

Our Lady of Mount Carmel

Sunday, November 17, 2019
Thirty-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

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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, November 16

WIS 18:14-16; 19:6-9 / LK 18:1-8

8:30 am Nelson Tirado

by C. Tirado

5:00 pm Josephine Scudato

by Scudato Family

Sunday, November 17

MAL 3:19-20A / 2 THES 3:7-12 / LK 21:5-19

7:30 am Intentions of Ray Doyle

by Parish Staff

9:00 am Joseph Shammas

by George & Peggy Shammas

11:00 am Nelson Tirado

by C. Tirado

Monday, November 18

1 MC 1:10-15, 41-43, 54-57, 62-63 / LK 18:35-43

8:30 am Nelson Tirado

by C. Tirado

Tuesday, November 19

2 MC 6:18-31 / LK 19:1-10

8:30 am David Grimes

by Ray & Marie Nazzaro

Nelson Tirado

by C. Tirado

Wednesday, November 20

2 MC 7:1, 20-31 / LK 19:11-28

7:00 pm Nelson Tirado

by C. Tirado

Thursday, November 21 – Memorial of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

1 MC 2:15-29 / LK 19:41-44

8:30 am Nelson Tirado

by C. Tirado

Friday, November 22 – Memorial of Saint Cecilia, Virgin and Martyr

1 MC 4:36-37, 52-59 / LK 19:45-48

8:30 am Nelson Tirado

by C. Tirado

Saturday, November 23

1 MC 6:1-13 / LK 20:27-40

8:30 am Nelson Tirado

by C. Tirado

5:00 pm Josephine Scudato

by Brady Family

Sunday, November 24 – The Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

2 SM 5:1-3 / COL 1:12-20 / LK 23:35-43

7:30 am Intentions of Valerie Derbyshire

by Parish Staff

9:00 am Robert Mucha

by Mucha Family

11:00 am Nelson Tirado

by C. Tirado

PLEASE REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING

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., Richard Hennings, Barbara Ingallinera, Eva Kieger, Ava Kljajic, Michael Kochanski, Bruce Konar, Joshua Koontz, Alex Krucinski, John Kucinski, Kden LeoGrande, Pete Mahler, Maria Mallozzi, Mary Jo Manno, Deacon Charles Mathias, Susanne Martone, Bob Metroke, Greyson Christopher Mueller, Deacon Ed Muller, Bill Nagy, Mary Ellen Nienstedt, Stephen Osborn, Jason Parker, Harry Pasternak Sr., Lorraine Paxton, Clarence Remke, Peter F. Reynolds, Tammy Rivers, Charles Schult, William Schult, Carol Rock, Colleen Romano, George Romano, Olga Romeo, Linda Ross, Rose Marie Sciascia, Carole Salvatore, John Samscock, Greg Schmiditty, Marianne Skrocki, Debbie Smith, Stephanie, Andrew Sorce, Richie Sorce, Dale Swoboda, Roberta Treptau, Connie VanHoven, David & Vince Ventresca, Fred Worman, Brooke Zaleski

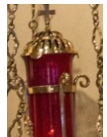
A GOOD STEWARD

Sunday, November 10	\$ 2528.00
Online Giving	\$ 250.00
Diocesan Assessment	\$ 513.00
Diocesan Online	\$ 140.00
Total Amount for All Souls	\$ 515.00

Thank you for your generosity!

**Second collection this weekend is for Catholic Home Missions Appeal*

*This Week the
Sanctuary Lamp Burns for
All Deceased Members of Our
Parish and Families*



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; Pvt. Chance Phillips, Army; Captain Cheryl Ryan, US Army; Seaman Recruit Tyler Joseph Salonia; Ethan Swartz; Michael Valeich, Staff Sergeant; Pvt. Kyle Titus, US Army; Pvt. Zachary Wharton, Robert Williams, Airman



DATE CHANGE**JOY Club Announcement****(Fellowship for Parishioners over 55)**

The date for our next **JOY CLUB** meeting **has changed from this Tuesday, November 19 to Saturday, November 23 at 12pm** in the Church Hall. Lunch will be served. Come join us for good company and some fun. \$5 for lunch and \$2 dues. If you have any questions or need a ride, please contact Patricia (973)534-7733.

