



# 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.**



Thank you to all parishioners who have completed and submitted your Commitment Card to the church. For those parishioners who have not yet had the opportunity to submit their card, a letter has been mailed to you with a personalized Commitment Card. Each and every one of you is a vital member of our parish community and we want to hear from you! This is an opportunity to **reflect upon and renew** your sacrificial commitment to support the mission of Our Lady of Mount Carmel and Our Lady of Loreto Parish. For those who are able – there is an opportunity to make a one-time gift to the parish. If you have any questions, please contact the church office.

For those of you who would prefer to fill out your Commitment Card online, please visit the parish website at <https://mtcarmel.ws/>.

## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Dear Friends,

It's hard to believe Ash Wednesday is this week. On this day, marked by the austere symbol of ashes, we enter the Season of Lent, beginning a spiritual journey that prepares us for celebrating worthily the Easter Mysteries. The blessed ashes imposed upon our forehead are a sign that reminds us of our condition as creatures, that invites us to repent, and to intensify our commitment to convert, to follow the Lord ever more closely.

Lent is a journey, it means accompanying Jesus who goes up to Jerusalem, the place of the fulfillment of His mystery of Passion, death and Resurrection; it reminds us that Christian life is a "way" to take, not so much consistent with a law to observe as with the very Person of Christ, to encounter, to welcome, to follow.

Indeed, Jesus says to us: "If any man would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me." In other words, He tells us that in order to attain life with him, the light and joy of the Resurrection, the victory of life, of love and of goodness, we too must take up our daily cross, as a beautiful passage from the *Imitation* of Christ urges us: "Take up your cross, therefore, and follow Jesus, and you shall enter eternal life. He himself opened the way before you in carrying his Cross, and upon it he died for you, that you, too, might take up your cross and long to die upon it. If you die with him, you shall also live with him, and if you share his suffering, you shall also share his glory."

May this sacred time of Lent be a time of special graces for you. May we all draw closer to Christ and strengthen our friendship with Him. Use this time to go to the Sacrament of Penance, to attend morning Mass, to pray the Rosary more regularly, to attend the Stations on the Cross on Friday evenings beginning at 6:30 PM, to strengthen your prayer life. We need to make time, as we do for other things important in our life, to reflect on the beauty of our Catholic faith. Let your prayer focus your spiritual life, filling it with new conviction and purpose as we prepare to celebrate the great feast of Easter!

Lenten blessings!  
Monsignor Pedone

## GUIDELINES FOR FAST AND ABSTINENCE

Lenten fast and abstinence regulations for the Diocese of Worcester are as follows:

**Abstinence** from meat is to be observed by all Catholics fourteen (14) years of age and older on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday and all the Fridays of Lent.

**Fasting** is to be observed by all Catholics who are eighteen (18) years of age but not yet fifty-nine (59) years of age on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.

Those who are bound to fast may take only one full meal. Two smaller meals are permitted if necessary to maintain strength according to one's needs, but eating solid foods between meals is not permitted.

Catholics should not lightly excuse themselves from these prescribed Lenten penitential practices.

## Did you know...

The day before Ash Wednesday has several names ..Mardi Gras, Pancake Day, Fat Tuesday, Carnival Day...all of which signify the eating of richer, fatty foods before the ritual fasting of the Lenten season. It is also called **Shrove Tuesday**.

**Shrove Tuesday** is observed by many Christians, who make a special point of self-examination, of considering what wrongs they need to repent, and what amendments of life or areas of spiritual growth they especially need to ask God's help in dealing with. The expression "Shrove Tuesday" comes from the word "*shrive*", meaning "absolve".



### **BLESSING OF THROATS** **FEAST OF ST. BLAISE**



In commemoration of the recent feast of Saint Blasé, Bishop and Martyr, and the patron saint of throats, we will bless throats at all Masses **this weekend, February 10 and 11**. This is a sacramental, similar to the imposition of ashes, which imparts grace. This is very popular devotion and you are invited to partake in it.

