



OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL

23-25 NEWTOWN AVENUE | 718.278.1834

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2023

6TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



“Again you have heard that it was said to your ancestors,
Do not take a false oath, but make good to the Lord all
that you vow.” - Mt 5:33

OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

PARISH MANAGER

Celeste Stewart, Ext. 111
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RELIGIOUS ED COORDINATOR

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OFFICE RECEPTIONIST

Luis Sanchez Ext. 110
reception@mountcarmelastoria.org



PASTOR

Rev. Msgr. Cuong M. Pham

PAROCHIAL VICARS

Rev. Michael McHugh
Rev. Joseph Hung Tran

PERMANENT DEACONS

Deacon Ruben Mendez
Deacon Jacob Rodriguez

RETIRED PRIESTS IN RESIDENCE

Rev. Ed Brady, Pastor Emeritus
Rev. Joseph Tan Pham
Rev. Msgr. John Harrington, K.H.S.

MUSIC DIRECTOR

Lucille Mascia
music@mountcarmelastoria.org

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11 (*Our Lady of Lourdes*)

5:00pm Jane Abreu, Jaime Quizhpe (*Living—Birthday*)

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12 (*Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time*)

8:00am Maria Hue Doan

9:00am Vito D'Arrigo

9:30am Maria Altagracia Delgadillo

11:00am John Thu Pham (*Birthday Remembrance*)

12:30pm Gregorio Nuñez (*40 Aniversario*),
Gilberto Hinestroza,
Miguel Aguilar Mitzin (*8 Aniversario*),
Por El Sagrado Corazon de Jesus y Maria y por
Las Almas del Purgatorio

3:00pm For the people of our parish

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13

8:00am Mose Min (*Death Anniversary*)

12:00pm Carmelo Cini

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14 (*Saints Cyril & Methodius*)

8:00am Elvira Ermita (*For Healing*)

12:00pm Margarita G. Magistrado

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15

8:00am Giuseppe & Bernarda DiLorenzo

12:00pm Giuseppe Castellisi

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16

8:00am Nicola & Serafina DiPompo

12:00pm Joan Burke

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 17

8:00am Loretta Luizer

12:00pm Guadalupe Rodriguez Salgado

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18

8:00am John Thu Pham

5:00pm Mercedes Beck, Angolina Brincat

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19

(*Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time*)

8:00am Jimmy G. Garcia

9:00am Elio DiMonte

9:30am Miguel Carlos Fuentes

11:00am Giulio Moretti

12:30pm Santiago Carpy Reyes (*2 Aniversario*),
Dolores Matos de Contreras &
Eusebio Contreras (*Feliz Cumpleaños*), y por
La Sanacion de la Familia Melchor Aguilar

3:00pm For the people of our parish

MEMORIAL GIFTS THIS WEEK



*The Altar Candles are being offered for
Nicola & Serafina DiPompo and Family,
requested by Ida Barretta*

*Dedicated offerings can be reserved every week in honor or in
memory of a loved one. You can reserve by calling or visiting
the parish office. Prices for each are as follows:*

Altar Candles: \$15.00

Sanctuary Lamp: \$25.00

Altar Bread & Wine \$35.00

Altar Flowers: \$100.00

*The heart with which we offer our good deeds
matters as much as the deeds themselves. For Christ,
the law is more than a code of conduct. It's a
mindset.*

Here is our live-streaming schedule of Masses: Saturday— 5:00pm (English) & Sunday: 9:00am (Italian), 11:00am (English), 12:30pm (Spanish), & 3:00pm (Vietnamese). We hope this change encourages you to attend Mass in person and be able to receive the Body & Blood of Jesus Christ.