Memorial of Saint Cecilia, Virgin, Martyr – November 22

St. Cecilia's family was one of the principle families of Rome. According to the cultural custom of the time, Cecilia's family betrothed her to a pagan nobleman named Valerian despite St. Cecilia's consecration to God. On their wedding night, Cecilia told Valerian that she had sworn to remain a virgin before God and that angel guarded her body, protecting her virginity from violation. She told Valerian that he would be able to see this angel if he went to the third milestone along the Via Appia and was baptized by Pope Urban I. Valerian went as instructed by Cecilia, and was baptized. She later converted his brother as well.

During that era, it was forbidden for anyone to bury bodies of Christians, so newly-baptized Valerian and his brother dedicated themselves to burying the bodies of all the Christians they found. For this, they were arrested and brought before a judge who ordered them to worship the Roman god Jupiter and were martyred when they refused to deny their Christian faith. The police then came for Cecilia and strongly advised her to renounce her faith. In reply, she told them that she would prefer to die than to denounce the true faith. Upon hearing her response, they brought her to a large oven with the intention of suffocating her with the hot and toxic gasses it emitted. However, instead of choking, Cecilia began to sing. Infuriated, her persecutors attempted to behead her, but after three strokes of the sword, Cecilia was still alive and her head was not severed. The soldiers then left her covered in blood in her own home, where she remained for three days before she died.

The church Santa Cecilia in Trastevere was built on the site of the house where she lived. St. Cecilia is known for "singing in her heart to the Lord" upon her wedding day, despite her consecration to God. She is

the patron Saint of musicians and poets because of this sentiment and her alleged singing within the oven during her martyrdom. Her fortitude may inspire the modern Catholic in the trials of life and inspire one to find God within music.

Thanksgiving Food Baskets

If you or if you know of someone or of some family who could benefit from receiving a food basket for Thanksgiving, please contact the office. All names will be kept confidential.



***Donations for the Thanksgiving Food Baskets** will be the weekend of **November 23rd & 24th at all Masses**. All helping hands are welcome and needed to put these baskets together. If you can volunteer your time on **Sunday, November 24th right after the 11 am Mass**, please call Caroline (973)383-3566. There will be pizza for the volunteers. **Thank you!**

***Pickup dates are Monday November 25th and Tuesday, November 26th from 10:30am – 12:30pm.**

Knights of Columbus Announcements

The Knights of Columbus, are holding a 35/10/5 raffle to help finance our many charities. The tickets are only \$10 and the drawing will take place on Tuesday, December 3. With the purchase of one ticket, you have 3 chances to win some money just in

time for your Christmas shopping. With the purchase of 2 tickets, you will double your chances of winning. As always, The Knights appreciate your past and present support.

2019 Bishop's Annual Appeal
"For I Was Hungry..."

The ability to reach out to people in need through our Bishop's Annual Appeal is completely dependent on the number of faithful parishioners who participate by making a gift. That is why every gift counts! Your support helps bring hope to thousands of people who come to our Catholic Charities agencies each year. It also supports seminarian education, our diocesan priests' residence, extraordinary healthcare needs of our priests and our urban elementary schools. In addition, parishes receive half of all funds received over the parish goals, with almost \$650,000 returned last year to parishes – and over \$2.9 million in five years! Please help your neighbors in need and our parish by making a gift today! For your convenience, you can make an online gift or pledge at www.2019appeal.org.

SITTING BEFORE THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Catholics believe that Eucharistic adoration is the act of being in a state of worship before the consecrated Eucharistic host. The consecrated host is placed in a monstrance that holds it in place for worshipers to see. The host displayed in this manner is given the utmost respect by those in its presence.

Catholics believe that the consecrated host contains the body, blood, soul and divinity of Christ. This is why Catholics engage in the practice of Eucharistic adoration. They want to be in the presence of Jesus Christ.

There are times when a Catholic is wrestling with a tough issue, is in conflict about some aspect of life or must do something he doesn't want to do. Sitting or kneeling before the monstrance containing the consecrated host is a perfect way he can bring his feelings in line with what God wants him to do.

Think of the Catholic woman who is at odds with her spouse. Catholics believe that marriage is for a lifetime. Divorce is not an option. But what does a woman do when she is angry at her spouse and feels defeated in her marriage? One productive action is to go to a Catholic church that has 24-hour Eucharistic adoration and sit before the Blessed Sacrament. God will impart his will for her life – not verbally – but He will do it nonetheless. As the woman sits before the Blessed Sacrament, she can offer up her emotional suffering. Her marriage and her negative feelings are in the hands of her Creator.

