



**Weekly Mass Intentions**



Mass Intentions

**Saturday – February 13**

8:00am- † Cirila Navarro *Offered by:* Mt. Carmel Parish  
 5:00pm~Health & well-being Charlie Shanly *Offered by:* Pat Walsh  
 7:30pm- † Parish Community Intentions

**Sunday – February 14**

8:30am- † Mary Peters *Offered by:* husband, Frank  
 10:00am- † Simproso Manzano *Offered by:* wife, Josephine  
 11:30am- † Parish Community Intentions  
 1:30pm- † Parish Community Intentions  
 6:00pm- † Parish Community Intentions

**Monday– February 15**

8:00am ~ For the People of our Parish *Offered by:* Mt. Carmel Parish  
 12:05pm ~ **NO MASS**  
 7:00pm ~ **NO MASS**

**Tuesday – February 16**

7:00pm- † Parish Community Intentions

**Ash Wednesday – February 17**

8:00am- † Andrew Frulio ~Anniversary~ *Offered by:* Frulio Family  
 12:05pm-† Marianna & Apolunary Wicenski *Offered by:* Frank Peters  
 6:30pm- † Parish Community Intentions  
 8:00pm- † Parish Community Intentions

**Thursday – February 18**

7:00pm- † Parish Community Intentions

**Friday – February 19**

8:00am- † Liza & Leon Bombard *Offered by:* Annette Esposito  
 12:05pm- † Kevin McCue. ~1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary~ *Offered by:* sister, Colleen & mom, Florence  
 7:00pm- † Parish Community Intentions

**Saturday – February 20**

8:00am ~ For the People of our Parish *Offered by:* Mt. Carmel Parish  
 5:00pm~Birthday Blessings Bella Gambito *Offered by:* Talaid Family

**Sunday – February 21**

8:30am~Health & well-being Charlie Shanly *Offered by:* Pat Walsh  
 10:00am ~ For the People of our Parish *Offered by:* Mt. Carmel Parish

**Weekly Memorials**

**Bread & Wine**



~ For the Intentions of **Joseph Schristein**

*Requested by:* Family

**Tabernacle Candle**

~ † **Mary Peters**

**Memorial Candle**

*Requested by:* husband, Frank Peters

**Memorial Candle**

~ †

**COLLECTIONS** – February 6 & 7 : \$ 3,889.

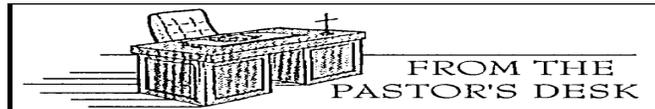
Thank you for your abundant generosity and continued support.

By the strength and example of Jesus, may we become promoters of life for all. *Long live love, Happy Valentine’s Day.*

**P. Hernán, S.J.**

*“Jesus gives himself completely, he gets involved in the pain and the needs of the people...simply, because he knows and wants to suffer with, because he has a heart that is not ashamed of having compassion...*

*Jesus is not afraid of the risk involved assuming the suffering of another, but he pays the price with every consequence.” (Pope Francis)*



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

**“The leper was made clean.” (Mark 1:40-45)**

Every February 14th, St Valentine’s Day, I am always reminded of an old song with this lyric:

**“How beautiful it is to live to love / how great it is to have to give / to give joy, happiness / to give one’s self is to love.”**

Today we are reunited in the house of God and we can love one another because Jesus himself commanded us to love God and our neighbor as ourselves.

An applause for love!

All the first reading like the Gospel speaks to us about lepers. This is not exactly what we want to hear on St Valentine’s Day. In the times of Moses, leprosy was a sign of sin and separation from God. In the Gospel, **Jesus comes near the leper, he hears him, he touches him, and he heals him. “How beautiful it is to live for love!”** With Jesus, he ushers in a new era where the lepers nor the sick will be separated from God. With Jesus, those who seem sick will be able to experience the saving and healing hand of God. **“To give one’s self is to love.”** Now we are called to break the barriers that separate us from those who have been staying on the margins through sickness, poverty, or their immigration status.

Politicians of our time continually repeat, “no one should feel excluded,” otherwise they would not fare well publicly. Unfortunately, it was not so in antiquity as we see in the first reading, lepers with their blemishes and bad odor were immediately rejected, marginalized, and excluded from society. We can imagine that scene of the Gospel account from last week when the crowds are seeking Jesus’s healing but there is no leper in their midst. They were outcast, even among other sick people. Today the protagonist is a leper, who despite being excluded from others, dares to cry to Jesus, “If you want, make me clean.” He does not say the normal phrases of the leper, “Unclean, unclean” to warn Jesus to stay away from him. What is more interesting is that Jesus after hearing his petition touches him and heals him.

Jesus is full of compassion, does not retreat from the leper and keep himself safe from his disease. He approaches him and touches him. What a lesson in authentic empathy and not merely sympathy that Jesus gives us especially when we are trying to overcome this horrible coronavirus pandemic. Jesus, our God and Teacher, teaches us with this action to break physical, religious, and social barriers that divide us. By restoring the health of the leper and cleansing him, Jesus brings him back to life within the life of the community and makes the community one and inclusive even for those who were previously marginalized.

