

Our Lady of Mount Carmel

Sunday, April 15, 2018
Third Sunday of Easter



Served by:

Father Abuchi F. Nwosu, *Pastor*
fatherabuchi@aol.com
Father Peter Oddo, *Weekend Assistant*
Deacon Anthony Barile
Deacon Edward Muller
Dan Salvatore, *Coordinator of Religious Education*
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Caroline Mazzola, *Secretary*
Ann Johnson, *Secretary*

Parish Office

203 Newton-Swartzwood Road
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Hours: 9:00am-1:00pm
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Religious Education Office

Hours: 9:00am-1:00pm
Phone: 973-579-2355
olmcccd@gmail.com

Weekend Masses

Saturday: 5:00pm
Sunday: 7:30am / 9:00am / 11:00am

Daily Masses

Monday-Saturday: 8:30am (except Wed.)
Wednesday: 7:00pm

First Friday Mass: 2:00pm
@Homestead Nursing Home
Holy Days: 8:30am / 7:00pm

Eucharistic Adoration

Monday 9:00am-12:00pm

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday 4:15pm-4:45pm

Sacraments of Baptism, Marriage, & Anointing of the Sick

Please contact the office to arrange.

OLMC Joy Club (Just Older Youth)

Patricia Cholasta
973-534-7733

Youth Group

Heather Falotico
olmcyg@gmail.com

Knights of Columbus, Council 9920

Terrence O'Connor, Grand Knight

Forgiveness liberates the soul, it removes fear and restores peace

No doubt we have experienced pain and hurt by people at different times in our lives which left us angry and heartbroken. However, forgiveness transforms anger and hurt into healing and peace. "Forgiveness can help you overcome feelings of depression, anxiety, and rage, as well as personal and relational conflicts. Forgiveness means giving up the suffering of the past and being willing to forge ahead with far greater potential for inner freedom."

In the movie, *Invictus*, Nelson Mandela responds to this challenge of integrating his country divided by race and says, "Forgiveness liberates the soul, it removes fear. That's why it's such a powerful weapon." Besides Mandela's other humbling actions, he invited his white jailer to attend his inauguration as an honored guest. By this single act, he showed the path of reconciliation to others and to his country.

The apostles must have also regretted their actions of abandoning Jesus and fleeing. The words of Jesus today in the gospel, "Peace be with you," must have been so reassuring to them that they have been forgiven of all their mistakes. It is only after they have received peace from forgiveness that Christ sent them out as messengers of God's forgiveness to others. "It is forgiven sinners-the apostles who are entrusted with the task of proclaiming the good news of God's forgiving love to all." This is what we find Peter doing in today's first reading. He declares to the people of Jerusalem that, although they had handed Jesus over to Pilate, God's forgiveness was available to them if they turned to God by believing in Jesus. Even in His sermon on the Mount, Christ spoke about forgiveness. Thus, He invited His followers to pray for their enemies and those who hated them. And today's gospel ends with Christ, rising from the dead, so that repentance and forgiveness of sins would be preached in His name to all the nations.

Like the apostles, you and I the forgiven sinners are also sent out on the same mission to spread forgiveness to others. The problem is, are we willing to forgive? Yes, we may have been carrying the past anger and hurt that has prevented our inner peace. In the coming weeks, pray, "Come Holy Spirit, fill my heart and enkindle in me the fire of your love." This prayer will help you especially in those times when you find yourself struggling to forgive yourself and to forgive others.

