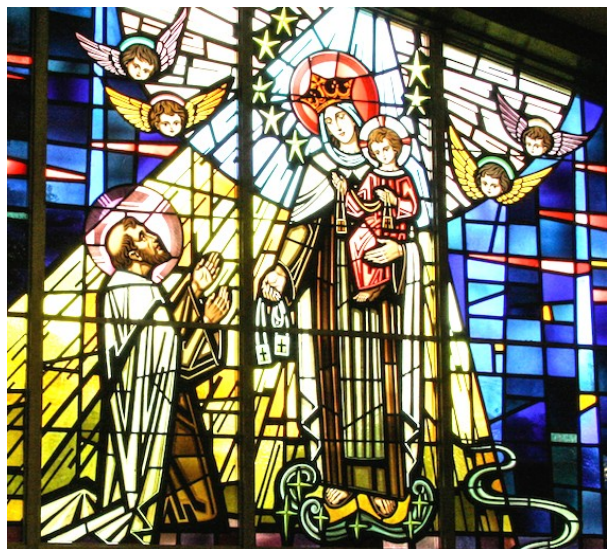


# Our Lady of Mount Carmel

Sunday, July 28, 2019  
Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary time



## 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 • Swartswood, 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 MINISTER

Aneesha Begraft ..... mtcarmelyouths@gmail.com

## KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS, Council 9920

Vincent Kornmeyer ..... 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, July 27**

EX 24:3-8 / MT 13:24-30

**8:30 am Peter Biasi** *by Ron & Ann Johnson*  
**5:00 pm Susan Voge** *by Cassie Liobe*

**Sunday, July 28**

GN 18:20-32 / COL 2:12-14 / LK 11:1-13

**7:30 am For the Intentions of John Inglima** *by Carol*  
**9:00 am Eugene Streeter** *by Long Family*  
**11:00 am Jennie Apostola** *by Pat & Lester Zaleski*

**Monday, July 29 – Memorial of Saint Martha**

EX 32:15-24, 30-34 / JN 11:19-27

**8:30 am Bill & Rita Murray** *by Ron & Ann Johnson*

**Tuesday, July 30**

EX 33:7-11; 34:5B-9, 28 / MT 13:36-43

**8:30 am Healing of Christiane Selvine**  
*by Felicia & Betty Murray*

**Wednesday, July 31 – Memorial of Saint Ignatius of Loyola, Priest**

EX 34:29-35 / MT 13:44-46

**7:00 pm Alyce Fensterer** *by Jo Ann Lacovara-Friel*

**Thursday, August 1 – Memorial of Saint Alphonsus Liguori, Bishop and Doctor of the Church**

EX 40:16-21, 34-38 / MT 13:47-53

**8:30 am For the Intentions of Valerie Derbyshire**  
*by Parish Staff*

**Friday, August 2**

LV 23:1, 4-11, 15-16, 27, 34B-37 / MT 13:54-58

**8:30 am Intentions of Joseph Curulli**  
*by Mazzola Family*

**Saturday, August 3**

LV 25:1, 8-17 / MT 14:1-12

**8:30 am Intentions of Rosalie Turton**  
*by Ron & Ann Johnson*  
**5:00 pm Anthony Di Tore** *by Autorino Family*

**Sunday, August 4**

ECC 1:2; 2:21-23 / COL 3:1-5, 9-11 / LK 12:13-21

**7:30 am Deceased Members of Muller & Weisser Families**  
*by Deacon Ed & Mary Lou Muller*  
**9:00 am Intentions of Patricia Cholasta**  
*by Parish Staff*  
**11:00 am Jerry Pasternak** *by Mazzola Family*

