

September 19, 2021 Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Welcome to ...

Our Lady of
Mount Carmel
Parish



800 Avila Court
Pittsburgh, PA 15237
www.MountCarmelPgh.org

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish (412) 367-9001

St. Athanasius Church
7 Chalfonte Ave. West View, PA 15229

Incarnation of the Lord Church
4071 Franklin Rd. Pittsburgh, PA 15214

Holy Cross Academy (412) 364-7171
307 Siebert Rd. Pittsburgh, PA 15237

St. Sebastian Church
311 Siebert Rd. Pittsburgh, PA 15237

St. Teresa of Avila Church
1000 Avila Court Pittsburgh, PA 15237

Education & Community Center (412) 585-5575
2 Wentworth Ave. Pittsburgh, PA 15229



Pastor's Perspective

Reverend John R. Rushofsky
Pastor

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FUNERALS

One of the Corporal Works of Mercy is to **bury the dead**, and the Church has always taken this responsibility very seriously. All Christians deserve, without judgment, an appropriate burial, provided they have not publicly denounced the Church.

Here at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish we have a considerable number of funerals. As of this writing (September 8), so far this year we have had 94 funerals, so we are projecting a total of close to **150 funerals in 2021**. We are proud of our funeral ministry, with our **deacons** who lead the prayer services, **funeral planners** who assist the bereaved family plan the readings and music for the liturgy, our **Resurrection Choir** who provide the comforting music at the funeral Mass, as well as the adult **altar servers, sacristans**, and others who offer their time and energy for this important ministry.

When we say a prayerful farewell to a parish member, it is **a loss for all of us**, even if we haven't personally known the deceased. The entire parish grieves and prays for those among us who have died simply because their absence leaves an unmistakable gap in our congregation, even if the person was not regular in their Mass attendance. Many people do not realize that for us priests and deacons, funerals often can be a sorrowful experience if the parishioner being buried is someone we have come to know very well and regard with personal affection. Sometimes we are even faced with having a funeral for a family member or longtime friend, a real challenge.

And yet, all funerals proclaim the clear message that "**...life is changed, not ended,**" as the ritual tells us. There is the consistent understanding that the moment of death leads us into the mystery of eternity, as the book of **Revelation** reveals: "He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there shall be no more death or mourning, wailing or pain, for the old order has passed away."

IN OTHER NEWS: Apparently early fall is a time for changes, as we have **another departure from our ranks**. **Deacon Bill Palamara** has been reassigned by Bishop Zubik to **Saint John Neumann Parish** in Franklin Park. Our parish still has several deacons but Saint John Neumann only has one. In view of their **upcoming merger with Assumption Parish in Bellevue and Sacred Heart in Emsworth**, they will be needing more clergy assistance. Deacon Bill's farewell will be this Sunday (9/19) in Athanasian Hall after the 9 am Mass (see page 3)Stay tuned for more news....

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT:

"Life is pleasant. Death is peaceful. It's the transition that's troublesome."
- Isaac Asimov

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish

Farewell Receptions Planned for Deacon Rick Cessar and Deacon Bill Palamara

As noted on page 2, our parish has scheduled two receptions which parishioners are welcome (and encouraged) to attend to bid farewell to Deacons Rick Cessar and Bill Palamara. Details of each are below. Thank you for your service!



**Farewell Reception
Deacon Bill Palamara
Sunday, September 19**
Athanasian Hall
Following the 9:00 a.m.
Mass at St. Athanasius
Church



Last March, Deacons Rick and Bill joined their fellow clergy for the blessing of palm, led by Father John.



**Farewell Reception
Deacon Rick Cessar
Sunday, September 26**
St. Sebastian Patio
After 10:00 a.m. Mass at
St. Sebastian Church
Light refreshments will
be available.



40 Days for Life Fall Campaign Begins Next Saturday, September 25

40 Days for Life is a community-based campaign that draws attention to the evil of abortion. Our parish Pro-Life Committee has committed to pray outside Planned Parenthood on Liberty Avenue, downtown, on **Saturday, September 25 from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm**. To participate, contact Sue McGrath at susanmcgrath526@comcast.net.

