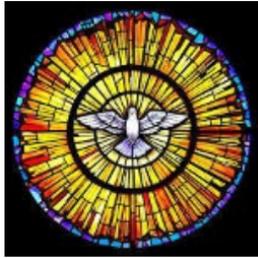


1<sup>st</sup> *Sunday*  
OF ADVENT



**Our Lady of Mt. Carmel and Our Lady of Loreto Parish  
PRAYER FOR PARISH SPIRITUAL RENEWAL**



Lord God, You love us with an everlasting love, and You choose us to share Your love with others. We ask that You rekindle in our hearts a new spirit of faith, of prayer and of reconciliation. Inspire us to search out and find ways of bringing one another closer to You. We pray for all who form our parish community, that we remain faithful to Your teaching, that we remain steadfast in our prayer, both personal and communal, that together with You and the Holy Spirit, our parish may be renewed and transformed. All this we ask in the name of Jesus and through the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

**Please cut out and pray daily.**

**Divine Mercy Chaplet:**

Join us during the Saturdays of Advent, beginning at 3:45 pm, to pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet before the 4:00 pm Mass. It was the Lord's desire that this prayer be made known to all souls as it would be the source of great graces for many, and indeed the entire world. Let us come together to pray for our parish community, our families and our world.

**Ministry to the Homebound**

Whether you are already an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion and have availability to help us with this necessary and rewarding ministry, or would like to become a Minister of Holy Communion, please call Deacon Paul at 508-753-5001. A meeting will be set for a future date for all to attend.

**PRAYER BEFORE MASS**

Come, Holy Spirit, quiet my heart and my head, as I gather with my family, friends and neighbors to celebrate Mass. Quiet the thoughts and distractions that will keep me from worship. Open my mouth in prayer and song. Open my ears to hear God's word. Open my eyes to the mystery of the Eucharist. Open my heart to receive Jesus with love. May I go forth strengthened to take the Mass into my life this week.

**FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK**

Dear Friends,

This weekend we begin the holy season of Advent and we will light the first candle of the Advent wreath. Advent begins the Church's liturgical year. The Church places the season of Advent at the beginning of the Church's liturgical year because it is a special season of hope. Winter is coming and the days are getting shorter and the nights longer. We can easily fall into despair at this time but the Church reminds us that the birth of Christ gives us great reason to hope amidst the darkness of evil that impacts the world. To be without hope, to have nothing to live for, is to surrender to death and despair. But we can find many things to live for and for which to hope. We, as Christians, are a people who live in hope; it gives us dignity, meaning and purpose.

Take time during this busy, and sometimes frenetic season, to pray daily, to attend morning Mass, to extend kindness to those you meet, work or go to school with, and especially to those with whom you live. Make some quiet time and space in your daily routine so the Lord will have more of a chance to enter your life more fully and richly as you prepare once again to celebrate Jesus' birth and experience the great joy and peace it brings to the world.

Happy Advent!  
Monsignor Pedone

**Celebrate Advent by Lighting a Candle**



The season of Advent begins this weekend and the traditional Advent Wreath has been set up in our sanctuary. We invite you and your family to come forward at the beginning of each Mass during Advent to light the candles on the wreath. A sign-up book has been placed on the table in the vestibule of the church to reserve the Mass at which you and your family would like to come forward. This is a wonderful way for you and your family to participate in this centuries-old Advent tradition.

**A NOTE OF THANKS**

Some names were left off of the thank you to those who worked at the Harvest Bazaar. Please extend a very warm thank you to Tony Murgo, Jr., Maria Munoz, Nancy Merinigilo, and Deacon Gerry for their contributions to the event. If we inadvertently omitted your name, please let the office know. Again, a sincere thank you to all who worked and made this event a success!





**1st Sunday of Advent**

Another Advent is here! Do you remember what you did during Advent last year to prepare for the coming of Jesus? Did you feel a sense of anticipation while being watchful and alert? You can be honest.

In Mark's Gospel reading for this Sunday, Jesus speaks of a man who leaves on travels and before he departs he puts his stewards in charge, so that upon his return his home will be ready. You and I are those whom Jesus has put in charge. We each have our own work to do. If we are not preparing using our own unique gifts and talents, who will do our work? Perhaps we think we can do that later, or maybe next year. But if no one knows when he is coming, how do we gauge how much time we have to complete our work?

Most of us get so caught up in holiday shopping, making travel plans, preparing for guests, and attending holiday parties that even if we meant well, the motivation we had on day one of the Advent season slowly slips away. This year, let us resolve to be good stewards and be about our Lord's work. He trusted us enough to leave us in charge. He must believe we are up to the task

Liturgical Publications, Inc.