**PLEASE REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING**

John and Lucy Barrett, Ann Bott, Walter & Concetta Brock Jr., Bradley Burchfield, Ted Cassera, Joseph Colon, Olivia Compton, Fr. Angelus Croce, Stephanie Cuomo, Ingrid Diaz, Kara Deserto, Doug Ernst Sr., Donna Gatto, Richard Hennings, Eva Kieger, Ava Kljajic, Bruce Konar, Joshua Koontz, Alex Krucinski, John Kucinski, Kden LeoGrande, Pete Mahler, Maria Mallozzi, Mary Jo Manno, Deacon Charles Mathias, Susanne Martone, Bob Metroke, Deacon Ed Muller, Bill Nagy, Mary Ellen Nienstedt, Stephen Osborn, Margie Palazzo, Jason Parker, Sr., Lorraine Paxton, Clarence Remke, Peter F. Reynolds, Carol Rock, Colleen Romano, George Romano, Olga Romeo, Linda Ross, Rose Marie Sciascia, Carole Salvatore, John Samsok, Greg Schmiditty, Gloria Shope, Marianne Skrocki, Debbie Smith, Stephanie, Richie Sorce, Andrew Sorce, Dale Swoboda, Roberta Treptau, David & Vince Ventresca, Brooke Zaleski

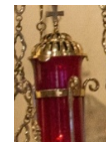
**A GOOD STEWARD**

**Sunday, July 21** **\$2,567.00**  
**Online Giving** **\$250.00**

*Thank you for your generosity!*

*\*There's a second collection this weekend for the Catholic Communications Campaign, Black and Indian Missions, Catholic University of America*

*This Week the Sanctuary Lamp Burns for Janet Achu*



**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



**Don't take Summer vacation from God**

The summer is already here. Of course, it is a great time. There are vacation plans, Sunday brunch, holidays, family reunions, and trips to the lake, beach or mountains. It's summer and everyone gets to play. Kids are off from school and sleep in, you read your summer novel, you meet friends for dinner, and it feels like everyone can breathe a sigh of relief from routine and busy schedules.

It's tempting to schedule weekend getaways and forget about church. But Church doors will always be open and there is daily Masses and Sunday Masses. People will say it doesn't hurt to miss a week or two. And while weekly Mass attendance doesn't make you holy, or earn you points with God, it is our best hope for growth in grace. And it does draw you closer to God. What's the purpose of vacation if not to reconnect with family? What's the purpose of summer activity if not to connect with friends and loved ones? And our relationship with God is no different. Use the blessing of slower schedules, beautiful weather and longer days to nurture your relationship with God too. Summer offers us so many opportunities to grow in our faith. If you take advantage of it, you may just find you have a better summer than you ever imagined you would!

We wouldn't expect our bodies to stay healthy if we binged on sugar or never exercised. We can't expect our souls to stay healthy either when we don't feed our spirits the Word of God and experience Him in Eucharistic celebration. As you enjoy your Summer break, please make some time and join us to pray together at weekday Masses and Sunday Masses.

**SAVE THE DATE****OLMC Parish Tricky Tray 2019**

We will be holding our annual Tricky Tray on Friday, August 30, 2019. As you might know, this is our biggest fundraiser of the year which benefits the entire church a great deal. We need volunteers to assist the Tricky Tray team. Please call the office or contact Kelly Kays (201)317-7881 [kellymariekays@yahoo.com](mailto:kellymariekays@yahoo.com) or Kaitlin Voris (973)903-2176 [ksheehyk@gmail.com](mailto:ksheehyk@gmail.com) if you can volunteer. We will have more information for you in the coming weeks.

**"Male and Female He Created Them"**

"God created man in his own image. . . . male and female, he created them. And God blessed them, saying: "Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it." (Gn 1:27 & 28)

The above lines from Genesis have always been hallowed by Jews and Christians, providing countless generations with a faith-based understanding of humanity. The Lord God is our source of being. Both men and women are made in his image and therefore of inestimable dignity, equality, and worth.

"The Lord God said: "It is not good for man to be alone. I will make a suitable partner for him." (Gn 2:18) "Then the Lord God cast a deep sleep upon the man, and while he was fast asleep, he took one of his ribs, and closed up its place with flesh. And the Lord God then built up into a woman the rib that he had taken from the man. When he brought her to the man, the man said: "At last, this one is bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh. ...That is why a man leaves his father and mother and clings to his wife, and the two of them become one body." (Gn 2:21-24)

Expanding on the above teaching, the Holy Father notes "knowledge of humanity passes through masculinity and femininity." In other words, we can't understand ourselves individually as men or women if we don't have each other. When the author of Genesis says that "the Lord God then built up into a woman the rib that he had taken from the man," and "brought her to the man," he revealed God's critical intention--man was to have a partner like himself in dignity but also different from him in every way--especially on a physical level. And the author tells us that the man himself recognized this as a good exclaiming "at last, this is bone of my bone and flesh of my flesh!"