READINGS / 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading: *Wisdom 2:12,17-20*

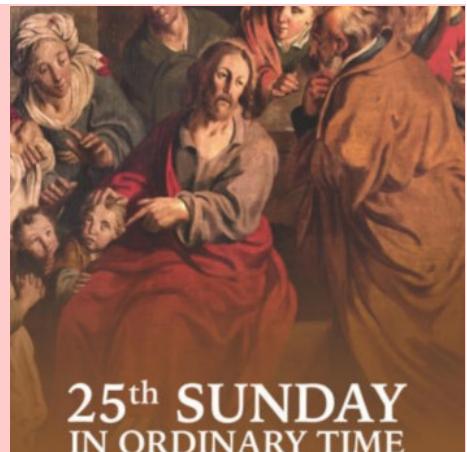
The just one is put to the test.

Second Reading: *James 3:16—4:3*

James teaches about the wisdom from above.

Gospel Reading: *Mark 9:30-37*

Jesus teaches his disciples that the greatest are those who serve all.



**25th SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME**

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish

Tickets On Sale for CA\$H BA\$H, Big Basket Raffle

Drawings to take place October 2

Would you like the opportunity to potentially win one of several nice cash prizes or some fine adult beverage packages—while also supporting our parish Music Ministry?

Virtual CA\$H BA\$H

Our Virtual CA\$H BA\$H, initially planned as a in-person event but later scheduled as an online event (due to COVID) on October 2, offers 17 chances to win more than \$6,000, including a virtual 50-50 raffle and, of Tickets are available at the Parish Center and www.mountcarmelpgh.org

Big Basket Raffle

Our Big Basket Raffle, which includes our ever-popular Money Tree, Wheelbarrow of Cheer and Tower of Beer along with many

other fun prizes. Tickets cost just \$5.00 for nine entries and \$10.00 for 19. Virtual 50-50 raffle tickets are also available at \$10.00 for 19 entries.

Tickets cost just \$5.00 for nine entries and \$10.00 for 19. Virtual 50-50 raffle tickets are also available at \$10.00 for 19 entries. At the same time, CA\$H BA\$H tickets continue to be on sale, both online and at the Parish Center on weekdays during business hours. All basket winners and the 50-50 will be drawn at the virtual Cash Bash on October 2.

Baskets will be on display and tickets sold this weekend in Schoppol Hall after the 4:00 p.m. and 11:00 a.m. Masses at St Teresa of Avila Church, as well as next weekend after the 6:00 p.m. and 10:00 a.m. Masses in the narthex at St Sebastian Church. You can also see photos of the baskets at www.mountcarmelpgh.org/bigbasketraffle.

Beginning this Friday, September 24,
Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish
presents an eight-week series

The CHOSEN

10:30 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.
Schoppol Hall

Watch the acclaimed television series
and participate in a discussion
following each episode.
Reserve your space at
www.mountcarmelpgh.org



Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish Financial Stewardship

AUGUST 2021

July Actual Collection - 4 Weeks:	173,942
August Actual Collection - 5 Weeks:	200,941
Total Fiscal Year to Date (7/1/21-8/31/21):	374,883
2021 Parish Share Assessment:	434,575
Actual 2021 Parish Share Collected (through 8/31/21):	518,529
Over (Under) Parish Share:	83,954

As soon as the budget is finalized and approved, budgeted figures will be supplied each month.

Pittsburgh Rosary Congress Scheduled for October 2-8

Join us at St. Anthony Chapel in Troy Hill for Eucharistic Adoration and praying the Rosary around the clock (except for Masses and scheduled events). Each hour, at least two people will pray aloud the Holy Rosary, Divine Mercy Chaplet and other prayers before the Blessed Sacrament. Events include:

October 2, 8:30 a.m. Opening Mass & outdoor procession

October 4, 5 & 7 Presentations

October 6, 7:00 p.m. Feast Day Vigil Mass honoring Our Lady of the Rosary

October 8th 7:00 p.m. Closing Mass.

