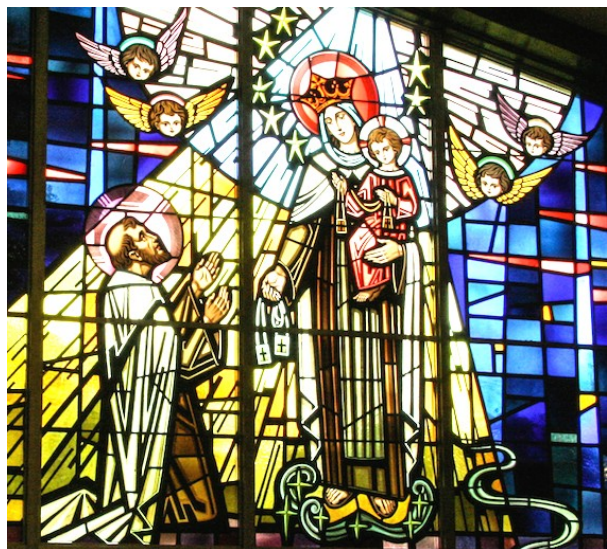


Our Lady of Mount Carmel

Sunday, March 31, 2019
Fourth Sunday of Lent



PARISH STAFF

Father Abuchi F. Nwosu Pastor
fatherabuchi@aol.com

Father Peter Oddo Weekend Assistant

Deacon Anthony Barile

Deacon Al Kucinski

Deacon Edward Muller

Dan Salvatore Coordinator of Religious Education

Caroline Mazzola Secretary

Ann Johnson Secretary

PARISH OFFICE

203 Newton-Swartswood Road • Newton, NJ 07860

Hours 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Phone 973-383-3566

Fax 973-383-3831

Email mtcarmelswartswood@gmail.com

Web www.olmcswartswood.org

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OFFICE

Hours 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Phone 973-579-2355

OLMC JOY CLUB (Just Older Youth)

Patricia Cholasta 973-534-7733

YOUTH GROUP

Heather Falotico olmcyg@gmail.com

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS, Council 9920

William R. Nagy Grand Knight
olmckofc9920@gmail.com

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday 5:00 pm

Sunday 7:30, 9:00 & 11:00 am

DAILY MASSES

Monday-Saturday 8:30 am (except Wednesday)

Wednesday 7:00 pm

First Friday Mass 2:00 pm
@Homestead Nursing Home

Holy Days 8:30 am & 7:00 pm

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Monday 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday 4:15 - 4:45 pm

SACRAMENTS OF BAPTISM, MARRIAGE & ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Please contact the office to arrange.