This sacred story not only supplies a clear anthropology, but it serves as the foundational teaching on the marriage relationship as willed by God. This relationship between a man and a woman is a tremendous blessing, as are the children God entrusts to them. Indeed, throughout scripture the marital relationship is so sacred that the prophets often use it as an analogy to explain God's relationship with His people.

We need to read scripture with minds and hearts open so that we might truly know what God is saying to us. Homosexual men and women can never have a marriage in the biblical sense, but they are our brothers and sisters who deserve respect as children of God, and human rights accorded on the basis of our humanity. But God's teaching about marriage is clear: "male and female He made them" blessing them to be "fruitful and multiply." God's will for marriage is the totality of humanity--male and female, united in him and open to life.

**-United States Catholic Conference of Bishops**

### Memorial of Saint Martha – July 29

We learn about Saint Martha from the Gospels. She was from Bethany, a village near Jerusalem. The sister of Lazarus and Mary, she was considered diligent and meticulous; she was certainly one of the first to believe in Jesus. The Lord was often a guest in her home, especially during the time of His preaching in Jerusalem.



Saint Luke especially can “draw us a picture” of St. Martha, describing her daily life. In his Gospel, relating one time when Jesus was visiting His friends in Bethany, St. Luke writes: “As they continued their journey He entered a village where a woman whose name was Martha welcomed Him. She had a sister named Mary who sat beside the Lord at His feet listening to Him speak. Martha, burdened with much serving, came to Him and said, ‘Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me by myself to do the serving? Tell her to help me.’ The Lord said to her in reply, ‘Martha, Martha, you are anxious and worried about many things. There is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part and it will not be taken from her.’”

Jesus helps Martha to understand that even praiseworthy labor can risk obscuring the interior life. It is a warning that causes one to reflect on how important it is to nourish the spirit, to listen to the Word of God because it is the Word of God that gives meaning to our daily activities.

Saint Martha has also left us a strong witness of faith. In her response to Jesus’ questions after the death of her brother Lazarus, a total belief, a faith that does not hesitate, does not doubt. Martha has complete confidence in God, even in the face of what seems impossible on a human level: “When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went to meet Him; but Mary sat at home. Martha said to Jesus, ‘Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that whatever you ask of God, God will give you.’” It is an extraordinary profession of faith; but the conversation between Martha and Jesus continues. And from this simple woman of Bethany, we come to understand what it means to believe in Jesus Christ; “Jesus said to her, ‘Your brother will rise.’ Martha said to Him, ‘I know he will rise, in the resurrection on the last day.’ Jesus told her, ‘I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?’ She said to Him, ‘Yes, Lord. I have come to believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one who is coming into the world.’”

Saint Martha with Mary and Lazarus and other disciples, left their own land and went to France, where they brought the Christian faith. The liturgical memorial of Saint Martha was begun by Franciscans in 1262, who celebrated her feast day on July 29, eight days after the feast of her sister, Saint Mary Magdalene.

### PARISH 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY - 2020

Next year, 2020 will be the 50th Anniversary of our parish. We are going to be celebrating with Bishop Serratelli the Anniversary Mass on September 20, 2020 at 11 AM. If you would like to be a member of the committee to help plan for the anniversary, please contact the office (973)383-3566.



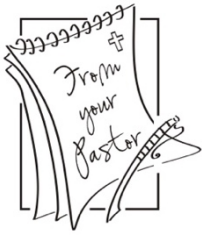
### Religious Education

**Religious Education Catechists** are needed for the 2019-2020 school year. Religious Education is a wonderful way to help our children understand their faith. Our goal is to have two teachers in each classroom so that the students have continuity throughout the year should one teacher be unavailable. It is an easy, rewarding and faith-filled undertaking! Training will be provided to everyone; all the work is outlined in the teacher’s manual-even what to write on the board! We will guide you as you go. It is a worthwhile endeavor and the children appreciate it. Substitutes are needed when teachers are unavailable as well! Please contact the **Religious Education Office at (973)579-2355** if you would like to share your faith with our children. Also, Catechists do not pay tuition for their children who are enrolled in our program. Please prayerfully consider joining this ministry.

