



# Our Lady of Mount Carmel *and* Our Lady of Loreto Parish

37 MASSASOIT ROAD, WORCESTER, MA

Parish telephone: 508-753-5001

Parish fax: 508-754-1537 Rectory: 508-304-9988

Parish e-mail - [clergy@ourladyofloreto.net](mailto:clergy@ourladyofloreto.net)

or [lisaolmc@gmail.com](mailto:lisaolmc@gmail.com)

Parish Website: [www.mtcarmel.ws](http://www.mtcarmel.ws)



## MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 p.m.

Sunday: 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

## DAILY MASS

Monday through Thursday 7:00 a.m.

## HOLY DAY MASSES

Holyday: 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

## SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturdays from 2:45-3:30

Or by appointment—please call 508-304-9988  
to schedule.

## SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

To schedule a baptism please call 508-753-5001

## SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

Couples planning to be married should contact the pastor  
at least a year in advance. A program of preparation is  
required for all couples planning to marry in the church. To  
schedule a wedding please call 508-753-5001.

## SACRAMENT OF THE SICK

Please contact the parish office at 508-753-5001

## PARISH REGISTRATION

To become a registered member of the parish, please call  
508-753-5001 or register on-line at [www.mtcarmel.ws](http://www.mtcarmel.ws).

## MINISTERIAL STAFF

**Reverend Monsignor F. Stephen Pedone**, Pastor  
[fpedone@charter.net](mailto:fpedone@charter.net)

**Donald Pegg**, Deacon

**Joan D'Argenis**, Director of Religious Education  
[joan\\_dargenis@yahoo.com](mailto:joan_dargenis@yahoo.com)

**Maria Sciannameo**, RCIA Director

**Michael Sacco, Joseph Sama** - Finance

**Lisa Fenuccio**, Administrative Assistant  
[lisaolmc@gmail.com](mailto:lisaolmc@gmail.com)

**Julia Tufano**, Secretary and Publicity

**David Soares**, Parish Council Chair

**Edward Amorello**, Property Comm. Chair

**Joan Venincasa and Virginia Bailey**, Organists

**Josef Konkol**, Choir Director

**Joseph Godek**, Respect Life Ministry  
[jogopapa7@gmail.com](mailto:jogopapa7@gmail.com)

**John Oliver**, Hospitality Ministry and Property Manager

**Patricia Solitro**, Safe Environment Coordinator

**Chester DiLeo**, Coordinator, "Our Father's Bread" Ministry  
to Homebound—[cdileo2@charter.net](mailto:cdileo2@charter.net)

**John Morello**, Grand Knight of the Knights of Columbus  
[John.morello@gmail.com](mailto:John.morello@gmail.com)

As a reminder Our Lady of Mount Carmel and Our Lady of Loreto Parish follows the guidelines of the national Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People approved by the US Bishops and the policies of the Diocese of Worcester in screening those who work with children in our care and in helping victims of abuse find healing.

If you or someone you know has been sexually abused by a Church employee or volunteer in the past, please contact The Office for Healing and Prevention at 508-929-4363 (direct line & confidential voicemail). You may also contact Monsignor Pedone at 508-753-5001. If you are concerned about a current case of abuse, please contact the local civil authorities immediately.

All church staff and volunteers must complete a CORI form and complete a Safe Environment Training session. For more information please contact our Safe Environment Coordinator Pat Solitro at 508-753-5001.

**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.**

**BUILDING ON OUR FAITH,  
BUILDING ON OUR FUTURE**

Over the next few weeks, you will be hearing about the upcoming *Building on Our Faith, Building on Our Future* Program at Our Lady of Mount Carmel and Our Lady of Loreto Parish. This effort is very important as we move forward with the mission and vision of Our Lady of Mount Carmel and Our Lady of Loreto Parish. We, as a parish family, have changed so many lives in our community! In order to continue our mission and ministries, we encourage all parishioners to spend time in prayer and discussion with your family reflecting on the work we do. Our special Commitment Weekend will be celebrated on January 20 & 21. If you have any questions regarding the *Building on Our Faith, Building on Our Future* Program, please feel free to contact the parish office.