Masses for the Week 

Saturday, March 30

HOS 6:1-6 / LK 18:9-14

8:30 am Complete Recovery of Tyler Rodimer

by Eleanor Long

5:00 pm Anna Boettcher

by Boettcher Family

Sunday, March 31

JOS 5:9A, 10-12 / 2 COR 5:17-21 / LK 15:1-3, 11-32

7:30 am Chase Veliz

by Veliz Family

9:00 am Frank Bollero

by Deacon Ed & Mary Lou Muller

11:00 am Michael Sugar

by Deacon Ed & Mary Lou Muller

Monday, April 1

IS 65:17-21 / JN 4:43-54

8:30 am John Murphy

by Tommy & Pauline Schoonover

Tuesday, April 2

EZ 47:1-9, 12 / JN 5:1-16

8:30 am Deborah Modrow-Snook

by Worman Family

Wednesday, April 3

IS 49:8-15 / JN 5:17-30

7:00 pm Most Rev. Joseph Adamec

by Parish Staff

Thursday, April 4

EX 32:7-14 / JN 5:31-47

8:30 am Bob Froestcher

by Barbara Froestcher

Friday, April 5

WIS 2:1A, 12-22 / JN 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

8:30 am Fr. Emmanuel Okpala

by Parish Staff

Saturday, April 6

JER 11:18-20 / JN 7:40-53

8:30 am Recovery of Tyler Rodimer

by Youth Group

5:00 pm Robert Miller

by Boettcher Family

Sunday, April 7

IS 43:16-21 / PHIL 3:8-14 / JN 8:1-11

7:30 am Deceased Members of Muller & Weisser

Families

by Deacon Ed & Mary Lou Muller

9:00 am Robert Mucha

by Marjorie Mucha

11:00 am Intentions of Rosalie Stadelman

by Ron & Ann Johnson

PLEASE REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING

Jennie Apostola, John Barrett, Lucy Barrett, Ann Bott, Walter & Concetta Brock Jr., Bradley Burchfield, Dominic Bongiorno, Joseph Colon, Fr. Angelus Croce, Stephanie Cuomo, Ingrid Diaz, Kara Deserto, Doug Ernst Sr., Linda Flynn, Donna Gatto, Richard Hennings, Eva Kieger, Ava Kljajic, Ziggy Knop, Bruce Konar, Joshua Koontz, Alex Krucinski, John Kucinski, Kden LeoGrande, Pete Mahler, Maria Mallozzi, Mary Jo Manno, Deacon Charles Mathias, Susanne Martone, Brett Mershon, Bob Metroke, Deacon Ed Muller, Mary Ellen Nienstedt, Stephen Osborn, Margie Palazzo, Jason Parker, Sr., Jerome Pasternak, Lorraine Paxton, Clarence Remke, Peter F. Reynolds, Carol Rock, Tyler Rodimer, Colleen Romano, Olga Romeo, Linda Ross, Rose Marie Sciascia, Carole Salvatore, Diana Salvatore-Hiler, John Samssock, Greg Schmiditty, Gloria Shope, Marianne Skrocki, Debbie Smith, Nancy Snook, Stephanie, Richie Sorce, Andrew Sorce, Gene Streeter, Dale Swoboda, Roberta Treptau, David & Vince Ventresca, Brooke Zaleski, Virginia Zaleski

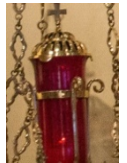
A GOOD STEWARD

Sunday, March 24
Online Giving

\$3,642.00
\$250.00

Thank you for your generosity!

*This Week the Sanctuary Lamp
Burns for Chase Veliz*



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: Major Brandon Bennett, NJ Army National Guard (Federal); Larisa Furs, US Navy; Lt. Jason Gieniewski, US 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





THANK YOU!

The Knights of Columbus Council 9920 would like to thank everyone who attended our Spaghetti Dinner on Saturday the 23rd. Those who attended had a wonderful time, and the Knights were honored to serve you. We would also like to thank all those who could not attend but sent donations to help us with our work.

It is because of generous people like you that we are able to help the less fortunate in many ways. God Bless you all,
OLMC K of C 9920, Swartswood.



Knights of Columbus Announcement



The Knights of Columbus will be having an Easter egg hunt, crafts and games for the children of our parish immediately following the April 7th 11 am Children’s Mass. The event will be free of charge and all are

welcome, children and adults alike! A light refreshment will be served. Please come for the Children’s Mass and stay for the fun!



PARISH SURVEY

In the coming weeks, we will be conducting a parish survey. The survey will be some collective questions about the activities in the parish. The goal of the survey is to help the staff and volunteers to know some areas of parish life and activities that may need some change or more improvement. When the survey materials are available, we will notify you and ask you to participate.

Lent 2019

Confession

Every Monday, March 11 – April 8
7:00 PM – 8:30 PM and at all Parishes in the Diocese.



Lenten Meatless Soup Suppers

Every Friday at 6:00 PM during lent.

Stations of the Cross

Begins at 7:00 PM following the Meatless Soup Supper.