Visit pittsburghrosarycongress.org for complete details



Little Sisters of the Poor Collecting in Narthex Today

Sisters and volunteers representing the Little Sisters of the Poor will be collecting donations in our church narthexes following all Masses this weekend. For 150 years they have been serving the elderly poor in Pittsburgh, including operating a home for the aged on Benton Avenue in Brighton Heights. They have always depended on the generosity of people in parishes, as well as others, to continue their work. Please help if you are able.

Special Section Set Aside in Churches For COVID Masking and Distancing

As part of our continuing effort to keep our parish churches clean, sanitized and safe for all Mass attendees, we want to let you know that a number of pews are reserved for those who prefer to wear masks and socially distance. They are located on the front-right side of each church, and clearly labeled. In consideration of the health of your fellow Mass attendees, please do not sit in these sections unless you are wearing a mask. Thank you for your cooperation.



Hymnal for the Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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Gathering Hymn: Come, Follow Me

REFRAIN: Come, follow me and live; do not be afraid. Believe and trust in me;
Your faith will give you strength. Leave all your fears behind you;
Let your hearts be free, for I will be your guide. O, come and follow me.

1. Come, follow in these footsteps; I'll lead you gently home.
No shelter, food nor money will you need upon this road. (Refrain)
2. Come, walk across the water; place all your faith in me.
Cast all your doubts behind you to the wind and raging sea. (Refrain)

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Gloria: Storrington Mass - # 230 Gather Hymnal

Responsorial Psalm: Your Love Is Finer than Life

REFRAIN: O God, I seek you, my soul thirsts for you. Your love is finer than life.

1. As a dry and weary desert land, so my soul is thirsting for my God.
And my flesh is faint for the God I seek, for your love is more to me than life. (Refrain)
2. I think of you when at night I rest, I reflect upon your steadfast love.
I will cling to you, O Lord my God, in the shadow of your wings I sing. (Refrain)
3. I will bless your name all the days I live, I will raise my hands and call on you,
My joyful lips shall sing your praise, you alone have filled my hungry soul. (Refrain)

Text: Psalm 63: 2, 7-9, 5-6; Marty Haugen; Music: Marty Haugen; © 1982, GIA Publications, Inc.

Preparation of the Altar: Prayer of St. Francis

1. Make me a channel of your peace. Where there is hatred, let me bring your love.
Where there is injury, your pardon, Lord, and where there's doubt true faith in you.
2. Make me a channel of your peace. Where there's despair in life, let me bring hope.
Where there is darkness only light, and where there's sadness ever joy.
3. O Master, grant that I may never seek so much to be consoled as to console,
To be understood as to understand, to be loved as to love with all my soul.
4. Make me a channel of your peace. It is in pardoning that we are pardoned.
In giving of ourselves that we receive, and in dying that we're born to eternal life.

Text: Based on the prayer traditionally ascr. to St. Francis of Assisi, 1182-1226; Sebastian Temple. Text and music ©1967, 2003, OCP. All rights reserved. Dedicated to Mrs. Frances Tracy.

Distribution of Holy Communion: Taste and See

REFRAIN: Taste and see, taste and see the goodness of the Lord.
O taste and see, taste and see the goodness of the Lord, of the Lord.

1. I will bless the Lord at all times. Praise shall always be on my lips;
My soul shall glory in the Lord for God has been so good to me. (Refrain)
2. Glorify the Lord with me. Together let us all praise God's name.
I called the Lord who answered me; from all my troubles I was set free. (Refrain)
3. Worship the Lord, all you people. You'll want for nothing if you ask.
Taste and see that the Lord is good; in God we need put all our trust. (Refrain)

Text: Psalm 34; James E. Moore, Jr., b. 1951; Tune: James E. Moore, b. 1951; © 1983, GIA Publications, Inc.

Distribution of Holy Communion: Seek the Lord

REFRAIN: Seek the Lord while he may be found; call to him while he is still near.