**January 7.....The Epiphany of the Lord**



**"They prostrated themselves and did him homage."** The Magi were men of great faith. Their worldly position and power could have made them scoff at the sight of this humble infant. Their treasury of wealth could have blinded

them to the true value of this child king. But instead these men placed themselves at the feet of Jesus in a gesture of complete submission. Then, as a sign of their devotion, they "opened their treasures" and offered this baby costly and precious gifts. Only a deep and sincere faith could justify such a surprising scene.

Taking the Three Kings as models, we can examine our own lives. Are we willing to "travel" for our faith, leaving our comfort zone for the sake of the Gospel? Are we willing to share our "wealth" to glorify God? Are we willing to submit our desires and plans to the authority of Christ? As we begin the journey of this New Year, let us resolve to follow in the faithful footsteps of the Magi.

**FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK**

Dear Friends,

The ancient texts they studied pointed them in the direction of the country of the Jews.

They searched the heavens as the sages indicated. Then, gathering precious gifts, they set out to find this king that God had raised up. The journey naturally took them to Jerusalem, the sophisticated capital city of Judaism — but the king they encountered there was the antithesis of the king they were searching for. They were redirected to Bethlehem, a small village a few miles — and another world — away. There they found the place they were looking for: a tired young mom and her little boy playing peacefully.

In their hearts they knew they had found who they were looking for. The prophecies were fulfilled. They had followed the right star. These men — the wisest of the wise of their time — shook the dust off their boots and robes and entered the small dwelling. Humbly, they presented their gifts to the child — offerings that foretold the life that lay before this boy.

What was missing in the courts of the powerful in the city they found in a hovel in that village: humility, compassion, peace — and hope.

God had entered human history as a vulnerable, happy child.

And they were wise enough to realize the divine in their midst.

And they did him homage.

We, too, seek God — but, more often than not, we find him in unexpected places. But at the very same time God is seeking us. We insist on looking in great cathedrals when God is present in a hospital room; we are swept up in great displays of power but fail to see God's hand at work with the farmer bringing his vegetables to harvest; we are moved to tears by a magnificent oratorio but are deaf to God's joy in a giggling child. In the year ahead, may we seek God in the Bethlehems we travel and work to bring our Bethlehems' simple peace, uncomplicated justice and blessed compassion to our Jerusalems and centers of power. Let us bow in gratitude before the gift of bread on our tables; before babies; before ocean waves, sunrises and sunsets; before the poor, the vulnerable and marginalized; before all that is good and holy. For there is God, among us, in our Bethlehems.

New Year blessings  
Monsignor Pedone

**A NOTE OF THANKS**

I want to thank so many of you who sent cards, gifts, and goodies to me this Christmas. I was overwhelmed by your generosity and thoughtfulness. Many thanks as well to all who assisted as Ministers of Holy Communion, readers, altar servers, members of the choir, cantors, organists and all those who helped in any way to make our Christmas Masses such great celebrations of faith, worship and joy. May our Lord be generous in sending His blessings to you in the New Year and may our Blessed Lady Mary continue to intercede for you with all your intentions with her Divine Son.

Monsignor Pedone

## Baptism OF THE Lord

The Solemnity of the Baptism of Our Lord brings to an end the season of Christmas. The Church recalls Our Lord's second manifestation or epiphany which occurred on the occasion of His baptism in the Jordan. Jesus descended into the River to sanctify its waters and to give them the power to beget sons of God. The event takes on the importance of a second creation in which the entire Trinity intervenes.