MASS SCHEDULE

| | |
|----------------------|---|
| Saturday | 5:00 PM (Vigil Mass) |
| Sunday | Upper Church: 8:00 AM (English) 9:30 AM (Bi-lingual) 11:00 AM (English) 12:30 PM (Spanish) 3:00 PM (Vietnamese) Lower Church: 9:00 AM (Italian) 10:30 AM (Czech-Slovak) |
| Weekdays | 8:00 AM and 12:00 Noon |
| Saturday | 8:00 AM |
| First Fridays | 7:30 PM (Spanish) |
| Holy Days | 8:00 AM, 12 PM (English) and 7:30 PM (Bi-lingual) |
| Holidays | Only one Mass at 9:00 AM |

CONFESSIONS:

Saturday 3:30pm—4:30pm (lower church)

CHURCH HOURS:

Weekday: 7:00am—7:00pm

Weekend: 7:00am—6:00pm

OFFICE HOURS

Weekday:

9:00am—12:00 Noon & 1:00pm—8:30pm

Saturday:

9:00am—12:00 Noon

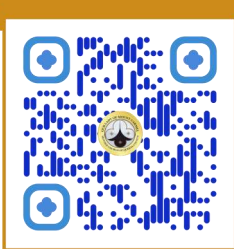
ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC ACADEMY

28-46 44th St., Astoria, NY 11103

718.728.0724—www.stjosephsch.org

school@mountcarmelastoria.org

NEW TO THE PARISH?



WEEKLY OFFERING REPORT

Last weekend's collection: \$5,800

Same weekend last year: \$4,490

Faith Direct:

January 2022 \$6,240

2023: \$5,901

Follow us on Social Media:

@OLMCAstoria



IS THIS YOUR YEAR TO...

Between demanding schedules, traveling, or just trying to get out the door on time for Mass, it can be challenging to prepare your church contributions on a regular basis as God calls us to do. Plus, for many families, the church collection is one of the last places where you still have to use a checkbook or cash.

Our parish is excited to offer Faith Direct as a secure online giving option for families to easily give one-time as well as recurring gifts via electronic check or debit/credit card. If you choose to set up a recurring gift, you can create your own online donor account to manage your gifts. It's as easy as online shopping or banking!

Faith Direct is already used by many of our parishioners. It is convenient, reliable and secure. It makes for safer record-keeping, faster processing, and more efficient communication for the parish office. As you begin a new year, why not prayerfully consider Faith Direct as a new way to ensure that your contributions will make a difference. Begin today by visiting **Faith.direct/NY370**, or call **Faith Direct at 866-507-8757**, or **send a text with the word "Enroll" to 929-254-3850**.

Imagine the possibilities for sharing your gifts without the hassle of remembering checks and envelopes! Faith Direct will save you a lot of time. Let's make it a part of your New Year goal.

CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS

You can now begin to request your contribution statements for tax purposes. Please visit, call or email the parish office to request your statement for pick-up or for it to be mailed to you.

PURGATORIAL SOCIETY

Remembering our deceased loved ones by having them prayed for at Mass on every first Friday of the month — the day traditionally dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, is a meaningful way to express our love. Enrollment is \$10 per name. Those enrolled the Purgatorial Society will be remembered for a whole year. This month we have enrolled **Kristin D'Alessio, Nancy DiBenedetto, Milka Vladimir, Kevin Ryan, Michael Hynes, Ellen Lee Dalaney, Danny Conwell, Tina McGrory & Theresa Hynes**.

PRAYING FOR THE SICK

Prayer is one of the most powerful tools we have. It's a way for us to communicate with God and obtain His divine intervention. It can help sick people get well again and also gives us the strength in our own weakness and suffering. If you wish your loved ones who is sick to be prayed for at our daily Mass, kindly contact our parish office to place their names in our Prayer List.

SECOND COLLECTIONS

February 26, 2023— There will be a second collection after communion for our parish maintenance. Your donations enable us to maintain parish spaces in good condition for your use.

Dear friends in Christ,

In the Gospel this Sunday, Jesus teaches us that fulfilling God's law is not only by obeying the letter of the law, but more importantly, by living the true spirit of the law, which is love. After all, God's commandments are given, not to burden us, but to help us learn the way of love, and become true images of God Who is Love. In the end, everything boils down to the heart, and God always looks into the heart.