1. Today is the day and now the proper hour to forsake our sinful lives and turn to the Lord.
(Refrain)
2. As high as the sky is above the earth, so high above our ways, the ways of the Lord.
(Refrain)
3. Finding the Lord, let us cling to him. His words, his ways lead us to life. (Refrain)
4. Someday we'll live in the house of God; hearts full of praise for God's gracious love.
(Refrain)

Text: Based on Isaiah 55:6-9. Text and music @ 1975, 1996, Robert F. O'Connor, SJ, and OCP. All rights reserved.

Sending Forth: Lead Me, Guide Me

REFRAIN: Lead me, guide me, along the way, for if you lead me, I cannot stray.
Lord, let me walk each day with thee. Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

1. I am weak and I need thy strength and pow'r to help me over my weakest hour.
Help me through the darkness thy face to see, lead me, O Lord, lead me. (Refrain)
2. Help me tread in the path of righteousness, be my aid when Satan and sin oppress.
I am putting all my trust in thee. Lead me, O Lord, lead me. (Refrain)

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Mass Intentions



Date	Time	Location	Intention	Requested By
Monday September 20 <i>Sts. Andrew Kim Tae-gon, Priest, and Paul Chong Ha-sang and Companions, Martyrs</i>	8:30 AM	St. Athanasius	Diane Damien †	Natalie Pleczynski
	12 PM	St. Sebastian	Joseph Matis †	Linda Ludwig
	12:30 PM	St. Sebastian	Confessions following the 12 PM Mass	
Tuesday September 21 <i>St. Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist</i>	8:30 AM	St. Athanasius	Richard Dominitus †	Natalie Pleczynski
	12 PM	St. Sebastian	Dorothy Wood †	Lynne & Mary Ann Wood
Wednesday September 22 <i>Weekday</i>	8:30 AM	St. Athanasius	Jim Richter †	A Friend
	12 PM	St. Sebastian	Mary Chnupa †	Eileen & Joe Chnupa
Thursday September 23 <i>St. Pius of Pietrelcina Priest</i>	8:30 AM	St. Athanasius	Anthony G. Vogel †	Pat Vogel
	12 PM	St. Sebastian	Living & Deceased of Campana & Forgione Families	Mary Lou & John Forgione
Friday September 24 <i>Weekday</i>	8:30AM	St. Athanasius	55th Wedding Anniversary of Joseph & Evelyn Dinkel	Family
	12 PM	St. Sebastian	Sally Farbas †	Charlotte Rumsey
Saturday September 25 <i>Weekday; BVM</i>	11 AM	St. Athanasius	Confessions	
	4 PM Vigil Mass	St. Teresa of Avila	Frank Klein †	K of C # 13959
	5 PM Vigil Mass	St. Athanasius	The People of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish	
	6 PM Vigil Mass	St. Sebastian	Virginia & Oliver Apple †	Their Children
Sunday September 26 Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time	8 AM	Incarnation of the Lord	Jim & Cyrilla Grosjean †	Carol Hance
	9 AM	St. Athanasius	Thomas Cheetham †	Family
	10 AM	St. Sebastian	Michael Swenar †	Cangelier Family
	11 AM	St. Teresa of Avila	Mary T. Miller †	Bob & Chris Kocent



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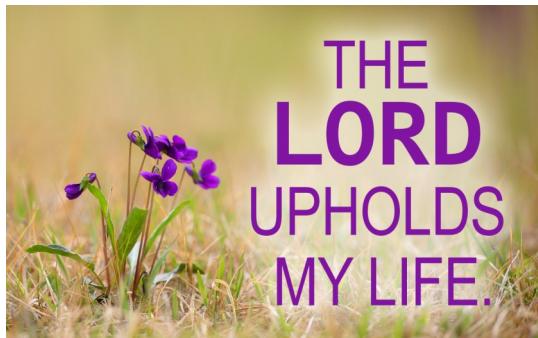
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**"For Christ plays in ten thousand places, Lovely in limbs not His
To the Father through the features of men's faces."
G.M.Hopkins, SJ**

