Every Monday, February 27 – March 27  
7:00 PM – 8:30 PM and at all Parishes in the Diocese.



**Stations of the Cross Every Friday**

Mass at 6:30 PM followed with Exposition after the Mass followed by the Stations of the Cross and ending with Benediction Friday evenings during Lent.

**Stations of the Cross**

The Stations of the Cross are a 14-step Catholic devotion that commemorates Jesus Christ's last day on Earth as a man. The 14 devotions, or stations, focus on specific events of His last day, beginning with His condemnation. The stations are commonly used as a mini pilgrimage as the individual moves from station to station. At each station, the individual recalls and meditates on a specific event from Christ's last day. Specific prayers are recited, then the individual moves to the next station until all 14 are complete. Telling the story of the suffering, death and resurrection of Jesus was an important part of the early Christian's experience. In the late 4<sup>th</sup> century, people began making pilgrimages to the Holy Land, where they would follow the path that Jesus took to Calvary. During the Middle Ages, when outbreaks of war made it impossible for people to travel to the Holy Land, people created a Via Dolorosa, or "Sorrowful Way," in their towns and villages. They erected paintings or sculptures depicting the Passion of Christ along a processional route or inside a church. By the mid-18<sup>th</sup> century, the number of stations was fixed at 14 and the devotion known as the Stations of the Cross, also called the Way of the Cross, became widespread.

**LENT SOCIAL EVENTS**

**SAVE THE DATES**

Friday March 3 - Meatless Soup & Salad Dinner  
Friday March 31 - Fish Dinner  
Starting at 5Pm in Church Hall  
Mass & Stations to follow (optional)  
More details to come.

**Charitable Statements**

Please call the office if you'd like to receive a copy of your 2022 contributions.

(Continuation of 'Order of Mass' from last week)

**Communion**

In the Dioceses of the United States of America, there are four options for singing at Communion: (1) the antiphon from the Missal or the antiphon with its Psalm from the Graduale Romanum, as set to music there or in another musical setting; (2) the antiphon with Psalm from the Graduale Simplex of the liturgical time; (3) a chant from another collection of Psalms and antiphons, approved by the Conference of Bishops or the Diocesan Bishop, including Psalms arranged in responsorial or metrical forms; (4) some other suitable liturgical chant approved by the Conference of Bishops or the Diocesan Bishop. This is sung either by the choir alone or by the choir or a cantor with the people.

However, if there is no singing, the antiphon given in the Missal may be recited either by the faithful, or by some of them, or by a reader; otherwise, it is recited by the Priest himself after he has received Communion and before he distributes Communion to the faithful.

When the distribution of Communion is over, if appropriate, the Priest and faithful pray quietly for some time. If desired, a Psalm or other canticle of praise or a hymn may also be sung by the whole congregation.

To bring to completion the prayer of the People of God, and also to conclude the whole Communion Rite, the Priest pronounces the Prayer after Communion, in which he prays for the fruits of the mystery just celebrated.

At Mass a single Prayer after Communion is said, and it ends with the shorter conclusion; that is:

- if the prayer is directed to the Father: Through Christ our Lord;
- if it is directed to the Father, but the Son is mentioned at the end: Who lives and reigns for ever and ever;
- if it is directed to the Son: Who live and reign for ever and ever.

The people make the prayer their own by means of the acclamation Amen.





**Ash Wednesday – February 22**

The Masses for Ash Wednesday are 8:30 AM and 7:00 PM. Ashes will be distributed at both Masses. It's a day of fast and abstinence.

\*Days of abstinence: no meat can be eaten on Ash Wednesday and all Friday's during Lent. This applies to all Catholics 14 and older.

\* Days of Fast: Only one full meal is permitted on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday for Catholics between 18 and 59. Two smaller meals are permitted, but the small meals should not equal a second full meal. Drinking coffee, tea and water between meals is allowed. Snacks between meals are not allowed.

