Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church
August 2, 2020

18th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

He said the blessing, broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, who in turn gave them to the crowds. They all ate and were satisfied. - Mt 14:19c-20

Mass Intentions being accepted
If you would like a Mass offered for a deceased loved one or for a special intention (a person who is living or some particular intention), contact Laure Lynch, 508-336-5549, or lmlyncholmc@gmail.com. There is a stipend of $10, but if you cannot make that donation, please let us know.

Parish office opens with new hours
The Parish Office has reopened. Hours are Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. If you need to drop off anything or to pick up paperwork outside regular hours, items can be placed in the drop box installed outside the parish office, or mailed to you.

Giving during the pandemic

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date Range</th>
<th>Total Donations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 21-28 and March 28-29</td>
<td>$7,100</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 4-5 and April 11-12</td>
<td>$17,818</td>
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<td>April 18-19</td>
<td>$9,535</td>
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<td>April 25-26</td>
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<td>St. Vincent de Paul</td>
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<td>Online offertory (April)</td>
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<td>May 2-3</td>
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<td>May 9-10</td>
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<td>July 25-26</td>
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If you can help financially but do not wish to give online, you may drop your donation in the black mailbox outside the parish office, or mail it to: Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, 984 Taunton Ave., PO Box 519, Seekonk, MA 02771. Donations also are collected during Masses on Saturday and Sunday. Every little bit helps, so thank you.

Bulletin access Sign up to receive the bulletin by email at parishesonline.com. Read the bulletin online on Our Lady of Mount Carmel’s website, www.olmcseekonk.org. Email notices to vickianndowning@yahoo.com.
Pastor’s Page

Physician Assisted Suicide Bill: There are grave concerns that Physician Assisted Suicide bills were reported “favorably” by the Joint Committee on Public Health in Massachusetts. Physician Assisted Suicide (PAS) is an assault on the dignity of life, especially those who are most vulnerable, and is a grave sin against the fifth commandment (“Thou shall not kill”). Though we have the ability, we do not have a right to take our own life, no matter the foreseeable possible sufferings. When someone is facing the fear of terminal illness and suffering in the face of death, we need to accompany them in their suffering and help them to see how they are loved by us and God. They need to be put at ease that they are not a burden but that we are there with them. When someone is facing terminal illness, they can take moral steps to help ease their sufferings, but cannot take actions that will directly intend to bring an end to their life.

A letter from Massachusetts Catholic Conference states:

“The two bills were also amended slightly and merged into one bill (S2745 ‘An Act relative to end of life option’). It has now been assigned to the Health Care Finance Committee for its review.

“If passed by the full legislature and signed into law by the Governor, physician assisted suicide would become law in the Commonwealth.

“In addition to the Catholic Church’s teaching that life begins at conception and ends naturally, the following flaws remain in the bill:

1. The six month or less to live prognosis is often wrong. Many patients live for many more months or years after the prognosis.
2. The frail, elderly or disabled may feel pressured to partake in PAS.
3. There is no requirement that a doctor, nurse, family member or any other witness be present at the time the drugs are taken. What happens if something goes wrong?
4. These deadly drugs are picked up at a local pharmacy.
5. There are no safeguards in place to prevent access to the drugs once the prescription is filled. If a patient decides not to go forward with PAS or delays the decision or changes his mind completely, deadly drugs may remain in the household and available for misuse by anyone with access.
6. A family member who may benefit financially from the death of a relative may exert undue influence on the patient considering PAS.
7. A patient may consider PAS because he or she does not want to be a ‘burden’ to the family. This is particularly true for the disability community.

We must do what we can to prevent it from going any further than the committee level. Efforts by the Massachusetts Catholic Conference and other likeminded groups and individuals to defeat these bills are ongoing. You can also help by letting your senator and representative know where you stand on this issue.

To voice your opposition to your senator and representative please visit the Massachusetts Catholic Conference website at www.masscatholic.org.”

Day of Recollection for Women: We will hold our monthly Day of Recollection for Women this Saturday, August 8, at 9 a.m. and finishing with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament at 10:30. Mass is open for everyone at 8 a.m. that Saturday. Unfortunately, there will not be any gathering downstairs in the hall due to government restrictions.

Please Keep in Your Prayers: Last week two of our parishioners passed away. First, please keep in your prayers the repose of the soul of Bill Adair, as well as remembering his family in your prayers during this difficult time. Bill’s funeral was Wednesday, July 29. Second, please keep in your prayers Jack Kelleher, the husband of Barbara Kelleher. Jack and his family have been longtime parishio-

18TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Father Kevin Cook

Mass with the Holy Ghost Society: Due to the pandemic, the Feast of the Holy Ghost Society has been canceled. But the Holy Ghost Society still plans to participate in the 10:45 a.m. Mass on Sunday, August 16, with the Mass intention being offered for the deceased members of the Holy Ghost Society.