—Fr. Abuchi

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, April 14

ACTS 6:1-7 / JN 6:16-21

8:30am Peace in Families

5:00pm John McCarthy

Sunday, April 15

ACTS 3:13-15, 17-19 / 1 JN 2:1-5A / LK 24:35-48

7:30am Daniel and Elizabeth Salvatore

9:00am Ann and Jack King

11:00am Fannie Curcurtatu

Monday, April 16

ACTS 6:8-15 / JN 6:22-29

8:30am Eileen Murphy

Tuesday, April 17

ACTS 7:51-8:1A / JN 6:30-35

8:30am William Mcleod

Wednesday, April 18

ACTS 8:1B-8 / JN 6:35-40

7:00pm Intentions of Amanda Lockman

Thursday, April 19

ACTS 8:26-40 / JN 6:44-51

8:30am Fred Bergman

Friday, April 20

ACTS 9:1-20 / JN 6:52-59

8:30am Intentions of MM

Saturday, April 21

ACTS 9:31-42 / JN 6:60-69

8:30am Richard Orefice

5:00pm John McCarthy

Sunday, April 22

ACTS 4:8-12 / 1 JN 3:1-2 / JN 10:11-18

7:30am Martin Murray

9:00am Ellen and Russell Moffett

11:00am William S. Long

Please Remember and Pray For the Following

Ann Bott, Ralph Bozza, Samantha Brady, Walter & Concetta Brock Jr., Bradley Burchfield, Dominic Bongiorno, George Carse, Joseph Colon, Fr. Angelus Croce, Carmine Curulli, Ingrid Diaz, Kara Deserto, Doug Ernst Sr., Linda Flynn, Thomasina Gebhard, Richard Hennings, Ava Kljajic, Bruce Konar, Joshua Koontz, Alex Krucinski, Kimberly Lane, Kden LeoGrande, Elizabeth Lacovara, Pete Mahler, Maria Mallozzi, Mary Jo Manno, Deacon Charles Mathias, Susanne Martone, Brett Mershon, Mary Ellen Nienstedt, Stephen Osborn, Margie Palazzo, Jason Parker, Sr., Jerome Pasternak, Lorraine Paxton, Owen Primavera, Peter F. Reynolds, Carol Rock, Bishop Frank Rodimer, Colleen Romano, Olga Romeo, Linda Ross, Joan Royer, Rose Marie Sciascia, Carole Salvatore, John Samsock, James Scales, Diane Scarince, Greg Schmiditty, Gloria Shope, Carole Sisco, Debbie Smith, Nancy Snook, Stephanie, Richie Sorce, Andrew Sorce, Michael Sugar, Dale Swoboda, Roberta Treptau, David & Vince Ventresca, Brooke Zaleski, Virginia Zaleski

A GOOD STEWARD

Sunday, April 8

\$3,014.00

***There will be a 2nd collection next weekend for the Diocesan Assessment**

Thank you for your generosity!

SANCTUARY LAMP

This Week The Sanctuary Lamp Burns for Joseph Paino



WOMEN AND MEN OF THE ARMED FORCES

We ask God the Father, through the intercession of St. Michael the Archangel, to protect all the men and women in our Armed Forces. May they be brought back safely to those whom they



love: Larisa Furs, US Navy; Lt. Jason Gieniewski, U.S. Army; Pvt. Daniel Michael Mobilio, Army; Captain Richi M. Pazdzierski, US Army; Captain Jane Petrick, Army; Lt. Daniel T. Pevarnik, Jr., National Guard; Captain Cheryl Ryan, US Army; Seaman Recruit Tyler Joseph Salonia; Michael Valeich, Staff Sergeant; Pvt. Zachary Wharton, Robert Williams, Airman

SICK and HOMEBOUND

Anyone who is homebound or sick and needs a priest, please call the office to make arrangements — (973)383-3566

Online Giving Options

FOR WEEKLY AND ONE TIME GIFTS

Enrolling in Online Giving is a great way to ensure your gifts to Our Lady of Mt. Carmel are received even when you are away or traveling.

Please visit: <https://olmcswartswood.churchgiving.com>

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

The Knights of Columbus is a fraternal organization for Catholic gentlemen in union with the Holy See. All Catholic men, 18 and over, are invited to join.

Visit "WWW.KofC.org/joinus" to learn more about the many benefits of membership in the Knights of Columbus.

For more information contact Bill Nagy, at 973-919-8554, or Terry O'Connor, at 201-874-9836.

Why Should I CONFESS My Sins To A Priest?

In a modern American mindset, a great deal of emphasis has been placed on privacy. As such, the idea of confessing one's sins to another person can seem odd or even unnecessary. Often, the most common argument against this idea is that Almighty God knows all things and desires all people to approach him in prayer, so it seems sufficient to simply confess one's sins and beg for forgiveness in private prayer. While venial sin may, in fact, be forgiven in many ways, the Catholic Church teaches that it is necessary to confess one's mortal sins to a priest in the Sacrament of Penance in order to receive forgiveness from God. This teaching is based on our fundamental reality as human beings, on Sacred Scripture, and on a knowledge of sin's personal and communal effects.

