

Our Lady of Mount Carmel

Sunday, September 8, 2019
Twenty-third 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
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RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OFFICE

Hours 9:00 am - 1:00 pm
Phone 973-579-2355
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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, September 7

COL 1:21-23 / LK 6:1-5

8:30 am For God's will on Nelson Tirado *by C. Tirado*5:00 pm Private Intentions *by Kathleen Bikoff*

Sunday, September 8

WIS 9:13-18B / PHMN 9-10, 12-17 / LK 14:25-33

7:30 am For God's will on Nelson Tirado *by C. Tirado*9:00 am Bob Froetscher *by Barbara Froetscher*11:00 am Agnes Silbernagel
by Deacon Tony & Beth Barile

Monday, September 9 – Memorial of Saint Peter Claver, Priest

COL 1:24—2:3 / LK 6:6-11

8:30 am Intentions of David Johnson
*by Ron & Ann Johnson*For God's will on Nelson Tirado *by C. Tirado*

Tuesday, September 10

COL 2:6-15 / LK 6:12-19

8:30 am For God's will on Nelson Tirado *by C. Tirado*

Wednesday, September 11

COL 3:1-11 / LK 6:20-26

7:00 pm Gloria A. Murcia *by Lombardo Family*

Thursday, September 12

COL 3:12-17 / LK 6:27-38

8:30 am Stephen Siegel *by Kathleen Bikoff*

Friday, September 13 – Memorial of St. John Chrysostom, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

1 TM 1:1-2, 12-14 / LK 6:39-42

8:30 am Andrew Louis Stevans
by Daniel & Veronica Stevans

Saturday, September 14 – Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross

NM 21:4B-9 / PHIL 2:6-11 / JN 3:13-17

8:30 am Barbara Froetscher *by Barbara Froetscher*5:00 pm Joseph Greshko *by Greshko Family*

Sunday, September 15

EX 32:7-11, 13-14 / 1 TM 1:12-17 / LK 15:1-32

7:30 am Marion Gross *by Frances DeWitt*9:00 am Eugene Streeter *by Deacon Tony & Beth Barile*11:00 am Elyse Stropoli *by Beth & Larry Lockwood*

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, 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 Samsock, Greg Schmiditty, Marianne Skrocki, Debbie Smith, Stephanie, Richie Sorce, Andrew Sorce, Dale Swoboda, Roberta Treptau, Connie VanHoven, David & Vince Ventresca, Brooke Zaleski, Virginia Zaleski

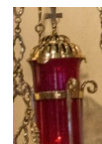
A GOOD STEWARD

Sunday, August 25	\$ 2,419.00
Online Giving	\$ 250.00
Assumption Online Giving from August 15	\$ 100.00

Thank you for your generosity!

**Second Collection this weekend is for Diocesan Assessment*

*This Week the
Sanctuary Lamp Burns for
the Intentions of
Phil Sweeney*



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



Religious Education

Religious Education Catechist to teach the 5th Grade is needed for the 2019-2020 school year. If you are interested and can help please contact Dan Salvatore, CRE (973)579-2355.

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!

Also, Catechists do not pay tuition for their children who are enrolled in our program. Please prayerfully consider joining this ministry.

GUIDE TO MARRIAGE (continued from last week)

Theme 6: Journey of Human and Spiritual Growth Relationship to Lived Experience Reflection

When he returned from his tour in Iraq, the baby was nine months old. He felt like an outsider in his own family. There was no way he could fully explain what his past year had been like and he had missed so much at home. The baby didn't know him and certainly didn't seem to need anyone but Mom. His wife was thrilled that he was home, but she resented that his return had thrown a wrench into her well-established routine. They felt a great distance between them. Memories of the happy days when they were first married helped give them faith that God meant for them to be together, and they looked with hope to better days ahead. She found support from other military spouses; he found sound advice in his talks with the pastor. Now, their baby is four years old. Their marriage and their family bond is strong. They volunteer as a mentor couple to support other military couples struggling with similar transitions.

Discussion Questions

1. Make a map of the different "marriages" you have experienced. What events were the transition points that caused each change?
2. How has surviving a time of trial, either personally or in your marriage, better equipped you to support others who are suffering or struggling?
3. How can a church community help families in times of transition and loss, e.g., families experiencing a death or birth, empty-nest couples, parents of teens?