The Diocesan Appeal: Many thanks to all who donated to the Diocesan Appeal. Your donations help with the many needs throughout the diocese. Because of COVID-19, most likely there will be growing needs among many. Please keep in your prayers anyone facing new challenges and pray they will receive the help they need and that they will not let fear or anxieties overwhelm them. Even with the Appeal ending, if you want to give but were unable to earlier, you can contact the Diocesan Chancery about giving. Thank you everyone for your very generous support! — Fr. Kevin
Perpetual adoration has resumed
Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish offers perpetual adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 24 hours a day, seven days a week, in the St. Joseph Adoration Chapel.
To conform with social distancing, the chapel is limited to nine people. Make sure you use the hand sanitizer at the chapel entrance. When you leave, please disinfect any part of the chair and kneeler you may have touched.
To become a regular adorer or a substitute, please contact Linda Nason, adoration coordinator, 508-463-6723.
Sacred Heart of Jesus, grant that peace, the fruit of justice and charity, may reign throughout the world.

Adorers are needed:
• Saturday: 4 a.m., 8 a.m.
• Sunday: 1 p.m.
• Monday: 9 a.m., 4 p.m., 7 p.m., 8 p.m., 9 p.m., 10 p.m., 11 p.m.
• Tuesday, 6 p.m.
• Wednesday: 9 a.m.
• Thursday: 6 a.m., 10 a.m.
• Friday: 5 a.m., 2 p.m., 10 p.m.

Substitutes are needed:
• Saturday: 8 a.m.
• Sunday: 11 p.m.
• Monday: 2 p.m.
• Tuesday: 2 p.m.
• Thursday: 1 p.m., 8 p.m.
• Friday: 10 p.m.

Contact information for adorers:
Midnight-5 a.m. Donna Castle 401-524-5219
6 a.m.-11 a.m. The Andrades 508-252-5254
6 a.m.-11 a.m. Loretta MacDonald 508-252-4475
Noon-5 p.m. Linda Nason 508-463-6723
6 p.m.-11 p.m. Maureen Sanders 508-243-4104

The Chaplet of Divine Mercy is prayed in the adoration chapel Monday through Saturday at 3 p.m.
A rosary for priests and all vocations is prayed in the adoration chapel every Thursday at 2:30 p.m.
A novena to St. Anne for the protection of children is prayed every Friday at noon in the adoration chapel.

Do you know someone who needs help? Please call the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul at 401-603-8888 so that, together, we can help the suffering and the poor.

There are no meetings scheduled but the Society is always active and can be reached at the above telephone number.

If you’re in need, please reach out
Are you in need with help with food, clothing, shelter, or other needs? Throughout the year there are many needs that spring up, but especially in this difficult time there may be many of you who are struggling to make ends meet. Please do not hesitate to contact our parish St. Vincent DePaul Society to see what type of assistance they can provide. Explain your current financial need and they will see what they can do to help you, whether it is with that direct need, or possibly by providing aid with some other need in daily life that frees you to address the need you are currently facing.

Confession now in the St. Joseph Adoration Chapel
A new step as the parish moves toward a little more normalcy is having Confessions available in the regular chapel confessional, with no more “Coronavirus Confessional” outside the Parish Office. The confessional in the St. Joseph Adoration Chapel is back in use and set up to help maintain a safe way for confessions in the midst of the pandemic. The ceiling vent is running and the window open when in the confessional so there is air movement. When going to confession, one should still wear a mask in the confessional and one should sit in the chair next to the confessional screen (the screen is covered in a thin plastic so there will not be the danger of any close face-to-face conversation). For the time being there will not be face-to-face confession but confession between the confessional screen. Hours are Saturday from 3:15-4 p.m. and Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday from 4:30-6 p.m. Please contact the parish if another time is needed for confession.

Building a Culture of Vocations in August
Every month we pray for different vocations to support those who are responding to the Lord’s call. In the month of August let us pray for Fr. Craig Pregana (pastor of St. John the Evangelist Parish and St. Vincent DePaul Parish in Attleboro), Deacon David Harum (permanent deacon at St. John the Evangelist Parish and St. Vincent DePaul Parish in Attleboro), Deacon Peter Scheffer, and our parishioners Todd and Christine Kuczewski for the gift of the bond of marriage.
Returning to Mass inside the church
After a month of Masses outdoors, our Masses are now in the church. We are celebrating Masses at our regular times (Saturday at 4:30 and Sundays at 7:30 a.m., 9 a.m., and 10:45 a.m.). We will continue to livestream all Masses so they can be watched on our parish Facebook site.

There are still COVID regulations in place. When coming to Mass in the church, one must wear a mask (unless one has a medical condition). Music will be limited and all missalettes and prayer cards have been removed.