Our annual **Lenten Meatless Soup Suppers** are held each Friday during lent. Dinner starts at 6PM with **Stations of the Cross** beginning at 7PM. A free donation is suggested – all proceeds will go to the Church. Sign-up sheets are at the side doors. Set-up and clean-up help is needed. Please call Dina (973)579-1908 if you have any questions or would like more information on this Our Lady of Mount Carmel tradition.

What is Laetare Sunday During Lent?

Most Catholic people in the U.S. are used to Mass being conducted in English and rarely think about the fact that Latin remains the official language of the Catholic Church. But occasionally, Latin terms sneak back in as in the case of Laetare Sunday, the fourth Sunday of Lent. The term Laetare Sunday is used by most Roman Catholic churches. Laetare means “*Rejoice*” in Latin. The 40 days of Lent are a time for solemnity per Roman Catholic doctrine, so how is it possible to celebrate during a time for meditative reflection? The church recognizes that people need a break from sorrow. The fourth Sunday was considered a day of relaxation from the normal rigors of Lent. It was a day of hope with Easter within sight. Traditionally, weddings, which were otherwise banned during Lent, could be performed on this day. Because the midpoint of Lent is the Thursday of the third week of Lent, Laetare Sunday has traditionally been viewed as a day of celebration, on which the austerity of Lent is briefly lessened. Laetare Sunday has a counterpart in Advent season or the Christmas season in preparation of the birth of Jesus. Gaudete Sunday is the third Sunday of Advent when purple vestments are exchanged for rose ones. The point of both days is to provide you with encouragement as you progress toward the end of each respective penitential season.

THANK YOU KITCHEN CLEANERS

Many thanks to Patricia Cholasta, Dina Salvatore, Fran Sorce and Sella Apostola who spent hours cleaning up our kitchen. They did a great job. We will also need to clean out our Church storage rooms soon. They suggested it will be good for the parish to have a cleaning ministry. Would you like to join us?

SAVE THE DATE

Family Breakfast

On Sunday, April 28th we will be having a Family Breakfast after all the Masses. More information to come!

Is the Church a Dumping Ground?

Some parishioners tend to be very generous with what they have in their homes or closets but sometimes they do not know how to go about it. So, they bring them and dump them in the church. We ask you to call the parish office if you have anything you want to donate like books, utensils, cookie jars, clothing and so forth. If we are doing a garage sale or clothing drive, we may ask you to bring them but until then, please refrain from leaving these items in the Church with the expectation that somebody else will use them. It makes it very difficult for us to clean and get rid of them.

Rosary for World Peace – April 4

All are invited to the National Blue Army Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima, Washington, NJ, to join in praying the Rosary for Peace on Thursday, April 4th in conjunction with saint Anthony’s Parish in Fatima, Portugal. The rosary will be prayed in our Blessed Sacrament Chapel starting at 3:00 pm. The schedule for the day is as follows:

11:30 am Holy Rosary; 12:00 pm Holy Mass; 1:00 pm Exposition; 2:00 pm Consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary; 3:00 pm Holy Rosary for World Peace. The World Apostolate of Fatima, Our Lady’s Blue Army Shrine, is located at 674 Mountain View East, Asbury, NJ 08802. Come join them. For more information (908)689-1700 ext. 224.

OLMC Youth Group Announcement

Grades 7-12 are Welcome!

Sunday, March 31st

12:00 pm – 2:00 pm

Biesiada Hall

Lunch, Games, Prayer and FUN!

Any questions, contact Heather: olmc@gmail.com

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

It’s the 1 year anniversary of the Wine and Cheese Club. The next gathering will be Saturday, April 6 after the 5 PM Mass. We will



be having champagne to celebrate! Good opportunity to meet and get to know more of our parishioners in a relaxed manner with beverages of all types and cheese and fruits. Please join us!