### **Examination of Conscience**

The editors of *The Word Among Us* suggest that we ask ourselves the following questions as we prepare for our Lenten sacrament of penance:

- ◇ Are there ways I am failing to honor the Lord? Am I holding onto something that I don't want him to take away?
- ◇ Am I honoring the Sabbath in a way that brings me closer to God? How can I do better in setting this day apart for him and my loved ones?
- ◇ How am I doing in honoring the name of the Lord? Do I thoughtlessly swear in everyday conversation? Are there ways I don't live up to the name "Christian"?
- ◇ Have I harbored anger against another person or group of people? If someone has hurt me in some way, have I forgiven them? Or have I felt justified in resenting them? Do I fantasize about revenge?
- ◇ How have I given in to grumbling or discontentment? Do I tend to judge other people harshly and consider myself superior? Am I striving for an attitude of humility and gratitude?
- ◇ Do I allow lustful thoughts to run uncontrolled in my mind, even if I don't act on them?
- ◇ Have I wounded relationships with unkind or insulting words? Have I harmed another person's reputation through gossip or tried to inflate my own reputation at someone else's expense?
- ◇ Where do I need to seek another person's forgiveness? Have I been putting it off?
- ◇ How have I been faithful to my state in life, whether single or married? Have I acted impurely, whether alone or with someone else?
- ◇ Do my material belongings have too strong a hold on me? Are there ways I have failed to be generous, either toward the poor or toward my loved ones? Do I feel too busy to give of myself to other people?

***Pray...Pray...Pray...***

Dear Friends,

I would like to personally thank you for all the prayers, well wishes, and your attendance at my installation mass as a Candidate for Ordination to the Diaconate at the Cathedral last week. I greatly appreciate it. I am also grateful for the constant support of Monsignor Pedone and Deacon Pegg. Your faith is a great inspiration to me on this journey. My thoughts and prayers are with you.

David Soares



### **PARISH PASSOVER SEDER**

Join us on **Sunday, February 25th**, as Rick Annunziata leads our parish's second Passover Seder after the 10:30 Mass. With over 35 years of experience, Rick ensures an authentic experience that will enhance your faith. If you're curious about the Seder and wish to understand the Last Supper's significance, attending is a great opportunity. The focus will be on an authentic Jewish Passover Seder, highlighting how Jesus fulfilled this Old Testament feast, commemorating Jewish liberation from Egypt.

Please see Rick Annunziata for more information.  
(508)826-7732  
[Rsa06@charter.net](mailto:Rsa06@charter.net)

### **CYC AT ST. JOHN'S FOOD PANTRY**

The Our Lady of Mount Carmel and Our Lady of Loreto CYC will be at the St. John's Food for the Poor Program on **Tuesday, February 20th at 6:30 a.m.** helping the staff and volunteers distribute food. Please feel free to join them if you can.

**Financial Stewardship**  
For the week ending February 4, 2024

Income

Offertory:

Week-End	\$3,665.00	
Mail	9,305.00	
On-Line Giving	618.25	
Maintenance	490.00	
Fuel	64.00	
Latin America	25.00	
Ash Wednesday	20.00	
Priests Retirement	20.00	
Solemnity of Mary	10.00	
Total Offertory		\$14,217.25
Rental Income		150.00
Catholic Free Press		78.00
Candles		56.00
Memorial Donation		50.00
Mass Stipends		35.00
Donations		20.00
Sanctuary Lamp		10.00
Total		<u>\$14,616.25</u>

Disbursements

Music: (January)

Organists	\$950.00	
Choir Director	700.00	
Cantors	550.00	
Choir Assistant	175.00	
Total Cost of Music		\$2,375.00
Salaries and Wages		5,912.00
Staff & Choir Christmas Luncheons		1,484.01
Funeral Stipends		1,070.00
Calendar Raffle Winners		1,000.00
Rectory—Food and Household		761.03
Catholic Home Missions		377.00
Mass Stipends		200.00
Employee Benefits		156.84
Mass Coverage		100.00
Office Supplies and Expense		59.19
Total		<u>\$13,495.07</u>
Average Weekly Amount Needed for Parish Operations		\$8,400.00
Total Amount Deposited	\$14,616.25	
Less: Diocesan Collections & Restricted Funds	(65.00)	<u>14,551.25</u>
Cash Over/(Short)		<u>\$6,151.25</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.