**Ways to Prepare for Lent**

(continued from last week)

**3. Start noticing your problem areas**

You don't have to pick your resolutions yet, but now is the time to start thinking about what areas of your life need to be revived. Has your temper been especially short lately? (Mine has. I blame cabin fever. And original sin.) A good examination of conscience will direct you to resolutions that are personally right for you, and help you see your Lenten goals more clearly. There's also that old gimmick: try to name the seven deadly sins. The one you have the most trouble remembering is the one you may be struggling with.

**4. Get yourself to the sacraments**

If you've already made a good examination of conscience, don't waste it. Go to confession! If you have time for daily Mass, or Adoration, even if it's just once, you won't regret it. It's always the best possible decision to try to get closer to Jesus. That's the whole point of our whole life, after all.

**5. Pray, pray, pray**

You don't have to be in the mood, you don't have to have energy, and you don't have to have anything to say for your prayer to be a good one. What matters is perseverance. Never underestimate the power of forming a habit. It's so hard at first, but once it's part of your routine, it becomes second nature. And wouldn't you love it if daily prayer was second nature to you?

**Scripture Message February 19, 2022**

The last two antitheses offered in the Sermon on the Mount deal with love of enemies. We should not look at "an eye for an eye" as an inordinately strict punishment. It is actually meant to limit acts of revenge by making sure the punishment is not excessive but fits the crime. Those who are called to the Kingdom of Heaven are to go beyond the way the world usually works and serve God's kingdom here on earth.

**Ash Wednesday: Repent & Believe!**

While it's not a holy day proper, Ash Wednesday is, interestingly, a day where Catholics all over the world feel the need to attend Mass.

There's something in us that calls us to participate in this kickoff to Lent. It's like the opening ceremony of the Olympics. With these funny ashes on our foreheads, now we can begin the Christian game anew, taking on the specific challenges of renewed prayer, fasting, and almsgiving.

Ashes are an external sign of penance. They are a reminder that we all will experience death and we don't have forever to repent, to "get right" with God. Jesus has victory over death in the end. With him by our side, what have we to fear?

As our Lenten season begins, how will this year be different?

What concrete steps will you take to allow Jesus to live in you more fully?

Who will you trust to walk alongside you as companions and friends?

What challenges do I foresee this Lent?

How can I create a new routine of prayer this week?

When I fast, who can I offer up my discomfort for? Who can I pray for?

**Come and spend some time with me****Eucharistic Adoration****Every Monday 9am-12pm**

This is a personal invitation to you from Jesus. Jesus waits for us in this sacrament of love. If Jesus were actually visible in church, everyone would run to welcome Him, but He remains hidden in the Sacred Host under the appearance of bread, because He is calling us to faith, that we many come to Him in humility.

"The Blessed Sacrament is the 'Living Heart' of each of our churches and it is our very sweet duty to honor and adore the Blessed Host, which our eyes see, the Incarnate Word, whom they cannot see." (Pope Paul VI, Credo of the People of God)

Just as you can't be exposed to the sun without receiving its rays, neither can you come to Jesus exposed in the Blessed Sacrament without receiving the divine rays of His grace, His love, His peace.

*"The ashes mean I'm a sinner. The shape of the Cross means I have a Savior." – Fr. Mike Schmitz*



### Going the second mile and loving the unlovable. Can you?

One day a truck driver stopped at a restaurant for dinner and ordered a steak. Before he could eat it, in walked a motorcycle gang, with dirty leather jackets and long, unkempt hair. They took the man's steak, cut it into six pieces, and ate it. The driver said nothing. He simply paid the bill and walked out. One of the gang members said, "That man couldn't talk. He didn't say a word." Another one said, "He couldn't fight, either; he didn't lift a hand." A waiter added, "I would say that he couldn't drive either. On his way out of the parking lot, he ran over six motorcycles crushing all of them." — Something in us loves that story, because we like retaliation. But in the Sermon on the Mount Jesus prescribes forgiving love as the Christian trump card. Today's readings call us to be holy people, to avoid revenge but to manifest love in all circumstances.