Journaling Questions

1. Write a prayer for your spouse, expressing your hopes and dreams for him or her.
2. Think of a time from the past when your marriage went through a transition. Describe life before, during and after the transition. What got you through? How was God present to you?

"Surrender and Accept Jesus' Invitation to: The Banquet"

Presenter: Jim Browne, quick witted and faith filled famed Irish speaker

Topic: Getting closer to Jesus with Scripture based teachings

Dates: Tuesday, September 24th

Rosary: 8:00am

Holy Mass: 8:30am

Retreat: 9:45am—5:00pm

Wednesday, September 25th

Rosary: 8:00am

Holy Mass: 8:30am

Retreat: 9:45am—5:00pm



Cost of Retreat: \$85.00 (per person) Includes breakfast/lunch. Overnight accommodations are available for \$50 per night at St. Paul's Abbey.

Location: St. Paul's Abbey/289 US 206, Newton, NJ 07860

To register please contact:

Mary Anne Condit 973-219-3352 /

maryanncondit@gmail.com

Rosemarie Veliz 973-903-9456/ rveliz187@gmail.com

Louise Crann 973-903-5029

****SPACE IS LIMITED, PLEASE PRE-REGISTER EARLY TO SECURE A SPOT****

Religious Education Calendar

September 8th – 8:30 am - Catechist Meeting

September 8th – 9 am - Children's Mass and First Day of Religious Education. Classes immediately following Mass. Classes will dismiss at 11:15 am

September 15th – 11 am Mass - Catechetical Sunday – Catechists commissioned at 11 am Mass

September 30th – 7:30 pm - 2nd Grade Parent Meeting for Sacramental preparation

Confirmation Schedule

September 8th – 9 am Mass followed by the Opening Catechetical Gathering ending at 11:15 am

September 17th – 7 pm – Confirmation Parent Meeting

REGISTRATION FOR RELIGIOUS ED AND CONFIRMATION ARE STILL BEING ACCEPTED

VIVERE CHRISTUS MEDAL

Every year the Catholic diocese of Paterson awards "VIVERE CHRISTUS MEDAL" to one individual, or one couple or one family from each parish across the diocese. The goal of this award is to acknowledge the value and importance of the Laity and Religious and to express gratitude and appreciation to those who unselfishly give of themselves for the building up of God's Kingdom. This year **Mrs. Patricia Cholasta** will be receiving this diocesan honor award on this Sunday, September 8. Mrs. Cholasta has exemplified her selfless service to the parish and to the community. For several years, she has been helping with decorating the Church. She also runs Joy Club in the parish and volunteers in other different forms to support the parish. We are thankful for her devoted service to our parish community.

The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

The one symbol most often identified with Jesus and His Church is the cross.

On September 14, we celebrate the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. This feast traces its beginning to Jerusalem and the dedication of the Church built on the site of Mt. Calvary in 335. But the meaning of the cross is deeper than any city, any celebration, any building. The cross is a sign of suffering, a sign of human cruelty at its worst. But by Christ's love shown in the Paschal Mystery, it has become the sign of triumph and victory, the sign of God, who is love itself.

Believers have always looked to the cross in times of suffering. People in concentration camps, in prisons, in hospitals, in any place of suffering and loneliness, have been known to draw, trace or form crosses and focus their eyes and hearts on them. The cross does not explain pain and misery. It does not give us any easy answers. But it does help us to see our lives united with Christ's.

We often make the Sign of the Cross over ourselves. We make it before prayer to help fix our minds and hearts on God. We make it after prayer, hoping to stay close to God. In trials and temptations, the cross is a sign of strength and protection. The cross is the sign of the fullness of life that is ours. At Baptism, too, the Sign of the Cross is used; the priest, parents and godparents make the sign on the forehead of the child. A sign made on the forehead is a sign of belonging. By the Sign of the Cross in baptism, Jesus takes us as His own in a unique way. Today, let us look to the cross often. let us make the Sign of the Cross and realize we bring our whole selves to God—our minds, souls, bodies, wills, thoughts, hearts—everywhere we are and will become.

SACRAMENTAL NEEDS

Sacrament of Anointing: Please call the parish priest as soon as there is any serious illness.

Ministry to the Sick: Please call the parish office for a priest visit to the physically handicapped, aged, hospitalized, sick and shut in.