Speaking of the heart, I am reminded by the heart-shaped chocolate boxes that we see everywhere these days that this Tuesday, February 14, is Valentine's Day. For some people, Valentine's Day brings up lots of painful memories, just like any other holiday. Some people dislike the pressure that comes with a day like that. For me, Valentine's Day is not tied to gushy romance or obligation or painful experiences. I cherish it for its core concept. It's about love — and what's not to like about love? It is an opportunity to be thankful for the people who love us and a challenge to love others a little more, the way God has commanded us to do. The focus of this holiday, therefore, is on our relationship with one another and with God, the One who loves us unconditionally first.

There are several legends surrounding the origin of this holiday. One of them involves the story of Saint Valentine, a priest living in Rome about 250 A.D. during the reign of Emperor Claudius. Claudius wanted young men to join his large army. However, many men just did not want to be in the army and fight in wars. They did not want to leave their wives or their fiancés and their families. Since not many men signed up to be in the army, Claudius decided not to allow any more marriages. After the Emperor's decree forbidding marriages throughout his empire, Father Valentine secretly performed marriage ceremonies. He would whisper the blessing to couples while hiding it from the authorities. One evening, the priest was caught performing a wedding and was arrested. He was told that his punishment was death. Many young people came to the jail to visit him. They threw flowers and notes up to his window. They wanted him to know that they, too, believed in married love. One of these young people was the daughter of the prison guard. Her father allowed her to visit him in his cell. She believed he did the right thing by ignoring the emperor and performing marriage ceremonies. On the day he was to die, he left her a note thanking her for her friendship and loyalty. He signed it, "Love from your Valentine." That note started the custom of exchanging love notes on Valentine's Day. It was written on the day he died, February 14, 269 A.D. Today, the site of St. Valentine's martyrdom has been converted into a famous Church, located only a short walk from where I used to live in the heart of Rome. On St. Valentine's Day, that Church would be filled with red roses from pilgrims who come to venerate the Saint's relics and celebrate his heroic sacrifice.

No matter the origin of St. Valentine's Day, it is good to celebrate love. As the Trappist monk Thomas Merton once said, "Love affects more than our thinking and our behavior toward those we love. It transforms our entire life. Genuine love is a personal revolution. Love takes your ideas, your desires, and your actions and welds them together in one experience and one living reality, which is a new you." Thus, our loving relationships profoundly shape and impact our lives. Knowing that you are loved by God and others changes you in your inner core. Having people to show your love to also changes you in your inner core. There is no doubt that love is what life is all about. It is the greatest source of meaning in life and is by far the deepest yearning of the human heart. The lack of love brings serious dysfunctions, along with a lack of confidence, the inability to have meaningful relationships and a joyful life.

St. Paul, addressing the Church in Corinth that was filled with discord and polarization, exhorted them: "Do everything in love," (*1 Corinthians 16:14*). The Apostle continues to remind us that everything passes, including wealth, success, talents. In the end, he said, "only these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love" (*1 Corinthians 13:13*). The kind of love St. Paul spoke about is not the sentimental, romantic kind of love based largely on feelings that the world promotes all the time, and often symbolized by the heart-shaped commercial gifts bought and sold in stores, but it is the disinterested, life-giving love inspired by God's own love, and symbolized by the pierced, flaming Sacred Heart of Jesus. By its nature, this kind of love is sacrificial and is always directed towards the good of the beloved.

And this is the kind of love that we are called to offer to one another. Let this love be our Valentine to everyone, especially to those who hunger for love, and even to those who may not be so lovable in our lives.

Happy Valentines Day!

Msgr. Cuong M. Pham

Queridos amigos en Cristo,

En el Evangelio, Jesús nos enseña que cumplir la ley de Dios no es solo obedecer la letra de la ley, sino más importante, vivir el verdadero espíritu de la ley, que es el amor. Después de todo, los mandamientos de Dios no se dan para agobiarnos, sino para ayudarnos a aprender el camino del amor y convertirnos en verdaderas imágenes de Dios, que es amor. Al final, todo se reduce al corazón, y Dios siempre mira al corazón.