Sister Karen
Brink, OSB

In his encyclical, *Laudato Si', On Care for Our Common Home*, Pope Francis speaks of PROTECTING HUMAN LIFE “Human beings too are creatures of this world, enjoying a right to life and happiness, and endowed with unique dignity. So we cannot fail to consider the effects on people’s lives of environmental deterioration, current models of development and the throwaway culture.” (no. 43) “When we fail to acknowledge as part of reality the worth of a poor person, a human embryo, a person with disabilities – to offer just a few examples – it becomes difficult to hear the cry of nature itself; everything is connected.” (no. 117) “To blame population growth instead of extreme and selective consumerism on the part of some, is one way of refusing to face the issues. It is an attempt to legitimize the present model of distribution, where a minority believes that it has the right to consume in a way which can never be universalized.” (no. 50)

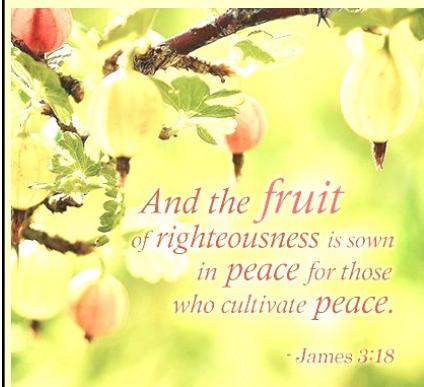
Questions to think about, pray about, and discuss with others, you might ask yourself:

1. How can we work to protect all God’s creatures, including those who live in poverty and the unborn?
2. What contributions does our unique Catholic perspective bring to the environmental movement?

FORTY DAYS FOR LIFE

Kick-Off Mass and Eucharistic Procession to Planned Parenthood, Tuesday, September 21, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. For more information go to 40daysforlife.com/Pittsburgh.

FOOD PANTRY Recently I had the privilege of being present for the reopening of the Our Lady of Mount Carmel Food Pantry. Three things spoke to my heart as I spent most of the day in the newly renovated space. First, the welcoming manner with which the items for shopping are arranged neat as a pin! The second, the care with which the Vincentian volunteers greet and interact with the clients who come to shop and third,



Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Today's readings can be quite unpleasant. Envious instigators plot revenge against a righteous soul. James explains that greed and envy are at the root of conflict between people. Jesus again warns his disciples that soon he will be handed over to men intent on killing him. But there is a loving response to all this. Listening to today's readings, note the difference selflessness can make.

Ted Rybka



Slow and Steady Wins the Race

As we attempt to slowly re-emerge from the coronavirus music/choral restrictions over the past year and a half, many of our adult music ministry groups will begin meeting again for rehearsals and Masses. Our Cantors, Instrumentalists, and Resurrection Choir are still going strong, but now we would like to bring back our Handbell Choir, Spirit Band, Good News Band, and newly merged Adult/Contemporary Choir.

Why were there restrictions for choirs and music groups in the first place? Because singing—particularly expressive, trained, choral singing—can be one of the most dangerous ways to spread the coronavirus to others. It is extremely dangerous if large groups of singers are crammed together in a tight space singing and rehearsing for hours. So much so that our Pittsburgh Diocesan Choir has recently mandated full vaccinations for all choral groups to rehearse or sing at St. Paul Cathedral. It has always been the policy of music departments in parishes throughout the diocese to follow the rules of the diocesan choir as far back as anyone can remember. All of our numerous choir members and choir directors (including yours truly) are fully vaccinated. Keeping in mind the loving message of Pope Francis, we understand the importance of why it is necessary and will absolutely comply for the good of our neighbor.

Here at Our Lady of Mount Carmel, we will implement many safe rehearsal practices and techniques where applicable, and we hope to return to Masses soon to help enhance the liturgies of our worshipping community. Since we are not out of the woods yet with COVID-19 and the Delta variant, we must do so extremely carefully. Therefore, we are waiting a little longer before reinstating the Cherub Choir or Joyful Noise Ensemble. Please pray for all of our music ministers as they once again take up the torch during these challenging times. We sincerely appreciate your unwavering support.



Deacon Bob
Koslosky

Faith Formation



Called to Serve Others.