Sacrament of Reconciliation: The Sacrament of Reconciliation is celebrated individually every Saturday afternoon at 4:15pm or by individual appointment with Fr. Abuchi at any time.

Baptisms: Parents may contact the parish before or after their child's birth. The Sacrament of Baptism is celebrated every Sunday at the 11 am Mass or after. We also accommodate other days. You will be invited to attend a Pre-Baptismal session either before or after the birth of your child.

Sacramental Marriage ~ The couple should contact the office several months before the desired date for the marriage to insure proper preparation for this Sacrament. Those who are civilly married may also contact the priest to help them convalidate their marriage in the Church.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA): Adults interested in learning more about their faith or in becoming Catholic may join the program of formation and instruction.

Sponsor Certificates: Letters of recommendation for sponsors of the Sacraments can be issued only to active registered members of the parish who are receiving the Sacraments on a regular basis.

Silver and Gold Wedding Anniversary Mass

Couples, were you married in 1969 or 1995? The Diocese of Paterson invites you to celebrate your 25th or 50th wedding anniversary during a special Mass to be offered at the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist in Paterson, NJ. Bishop Serratelli will serve as main celebrant on this joyful occasion to be held Sunday, November 3, 2019.

Arrangements can be made by contacting the parish office. The deadline to register is Wednesday, October 9, 2019. You will receive additional information from the Office of Family Life once your registration has been processed.

Congratulations on this joyous occasion!



It is reckless to act without reflection. We'd be exposing ourselves to frustration, ridicule or even disaster when we do not think about the outcome.

When stocks go up, everyone gets into the stock market. When all your friends are getting married, or having children, or upgrading their homes, or taking early retirement, it is tempting just to get swept up in the crowd. Some people do not think about the outcome before beginning a new adventure. Young couples getting married, sometimes their spending spirals out of control and they're not thinking about future expenses. The real test, the real courage, and the real wisdom is found by those who genuinely stop and ponder, wrestle and count the cost of the big decisions in life.

In life, we do not want unpleasant surprises. We prefer to hear full disclosure, whole truth of things to help us to think and make the best decisions. Many have been burned and betrayed because there was no full disclosure. It is like a person buying a used car sold "as is" but unknown to the buyer the reason for the low price is because the car has many mechanical problems. Unfortunately, the seller withheld the information. If the buyer had known about all the mechanical problems, he/she would have been well prepared to decide if it's worth buying.

In today's gospel, Jesus gives a full disclosure of discipleship and the necessary requirement. He never said it so softly to drag many to sign up. As Jesus heads to Jerusalem, He was thronged by large crowds swelling around. "If He was a politician that would be grand news indeed! Politicians always want the most supporters and votes possible, and will say, promise or do almost anything to increase their ranks or make things happen if elected." So, when Jesus saw the crowds rushing toward Him, coming along side to journey with him to Jerusalem, He gives full disclosure of the cost of discipleship: *If anyone comes to me, and does not hate his father and mother, his wife and children, his brothers and sisters—yes even his own life, he cannot be my disciple.... Anyone who does not carry his own cross and follow me cannot be my disciple.... Any of you who does not give up everything he has cannot be my disciple.* He wants to be very clear with His would-be disciples, urging us to count the cost of discipleship, to weigh soberly the implications of following a man destined to be crucified, who would call all those who follow Him to be willing to put their lives and ambitions and self-comfort on the same cross. Of course, He will never want us to hate our parents, families and friends because of Him but He rather prefer us to prioritize love for God before love for the family. At least, you can't accuse Jesus of peddling a discipleship that was hard and demanding, as if it was easy and popular.

He then summarizes the cost of discipleship with a story: "If anyone who begins an important project without knowing if he has the means and energy for the task, risks ending up with a mess on his hands." He recommends prudence and caution before beginning any task, like to build a tower without sufficient funds. In fact, the mission He gives His followers is so important that nobody should commit to it without discernment because the discipleship will not be easy and popular. Firstly, we are called today to stop and think very well the cost or the outcome before beginning a new thing or adventure. Secondly, we need to give full disclosure when dealing with people. Most of all, to be willing to forfeit a lot to follow Christ and to make Him a priority over all things.

—Fr. Abuchi



QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"Man's salvation and perfection consists of doing the will of God which he must have in view in all things and at every moment of his life." —St. Peter Claver