Many will point to the following passage from Scripture as a rebuttal of the Catholic Church's position: "For there is one God. There is also one mediator between God and the human race, Christ Jesus, himself human, who gave himself as ransom for all" (1 Tm 2:5-6). Why, then, should one approach an additional mediator—a priest—in order to receive forgiveness? The answer here is that the priest is not an additional mediator; rather, he is the agent of the one mediator as he stands in the person of Christ in confession. It is our Blessed Lord who forgives sins in and through the person of the priest. Even so, Christ as the sole mediator and as the Son of God has the divine prerogative to choose how he wishes to mediate his plan of salvation and forgiveness to the world. Christ, as the sole mediator, chooses to use others in the accomplishment of his work in the person of the priest.

One might say on a very natural level that one of the reasons our Blessed Lord chose to institute confession this way is because we are human. Often, a very important part of the healing process comes in being able to name our transgression and fault and then expressing that to others. Bringing forth these hidden faults and sins into the light of Christ's mercy has an essential role in the healing that our Blessed Lord wishes to offer. Additionally, one often finds a great deal of comfort in verbalizing these faults to another and hearing the words of forgiveness pronounced by the lips of another person. Almighty God recognizes our humanity and our need for communion with others and thus institutes the Sacrament of Penance to accord with our human nature and needs.

More importantly, the Scriptures themselves illustrate that our Blessed Lord gave to His Apostles the power to forgive sins: "When He had said this, He showed them His hands and His side. The disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. [Jesus] said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' And when He had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained'" (Jn 20:20-23). Thus, very clearly, one can see the specific charge our Blessed Lord gave His Apostles to forgive the sins of others, but they were unable to do this on their own, which is why He sent the Holy Spirit upon them. It is remarkable to note here that this is only one of two passages that illustrate Almighty God breathing upon man, with the other being God breathing on man at creation (see Gn 2:7), illustrating the importance of the Sacrament of Penance. But this charge to the Apostles to forgive the sins of others is not restricted only to them. Our Blessed Lord intended for this charge to continue throughout the ages and be carried out by the successors to the Apostles (see Mt 28:9-20) so that Christ's offer of forgiveness would be available to all people. —**Rev. Ian M. Bozant, Archdiocese of New Orleans**
To be continued....

COME and JOIN US!

-Reminder-

Our next **JOY Club** meeting will be on **Wednesday, April 25** at **12:00 pm**. \$5.00 dues and lunch will be served. Please kindly contact Patricia for a head count. **Thank you!**

APRIL is CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION Month

April Open House for Professionals Ginnie's House Children's Advocacy Center 4 High Street, Newton

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month. We are ready to ensure that professionals working with children in Sussex County have current information on the services available to child victims and their supportive caregivers through Ginnie's House and the Multidisciplinary Team (MDT) partner agencies.

Meet the members of the Sussex County MDT who work to interview, protect, treat and support child abuse victims and their supportive caregivers.

When: Wednesday, April 25, 2018 from 10 am to 1:30 pm
There will be light refreshments-parking available at the Court House

Register by e-mail to laurie@ginnieshouse.org or call (973)579-0770

OPEN HOUSE at the Auxilium School/Camp Auxilium

Upcoming Open House-Now registering for the 2018-2019 school year-Juniors, PreK3, PreK4 and Year to Grow
Sunday, April 29, 2018 - 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm (School & Summer Camp) and Sunday, May 20, 2018 - 1:00 pm-3:00 pm (Summer School). Visitors are always welcome Mon-Fri from 9:30-11:00 am. Call for more information (973)383-2621 opt. 1 or www.campauxilium.org

PARISH LEGACY GIFTS

Many thanks to some parishioners who have graciously remembered the parish in their will.

Lord reminds us of the abundant blessings that come from a generous heart. "Give and gifts will be given to you; a good measure, packed together, shaken down, and overflowing, will pour into your lap. For the measure with which you measure will in return be measured out to you."

When you give your time, talent and financial resources to your parish, it strengthens our faith community in so many wonderful ways!

Did you know that there are also opportunities to make a legacy gift to Our Lady of Mount Carmel that will touch the lives of parishioners for generations to come? Please prayerfully consider remembering our parish in your will and estate plans. For more information, call our parish at (973)383-3566 or contact our Diocesan Development Office at (973)777-8818 ext. 215 for further assistance and to discuss options that might work for you. Thank you so much for all you do for Our Lady of Mount Carmel—now and in the future!