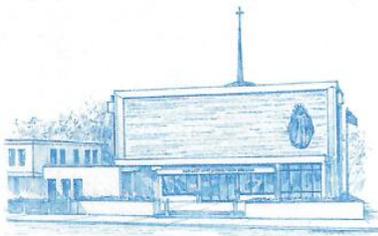
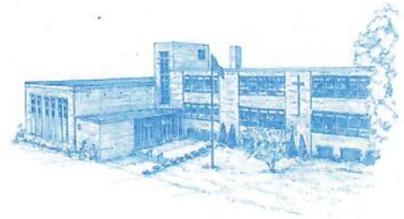


**The Roman Catholic Community of
Our Lady of Mt. Carmel & St. Benedicta & St. Mary of the Assumption
Staten Island, New York 10310**



**Fr. Hernan Paredes, S.J.,
Pastor
Fr. Donald Gannon, S.J.,
Associate Pastor**



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Fax 718 442-3997
Email: mountcarmelsi@verizon.net

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Parish SecretaryEvette Contreras
Organist/Musical Director.....Barnaby Miles

Religious Education Director....Nina Velez-Lopez
Hispanic Pastoral Assistant.....Ruperto Pañi

Eucharist

Saturday: 8:00 am & 5:00 pm (English),
7:30 pm (Español)
Sunday: 8:30 am & 10:00 am (English)
Sunday: 11:30 am, 1:30 pm & 6:00 pm (Español)
Weekdays: 8:00 am & 12:05 pm Mondays,
Wednesdays & Fridays (English)
7:00pm Monday thru Friday (Español)

Holyday Masses Times, language and places will be published in the Sunday bulletin.

Misas Festivas El tiempo, el idioma y el lugar será publicado en el boletín del domingo.

Reconciliation/Reconciliacion: Saturday: 4:15- 4:45 pm; 6:45 pm-7:15 pm (Español). Priest is available upon request or by appointment. El sacerdote estará disponible con cita también

Marriage/Boda: Arrangements should be made at least (6) months in advance. Only parish members will be allowed to register. Los arreglos deben de hacerse al menos (6) seis meses por adelantado. Solo parroquianos se pueden registrar.

Sweet Sixteen/Quinceañeras: Please register with Rosie at 347-318-2110 at least (6) months in advance. Favor de registrarse con Rosie al 347-318-2110 por lo menos (6) meses por adelantado.

Baptism

You must register at the Parish Office and present the birth certificate. You will then be guided through the process. Preparation includes establishing affiliation, attending class and reflecting on how to choose Sponsors. The process will take about 3 months. Baptism Ceremony: Third Saturday of the month at 11:00am.

Bautismo

Hay que inscribirse en la oficina y presentar la acta de nacimiento. Un miembro del Equipo Bautismal se comunicara para visitarte. La preparación incluye saber si eres miembro de la parroquia, asistir a dos clases y reflexión sobre como elegir a los Padrinos. El proceso demora tres meses. Ceremonia del bautismo; Cada primer y tercer sabado del mes a las 12:00pm.

Religious Education

If you would like information regarding our Religious Education Program for children or adults, please call Mrs. Nina at 347-559-1566.

Educación Religiosa

Si usted desea información sobre nuestro programa de Educación Religiosa para niños o adultos, por favor llame a la Senora Nina al 347-559-1566.



Third Sunday of Advent ~ December 12, 2021



Weekly Mass Intentions



Mass Intentions

Saturday – December 11

8:00am- † Rev. John Curran, S.J.
5:00pm- † Tomasina Hawkins
7:30pm- † Parish Community Intentions

Offered by: Society of Jesus
Offered by: Kay Pommerenk

Sunday – December 12

8:30am- † Parish Community Intentions
10:00am- † Catherine Cappuccci
11:30am- † Parish Community Intentions
1:30pm- † Parish Community Intentions
6:00pm- † Parish Community Intentions

Offered by: Family

Monday – December 13

8:00am- † Grace & Ciro Frulio
12:05pm- † Flo Festa
7:00pm- † Parish Community Intentions

Offered by: Frulio Family
Offered by: Angie Varrassi

Tuesday – December 14

7:00pm- † Parish Community Intentions

Wednesday – December 15

8:00am- † Joseph Fortunato & William Burke
12:05pm- † Lucia & Giuseppe Socci
7:00pm- † Parish Community Intentions

