

Our Lady of Mount Carmel

Sunday, December 1, 2019
First Sunday of Advent



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
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Ann Johnson Secretary

PARISH OFFICE

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OLMC JOY CLUB (Just Older Youth)

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YOUTH MINISTER

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KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS, Council 9920

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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 30 - Feast of St. Andrew, Apostle

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

8:30 am Nelson Tirado *by C. Tirado*

5:00 pm In Memory of Helen Muller
by Deacon Ed & Mary Lou Muller

Sunday, December 1 – First Sunday of Advent

IS 2:1-5 / ROM 13:11-14 / MT 24:37-44

7:30 am Deceased Members of Muller & Weisser Families
by Deacon Ed & Mary Lou Muller

9:00 am Robert Metroke *by Ron & Ann Johnson*

11:00 am Susan McGovern
by Meyer & Hartmann Families
Nelson Tirado *by C. Tirado*

Monday, December 2

IS 4:2-6 / MT 8:5-11

8:30 am Nelson Tirado *by C. Tirado*

Tuesday, December 3 – Memorial of St. Francis Xavier

IS 11:1-10 / LK 10:21-24

8:30 am Nelson Tirado *by C. Tirado*

Wednesday, December 4

IS 25:6-10A / MT 15:29-37

7:00 pm Nelson Tirado *by C. Tirado*

Thursday, December 5

IS 26:1-6 / MT 7:21, 24-27

8:30 am Nelson Tirado *by C. Tirado*

Friday, December 6

IS 29:17-24 / MT 9:27-31

8:30 am In Memory of Justina Muller
by Deacon Ed & Mary Lou Muller

Saturday, December 7 – Memorial of St. Ambrose, Bishop & Doctor of the Church

ROM 10:9-18 / MT 4:18-22

8:30 am Josephine Nwafor *by Parish Staff*

5:00 pm Bob Nunn *by Parish Staff*

Sunday, December 8

IS 11:1-10 / ROM 15:4-9 / MT 3:1-12

7:30 am Robert Metroke *by Ron & Ann Johnson*

9:00 am Deacon Peter Falotico *by Falotico Family*

11:00 am Antonio Cuaycong *by Ron & Ann Johnson*

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

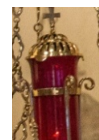
A GOOD STEWARD

Sunday, November 24	\$ 3,073.00
Online Giving	\$ 250.00

Thank you for your generosity!

***Second collection this weekend is for Diocesan Assessment**

This Week the Sanctuary Lamp Burns for Josephine Barile



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



GRACE OF WEEKDAY MASSES

Attending weekday Mass is a way we can celebrate the feast days and holy days of the liturgical year. For Catholics, every day is a holiday. Not only do we have great feast days such as Christmas, but we have many days honoring the Blessed Mother, and the numerous saints and blessed who are part of our family in the Church.

The Mass is the greatest way we can help others. At the beginning of each Mass, we can offer it for someone or for a specific intention, such as the protection of unborn babies from abortion or world peace. We can also arrange to have Masses celebrated for individuals who are living or deceased, or for our intentions.

It is not always possible to go to Mass every day, but whenever we can, taking the opportunity would benefit us. Sometimes attending weekday Mass involves sacrifice, as you might need to get up earlier to go to Mass before work or drive some distance to find a Mass celebrated at a time that is suited to your schedule. As our attendance at Mass often depends on our work schedule, we may go to Mass at churches other than our parish, an experience that is like a pilgrimage. Going to Mass frequently gives us peace and prepares to be ready when God will call us back home.

2019 Bishop's Annual Appeal

"For I Was Hungry..."

As the year comes to a fast end, and many are planning on how to make a final year-end charitable contribution that has the most impact, please consider the many lives that are helped because of the support given to the Bishop's Annual Appeal. These are your neighbors, your friends, our senior priests and seminarians and urban school students. All of us can play a part in the Bishop's Annual Appeal – as either a contributor to the cause or a recipient of its mission – and all are blessed as a result. Please make the Bishop's Annual Appeal a priority in your year-end philanthropy. Gifts can be made by check, credit cards, through gifts of securities or on-line at www.2019appeal.org. If you are 70 ½ or over and have an IRA, you can receive a tax benefit by instructing your IRA investment manager to donate your required minimum distribution to the Bishop's Annual Appeal. Please call the Bishop's Annual Appeal office at (973)777-8818, ext. 218 for additional details and also consult your tax or financial advisor for more information.

Confirmation Fundraiser Pick-up Information

Anyone who ordered candy, Christmas wreaths and grave blankets can pick them up on the weekend of December 8th & 9th after each Mass in the Community Center.



GIVING TREE



Our annual Giving Tree is up! If possible, please take an ornament to help the needy. On the back of the ornament are details of what is needed. Please return the wrapped gifts by Sunday, December 15th with the tags attached. Thank you for your generosity!

Knights of Columbus Announcements



Last Chance!

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 this 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.

**TODAY!
MOVIE TIME!**



Our Lady of Guadalupe DVD will be shown after the 9 AM and 11 AM Masses on December 1st. Light refreshments provided by Knights of Columbus.

Covered Dish Dinner

The covered dish dinner will be on Saturday, December 7th immediately after the 5pm Mass. Please plan on attending. Volunteers are needed for set-to and clean up. Sign-up sheets will be at the doors of the Church. Thank you!



Youth Group Announcement

The Youth Group Cookie Bar is back! We will be selling homemade cookies on Saturday, December 7th at the Covered Dish Dinner.