February, 2024	Maintenance Offering
February, 2024	Catholic Free Press
February 4, 2024	Weekly Offering
February 11, 2024	Weekly Offering
February 14, 2023	Ash Wednesday
February 14, 2024	Diocesan Priest Retirement
February 18, 2024	Weekly Offering
February 25, 2024	Weekly Offering
February 25, 2024	Fuel Offering
February 25, 2024	Church in Latin America

### CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS

If you would like a copy of your 2023 contribution statement please call the main office at 508-753-5001 or email [lisaolmc@gmail.com](mailto:lisaolmc@gmail.com) with your name and address.

### 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)
- Feb. 10 & 11—Blessing of Throats
- Feb. 11—World Marriage Day
- Feb. 14—Ash Wednesday—beginning of LENT
- Feb. 14—Valentine’s Day
- Feb. 14-March 24—Lenten 40 Days for Life Campaign
- Feb. 15—Italian Festival Meeting—6:00 pm
- Feb. 19—Presidents’ Day
- Feb. 25—Passover Seder
- March 10—Confirmation Commitment Sunday
- March 16—23rd Annual Catholic Men’s Conference @ DCU Center, Worcester.
- March 19—St. Joseph Feast Day
- March 24—Palm Sunday
- March 28—Holy Thursday
- March 29—Good Friday
- March 30—Holy Saturday
- March 31—EASTER SUNDAY
- April 7—Confirmation
- June 2—Trip to the Red Sox

### 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.



# MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, February 10, 2024—4:00 p.m.

**Patricia Hunt** (5th Anniversary) by daughter Kim  
**Doriano Cafaro** by Uncle  
**Vincenza Cafaro** by Son

Sunday, February 11, 2024—8:00 a.m.

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

Sunday, February 11, 2024—10:30 a.m.

**Giuseppe Iannotta and Giovanni Cionti** by  
sister-in-law Elisa

Monday, February 12, 2024—7:00 a.m.

**Parishioners Intentions**

Tuesday, February 13, 2024—7:00 a.m.

**Thanksgiving for Thelma Ortiz** (on her 92nd  
Birthday) by the Ortiz Family

Wednesday, February 14, 2024—7:00 a.m.

**John Gagliastro** (Birthday Remembrance) by Wife  
Kay and Family

**Felipe Magpily** by the Ortiz Family

Wednesday, February 14, 2024—12:15 p.m.

**The People of the Parish**

Wednesday, February 14, 2024—7:00 p.m.

**The Sick of the Parish**

Thursday, February 15, 2024—7:00 a.m.

**The Souls in Purgatory**

Saturday, February 17, 2024—4:00 p.m.

**Domenica & Ricardo Mustica and Mario & Joey  
Arcuri** by Family

Sunday, February 18, 2024—8:00 a.m.

**Michael DelloStritto** by Wife Josie and Family  
**Antonietta Marra** by sister-in-law Josie and Family

Sunday, February 18, 2024—10:30 a.m.

**David Sciammacco and Fusae Pignataro** (14th  
Anniversary) by Family

**Francis Roncone** by Family

**Marco Salerno, Vincenza Cafaro and Doriano  
Cafaro** by son Nicola

## DONATIONS NEEDED

We will be having an Easter Egg Hunt on **Saturday, March 23rd at 10:00 a.m.** Please bring the kids!!!

We are in need of foiled wrapped chocolate eggs and three golden eggs. Please drop them off at the Parish Center. Thank you.