Offered by: Joan Fortunato
Offered by: Family

Thursday – December 16

7:00pm- † Parish Community Intentions

Friday – December 17

8:00am- † Andrew & Ralph Frulio
12:05pm- † Florina Festa

Offered by: Frulio Family
Offered by: Anne Lamantia

Saturday – December 18

8:00am- † Jean Zukowski
5:00pm- † Jim & Gene Obermayer
7:30pm- † Parish Community Intentions

Offered by: Family
Offered by: Family

Sunday – December 19

8:30am- † Parish Community Intentions
10:00am- Birthday Blessings Juan Hernandez
11:30am- † Parish Community Intentions
1:30pm- † Parish Community Intentions
6:00pm- † Parish Community Intentions

Offered by: Lucila Reyes

WEEKLY CANDLE MEMORIALS

Bread & Wine
Tabernacle Candle
Memorial Candle



~ † Libby Guardiani
~ † Sandro Espinoza
~ †

COLLECTIONS: December 11 & 12: \$ 5,555.

We truly appreciate your abundant generosity and continued support.

Most Holy Virgin of Guadalupe, Mother of God, our Lady and our Mother. Behold us here prostrate before your holy image, which you left imprinted on Juan Diego's tilma, as a pledge of love, goodness and mercy. The words you said to Juan Diego with love and tenderness when, radiant with beauty, you appeared before his sight on the Tepeyac hill, still resound: "My dear son, Juan whom I love as a small and a humble one," Make us deserve to hear those same words deep in our souls. Yes, you are our Mother. The Mother of God is our Mother, the most tender, the most compassionate. Let us feel that you are our Mother and shelter us under the mantle of your protection.



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Gaudete Sunday

"Rejoice in the Lord always, for the Lord is near"
(Philippians 4: 4-7)

Perhaps you remember reading along the road in our countries of origin a sign written in white letters **"Christ is coming, get ready."** The sense of an imminent coming of Christ put more than one reader in fear of what was about to happen. However, the coming of Christ for all believers is charged with the **joy** that Christ has brought into our lives. That is why the Catholic tradition gives us this liturgy of the Third Sunday of Advent, also known as **Gaudete Sunday**. The liturgy wants to be a joyful song that the birth of Christ is already near in our lives. Full of joy, let us all repeat, **"Rejoice in the Lord always."**

What a grace to be able to celebrate Gaudete Sunday on the very same day of the **Virgin of Guadalupe**. Today we are full of joy because Jesus is about to be born of the Virgin once more as he came two thousand years ago. We all feel like brothers and sisters who, filled with joy, proclaim the greatness of Mary. **Long live the Virgin of Guadalupe...** She together with her Son are the cause of our true joy, they are our hope, they are our love. Let us remember so many goods we've received during this year in which we are overcoming the pandemic. Just a year ago we were sad and confused by so much death and uncertainty and today we are at the feet of Jesus and his Mother full of hope. So many smiles and a real possibility of family gatherings make us cry out for **joy** in the Lord ... **"Rejoice in the Lord always."**

Our Lady of Guadalupe is the Virgin of Advent today as she was yesterday and always will be. To celebrate her glorious manifestation to the humble Indian **Juan Diego** every December 12 is to anticipate the joy of Christmas. Indeed, the birth of the one about to come is a cause of joy for all peoples. Christmas is just a few days away... a celebration of Jesus' first coming and the second coming when we will contemplate the glory of the Lord. Let us celebrate with the maternal love of Mary in the depths of our hearts. Each one can thankfully pray for their loved ones at the feet of the Little Morenita. Jesus together with his Mother have allowed us to live and once again prostrate ourselves at their feet while we still cry, as the eyes of some of our loved ones are closed forever. That is why we join hands in supplication and say to Mary: **"We cry out to you the exiled children of Eve."**

The cry of John in the desert **"Prepare the ways of the Lord"** wants to be the cry of every believer today. To prepare God's way is to **share the joy of believing, to bring comfort to those who are hopeless**. In short, to be like the Virgin who, in the midst of the cold of winter, goes out to meet the desperate Juan Diego whose uncle Bernardino is dying. To live the joyful expectation of the Virgin of Advent is to **be sowers of hope** in today's world. John warns his audience that today is the time for change. Let us allow ourselves to change our hearts so that Our Lady of Guadalupe will come to give us her blessing and manifest herself as the Mother of those who need consolation.