Some Catholics enjoy taking their lunch breaks at adoration. It is a soul-refreshing exercise of faith. Who better to be in the presence of than Jesus Christ in the Eucharist? Jesus' living water replenishes the tired worker's spirit and mental health. In fact, sometimes when a Catholic is feeling "mentally under the weather," he can sit before the Blessed Sacrament, adore it, and regain the ability to cope. This is a product of faith and logic. Faith, because the Catholic believes in the real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist and logic because the best person to seek help from is the Great Healer – God himself.

When I became a Catholic six years ago, I had no understanding of Eucharistic adoration. But now, I believe that it is an essential part of experiencing healthy spirituality. Jesus in the Eucharist wants to heal our inner wounds. In Eucharist adoration this often takes place.

By Catholic convert

Confession to a Priest

In John 20:21 – 23, our Lord gave the apostles authority to forgive sins: "'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I send you.' And when He had said this, He breathed on them, and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.'"

In the Catholic Church, Venial (lesser) sins do not have to be confessed to a priest and can be confessed to God in prayer throughout the day. Mortal (greater) sins must be confessed to a priest in order to be forgiven.

Mortal sin has three parts:

1. It is of grave matter.
2. It is committed with the full knowledge of the sinner.
3. It is committed with the deliberate consent of the sinner.

Venial Sin is everything else.

Confession to a priest is also based on accountability. As a human being, I have an amazing ability to deceive myself into believing that my sin wasn't that terrible. Or, in the alternative, I can convince myself that my sin is unforgivable. Of course, neither is true. This is why the accountability of confessing sins to a priest over-rides the "Jesus-and-me" Lone-Ranger mentality and places our sins in the hands of the priest who is authorized by God to forgive us.

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.

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.



Since we are not fond of some surprises, it is better to live as though each day may be our last

Everything that has a beginning must surely have an end. The problem is there are things we cannot control, and we do not know when they will ultimately come to an end. As we get older, we begin to be aware of how time flies. Besides, we grow more aware of how short life is; and that before very long we will be faced with the key moment of death. The readings of last week invited us to reflect on Last Sunday, on the after-life and the resurrection. However, today's readings speak about the second coming of Christ, the warning signs and necessary preparation expected. "Our Liturgy says that He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead. But it is still impossible to know the details about the end of time. There are sects and groups who claim to know the exact date of the Lord's coming, and the failure of previous predictions never seems to discourage them from settling on another date for Armageddon." More alarmingly, we live today under the threat of nuclear destruction and these preachers convince their audience that destruction or the end of the world is looming. What is Jesus and Paul telling us to do about the end of time?

Jesus clearly warns against believing such vivid predictions. Even though He himself used the idea of the judgement day as a motive to turn people's hearts back to God, he admitted that "no man knows the date, not even the Son, but the Father only." Similarly, in the second reading, St. Paul spoke about the end of time. In fact, Paul's argument to the Thessalonians was that they had the wrong notion of how to prepare for the coming of the Lord. "Paul believed, and taught all of his churches, that Christ would come again to earth to usher in the final judgment and redeem His Church from the world. And in the earliest days of the infant Church, the prevailing thought was that this Second Coming of Christ would happen imminently, within days or months. But as time rolled along, and months turned into years, and years into decades, Paul and other church leaders realized that they had to prepare the believers for a much longer time before Christ's appearance than they first assumed." Because many were naive and took Paul's words seriously that Christ's coming is imminent, many ceased to work and felt it is pointless to continue working. Consequently, Paul re-educated this community of believers urging them to get back to work, to earn their own living.

And this is true for us today, who still wait for the final coming of the Lord. Most people feel disinclined to think about the last things or think about death. But when we begin to live each day as if it is our last day on earth, then some aspects of our lives will totally change. But how do you prepare? Since we do not know when Christ is returning, begin now to invest your precious days in what truly matters to God and others. Stay focused on what is truly important in this life and not get sidetracked by "things" that won't go with you into eternity. Be willing to be there for others; sharing Christ and putting your faith into action. Most of all, pray always and trust in God's care and love for you. --Fr. Abuchi



QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"The Lord manifests Himself to those who stop for some time in peace and humility of heart. If you look in murky and turbulent waters, you cannot see the reflection of your face. If you want to see the face of Christ, stop and collect your thoughts in silence, and close the door of your soul to the noise of external things."

-Saint Anthony of Padua