Unlike many churches, I am not going to require people to sign up to go to Mass. Pews are roped off and you may only sit in the ones that are available. Please do not remove any ropes and sit in pews that are supposed to remain empty. If you are sitting with someone you live with, you can sit together. But if you are sitting in a row with someone you do not live with, then you must space out at least six feet. Because the space is limited, if you arrive and there is no more seating, you can go downstairs where the livestream is being projected (there are 30 seats available) and we will bring communion down to you.

Those receiving communion in the main church will come up single file, spaced out six feet with the person in front and behind. After Mass, please do not congregate but head out to your car. (Many churches are doing communion after Mass so that people will receive and head out to their cars, but I think people can be disciplined enough to safely leave after Mass and be mindful not to gather with others afterward, so communion will take place at the regular time.) Lastly, the deacons and myself will sanitize the pews (we realized this would be easier than having everything wiping down their pews).

For those who would like to come to Mass but are nervous about coming into the church, please let me know and we can arrange for you to hear the Mass over the phone in your car. We will come outside to bring you communion. (Please let me know beforehand if this is needed. We will not walk outside every Mass at communion to look around at all the cars to see if people are waiting for communion).

I chose to have Mass outdoors last month because of the many regulations for Masses inside, but as it gets hotter, it is getting to be a challenge sitting in the car (and on Sundays having to look in the direction of the sun to see the Mass). Because the pandemic continues, and knowing there are many who are elderly, frail, or have compromised health issues, the bishop is still granting the dispensation of attending Sunday Mass. You are encouraged to join us at home via livestream.

It’s easy (and free) to access FORMED
As a parish we all have free access to FORMED, a wonderful Catholic website with videos and talks on different aspects of faith, some geared to adults and others to children. To register for FORMED, visit formed.org/signup and enter “Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Seekonk.” You can also download the FORMED app on any device and use the code TPFCHC. There are so many great things to watch, listen to, and read. Enjoy!
ORGANIZATIONS

American Heritage Girls
Elizabeth Day, 774-991-0729
Meets two Mondays every month, Sept.-May,
3:45-5:30 p.m.

Gathering Grandmothers
Jan Smart, 508-336-5118
Meets at noon Fridays in St. Joseph Adoration
Chapel to pray Novena to St. Anne for protection
of children.

Holy Souls Prayer Group
Dolores de Paiva, 508-252-3826
Meets at 9 a.m. Thursdays in the church

Jordan Ministry
508-336-5549

Knights of Columbus
Mike Mafale, 401-465-1148
Meets 3rd Friday

Men of St. Joseph
Bob Bertoncini, 401-447-8136
Meet 2nd Thursday at 7 p.m.

Men’s Prayer and Fellowship
William Kearney and Marty Doyle,
508-243-0880
Meets 1st Saturday at 8:30 a.m.

Ministry to the Sick
Pat Swanson, 508-336-5549

Parish Nurses
Elizabeth Charnecki, 508-252-5718
Blood pressure clinics Wednesdays after Mass,
Sept.-June.

Prison Ministry
Frank Gibbons, 508-336-5461

Prayer Group
Barbara Craveiro, 508-889-6472
Meets 2nd Wednesday at 7 p.m., lower church

Pro-Life Group
Ron and Claudette Larose, 508-252-4336

St. Vincent de Paul
Marie Morrell, 401-603-8888
Meets 2nd Tuesday at 7 p.m., Sept.-May

Seekonk Catholic Cancer Support
Elizabeth Charnecki: 508-252-5718
Meets 1st Saturday

Senior Luncheon Committee
Call to register: 508-336-5549
K.C. Hess
Jay Brennan
Paco Pedro
Luncheon held 2nd Tuesday except June, July, Aug.

Vocation Committee
Joanna Young, 508-336-3473

ALTAR SERVERS, EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS, LECTORS
Schedules: www.olmcseekonk.org (Select Liturgy from the top bar, then “Liturgical Ministries,” then “Schedules.”)
For scheduling: Claire Creamer, dctlp@comcast.net
To become an altar server: Contact the parish office: 508-336-5549

SACRAMENTS

Confessions are heard in the St. Joseph Adoration Chapel on Saturday from 3:15-4 p.m.,
and on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday from 4:30-6 p.m.
Baptisms: Congratulations! Please contact Lori Lavigne at the parish office to register in
the parish and sign up for Baptismal Preparation as soon as possible. Preparation can be
done prior to baby’s birth, if preferred.
Marriage: Congratulations! Please notify the parish office eight months in advance of
your wedding.
Anointing of the Sick takes place on the first Friday at the 9 a.m. Mass.

MASSES
Monday-Saturday: 9 a.m. (except Thursday 6:30 p.m.)
Saturday 4:30 p.m., Sunday 7:30 a.m., 9 a.m., 10:45 a.m.
HOLY DAYS: 9 a.m., noon, 7 p.m. (Vigil 5:30 p.m.)
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