Hablando del corazón, las cajas de chocolates con forma de corazón que vemos estos días por todas partes me recuerdan que este martes 14 de febrero, es el día de San Valentín. Para algunas personas, el Día de San Valentín trae muchos recuerdos dolorosos, como cualquier otro día festivo. A algunas personas no les gusta la presión que conlleva un día como ese. Para mí, el Día de San Valentín no está ligado a un romance efusivo, a una obligación o a experiencias dolorosas. Lo aprecio por su concepto central. Se trata de amor, y a quien no le gusta el amor? Es una oportunidad para agradecer a las personas que nos aman y un desafío para amar un poco más a los demás, como Dios nos ha mandado. El enfoque de esta festividad, por lo tanto, está en nuestra relación con los demás y con Dios, Aquel que nos ama incondicionalmente primero.

Hay varias leyendas que rodean el origen de esta fiesta. Uno de ellos involucra la historia de San Valentín, un sacerdote quien vivió en Roma alrededor del año 250 d.C. durante el reinado del emperador Claudio. Claudio quería que los jóvenes se unieran a su gran ejército. Sin embargo, muchos hombres simplemente no querían estar en el ejército y pelear en guerras. No querían dejar a sus esposas ni a sus comprometidas ni a sus familias. Dado que no muchos hombres se inscribieron para estar en el ejército, Claudio decidió no permitir más matrimonios. Después del decreto del Emperador que prohibía los matrimonios en todo su imperio, el Padre Valentín realizó ceremonias de matrimonio en secreto. Susurraría la bendición a las parejas mientras se la ocultaba a las autoridades. Una noche, el sacerdote fue sorprendido realizando una boda y fue arrestado. Le dijeron que su castigo era la muerte. Muchos jóvenes iban a la cárcel a visitarlo. Arrojaron flores y notas a su ventana. Querían que supiera que ellos también creían en el amor conyugal. Uno de estos jóvenes era la hija del guardia de la prisión. Su padre le permitió visitarlo en su celda. Ella creía que él hizo lo correcto al ignorar al Emperador y realizar ceremonias de matrimonio. El día que iba a morir, le dejó una nota agradeciéndole su amistad y lealtad. Lo firmó, "Con amor de tu Valentín." Esa nota inició la costumbre de intercambiar notas de amor en el Día de San Valentín. Fue escrito el día de su muerte, el 14 de febrero de 269 d. C. Hoy, el lugar del martirio de San Valentín se ha convertido en una iglesia famosa, ubicada a pocos pasos de donde yo vivía en el corazón de Roma. En el día de San Valentín, esa Iglesia se llena de rosas rojas de los peregrinos que acuden a venerar las reliquias del Santo y celebrar su heroico sacrificio.

No importa el origen del Día de San Valentín, pero es bueno celebrar el amor. Como dijo una vez el monje trapense Thomas Merton: "El amor afecta más que nuestro pensamiento y nuestro comportamiento hacia aquellos a quienes amamos. Transforma toda nuestra vida. El amor genuino es una revolución personal. El amor toma tus ideas, tus deseos y tus acciones y los une en una experiencia y una realidad viva, que es un nuevo tú." Por lo tanto, nuestras relaciones amorosas moldean e impactan profundamente nuestras vidas. Saber que eres amado por Dios y por los demás te cambia en tu interior. Tener a personas a las que puedas mostrar tu amor también te cambia en tu núcleo interior. No hay duda de que el amor es de lo que se trata la vida. Es la mayor fuente de significado en la vida y es, con mucho, el anhelo más profundo del corazón humano. La falta de amor trae serias disfunciones, junto con la falta de confianza y la incapacidad de tener relaciones significativas y una vida feliz.