Breaking Open the Word: Mark 9:30-37

"All who wish to be first must make themselves the servants of all." Today's Gospel begins with Jesus foretelling his suffering, death and resurrection. The disciples do not understand. Then Jesus sits down to teach about serving others. Jesus welcomes a child into his arms to teach the disciples that to rank first, one must be the last of all.



Listen to the Word: This is a familiar teaching of Jesus. Did you hear anything differently? Is there one word or phrase that strikes your attention? What image resonates in your heart?

Look into Your Life:

Children: What are some specific ways in which you can serve your friends or family members?

Youth: Sometimes, when we strive to be first or be the one that wins, we hurt others. When has striving to be first hurt others? What can you do differently in the future to help others to succeed?

Adults: Is the role of being a servant for others easy or difficult for you to embrace?

Welcome to Religious Education 2021 – 2022

We are about to begin a new catechetical year while we continue to navigate the unpredictable waters of the Covid variants. Masks are required regardless of age or vaccination status.

CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD (CGS): This program is for children between the ages of 3 and 6 years old. **This program is offered on Sundays from 10:45 AM to 12:15 PM, starting September 19, 2021.** While the children are engage in exploring their faith, parents may attend the 11:00 AM Mass. The second day for CGS is Tuesday, starting September 20, 2021 from 4:45 PM to 6:15 PM. Both sessions of CGS are in the Lady of Mount Carmel Parish Center (former Saint Teresa of Avila School). Parents and children access the building from the side parking lot of 800 Avila Court. Use the entrance to the Interior Castle Library off the courtyard of the North Hills Regional Catholic Schools Office.

SUNDAY TRADITIONAL RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: Begins on Sunday, September 26 from 8:30 to 9:45 AM. Parents and children gather in the Holy Cross Academy Gym. Look for the room designations for your child's grade level. After children are dismissed from the gym, there will be an overview of this year's programming. Parents pick up their children in the gym at 9:45 AM and may attend the 10:00 AM Mass.

TUESDAY TRADITIONAL RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: Begins on Tuesday, September 28 from 5:00 PM to 6:15 PM. Parents and children gather in Saint Sebastian Church. Parents and children sit together. Children are called forward and dismissed by grade level from the church. Parents **MUST** pick up their children in the gym. Parking is in the upper parking lot.

No registration for religious education will be processed on opening day of any program!

HOMESCHOOLING: Families are welcome to pick up their children's religious education materials on Monday, October 4, 2021 from 6:00 to 7:30 PM and on Thursday October 7, 2021 from 6:00 to 7:30 PM. The book pick up is in the Holy Cross Academy Cafeteria. For families unfamiliar with the Saint Sebastian Campus, the cafeteria is off the lower parking lot down the alley way between the school and the McKnight corridor. Please make every attempt to procure your children's texts on these days because the Faith Formation Office is no longer located in Holy Cross Academy.



Welcome Back!

A Message from the Principals at Holy Cross Academy

Here we are, the beginning of another school year! We worked very hard over the summer to prepare for the first day of school on August 26. Seeing all of our students entering the building, ready to learn and ready to make new friends & memories, brought all of us joy. We welcome our new families, teachers, Vice Principal, and staff. We look forward to a wonderful year where we can continue to grow in our faith and our academics. We are so blessed and thankful to have a wonderful School & Parish community supporting us throughout the year. Let's have a great one Hawks!

Mr. Michael Killmeyer & Mrs. Elizabeth Vita



The Ancient Order of Hibernians (AOH) in the North Hills will sponsor their Irish Heritage Golf Classic at the Shadow Lakes Golf Club in Aliquippa on Friday, Oct. 1st. The format is a 4 person scramble with tee-off at 9:00 am. Cost is \$100.00 per player and it benefits our Tuition Assistance Program for Catholic grade schools including Holy Cross Academy. Prize donations, new players and/or tee sponsorships are also welcomed. More info at aohdiv4.org or call Bob Parry (724-933-0427).



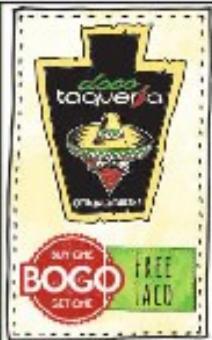
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