**This Week in Our Parish**

**Mon., Dec. 2—6:30 pm—Adult Faith Formation**

**Tues., Dec. 3—9:00 am-2:00 pm -Golden Years Gathering**

**7:00 pm—Knights of Columbus**

**Wed., Dec. 4—10:15 am—Bible Study**

**Sat., Dec. 7—3.45pm—Divine Mercy Chaplet in Church**

**Sun., Dec. 8-Religious Education classes:**

**9 - 10:15 am: Grades 1-4**

**11:30 am - 12:30 pm: Grades 5-10**

**Trip to LaSalette Shrine and Wrights Chicken Farm**  
 Sunday, December 8.

Adults - \$35.00 dollars Children - \$30.00  
 Please call 508-753-5001 to make reservations.

**Christmas Giving Trees**



Our parish continues to support the poor at Christmas through our Giving Tree tradition.

One tree supports the children from the Guild of St. Agnes. It is decorated with 150 tags. **THESE GIFTS SHOULD BE WRAPPED WITH THE TAGS FIRMLY ATTACHED ON THE OUTSIDE.**

Another tree supports the Nazareth Home for Boys, Rainbow Child Development Center and for local families in need. **PLEASE BRING YOUR GIFTS, UNWRAPPED, IN A GIFT BAG, WITH THE TAG ATTACHED TO THE BAG.**

All gifts are to be brought to church on the weekends of Nov. 30-Dec. 1, Dec. 7/8, and 14/15. Gifts will be displayed at the entrance of our sanctuary.

**ALL GIFTS MUST BE BROUGHT IN BY DEC. 15.**

What a wonderful way to prepare ourselves for the celebration of Christmas!

**FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

*"Therefore, stay awake! For you do not know on which day your Lord will come." (Matthew 24:42)* People who have had health issues or near-death experiences generally have a greater appreciation for each day being a gift from God. The rest of us usually take for granted that we will be around tomorrow. But when you start to look at each day as a gift, you realize all the little miracles that happen daily and grow in gratitude for all that we have been given. You begin to see God's active presence in your life.

**WINTER WEATHER AND MASS**



Winter weather has made an early return. Because of potentially dangerous winter conditions, it may be necessary to cancel Mass. If Worcester schools cancel or delay class because of inclement weather, the 7:00 am weekday Mass is also cancelled. For Lord's Day Masses on Saturday and Sunday, please listen to WTAG, WSRS, or Channel 7 for any Mass cancellations.

**FOOD DONATIONS**

Through your generosity, we are able to help families in our local area. Please drop off food items in the church vestibule or at the parish center. Your donations to the Friendly House Food Pantry makes a big difference to someone who is hungry. Many thanks!

Financial Stewardship

For the week ending November 24, 2019

Due to the Thanksgiving holiday, the bulletin was submitted earlier than usual and the financial statement was not available at that time. The statement will be posted in next weekend's bulletin.

**SINGERS ARE NEEDED**

Male or female - young or mature - as the choir is starting to prepare for Advent and Christmas. I have tried to minimize the amount of time the choir members need to sacrifice. Rehearsals are Monday evenings 6-7 pm. The choir sings the last Saturday at the 4 pm Mass and the first Sunday at the 10:30 Mass of each month. That is all! Don't be shy or afraid.

You don't have to be able to read music, most members do not read music now. Just come ready to learn and have a few laughs while we're at it!

If you have questions please email me and I will get back to you as soon as possible: [Konkoljosef@yahoo.com](mailto:Konkoljosef@yahoo.com)

Josef Konkol, Choir Director

**Christmas Pageant**

**Sunday, December 22 at 10:00 a.m.**

**Please join us.**



Upcoming Events

**Dec. 7-Women of Faith—Marlboro—Sat., Dec. 7, 9:30am-1pm**

**Dec. 8-Wrights Farm & LaSalette**

**RED SOX—MAY 1, 2020**

Please join us on a trip to Fenway Park to see the Red Sox play on May 1, 2020. Bus will leave at 5 pm. Cost is \$50 per person and that includes ticket to the game and bus transportation. Please call 508-753-5001 to reserve tickets now. They sell out fast.



One way to spread **JOY** is to put

**Jesus first  
Others second  
You third**

Ministry Assignments for Dec. 7-8

**December 7 @ 4:00 pm**

**Lector – Linda Chenevert**

**Ministers – Nancy Gurgone & Elaine David**

**December 8 @ 8:00 am**

**Lector—Sandra SanClemente**

**Ministers—Joe Sama & Louise Faiola**

**December 8 @ 10:30 am**

**Lector - Vera Novick**

**Ministers - Elizabeth Santley & Chizoma Nosike**

**Please arrange for a substitute if you cannot fulfill your assignment. Thank you for the good work that you do!**

Feast of the Immaculate Conception



**Sunday, December 8, is the Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. This year the feast is on a Sunday and will be celebrated on Monday, Dec. 9. Because the feast falls on Sunday, it is not a holy day of obligation.**