San Pablo, dirigiéndose a la Iglesia de Corinto que estaba llena de discordia y polarización, les exhortó: "Hagan todo con amor" (1 Corintios 16,14). El Apóstol continúa recordándonos que todo pasa, incluidas las riquezas, el éxito y los talentos. Al final, dijo, "solo quedan estos tres: la fe, la esperanza y el amor. Pero el mayor de ellos es el amor" (1 Corintios 13:13). El tipo de amor del que habló San Pablo no es el tipo de amor romántico y sentimental basado en gran medida en los sentimientos que el mundo promueve todo el tiempo y, a menudo, simbolizado por los regalos comerciales en forma de corazón que se compran y venden en las tiendas, sino que es el amor desinteresado, dador de vida, inspirado en el propio amor de Dios, y simbolizado por el Sagrado Corazón traspasado y en llamas de Jesús. Por su naturaleza, este tipo de amor es sacrificial y está siempre dirigido hacia el bien de la persona amada.

Y este es el tipo de amor que estamos llamados a ofrecernos unos a otros. Que este amor sea nuestro San Valentín para todos, especialmente para aquellos que tienen hambre de amor, e incluso para aquellos que pueden no ser tan adorables en nuestras vidas.

Feliz Día de San Valentín!

Mons. Cuong M. Pham

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Sunday, February 12

8:00am—11:30pm Italian Community *Lourdes A/B*
 10:00am—1:00pm Czech Community *Guadalupe A/B*
 10:00am—12:00pm Spanish RCIA *Upper Room+ Fatima*
 10:30am—12:30pm Cursillo *Gym*
 1:30pm—4:00pm Practica Via Crucis *Guadalupe A/B*

Tuesday, February 14

3:30pm—6:00pm Porque Ser Catolico? *Fatima*
 5:00pm—9:00pm CYO *Gym*
 5:30pm—6:45pm Mariachi School *Balcony Rooms*
 6:00pm—9:00pm Marriage Encounter *Guadalupe+ Fatima*
 7:00pm—9:00pm Coro #1 *Nazareth*

Wednesday, February 15

4:30pm—7:30pm Religious Education *All Rooms*
 7:30pm—9:30pm CYO *Gym*

Thursday, February 16

10:00am—11:30am Legion of Mary *Lourdes B*
 6:00pm—7:30pm Religious Education *All Rooms*
 7:30pm—9:00pm CYO *Gym*

Friday, February 17

5:00pm—11:00pm CYO *Gym*
 6:30pm—8:30pm Youth Meeting *Gym*
 7:30pm—9:00pm English RCIA *Fatima*

Saturday, February 18

9:00am—1:00pm AA Meeting *Guadalupe A/B*
 10:00am—12:00pm Spanish Children's Choir *Upper Room*
 4:00pm—9:00pm Adult Sewing Group *Lourdes A/B*
 5:00pm—7:00pm Ministerio de Consolacion *Nazareth*
 5:00pm—7:00pm Bilingual Choir Practice *Fatima*

INFANT BAPTISM

| Preparation Meeting | Baptism Ceremony |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Tuesday—6:00pm—Institute | 12:00pm— Upper Church |
| February 21, 2023 | February 25, 2023 |
| March 21, 2023 | March 25, 2023 |
| April 18, 2023 | April 22, 2023 |
| May 23, 2023 | May 27, 2023 |
| June 20, 2023 | June 24, 2023 |
| July 18, 2023 | July 22, 2023 |
| August 22, 2023 | August 26, 2023 |
| September 19, 2023 | September 23, 2023 |
| October 24, 2023 | October 28, 2023 |
| November 21, 2023 | November 25, 2023 |
| December 19, 2023 | December 23, 2023 |

Please Note: All Baptisms will be celebrated on Saturday at 12:00pm instead of Sunday. Please note that attending the preparation meeting is required for both parents and godparents.