**Please pray for the sick of our parish:** Francis Cafone, Donna Grasseschi, Lori Blackwell, Matteo Fiore, Patrick Loconto, Frank "Butch" Rano, Sylvia Pusateri, Thelma Ortiz, Cynthia Pedone, 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, Ida Heath and William Fors. May the Lord give them strength, courage and healing.

**Our Lady of Loreto Worcester Ma**

Are you restless? Searching for more meaning....

## The cry of a SEEKER

Be a part of a diverse group of men on the 1st Wed of ea month for prayer and a meaningful exploration of scripture.

**6:30-8:00PM**

**Rick Annunziata Rsa06@charter.net**

## Cursillo.....

Cursillo weekends are a wonderful, fun way to give you a start on this journey.

## 2024 Schedule:

**Women's:** April 18-21  
October 3-6

**Men's:** May 23-26  
November 21-24

For more information contact **Elizabeth Santley @ 508-304-8871**, or at [esantley@yahoo.com](mailto:esantley@yahoo.com). Applications are available in the vestibule of the church.

**If anyone who has made a Cursillo and would like to be a sponsor, please contact Elizabeth Santley**



## RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY

Lent is upon us. It's time for prayer, penance and fasting. What will you do in Lent to prepare for the Resurrection on Easter Sunday? Will you give up candy, sweets, alcohol, that extra cup of coffee? All are good choices. But what about being proactive. Instead of giving up something, choose to do something above what you normally do. Pray for the end of abortion, euthanasia and assisted suicide, that fail to protect the dignity of life. Pray the rosary each day. Attend weekday Mass when able. Donate to a pro-life organization or charity of your choice. Spend an hour on a Saturday morning from 9-10 AM across from Planned Parenthood in Worcester to pray with others for the end of abortion. There are other personal things you can also do. Pray for the conversion of someone to return to practicing their faith. Recent reports state that 26% of Americans do not believe in God, and there are many more that do not practice their faith. Pray for them. Jesus says if you save one soul your soul will be saved. What a great opportunity! Use this Lent to strengthen your faith and the faith of others. It's only 40 days. You still have 325 days for yourself. Don't let this opportunity to strengthen your relationship with God go by. If you want to spend an eternity with God, start your relationship now.

*"The greatest moment in history was not when man walked on the moon, but when God walked on the earth".*

**Lenten 40 Days for Life Campaign:**

February 14—March 24  
(Ash Wednesday—Palm Sunday)

Many activities are planned for Worcester.

Visit [www.40daysforlife.com](http://www.40daysforlife.com) for a list of events or to sign up for vigil hours.

**Ministry Assignments Feb. 17-18**

**February 17 @ 4:00 pm**

**Lector – Pat Solitro**

**Ministers – Chet DiLeo, Tom Lavin & Nancy Gurgone**

**February 18 @ 8 am**

**Lector - Sandra San Clemente**

**Ministers—Joe Sama**

**February 18 @ 10:30 am**

**Lector—Juanita Pignataro**

**Ministers - Debbie & Gerry Woods**

**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.**

**Who is Esther Howland?**

Esther Howland was born in 1828 at 16 Summer Street in **Worcester, Massachusetts**. She was a pioneer in the American valentine manufacturing industry. It was after her graduation from Mount Holyoke College, in 1847, that she received her first very elaborate English valentine from an associate of her father's. At this time, elaborate Valentine greeting cards were imported from Europe and were not affordable to many Americans.

Esther, determined to make a better valentine, convinced her father to order supplies from New York City and England, employed some friends and soon had a thriving business in Worcester, Mass.. She used an assembly line method and employed women at home to make the valentines. Although valentines were around for more than half a century, Esther was the first person to ever commercialize them in America. In 1850, she advertised for the first time in the **Worcester Spy**. Her company, known as the New England Valentine Co., became very successful. In 1879 she merged her business with a competitor, Edward Taft. In 1880 she sold the business to George Whitney, to take care of her sick father. Esther, the **"Mother of the American Valentine"**, died in 1904 in Quincy, Mass.

*Happy Valentine's Day*

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