Many of the incidents which accompanied Christ's baptism are symbolic of what happened at our Baptism. At Christ's baptism the Holy Spirit descended upon Him; at our Baptism the Trinity took its abode in our soul. At His baptism Christ was proclaimed the "Beloved Son" of the Father; at our Baptism we become the adopted sons of God. At Christ's baptism the heavens were opened; at our Baptism heaven was opened to us. At His baptism Jesus prayed; after our Baptism we must pray to avoid actual sin.

*Excerpted from Msgr. Rudolph G. Bandas*

### MEAT RAFFLE



A meat raffle will be taking place on **January 7, 2024** at 1:00 PM at the 4<sup>th</sup> and 1 Club, 7 Muskego St., Worcester, MA. This fundraiser will help support our Italian Festival that will be taking place on August 15<sup>th</sup> through the August 18<sup>th</sup> 2024. We will be having 6 different meat tables during the event, as well as a 50/50 raffle, a lottery raffle, and more. Please join us.

### CHOIR NEWS

Now that we've all celebrated Advent and Christmas with beautiful Masses enhanced by the choir, we now enter the new year. I personally would like to extend an invitation to anyone wishing to join the choir for the last half of the ensemble's year. Rehearsals will now be Monday evenings, 6:30-7:30. The choir sings just the Masses for the last weekend of each month, Saturday at 4pm and Sunday at 10:30am. Be a part of the parish that brings inspirational music to each Mass and enjoy the friendship and enjoyment that this choir is known for. If you wish to join, simply come to the choir loft on Monday night. Should you have any questions please contact me at [Konkoljosef@gmail.com](mailto:Konkoljosef@gmail.com). I hope to see some new members for 2024!

Josef Konkol, director

**God has his own time.**

**We are just impatient.**

**MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL, FINANCE COMMITTEE, AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE ON WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 10<sup>TH</sup> AT 6:00 PM AT THE PARISH CENTER.**

The Knights will be praying the rosary on **Sunday, January 21st at 10:00** before the 10:30 mass followed by a pancake breakfast in the parish center. All are welcome, please join us.



### ADULT CONFIRMATION

The Diocese is again offering an opportunity for adults over the age of 18 who would like to be confirmed. The ceremony is scheduled for Sunday, February 4, 2024, at 3:00 PM at Saint Paul Cathedral with Bishop McManus as celebrant. Please see Monsignor Pedone or Deacon Pegg for more information.

### KNIGHT OF COLUMBUS MUSEUM

We are planning a trip to the Blessed Michael McGivney Pilgrimage Center (formerly known as the Knights of Columbus Museum) on Sunday, January 14. More details will follow soon.

If you are interested, please contact Joan D'Argenis at [joan\\_dargenis@yahoo.com](mailto:joan_dargenis@yahoo.com) or call the parish office at 508-753-5001.

**RECIPES AND REMEMBRANCES**—The Italian Festival Committee will be reprinting the *Recipes and Remembrances* cookbook in the spring. If you were unable to get one or would like to order more please contact the parish office at 508-753-5001. We are hoping to have them available in April or May.

### Upcoming Events

- Golden Years (every Tuesday)**
- Knights of Columbus Fellowship—7 pm (every 1st Wednesday)**
- Knights of Columbus Meeting—7 pm (every 3rd Wednesday) All men of the Parish are welcome to attend.**
- "At the Foot of the Cross" - 6:30 pm -last Wednesday of the month (check with the office)**
- Jan. 7—The Epiphany of the Lord**
- Jan. 8—The Baptism of the Lord**
- Jan. 7—Meat Raffle (See article)**
- Jan. 10—Parish Council/Finance Committee—6 pm**
- Jan. 14—K of C Museum Trip (See article)**
- Jan. 19—March for Life in Washington, DC**
- Jan. 21—K of C—Rosary before 10:30 Mass and Pancake Breakfast after Mass**