BAUTISMO

| Reunión de Preparación | Ceremonia de Bautismo |
|--|----------------------------------|
| Martes—6:00pm—Instituto | 12:00pm—Iglesia de Arriba |
| 7 de Marzo, 2023 | 11 de Marzo, 2023 |
| NO HAY BAUTISMOS EN ABRIL | |
| <i>Fecha de Bautizo para Mayo todavía No Anunciada</i> | |
| 6 de Junio, 2023 | 10 de Junio, 2023 |
| 27 de Junio, 2023 | 8 de Julio, 2023 |
| 8 de Agosto, 2023 | 12 de Agosto, 2023 |
| 5 de Septiembre, 2023 | 9 de Septiembre, 2023 |
| 10 de Octubre, 2023 | 14 de Octubre, 2023 |
| NO HABRA BAUTISOS EN NOVIEMBRE | |
| 5 de Diciembre, 2023 | 9 de Diciembre, 2023 |

Por Favor Notar: Todos los bautizos serán celebrados los Sábados a las 12:00pm en vez de los Domingos. Asistencia a las juntas de preparación es mandatorio para los padres y padrinos.

PARISH REGISTRATION

We encourage all who worship with us to consider joining our parish officially. Registering will enable our parish to serve your spiritual needs better. Please return this form in the collection or drop it off at the parish office. Your active participation will strengthen your faith and your sense of belonging in God's family.

Name(s): _____
 Address: _____ Apt _____
 Telephone: _____
 E-mail: _____

PLEASE CHECK New Registration Changed Address
 I prefer envelopes I prefer E-giving

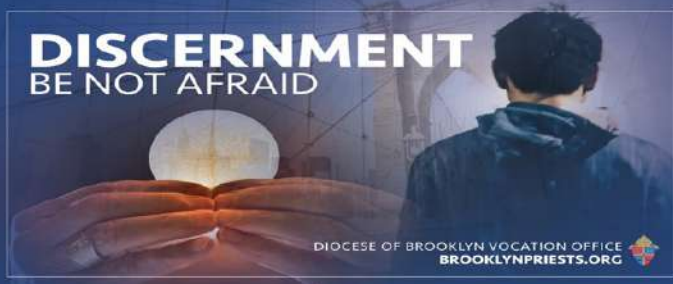
REGISTRACION PARROQUIAL

Registrarse oficialmente permitirá que nuestra parroquia les pueda servir sus necesidades espirituales mejor. Por favor devuelva este formulario en la colecta o déjelo en la oficina parroquial. Su participación activa fortalecerá su fe y su sentido de pertenencia en la familia de Dios.

Nombre(s): _____
 Dirección: _____ Apt _____
 Teléfono: _____
 E-mail: _____

POR FAVOR Nueva Registración Cambio de dirección
 Prefiero Sobres Donaciones en línea

VOCATION DISCERNMENT OPPORTUNITIES



Fraternitas

March 25, 2023 —

A group for middle school—high school aged boys dedicated to instilling Christian values in young men with the goal of fostering true Catholic gentlemen. The afternoon will include prayer, catechesis, sports, pizza lunch and Sunday Vigil Mass. Please view the forms that are available in the parish office for more information.

Jeremiah Project

March 10—12, 2023—

A weekend retreat for young men 18 and older. An opportunity to discern a possible vocation to the priesthood through discussions, prayer and fraternity. Forms are available in the parish office or you may contact the Vocations Office at vocations@diobrook.org.

A Prayer for the Faith that Overcomes All

O Lord, grant us faith, the faith that removes the mask from the world and manifests God in all things; the faith that enables everything to be seen in another light: that shows us the greatness of God and lets us see our own littleness; that shows us Christ where our eyes see only a poor person; that shows us the Savior where we feel only pain.

O Lord, grant us the faith that inspires us to undertake everything that God wants without hesitation, without shame, without fear, and without ever retreating; that faith that fears neither danger, nor sorrow, nor death; the faith that knows how to go through life with calm, peace, and profound joy, and that makes the soul completely indifferent to everything that is not you. Amen.

—from the writings of Saint Charles de Foucauld

OFFICE CLOSING

The office will be closed on Monday, February 20, 2023 in observance of Presidents' Day. There will be only one Mass celebrated in the Upper Church at 9:00am. The office will reopen on Tuesday, February 21, at 9:00am.

