

Rev. Msgr. Douglas Cook, J.C.L.
PASTOR

REV. GABRIEL ATIDOO
PAROCHIAL VICAR

OUR LADY of Mount Carmel CATHOLIC CHURCH

Rev. Sean Condon
PRIEST IN RESIDENCE

Deacon Steve Mutz

1441 WEST BALBOA BOULEVARD, NEWPORT BEACH, CALIFORNIA 92661

**Third Sunday of Advent
Rejoice (Gaudete) Sunday
December 14, 2025**

This Sunday we light the third candle on the Advent Wreath, which is rose-colored, not pink, and it symbolizes joy, from the first word of the Opening Prayer in today's Mass, "Rejoice"; in what should otherwise be a penitential season in preparation for the Birth of Christ. There are four candles in total, on the wreath, three purple and one rose-colored. These correspond with the four weeks (Sundays) of Advent. The purple in the purple candles symbolize a penitential tone, while the rose candle symbolizes joy. This rose candle should not be lit until this Sunday, the Third Sunday of Advent, also known as Gaudete



"Rejoice" Sunday, when the celebrant also wears a rose-colored vestment at Mass. This is a Sunday of rejoicing, because we have arrived at the midpoint of Advent when our preparation is now half over as we approach the Celebration of the Christmas Season. Rose is the color obtained by mixing the Purple of Advent and the White of the Christmas Season. Each candle in the wreath is named – the first being hope, the second peace, the third joy, and the fourth love. The Christmas Season liturgically begins with the Christmas Vigil, on December 24, and ends at the Feast of the Baptism of Jesus, this coming year on January 11, 2026.

Schedule of Masses:

Saturdays (Vigil Mass) 5:00 PM

Sundays Masses: 8:00 AM, 10:00 AM, 12:00 Noon and 5:00 PM, 7:30 PM;

Weekdays: 8:00 AM (Monday – Saturday)

Holy Days: See Mass schedule printed in Bulletin for each upcoming Holy Day of Obligation

**Confessions: Saturdays: 8:45-9:30 AM and 4:00-4:45 PM
Wednesdays: 7:00-8:00 PM or by appointment**

Eucharistic Holy Hour: Wednesdays 7:00-8:00 PM

Daily Rosary Devotion: Mornings (Sun-Sat) at 7:30 AM

Divine Mercy Chaplet: Weekday mornings after Mass

Funerals: Contact the Rectory prior to making arrangements.

Day of Eucharistic Adoration: On the 23rd day of each month Unless the occurrence is on a Saturday or Sunday

Baptisms: By appointment each month following completion of Preparation Class.*

Infant Baptism Classes:* First Tuesday evening of the Month: Contact the Parish Office to register

Marriage: Contact the Rectory at least six months in advance of the expected wedding date.

Marriage Preparation Classes: Conducted on four consecutive Wednesday evenings during the months of January, March, May, July, and October.

Please Note: For Baptisms or Weddings, you must be a Practicing Catholic and a member of the parish. To be a Godparent, you must be a Practicing and Confirmed Catholic and, if married, married in the Church.

OLMC Rectory / Parish Office
Office Hours M-F: 9:30 AM-4:00 PM
Phone (949) 673-3775 (ext. 3)
Fax (949) 673-3137
Parish Secretary Rita Hallas
E-mail rhallas@olmc.net
Admin. Assistant Michelle Coleman
E-mail mcoleman@olmc.net

St. John Vianney Chapel ... Joanne Shaw
(949) 673-3801 jshaw@olmc.net

**Adult Education & Faith Formation /
OCIA/Adult Sacramental Preparation**
**Adult Confirmation / Bulletin Editor/
Lector Ministry**
Greg Kelley (949) 645-4540
E-mail gkelley@olmc.net

**Infant Baptism Preparation /
Marriage Preparation**
Deacon Steve Mutz (949) 645-6966

OLMC Children's & Youth Ministry
John Bruscia (949) 673-2719
E-mail jbruscia@olmc.net
Administrative Assistant Joanne Shaw
E-mail jshaw@olmc.net

Altar Servers Ministry
Guy Lowery (949) 673-3775
Bereavement Ministry (949) 673-3775

Music Director and Parish Choirs
Olga Spriggs ospriggs@olmc.net
**Extraordinary Ministers of Holy
Communion** (949) 673-3775

Sacristan, Ushers Ministry
Alan Smith (949) 254-0909

Adult Bible Study
Jeannette Thomas (949) 612-7290

OLMC Altar Society
Richele Lowery gandrlowery@sbcglobal.net

OLMC Parish Finance Council
Steve Tully, Council Chair;
Dan Dillon; John Newsom; Ed Slater.