Financial Stewardship

For the week ending December 24, 2023

Income

## Offertory:

Week-End	\$5,260.51
Mail	1,440.00
On-Line Giving	1,091.51
Christmas	615.00
Fuel	205.00
Maintenance	175.00
Christmas Flowers	110.00
Religious Retirement	55.00
Solemnity of Mary	31.00
First Offering	25.00
Immaculate Conception	21.00
Religious Education	10.00
Total Offertory	\$9,039.02
Funeral Stipends	600.00
Meat Raffle Sponsors	300.00
Candles	176.00
Rental Income	100.00
Mass Stipends	50.00
Catholic Free Press	39.00
Total	<u>\$10,304.02</u>

Disbursements

Salaries and Wages	\$6,047.00
Annual Software License	959.00
Christmas Flowers	774.00
Repairs and Maintenance	410.00
Supplies	395.30
Employee Benefits	156.84
Total	<u>\$8,742.14</u>
Average Weekly Amount Needed for Parish Operations	\$8,400.00
Total Amount Deposited	\$10,304.02
Less: Diocesan Collections & Restricted Funds	<u>(465.00)</u>
Cash Over/(Short)	<u>\$1,439.02</u>

We have had some requests from parishioners who contribute online, monthly, quarterly or otherwise to provide a listing of upcoming collections. So, going forward we will now publish this information in the bulletin each week. If you have any questions please feel free to contact Lisa at [lisaolmc@gmail.com](mailto:lisaolmc@gmail.com) or 508-753-5001.

January, 2024	Maintenance
January, 2024	Initial Offering
January 7, 2024	Catholic University
January 7, 2024	Weekly Offering
January 14, 2024	Fuel Offering
January 14, 2024	Weekly Offering
January 21, 2024	Weekly Offering
January 28, 2024	Catholic Home Missions
January 28, 2024	Weekly Offering

Financial Stewardship

For the week ending December 31, 2023

Income

## Offertory:

Week-End	\$3,196.52
Christmas	2,914.00
Mail	1,530.00
On-Line Giving	616.70
Maintenance	118.00
Solemnity of Mary	114.00
Fuel	99.00
First Offering	85.00
Catholic University	50.00
Ash Wednesday	35.00
Priests Retirement	30.00
Home Missions	20.00
Latin America	20.00
Christmas Flowers	7.00
Immaculate Conception	7.00
All Souls	7.00
All Saints	7.00
Total Offertory	\$8,856.22
Rental Income	80.00
Candles	58.00
Meat Raffle Sponsors	50.00
Sanctuary Lamps	40.00
Total	<u>\$9,084.22</u>

Disbursements

## Music: (December)

Organists	\$1,575.00
Choir Director	1,400.00
Cantors	825.00
Total Cost of Music	\$3,800.00
Diocesan Invoices (December)	4,857.00
Repairs and Maintenance	1,379.57
CYC Outing	1,232.01
Religious Retirement Collection	1,004.00
Funeral Stipends	770.00
Rectory—Food and Household	437.18
Supplies	350.56
Mass Stipends	305.00
Mass Coverage	250.00
Salaries and Wages	235.00
Rubbish Removal	138.60
Employee Benefits	117.00
Total	<u>\$14,875.92</u>

## Average Weekly Amount Needed

for Parish Operations	\$8,400.00
Total Amount Deposited	\$9,084.22
Less: Diocesan Collections & Restricted Funds	<u>(205.00)</u>
Cash Over/(Short)	<u>\$479.22</u>

**Start each day with a grateful heart.**

# MASS INTENTIONS



Saturday, January 6, 2024—4:00 p.m.

**Matteo Travaglio** by Mr. and Mrs. Antonio Chionchio  
**Matteo and Madalena Chionchio** by Family  
**Jeanette LeClair and Joan Mero** by Flo

Sunday, January 7, 2024—8:00 a.m.

**Lodia & Henry Benoit, Catherine Gazoorian** (20th Anniversary) by Karen and David Gouin

Sunday, January 7, 2024—10:30 a.m.