In the first reading, taken from the book of Leviticus, gives the Holiness code: "Be holy, for I, the Lord, your God, am Holy." It also admonished the to take no revenge and bear no grudge but instead to love others. The Responsorial Psalm (Ps 103) challenges us to be like our God – kind, merciful and forgiving. St. Paul in the second reading calls Corinthian community to be holy because their bodies are the temple of God. "In the Gospel passage, taken from the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus discards even the milder form of retaliation developed by Hammurabi in ancient Babylon and passed on to Israel through Moses." The policy was one of limited, proportional retaliation (Lex Talionis, "tit-for-tat"): "an eye for an eye, a tooth for tooth" rather than allowing unlimited vengeance. "Jesus rather offers his new law of love, grace, forgiveness, reconciliation, and no retaliation. For Jesus, retaliation, or even limited vengeance, has no place in the Christian life."

What is Jesus telling his followers to do? "If anyone," said Jesus, "forces you to go one more mile, go also the second mile." Forces? Did Jesus use the word "force"? Indeed, he did. "In that day when Roman troops occupied every square foot of the land we today call Israel, common folk were required by law to aid the Roman troops when commanded to do so. The rule was that a soldier could force a civilian to carry his armor or some other piece of equipment for a mile. At that point, another civilian would be pressed into service. It is not a pleasant prospect for any able-bodied civilian of that day." The admiration we have for individuals who do more than what is expected of them is not only appropriate, but vital. Second-mile people have within them a drive, a tenacity, a devotion to not only doing what is right, but what they believe is required. Second-mile employees show up earlier in the morning and often work late. A second-mile priest not only works for the parish but makes himself available even in the middle of the night to respond to emergencies. Second-mile parishioners volunteer and have a deep and refreshing desire to serve the Lord and others. Second-mile neighbors show up first to pick up tree limbs blown into the street from the storm or are quick to bring a meal when tragedy comes to a family down the street. Who doesn't admire the second-milers among us?

But what the second mile Jesus is talking about here is different. He probably insulted his audience when he suggested that, if forced to do so, they should not only do what was demanded, but go a second mile when the Roman military forced them. He is also speaking about turning the other cheek when slapped and giving away both your coat and your cloak. In a nutshell, Jesus is teaching his followers to go the second mile by being generous with their possessions. We should do extraordinary things even to our enemies, because our tendency is to retaliate when offended and to reject the demands others place on us. But our Lord calls us to continue to show kindness. In truth I marvel at the men and women in our community who give much to meet human needs. Whether it is volunteering in the Manna House or donating their time and money to a food pantry to organizations like the Salvation Army and Habitat for Humanity, these rare, unpretentious believers give without any expectation of return. And because of their generosity, our community is a better place where the least and the lowest can live with some sense of dignity and hope. The Lord calls us to holiness and to love in all circumstances. How can we achieve this lifestyle? Now listen again to the words of Abraham Lincoln.

In his second Inaugural address, March 4, 1865, just a little over a month before he would be assassinated, Abraham Lincoln uttered these immortal words: "With malice toward none; with charity for all; with firmness in the right, as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in; to bind up the nation's wounds, to care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow and his orphan—to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace among ourselves and with all nations." Abraham Lincoln spoke those words at the end of a time in our nation's history when America almost did to herself what no one else has been able to do—destroy her. Though the war was over, the battle was not. Bitterness, rancor and anger were still at a fever pitch in this country. — According to Rev. James Merritt, Lincoln knew something that Jesus teaches us today, and that is, that the only salve that can cure the wound of bitterness between enemies is the salve of love. But this is more than just an ordinary love. It is a super-ordinary, supernatural love that loves the absolutely unlovable.

– Fr. Abuchi