Health & Wellness Ministry ... Sue Kelly
Prayer Line (949) 673-3775 (x600)

Knights of Columbus Council #15083
Chuck Baur (714) 244-8468

Respect Life Chair Call Parish Office

Sick and Homebound Ministry
..... (949) 673-3775 (ext 3)

St. Vincent DePaul Conference
Guy Lowery (949) 673-3775 (ext. 7)

Women's SOUL Group
Beth Fleming (714) 745-6514

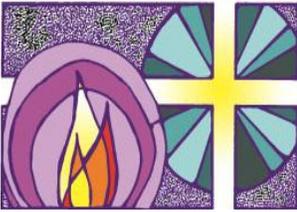
Young Adult Ministry .. Zachary Eckert
Zeckert@olmc.net (303) 257-1248

OLMC Website www.olmc.net

Check out our website: www.olmc.net

WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK ...

- SUNDAY – DECEMBER 14**
 - Third Sunday of Advent
- MONDAY – DECEMBER 15**
 - 4:30 PM CHILDREN'S MINISTRY NATIVITY PLAY.
- WEDNESDAY – DECEMBER 17**
 - 7:00-8:00 PM HOLY HOUR: Eucharistic Adoration, and Confessions
- THURSDAY – DECEMBER 18**
 - 5:00 PM: KofC Christmas Dinner Party and Boat-Parade-Watch, Everyone invited.
- SATURDAY – DECEMBER 20**
 - CONFESSIONS: FROM 8:45–9:30 AM, and from 4:00 PM–4:45 PM;
- SUNDAY – DECEMBER 21**
 - Fourth Sunday of Advent



Third Sunday of Advent
Gaudete "Rejoice" Sunday
 December 24, 2025

Those whom the LORD has ransomed will return and enter Zion singing, crowned with everlasting joy. – *Isaiah 35:10a*



PREPARE FOR MASS! READ BEFORE ARRIVING...

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THE WEEK

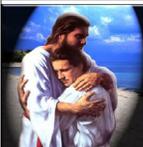
- Sunday:** Is 35:1-6a, 10; Jas 5:7-10; Mt 11:2-11
- Monday:** Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a; Mt 21:23-27
- Tuesday:** Zep 3:1-2, 9-13; Mt 21:28-32
- Wednesday:** Gn 49:2, 8-10; Mt 1:1-17
- Thursday:** Jer 23:5-8; Mt 1:18-25
- Friday:** Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Lk 1:5-25
- Saturday:** Is 7:10-14; Lk 1:26-38
- Sunday:** Is 7:10-14; Rom 1:1-7; Mt 1:18-24



RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS 2025 Collection ... This Weekend

Every year, Religious order sisters, brothers and priests sacrifice worldly possessions to serve Jesus by serving His people. Now, it's our turn to help them by contributing to the **2025 Retirement Fund for Religious** campaign. This year's collection will take place this weekend, **December 13-14**.

Please use the special envelopes provided for this purpose and place them in the collection basket with your regular weekly parish gift, or take an envelope home and return it in the future.



WHY RECEIVE THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (PENANCE)? THE CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH STATES...

- **1415** Anyone who receives Christ in Eucharistic communion must be in the state of grace. Anyone aware of having sinned mortally, seriously, or living in the state of sin, **must not receive communion without first having received absolution in the sacrament of penance.**



Prepare for the Birthday of Jesus! ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE

Monday Evening – December 22
 beginning at 7:00 PM

Several priests will be available to hear confessions.

ADDITIONAL TIME FOR CONFESSION
 Tuesday, December 23 at 8:45 AM



DIGITALLY DONATE TO OLMC!

Use this QR Code to securely donate to Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church in support of the church and its many ministries!

You will also find the same QR Code pasted on the back of each pew.



NEED A UNIQUE GIFT FOR THAT SPECIAL RELATIVE OR FRIEND? If you're not sure what to give that special family member or friend on your Christmas or Birthday gift list?

Do something different! Give them a Gift they will long remember with eternal benefits! **Have a Mass offered for their special intentions!** Your scheduling a Mass for them includes a Mass card that you can mail or place under the tree! Contact the OLMC Parish office (949) (673-3775) (ext. #3) for more information.



LISTING OF MASS TIMES AND CATHOLIC CHURCHES ANYWHERE IN THE U.S. OR THE WORLD

TRAVELING OR VISITING DURING THE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS? To help you include Mass in your travel plans, check the Internet at www.Masstimes.org for times of Masses and locations of Catholic Churches anywhere in the U.S. or around the world.