FIRST FRIDAY EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Spiritual writers speak of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament as "the Mass held in contemplation." As a way of encouraging devotion to the Eucharist, we invite all parishioners to come and spend some time before the Real Presence of the Lord on **Friday, March 3, 2023**. Exposition and Adoration will take place right after the 8:00am Mass and will conclude with Solemn Benediction before the start of the 12 Noon Mass.

ROSARY SOCIETY MEETING

The next Rosary Society meeting will take place **on March 5th**, after the 9:30am Bilingual Mass. All ladies over 15 years old are invited to come to the Institute and join us to pray the Rosary. Refreshments will be served.

ASH WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE

On Ash Wednesday, February 22, we will distribute ashes **ONLY** at the following times:

English Masses 8:00am & 12:00pm
5:00pm English Service
7:30pm Bilingual Mass
9:00pm Vietnamese Mass

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

During Lent, we will have Stations of the Cross in English, every Friday after the 12:00pm Mass. Stations of the Cross in Spanish will be every Friday during Lent at 7:00pm in the Chapel.



WIN—WIN CAR DONATION

When you donate your car, our parish may be able to share in the profits. For every car, truck or van, **running or not**, the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul will give back to our Church \$100/\$2000 per vehicle. Maybe you don't have a vehicle, but a family member, friend or neighbor has an old or neglected vehicle that they would like to dispose of. Call the Association of Vincentian Charities at 718.491.2525 and mention the name of our parish.



CANCIONETA PRAGA



We Invite You to
CANCIONETA PRAGA
Concert Choir of Prague

Sunday, February 19
Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Lower Church
10:30 AM Mass with Concert to Follow
Information: Father Anthony 718-575-8959

All Are Welcome!
Free Admission

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church
23-25 Newtown Ave, Astoria, NY 11102

DISCERNIMIENTO VOCACIONAL

Fraternitas, 25 de marzo, 2023 — Un grupo para jóvenes de secundaria y preparatoria, inculcando los valores Cristianos a ellos con la meta de fomentar caballeros Católicos verdaderos. La tarde incluye oración, catecismo, deporte, almuerzo de pizza y Misa Dominical de Vigilia. Por favor pida los formularios que se encuentran en la oficina parroquial.

Jeremiah Project, 10-12 de marzo, 2023— Retiro de fin de semana para jóvenes adultos mayores de 18 años. Es una oportunidad para discernir una posible vocación al sacerdocio por medio de discusión, oración y fraternidad.

PROXIMA SEGUNDA COLECTA

26 de febrero 2023— La segunda colecta después de la comunión para nuestro mantenimiento parroquial. Sus donaciones nos permite mantener los espacios en buena condición para su uso.

RETIROS CUARESMALES

Habrá un retiro cuaresmal el 4 de marzo patrocinado por el Movimiento de Cursillo de nuestra parroquia. El padre Luis Fernando LaVerde será el invitado charlista. Desayuno a las 8:30am, almuerzo a la 1:00pm y terminando con la Santa Misa a las 2:00pm. Registración no es necesaria.



También habrá un retiro en el gimnasio el 19 de marzo patrocinado por el Grupo Carismático Renovación de nuestra parroquia. Comenzara después de la misa de las 12:30pm y terminara en la capilla con una Hora Santa. Tendremos un Diacono invitado este día. Mas información se anunciara próximamente.

Retiro de Cuaresma

PROXIMAS VENTAS DE COMIDA

Estamos muy orgullosos de anunciar que las ventas de comida ya se están organizando por muchos de nuestros comités hispanos para recaudar fondos para sus diferentes fiestas. Abajo se encuentran las próximas fechas. Apreciamos su participación y cualquier apoyo que pueda dar.

| | | |
|---------------|---------------------|---------------|
| 26 de febrero | Grupo Via Crucis | Guadalupe A/B |
| 12 de marzo | Divina Misericordia | Gym |
| 19 de marzo | Grupo de Via Crucis | Guadalupe A/B |

ESTE SERA EL AÑO QUE...