**The feast is celebrated nine months before the Nativity of Mary, which is celebrated on September 8. It is the patronal feast day of the United States. In the Constitution *Ineffabilis Deus* of December 8, 1854, Pope Pius IX pronounced and defined that the Blessed Virgin Mary “in the first instance of her conception, by a singular privilege and grace granted by God, in view of the merits of Jesus Christ, the Savior of the human race, was preserved exempt from all stain of original sin.”**

**Five Simple Rules to be Happy**

- Free your heart from hatred
- Free your mind from worries
- Live simply
- Give more
- Expect less

**PRAYER FOR OUR HOLY FATHER**

Almighty and everlasting God, have mercy upon Thy servant, Pope Francis, our Supreme Pontiff, and direct him, according to Thy loving kindness, in the way of eternal salvation; that, of Thy gift, he may ever desire that which is pleasing unto Thee and may accomplish it with all his might. Through Christ Our Lord .



# MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, November 30, 2019—3:00 p.m.—  
Confessions

Saturday, November 30, 2019—4:00 p.m.  
**The People of the Parish**

Sunday, December 1, 2019—8:00 a.m.  
**Giuseppe DelloStritto** by Tony and Betty Chionchio

Sunday, December 1, 2019—10:30 a.m.  
**Francis Pascucci** and **Gregory Travaglio** by Carmine and Esther

**Paula J. Torrey** by Buddy and Sim Simone  
**Richard Battelle** (Second Anniversary) by Family  
**Alberto Human Manssur** by Family

Monday, December 2, 2019—7:00 a.m.  
**The Sick of the Parish**

Tuesday, December 3, 2019—7:00 a.m.  
**Albert Gallo Sr.** by Family  
**Elizabeth, James and Seamus Shannon** and  
**Brendan Shanley** by the Shanley Family

Wednesday, December 4, 2019—7:00 a.m.  
**Parishioners Intentions**

Thursday, December 5, 2019—7:00 a.m.  
**The Souls in Purgatory**

Saturday, December 7, 2019—3:00 p.m.—  
Confessions

Saturday, December 7, 2019—4:00 p.m.  
**Ralph and Josephine Hilton** and **Madelyn and Jack Eaton** by Nephews

Sunday, December 8, 2019—8:00 a.m.  
**Gregory Travaglio** by Michael and Rosanna Travaglio  
**Antonietta and Arturo Fraioli** by Josie DelloStritto and Family

Sunday, December 8, 2019—10:30 a.m.  
**Irene McBride** and **William J. McBride** by Family  
**Dr. Italia M. D'Argenis Granata** and **Nicholas Granata** by Daughters  
**Gregory Travaglio** by Family



**Please pray for the sick of our parish:** Francis Cafone, Susan Stomski, Donna Grasseschi, Lori Blackwell, Carmella Szklarz, Matteo Fiore, Patrick Loconto, Frank "Butch" Rano, Mary O'Connor, Christopher Collazo, Paula Mari, Sim Simone, Cathy Coffey, Mildred Bassan, Vincent Pusateri, Sylvia Pusateri, Debbie Caffone, Joseph Ginskus, Philip Powers, Virginia Czubrynski, Karen Remian, Sandra Powers, Jennifer Bodinizzo, Martin Laine, Robert Bacon, Belinda Sahagun, Thelma Ortiz, Caryl Masiello, Cynthia Pedone, Roland Dionne, Maxwell Mitchell, Louis Naple, Sue Cozzolino, Carol Iaconi, Anthony DeAngelis, Reverend Charles Armeay, Anthony & Paul Locantore, Antoinetta Froio, Ernest Martone, Kelly Piscillo, Ann Servidio, Eleanor Gallo, Maria Dzikczek, Loretta Sclafani, Joseph Vancelette, Vinny Tiscione, Adolfo Ortiz Jr., Madelyn Martin, Anthony Paldino, Ann Marie Verdolino, Christina Santley, Theresa Parretti, Marie Cherry, Emma Taubert, Reverend Michael Bafaro, Francis Parretti, Charlene Swalec, James Saez, Christopher Pace and Irene Bastardo. May the Lord give them strength, courage and healing.

**THIS WEEK OUR SANCTUARY LAMPS ARE DEDICATED TO THE MEMORY OF:**

**Catherine and Joseph Riggieri**  
and son, **Joseph Jr.**  
by daughter and sister



*Rest in Peace*

*We, the parish community of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel and Our Lady of Loreto, extend our deepest sympathy to the families and friends of Jennie Stewart. May God grant her peace forever and bring comfort to her families and friends.*



**PLEASE REMEMBER OUR PARISH IN YOUR WILLS, BEQUESTS AND UPON THE DEATH OF LOVED ONES FOR DONATIONS. MANY THANKS!**

**Members of the families requesting the Mass may bring the gifts of bread and wine to the Altar. Please make yourselves known to the Hospitality Ministers and position yourselves when it is convenient to join the Offertory Procession.**

**How about making a Cursillo weekend?**

Cursillo or “short course in Christianity”, involving laypeople and clergy who deliver organized talks and discussions plus the witness of their own lives, struggles and triumphs in Christ. Weekends are held at the Immaculate Conception Spiritual Renewal Center in Putnam, CT.