SCHEDULE OF CHRISTMAS MASSES

(Keep This Schedule Handy for Reference)

Solemnity of Christmas – Nativity of the Lord

Wednesday – December 24 – Christmas Eve

- 4:00 PM – Family Mass (in the Church)
- 4:00 PM – Vigil Mass (In O'Donnell Hall)
- 6:00 PM – Vigil Mass (Church)
- 10:00 PM – Mass During the Night

Thursday – December 25 – Christmas Day

- 8:00 AM – Mass During the Day
- 10:00 AM – Mass During the Day
- 12:00 PM – Mass During the Day

(Note: There will be no 5:00 PM or 7:30 PM Masses on Christmas Day)



**OLMC NATIVITY PLAY!
THIS MONDAY**

Children's Ministry, in Grades 1-5, are presenting their annual **Nativity Play** **this Monday afternoon at 4:30 PM** in the church! **Everyone is invited!**

Let us all prepare for the celebration of the birth of Christ by sharing in this heart-warming production as only children can recreate!
For more information, contact program director, John Bruscia, at (949) 673-2719 or jbruscia@olmc.net.



**KoFC PARISH CHRISTMAS DINNER,
BOAT-PARADE-WATCH, AND
CHRISTMAS CAROLING PARTY**

The Knights invite you to their Annual Christmas Party this **Thursday evening, December 18th**, beginning in O'Donnell Hall with **Dinner at 5:00 PM**, watch the Boat Parade on the Bay at 6:30 PM, followed by Dessert and Christmas Caroling in the Hall. The Meal is complimentary, with the Main Dish provided by the Knights; Side Dishes are Potluck. Contact **Ted Barry** at ted.barry51@gmail.com or (949) **697 4533** to reserve the number in your group.



KoFC CHRISTMAS TAMALES SALE

The Knights of Columbus are selling pre-ordered tamales for pick up this Sunday morning, December 14th, after the 8:00 and 10:00 AM Masses. All proceeds are being donated to St Joachim School for tuition assistance and/or endowment. Pre-ordered tamales are \$30 /dozen. **Only pre-ordered tamales are available for pick up.** For information, contact **Chuck Baur** at (714) 244 **8468** or email chuckjr56@icloud.com



**FAMILY FAITH FORMATION FOR
GRADES 1-12**

Grades 9-10, "Confirmation Preparation," no Decision Point meetings in December – work on completing the service hour requirement. **Grades 11-12 "Leadership and Theology,"** our next meeting is after Christmas! Contact John to sign up for our weekly scriptural readings and reflections!
For more information, contact John Bruscia at (949) 673-2719 or jbruscia@olmc.net



SOUL – OLMC WOMEN'S GROUP

No Meeting this week. Weekly meetings will resume on Thursday morning, January 15, 2026. For information, contact **Beth Fleming** at (714) 745-6514.



2026 CATHOLIC CALENDARS

Complementary Catholic Calendars are available near the doors of the church, for use in your home. Please take a copy home with you!



**PRAYER BLESSING FOR YOUR
CHRISTMAS TREE**

Decorating a tree at Christmas is especially meaningful for faithful Christians.

Trees have so much symbolic meaning – going all the way back to the *Tree of Life* in the Garden of Eden.

Christ too is viewed as the *Tree of Life*, and it was on the *Tree of the Cross* that He won Life for us.

Many Catholic families have a tradition of saying a blessing for the Christmas tree after it is decorated (and before they light it up).

You can have members of your family or group take turns making up blessings, or you can all use the following one:

PRAYER BLESSING FOR THE CHRISTMAS TREE

Leader: Lord our God, we praise You for the light of creation: the sun, the moon, and the stars of the night.

We praise You for the light of Israel: the Law, the prophets, and the wisdom of the Scriptures.

We praise You for Jesus Christ, Your Son: He is Emmanuel, God-with-us, the Prince of Peace, who fills us with the wonder of Your love.

Lord God, let Your blessing come upon us as we illumine this tree. May the light and cheer it gives us be a sign of the joy that fills our hearts.

May all who delight in this tree come to the knowledge and joy of salvation.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.
All: Amen.



EWTN NETWORK

For programs focusing on Advent and Christmas viewing on TV, tune into EWTN, the *Global Catholic Network* (Spectrum **Cable Channel 460**) for outstanding presentations, talks, devotions, Liturgies and live papal broadcasts from the Vatican. For information: www.ewtn.com



ADULT CONFIRMATION 2026

REGISTER NOW FOR SPRING CLASSES! OLMC's next 14-week series of **Weekly Adult Confirmation Preparation Classes**

for Adult Catholics (over 18+), who for any reason have never received the Sacrament of Confirmation, or for anyone wishing a **Refresher Course** in the Catholic Faith, will begin on **Tuesday evening, February 10, 2026**, (7:00-8:30 PM) in O'Donnell Hall.

For more information, please contact **Greg Kelley**, at (949) 645-4540 or nbolmc@aol.com



OLMC YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

Sign up for our young adult ministry and to receive updates on future events!

Scan this QR code to download **GroupMe** on iPhone or Android and join our group.