Long live Our Lady of Guadalupe!

Fr. Hernán, S.J.

← CONTINUED

SCRIPTURE READINGS

These readings are found complete on our parish web page (www.olmcsi.org). Click on "USCCB Daily Readings."

December 12: Third Sunday of Advent

Zephaniah 3:14-18
Psalms 12:2-6
Philippians 4:4-7

December 19: Fourth Sunday of Advent

Micah 5:1-4
Psalms 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19
Hebrews 10:5-10



RECONCILIATION MONDAY / PREPARE YOUR HEART FOR CHRISTMAS - Monday, December 20th is Reconciliation Monday throughout the Archdiocese, an opportunity for all to make their confession before Christmas. Our Parish will offer this sacrament from 11:00am to 12:00pm and again from 5:00pm to 7:00pm. Experience the light of His forgiveness through the Sacrament of Penance this Advent.

2021 ADORATION SCHEDULE FOR CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR'S

Christmas Eve: FRIDAY, December 24 - 8:00 AM y 4:00 PM (English); 7:30 PM (Spanish)
Everyone is welcome to bring their Baby Jesus to the Mass for a special blessings.

Christmas Day: SATURDAY, December 25 - 10:00 AM (English); 11:30 AM (Spanish)

New Year's Eve: FRIDAY, December 31 - 8:00 AM (English); 7:30PM (Spanish)

New Year's Day: SATURDAY, January 1 - 10:00 AM (English); 11:30 AM (Spanish)

Please note the Parish Office will be closed on the following dates:

December 24, 25, 27 & 31, 2021. January 1, 2022.

We will celebrate the birth of our Savior and spend time in worship and family in where everyone is welcome to join us. Let us finish this Advent season by coming together to acknowledge the true reason for that excitement and anticipation. Join us at our Family Masses with praise and adoration. ***Oh come let us adore Him!***

CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE "ADOPT-A-FAMILY" - ***The tree and it's angels are here!*** We celebrate the true meaning of Christmas by sharing gifts with families in our parish community who are less fortunate. Participation can be as simple as removing an angel tag with the family information and the gifts to the church. Join our parish families that give generously with their time and resources, to bring a few more blessings to others during the Christmas season. A family may be sponsored/adopted by one or more people. Our deepest appreciation for your outstanding generosity!

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS MEMORIAL ENVELOPES - We have a nice tradition in which our parishioners donate for the Christmas Flowers that decorates our church every Christmas Season. These envelopes are available now in the envelope packet mailed to your homes or in the church vestibule. The envelopes with your intentions will be placed on the church altar throughout the Advent season.

PARISH MEMBERSHIP - Membership in our Parish is open to all Catholics who reside with-in our borders as well as others who wish to worship with us and support our mission. All adult Catholics should officially register as members of the Parish in which they reside. Registration is a condition for any Sacramental Programs including Baptism and Marriage. Being registered for at least six months as an active parishioner is required before we can testify to your eligibility to be a sponsor for Baptism or Confirmation. Please visit the Parish Office or our Parish website to register and register today. Whether you live in our area or just visiting or are of other religion persuasions, know that you are always welcome here. We have a long history of serving our community.

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CHURCH WEBSITE



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WHY IS PURPLE THE COLOR OF ADVENT - The Catholic Church uses visual aids to highlight a season of the liturgical year or a mystery of the faith. Purple - violet - represents a time of penance and preparation. During the weeks of Advent, the priest wears violet vestments and the altar is decorated with violet to remind us to prepare penitentially for Christ's coming. On the third Sunday of Advent (Gaudete Sunday), rose vestments and altar cloths are used to signal that Advent is almost over. This is a happy time when we anticipate the joy of Christ's coming.

ADVENT: A STRONG WIND IS BLOWING - An adventure is in the air. Someone is coming. The curious energy of Advent is that we are looking for something we know is already here. It is both right now and not yet. We sing "O Come, O Come Emmanuel," yet Emmanuel means "God is with us." The days of Advent are like the intriguing little doors on an Advent calendar. Each one opens to reveal some aspect of Christmas. The reflections that follow are some of the doorways I find in the Emmanuel reality—beauty, kindness, prayer, humor, insight, memory, encounter, music, and Scripture. What doors will you open this season?



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