**Joseph Froio** by Wife and Children  
**Aspreno Ciccarelli and Mary Ciccarelli** by Diego  
**Anthony Coffone** (Birthday Remembrance) by wife Nancy and Family  
**Susan G. Porcaro** (11th Anniversary) by son Michael C. Martin  
**Father Frank Liistro** (11th Anniversary) by Michael C. Martin  
**Marsha Painchaud** by brother

Monday, January 8, 2024—7:00 a.m.

**The Sick of the Parish**

Tuesday, January 9, 2024—7:00 a.m.

**The Souls in Purgatory**

Wednesday, January 10, 2024—7:00 a.m.

**Pierrino Perno** (43rd Anniversary) by Mr. and Mrs. Michael Cianci  
**Maria Lilette Vasquez** by the Ortiz Family

Thursday, January 11, 2024—7:00 a.m.

**Gerald Spillane**  
**Denise Garofoli** (Birthday) by a Friend

Saturday, January 13, 2024—4:00 p.m.

**Brendan Shanley and Deceased Members of the Shannon and Shanley Families** by the Shanley Family

Sunday, January 14, 2024—8:00 a.m.

**Linda Sacco** by husband Pat Sacco and Family

Sunday, January 14, 2024- 10:30 a.m.

**Lina Minardi and Egisto Minardi** by Family  
**Rocco Visci** (Birthday Remembrance) by Family  
**Matteo Travaglio** by Andrea Migliorelli, Sonia Chausis and Sandra Gardner  
**Angelo Arcuri** by Family  
**Sandra Brouillard** (7th Anniversary) by Elizabeth Santley



**Please pray for the sick of our parish:** Francis Caffone, Donna Grasseschi, Lori Blackwell, Matteo Fiore, Patrick Loconto, Frank "Butch" Rano, Sylvia Pusateri, Thelma Ortiz, Cynthia Pedone, Roland Dionne, Sue Cozzolino, Paul Locantore, Ann Servidio, Joseph Vancelette, Madelyn Martin, Ann Marie Verdolino, Charlene Swalec, Lorrie Tufano, Maxwell Mitchell, Lynn Wagner, Carol Youngstrom, Rudy Aromando, Richard Sharameta, Cindy Worthington, Beverly DeMarco, George Burton, Charlotte O'Mara, Renate Perry, Angela Vizzo, Jacob Rivera, Stephanie Berthiaume Cowie, Fulvia D'Amico, Isabella Gamble, Melissa Totaro, Nancy Meringolo, Veronika Montiverdi, Joyce Molinari, Lillian Pascarelli, Lisa Cianci, Tina Donahue, Dolores Pellegrino, Lucinda Gremo and Ida Heath. May the Lord give them strength, courage and healing.

## Rest in Peace

*We, the parish community of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel and Our Lady of Loreto, extend our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Judith Ann Hayden. God grant her peace forever and bring comfort to her family and friends.*



## OPEN HOUSE AT ST. PETER CENTRAL CATHOLIC

Please join us at St. Peter Central Catholic Elementary School, 865 Main Street, Worcester for an Open House on Sunday, January 28th from 1:00 pm—3:00 pm. St. Peter's has openings in grades pre-K—8. Please visit us on January 28th or for more information please contact marybeth.soucy@stpetercc.com or by phone at 508-791-6496. You can also visit our website [www.stpetercentralcatholic.com](http://www.stpetercentralcatholic.com)

## Worcester Railers Catholic Schools Night...Jan. 26

Do you like hockey? How about the Worcester Railers vs. the Norfolk Admirals? If you are interested, Catholic Schools Night is January 26. Tickets will be available at a discounted group rate and would range from \$14-\$22 per ticket based on where you sit. Call Brendan Walsh @ 508-365-1756 for more information.

## THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

"They fell down and worshipped him. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh." (Matthew 2:11) Notice the order of events in the Magi's visit. First, they knelt before Jesus and prayed to Him. Then they presented Him with their gifts. We, too, must take time to pray before we present our gifts to the Lord. We never know what God may be asking us to share!

## RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY

Respect for life. If you look around today it seems like disrespect for life. We disrespect life by abortion, child abuse, sex trafficking of children and adults, assisted suicide, euthanasia, immorality, corruption and other vices. We even disrespect God! What has happened to us? We are living in a modern day Sodom and Gomorrah. We disrespect ourselves by the way we treat our bodies with excessive and provocative tattoos, body piercings, torn and wrinkled clothes, too casual and too revealing. Weddings and formal affairs are anything but. Just look at the way we dress for church. It used to be your "Sunday best". Now we disrespect the Mass and Eucharist by our appearance. We dress as if we are going to work, or in the summer, as if we are going to the beach.

We have lost respect for our parents, our government and authority figures. We live in a culture of relativism, we are the authority and we know what's best. Recently a school official was sworn into office by a judge, not with his hand on the Bible but on several pornographic books. And he will be educating our children. Complete disrespect! And he was voted in by 65% of his district. You get what you ask for.

So how do we change this culture of disrespect? Get back to basics. Embrace the 7 virtues of life; chastity, temperance, charity, diligence, patience, kindness and humility. We are allowing evil to thrive as we stand by and do nothing. Let's stand for righteousness! The eighth Beatitude says, "Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven".

No, this will not be easy, but the reward is great. The saints, martyrs and Jesus Himself, suffered. Where are they now? In a joyous, peaceful eternity in Heaven. Wouldn't we love to hear God say to us on our judgement day, "you tried, you did your best, now come live with Me". Will you stand up for righteousness?

**Wishes for the New Year**

May you be blessed with warmth in your home,  
Love in your heart,  
Peace in your soul, and  
Joy in your life.

**IS THIS A REAL REQUEST FOR HELP?**

If you receive an email or text message from the pastor, bishop or other church official asking for donations, gift cards or other forms of financial assistance, check with the parish to determine if it is legitimate. Some of the latest email and text scams trying to collect your personal data can look too real! It's always worth a second look to protect yourself.

**God's Gift of Time**

Now that the busy-ness of the Advent season has passed and the Christmas season closes, let us take more time to praise God for his magnificent gifts and to hold on to the true meaning of the epiphany which we also celebrate this weekend.

Let us reflect on the gift of time. It sounds so simple, so obvious; time is a gift. Yet, because we are human, we sometimes forget to honor time. Instead, we ignore it, wrestle with it, mismanage it and take it for granted.

If we take some time, we can see the significance of the gifts of the Magi—gold, frankincense and myrrh - in our own lives.

Our time on this earth is gold. It is so priceless. Once it passes, we can't get time back. Yet, God gives us memories in time's place. *So what memories are you going to make with your time today? How will you spend and share your gold?*

Our time is a precious and desired commodity like frankincense and myrrh. These aromatic resins were used to inspire the senses as well as comfort and heal. Time anoints us with love, comfort, struggle, growth, healing, discovery and the chance to experience hope and joy in our daily lives. *So how are you using your time to love and grow? How are you using your time to heal physically and emotionally? What will you discover today? What brings you joy? What gives you hope? How will you offer your precious time to comfort others?*

**Time is God's magnificent gift.**

By Karen Kiefer, Boston College

**Ministry Assignments Jan. 13-14**

**January 13 @ 4:00 pm**

**Lector – Sandra Mercurio**

**Ministers – Debbie & Gerry Woods**

**January 14 @ 8 am**

**Lector - Joe Sama**

**Ministers—Joe Sama**

**January 14 @ 10:30 am**

**Lector—Santina Macgregor**

**Ministers - Maria Sciannameo & Elizabeth Santley**

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

**If a substitution is made, please contact Julie so the announcement sheets will be correct.**



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