WHAT TO DO IN ADORATION

Sometimes we can be intimidated to go to Adoration. It is not because we fear being with Jesus in prayer but rather we have never been taught what to do in an extended period of prayer. Is it alright to read, pray a Rosary, or reflect upon the Scriptures? Or do I have to sit there- not moving or making a sound, staring at a gold monstrance with a Host inside?

While visiting our Lord in Eucharistic Adoration, we can pray in a variety of different ways. Here are some suggestions:

1. *Pray the Psalms or the Liturgy of the Hours*
Whether you are praising, giving thanks, asking for forgiveness or seeking an answer, you'll find an appropriate psalm. The ancient prayer of the Church called the Liturgy of the Hours presents an excellent way to pray through the Book of Psalms throughout the year.
2. *Recite the "Jesus Prayer"*
Say "Lord Jesus Christ, have mercy on me, a sinner," repeatedly as you quiet your heart and mind.
3. *Meditate using Scripture*
Choose a passage from the Bible. Read the words and ask God to let the passage speak to you. Pay special attention to anything that strikes you and ask God what He wishes for you to draw from that message.
4. *Read the life of a saint and pray with him or her*
Most holy men and women have had a great devotion to Our Lord in the Eucharist. Therese of Lisieux, Catherine of Siena, Francis of Assisi, Thomas Aquinas, Peter Julian Eymard, Dorothy Day, Mother Teresa of Calcutta and Baroness Catherine de Hueck are just a few. Read about them and pray their prayers before the Blessed Sacrament.
5. *Pour out your heart to Christ and adore Him*
Speak to Jesus, aware that you are in His presence, and tell Him all that comes to your mind. Listen for His response. Pray the prayer that St. Francis instructed his brothers to pray whenever they were before the Blessed Sacrament: "I adore You, O' Christ, present here and in all the churches of the world, for by Your holy cross You have redeemed the world."
6. *Ask for forgiveness and intercede for others*
Think of those who have hurt you and request a

special blessing for them. Ask God to forgive you for all the times you have neglected or hurt someone else. Bring before the Blessed Sacrament all those who have asked you to pray for them. Ask the Lord to address their concerns.

7. *Pray the Rosary*

Pope John Paul II reminds us, "...is not the enraptured gaze of Mary as she contemplated the face of the newborn Christ and cradled him in her arms that unparalleled model of love which should inspire us every time we receive Eucharistic communion?" (The Church and the Eucharist, 55) Ask Mary to join you as you gaze on Christ in the Eucharist and as you pray the Rosary.

8. *Sit quietly and just "be" in the presence of God*

Think of a visit to the Blessed Sacrament as coming to see your best friend. Sit quietly and enjoy being in each other's company. Instead of talking to the Lord, try listening to what He wants to tell you.

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.

1ST WEEK OF ADVENT

Preparing for the joyous season of hope



Beyond all the worries and impassioned debates of politics, impeachment saga and economics, today are three deep and growing threats that we don't like to think about. They are threats to the country's peace and unity. But the Church invites us to look beyond all these factors and focus rather on the advent. The season of Advent is a period of grace and a period of hope as we prepare for the coming of our savior-Jesus Christ. In the first reading, Isaiah envisioned a profound peace. He foresaw all the nations of the world streaming toward God, united in their obedience to God's instruction. And as a result of this common passion, Isaiah hopes that the nations will no longer be in war or destruction. Advent season calls us to look beyond all the things happening in our country today, and to trust in God and look forward for better things to come.

St. Paul's letter to the church at Rome exhorts his readers to "understand the present time, the hour has come to wake up from slumber, the time of salvation is nearer than they think, and that the night is nearly over and the day is almost here." And in the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus warns us all, "Keep watch, for you do not know what day your Lord will come. Be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect." What do all of these scriptures have in common? "They all call us to be aware that God has a clock ticking on His wall, a precise plan by which He continues to bring about His redemptive plan to its glorious completion, and a timeframe by which this will happen within human history." We do not know God's timing, nor do we get to set the divine clock, but we do have something we can do—we can live our lives in such a way that we are prepared to participate in God's plan, whenever and however it unfolds.

Since the readings speak about hope, preparedness and vigilance, thus the vision of life that Advent gives us is twofold; it looks back to the first coming of Christ at Bethlehem, and it looks to the future when Christ will come again. There is one special gift at Christmas, that gift is Jesus. Jesus is the grace that the Father wants to give to you this Advent. As we wait prayerfully for the second coming of Christ, we also commemorate on advent God who took human flesh and lived among us more than two thousand years ago.

Although the vast majority of the Jewish people never believed God will come in such form. But the Son of God has chosen to come among us just like that and was born in an unexpected place and to an unexpected couple. That is the great, joyful surprise of our faith. "The presence of God among us is not what we expect, not where we expect. That's how we miss it. As we begin Advent, we are invited not to miss the amazing gift of God. Be awake and look for God in the most unlikely places. Find God's call to our goodwill in the doorway where the homeless sleep. See God in that person you do not want to talk with, see God in that person whom you wish you could keep out of your neighborhood, out of your social circle, or out of your country or that is a different from you. Look for God's presence where refugees are corralled. Grace is present not only in comfortable places and spaces! God is looking out from the wrinkled faces of senior citizens. In these few short weeks we prepare for Christ's birth and His Second Coming, let the season of Advent brings us the magnificent vision of life and hope for the future given to us by Christ. May you become more involved and see Christ in the faces of our brothers and sisters in our Christian community.

--Fr. Abuchi

**QUOTE OF THE WEEK**

"Crosses release us from this world and by doing so binds us to God."

-Blessed Charles de Foucauld