**2020: Women’s: May 28-30  
October 22-25**

**2020: Men’s: February 6-9  
September 10-13**

For more information, Elizabeth Santley @ 508-304-8871 or esantley@yahoo.com. Applications are available in the vestibule if the church.

**Volunteer at Notre Dame Long Term Care**

The Pastoral Care Department at Notre Dame Long Term Care is looking for volunteers. We are in need of those who are already commissioned in their parishes as Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion as well as people who would help transport our residents in wheelchairs to Mass. If you feel called to this ministry please contact Erin Mahadeo at 508-852-5800 x3125

**March for Life Registration Information now available!**

**Plan now to attend the 47th annual March for Life in Washington, DC on Friday, Jan. 24, 2020!** For more details and to download registration forms, visit [www.worcesterdiocese.org/respect-life](http://www.worcesterdiocese.org/respect-life) or contact the Respect Life Office at 508-929-4311 or email [ale-doux@worcesterdiocese.org](mailto:ale-doux@worcesterdiocese.org).

**1230AM/970AM/101.1FM EMMANUEL RADIO**

**“ANGELS AUCTION DINNER” 2019**

**SAVE THE DATE!!**

Emmanuel Catholic Radio will host its live “Angels Auction Charity Dinner” Thursday, December 12.

Bid online at 1230radio.com Nov. 25 – Dec. 11 for great items, holiday gifts, and more. Then join us for a fun live Auction Event at St. Paul’s Cathedral, Worcester, 6-9pm Thurs., Dec. 12. Your generous tax-deductible donation will help keep Catholic Radio on the air in the Diocese of Worcester. Call (508) 767-1230 or email [cindy.dorsey@1230radio.com](mailto:cindy.dorsey@1230radio.com).

**ON-LINE GIVING**

We would like to remind you that we currently offer Online Giving. We want to provide you the convenience of being able to give the way you want, whenever you want. Online Giving offers you the opportunity to make secure, automatic contributions from your bank account to our church. Online Giving costs you nothing and provides many advantages to you and the church:

**Benefits for You:**

- No check writing or ATM stops before church
- Safe, secure, and confidential transactions
- Use your checking/savings account or credit/debit card
- Schedule recurring or one-time donations
- Change a gift or account anytime you like
- View your giving history anytime

**Benefits for the Church:**

- Reduces check processing fees
- Creates peace in knowing your data and auto-deposited gifts are secure
- Provides giving history for tax statements
- Reaches a wider demographic of givers

We ask that you consider using this service—especially if you currently manage your bills or banking online. To register for Online Giving, please visit the church website at [mtcarmel.ws](http://mtcarmel.ws) and click on the link for on-line giving or call Lisa at 508-753-5001.

**WOMEN OF FAITH Advent Morning of Prayer**

“Forgiveness: Making Peace with Others and Ourselves” will be presented by Marina McCoy, Ph.D. on **Saturday, Dec. 7 from 9:30 am– 1 pm** at 720 Boston Post Road East, Marlborough. (Alliance Health Inc. at Marie Esther Health Center) Our presenter, Marina McCoy, Ph.D., is a philosophy professor, spirituality writer, and prison volunteer. She teaches in a social justice program (PULSE) and courses on ancient Greek philosophy at Boston College, and is a married mother of two. Our gathering will begin with “coffee and” followed by a brief presentation, prayer, personal reflection, and discussion. A registration fee of \$10.00 is paid at the door.

*Pre-registration is required by Nov. 29.* You may pre-register on our website at [WomenOfFaithSSA.org](http://WomenOfFaithSSA.org), or email [info@womenoffaithssa.org](mailto:info@womenoffaithssa.org), or phone Ann Williams at 508-481-8176 or Sr. Yvette Bellerose, SSA at 774-239-3372.

**CHRISTMAS TREE SALE AT DISMAS FARM**

Join us for a Dismas Christmas, our first Annual Tree Sale on **Saturday, Nov 30 and Saturday, Dec. 7 from 11 am - 4 pm.** Along with having trees for sale, enjoy homemade Christmas crafts, cookies, cocoa and hayrides. Located at 687 Lincoln Road, Oakham. Visit us online at [dismasisfamily.org](http://dismasisfamily.org) or call 508-882-0000.