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## SCRIPTURE READINGS

These readings are found complete on our parish web page ([www.olmcsi.org](http://www.olmcsi.org)). Click on "USCCB Daily Readings."

### February 14: Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Leviticus 13:1-2, 44-46  
Psalms 32:1-2, 5, 11  
1 Corinthians 10:31 – 11:1

### February 21: First Sunday of Lent

Genesis 9:8-15  
Psalms 25:4-9  
1 Peter 3:18-22



**RECTORY CLOSED** - The Parish Office will be closed this **Monday, February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021** in observance of Presidents' Day. Regular office hours will resume on Tuesday, February 16<sup>th</sup>. The **ONLY MASS** offered will be in English at **8:00am**.

### ASH WEDNESDAY - FEBRUARY 17, 2021

**Mass Schedule: 8:00am & 12:05pm (English)  
6:30pm & 8:00pm (Spanish)**

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS** - We will pray the Stations of the Cross every Friday during Lent after the 12:05pm mass. Beginning **Friday, February 19<sup>th</sup>**. Join us for this very special Lenten devotion.

**BIBLE STUDY IS BACK** - Join us for our restarted parish Bible Study, meeting **Sunday, February 28, 2021** at 1:00pm! Our meeting will take place in the Mt. Manresa Meeting Room of the Parish Office. Bring your Bible if you have one; but don't worry if you don't. Future dates will follow.

### NEW WEBSITE DESIGN

**Our Lady of Mt Carmel - St Benedicta - St Mary of the Assumption Parish**  
**is very excited to announce that we will be launching a newly designed website on Ash Wednesday!**  
**In a digital world, it's vital that we make information regarding our parish location, Mass times, ministries and sermons easily accessible for our parishioners as well as people who may be searching online.**

**ATTENDING MASS SAFELY** - Mass and above all the Eucharist are central to the Christian life. In a time like this, it is even more important that the faithful be able to come to Church and receive Holy Communion. Guidelines for mask-wearing, social distancing and other precautions to help ensure the health and well-being of our communities remain in place. **ARRIVE EARLY** (at least 15 minutes before Mass), to ensure a place to sit; doors will open 30 minutes before Mass. Given the spacing requirement, those who come late may be asked to kindly return at another Mass time (if the church has filled to our allowed capacity).

**LIVE STREAMING / VIRTUAL MASSES** - Keeps you connected with our parish through our Facebook page. Connect and follow us on FB to see these transmissions from the comfort of your homes each Sunday. Just search "OLMC SI" and send a friend request. You may access these masses from your smart phone or computer.

**Sunday Streamed Mass Schedule: 10:00am (English) & 11:30am (Spanish)**

**SPONSOR CERTIFICATES** - Certificates attesting to the fact that an OLMC parishioner is of practicing Catholic are often required when they are asked to sponsor someone at the time of Baptism or Confirmation. Registered and active parishioners (for a minimum of six months), may receive a sponsor certificate from the Rectory by calling ahead and making this request. This also applies for anyone requiring a letter for immigration.

**MASS INTENTION MISTAKES** - On occasion we, your priests, make mistakes by announcing the wrong Mass intention during Mass. We apologize for these mistakes, made inadvertently. Please know how much we regret the pain it causes, especially when the whole family is present at the Mass for their loved one. We will be able to rectify such mistakes if it is brought to the priests' attention at the beginning of the Mass. This could be done by quietly asking the sacristan or the lector to inform the priest celebrating the Mass of such an error at the beginning of Mass. We would greatly appreciate such help. It will be too late if you wait till the end of the Mass. *Thank you.*

**YOUR OFFERTORY ENVELOPES** - Please continue, to the best of your ability, your financial support of our parish. Your offering envelopes may be placed in the collection baskets at mass, dropped off at the rectory office, or mailed to us. **Better and easier: Make your secure online donations by visiting: [olmcsi.churhgiving.com](http://olmcsi.churhgiving.com)** and select the collection you wish to donate to and click to enter an amount, then enter your payment information (it can also be setup to be recurring). That's it. You'll be able to give to any of our collections, and you can return at any time to edit your donation or to view your financial records. Thank you for considering online giving for your support of our parish.

**LENTEN MORNING OF PRAYER & REFLECTION FOR LITURGICAL MINISTERS** - Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, Lectors, Ushers and Parish Musicians are invited to come together and reflect on the meaning of Lent for their lives today, their ministry and their parish communities. Join them for this online webinar, which will include inspiring talks and an opportunity to unite together in prayer with other parish liturgical ministers. Presenter: Fr. Paul Turner, S.T.D., Pastor, Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Kansas City, MO, and author of numerous books with Liturgical Press, World Library Publications and Liturgy Training Publications. **Date: Saturday, March 6, 10am-11:30am.** Registration fee: \$15. Location: Online Webinar - Learn from the comfort of your own home! More information and registration: [morningofprayer.eventbrite.com](http://morningofprayer.eventbrite.com) Contact: [liturgy@archny.org](mailto:liturgy@archny.org) or 914.968.6200, x8177