**Sacred Heart Spirituality Center
20 Old Swartswood Road, Newton**

Come join us for our monthly First Thursday Retreat at Sacred Heart Spirituality Center on April 4, 2019. Our theme for this year is “Holiness is for Everyone!” Our topic for April, as we continue our Lenten Journey is: “Challenges to Holiness in Today’s World.” The day begins at 9 AM with ‘coffee and,’ and includes an opening prayer, a short talk, Eucharistic Adoration, the opportunity for Confession, Mass at 12:00 Noon, and a light lunch. The day concludes at about 1:30 PM. Fifteen dollars is the suggested offering. There is no need to pre-register – all are welcome. For further information, visit their website: sacredheartspiritualitycenter.org, e-mail: shretreatcenter@gmail.com or call (973)383-2620.

Religious Education Announcement

Reminder

***April 7th is our next Children’s Mass. 1st Year Confirmation will be actively participating.**

***1st and 2nd year Confirmation Gathering – 7 pm-8:30 pm
2nd Grade Eucharist Retreat - Sunday, April 7th from 9:30 am – 12:00 noon at Sacred Heart Center.**



“Near unbelievable kindness and forgiveness causes a resentment.”

The parable of the Prodigal Son invites us to enter into the three main characters and to see how each of these characters mirrors us. It is one of the best Parable of Jesus with a very simple meaning. "Some of its phrases are so powerful that they have become proverbial. Prodigal Son, fatted calf. . . lost and found. A story that has enriched the vocabulary of the world. And not just the world's vocabulary but the world's mentality as well." What provoked this parable and what led Jesus to tell the story? The fact that the Pharisees objected to the company he kept, to his eating with tax collectors and sinners. So, He told the story to give an insight into His own mind and the mind of God.

The behavior of the younger son has also become the main focus of many commentators and preachers. His initial attitude asking his father to give his will to him before his death had shocked the readers for years. However, his total repentance, returning home and near unbelievable welcome he received from his father have moved Christians of all generations. The parable also gives a detailed account of the elder brother's reaction at the return of his younger brother and his shocking news of his father's extraordinary forgiveness and kindness. In fact, he was so upset with the lavish party organized by the father to welcome his younger brother, whom he thinks does not deserve it at all, to be welcomed and even more so to celebrate his return. For the elder son, such celebration is just strange and unacceptable! Thus, he refused to join the celebration and to welcome his returned wayward brother. In the allegory of Jesus' parable, this apathy to a brother's loss reflects an icy indifference to the grave plight of tax collectors and sinners whom the Pharisees resented and would never expect Jesus to associate with them. Like Pharisees who were surprised at Jesus' acceptance of sinners so does the elder brother surprised at his father's kindness and acceptance of his younger brother.

"The elder son is insensible to the tragic horror of human souls lost amid wayward living - thus insensible, as well to the ecstasy of it unexpected recovery through repentance." The lesson of the Parable of the Prodigal son illustrates, the younger son who repented and asked for forgiveness, his father who forgave him and his elder brother who despised his younger brother and refused to forgive. As matter of fact, the angry protest of the elder brother and attitude of the Pharisees at Jesus welcoming the sinners invites us to examine our own attitudes and treatment to outsiders. Do you think that you deserve a better from life than other people who you consider that is no good? Do you just pray for yourself, practice your Christianity, while resenting the mercy that God offers to sinners who repent? Or do you resent God's graciousness to those who are no good or probably do not even practice their faith? Are you trying to form a welcoming community that is willing to understand and accompany others despite their problems? Are you willing to forgive, to let go or do you keep building walls and bridges that destroys human relationships? Near unbelievable kindness and forgiveness can led to resentment but it can also bring true healing and conversion of the world.

–Fr. Abuchi



QUOTE OF THE WEEK

“As Lent is the time for greater love, listen to Jesus’ thirst. ‘Repent and Believe’, Jesus tells us. What are we to repent? Our indifference, our hardness of heart. What are we to believe? Jesus thirsts even now, in your heart and in the poor. He knows your weakness. He wants only your love. Wants only the chance to love you.”

–Saint Theresa of Calcutta