**Thank you and God Bless, Dan Salvatore, CRE**

### Manna House

Our sincere thanks to our OLMC Manna House volunteers who provided a nutritious lunch to the needy at Manna House in Newton on Monday, July 15<sup>th</sup>. Our parish’s assigned day to serve is always the third Monday of every month. The hours of service are from 10 a.m. until 1 p.m. We have a need for more volunteers so, if you are able and would like to perform the Corporal work of Mercy of feeding the needy, this is the perfect opportunity. Kindly contact Dan Salvatore at [dan958@embarqmail.com](mailto:dan958@embarqmail.com), or at 973-579-2355 or Bill Nagy at [wrnagy@ptd.net](mailto:wrnagy@ptd.net). For more information.



**Every prayer will be heard, and every prayer will bring us a blessing. But prayer is not a magic formula to receive all the persistent requests to God.**

Never give up. Never give in. Never quit. Winners never quit and quitters never win are statements we hear often. "These are quotes from our parents, axioms of life to keep a sales force motivated, half-time speeches from coaches to sports teams, or famous quotes from national leaders in times of crisis. They are designed to spur us on in the face of overwhelming odds, or to keep trying when we are tempted to give up after repeated rejection or loss." And there is much truth here, of course. "Persistence and perseverance are admirable qualities indeed, and key components to almost any successful endeavor. Most successful inventors, writers, athletes, actors, politicians, physicians or business owners can tell of times when they were tempted to quit, to give up on their dreams in the face of continual setbacks. But they kept going, kept the faith that this was their path, and in the end that persistence paid off."

In the today's first reading, Abraham realized God was about to severely punish the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah for depravity and immorality. He interceded and showed his concern because his nephew, Lot, lived in Sodom. Abraham, aware of the cities' impending doom, appealed to God's mercy, and persisted lowering the number of good people he must find to allow the cities to be saved. He was unable to find even ten hospitable people there. But God kept listening and his persistence was paid off.

The gospel featured Jesus' teaching on persistence in prayer in response to His disciples' direct request to be taught how to pray. This teaching of the Lord's Prayer was followed with a set of brief parables or parable statements to illustrate the nature of prayer. "In the brief parable, Jesus asked the disciples to imagine a person knocking on his neighbor's door at midnight, asking to borrow some bread to feed an unexpected guest. Of course, the knocking threatens to wake the entire house, since Palestinian homes of that day were usually one-room structures, and all the family slept huddled close together. But when the man inside tries to point out the late hour and the inconvenience to his family, the persistent neighbor just keeps knocking, pressing his point and need. And finally, the householder gets up and gives his pesky neighbor the bread, just to restore the peace of the family."

But where does this model of prayer or the parable leads us? Prayer is not like a magic formula where like the persistent neighbor at night we can get what we want when we persist in praying to God. It's not because God doesn't know what we want or need, or He's too busy to care about our needs right now, but our persistence helps create a dialogue and build a relationship with Him. Every prayer will be heard, and every prayer will bring us a blessing. In the parable, Jesus also wants to teach us that in prayers we are insiders, family members, sons and daughters of God. So, prayer is the whisper of intimacy between children and their heavenly Father, a Father who already is inclined toward us, who already loves us more than we can imagine or deserve. The lesson is if earthly parents like us can love and provide their children needs, we can also trust God, our perfect Heavenly Father to respond in love and wisdom to the requests of you and I His loving children.

**–Fr. Abuchi**



**QUOTE OF THE WEEK**

*"When you pray, you only have to ask for two things: You should ask for the light to see the will of God, and you have to ask for the courage to be able to do the will of God."*

**–Venerable Msgr. Aloysius Schwartz**