Entre horarios exigentes, viajes o simplemente tratar de salir a tiempo para la Misa, puede ser un desafío preparar las contribuciones para la Iglesia de manera regular como Dios nos llama a hacer. Además, para muchas familias, la colecta de la iglesia es uno de los últimos lugares donde todavía tiene que usar una chequera o dinero en efectivo. Nuestra parroquia se complace en ofrecer Faith Direct como una opción segura de donaciones en línea para que las familias puedan dar fácilmente sus donaciones por medio de cheque electrónico o tarjeta de débito/crédito. Si configura una donación recurrente, puede crear su propia cuenta en línea para administrar sus donaciones. ¡Es tan fácil como comprar o manejar su cuenta de banco en línea!

Muchos de nuestros feligreses ya utilizan Faith Direct. Es cómodo, fiable y seguro. Al comenzar un nuevo año, ¿por qué no considerar en oración a Faith Direct como una nueva forma de asegurarse de que sus contribuciones marquen la diferencia. Comience hoy visitando **Faith.direct/NY370**, o llame a **Faith Direct al 866-507-8757**, o envíe un mensaje de texto con la palabra **"Inscribirse"** al **929-254-3850**.

¡Imagine las posibilidades de compartir sus regalos sin la molestia de recordar cheques y sobres! Faith Direct le ahorrará mucho tiempo.

CURSO PRE-MATRIMONIAL

Habrá un curso pre-matrimonial empezando el 24 de febrero, por 5 viernes, de 7:00pm– 10:00pm en el salón Fátima del Instituto. Para registrarse, por favor llame o visite la oficina parroquial.

CORONILLA A LA DIVINA MISERICORDIA

NUESTRA SEÑORA DEL MONTE CARMELO LES INVITA A REZAR LA

CORONILLA A LA DIVINA MISERICORDIA

Se rezara la Coronilla el 25 de febrero, 2023 en la Iglesia de Arriba a las 6:30pm. Los esperamos!

Para mas información, llama a la oficina parroquial al **718.278.1834**

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC REFLECTIONS

A friend of mine has a tradition for the first birthday of her children. Three items - a coin, a shot glass, and a rosary - are placed in front of the one-year-old, and whatever object he grasps supposedly bears insight into his future. A coin promises wealth, the rosary indicates holiness and the shot glass...well, I'm sure you can guess.

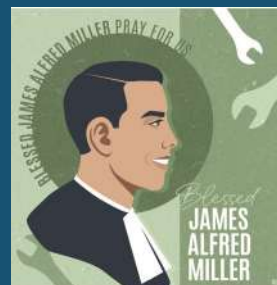
Of course, the kid just grabs whatever looks coolest. They're not really choosing money or God or a party. Their choice is ruled by impulse. These days, "I'm not feeling it," is a genuine excuse to avoid something. "I feel that," we say to indicate agreement. "I feel like..." is an acceptable way to offer our opinion. Feelings carry a lot of weight.

Before Christ, there was only the law, and the law dealt primarily with actions. Do this. Do not do this. All well and good. But with the fulfillment of the law, Christ wants us to look inwardly. He wants us to consider the influence of our feelings on our actions, and to understand how our chosen actions can, in turn, inspire certain feelings.

I'm a millennial, so, depending on your age, you may think that I feel either too much or too little. One thing I have learned, though, is that when I give my feelings free rein, my instincts immediately turn into actions. I become the toddler grasping at shiny objects with no thought for what they represent. Anger becomes unkindness. Jealousy becomes cruelty. Fear becomes selfishness. Free will, I have come to understand, means freedom from the tyranny of feelings. If a feeling is strong enough, it can build a prison. "If your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away." - Matthew 5:30

—Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

SAINT OF THE WEEK



Blessed James Miller, the second ever U.S.-born martyr, served as a missionary and educator to the poorest of the poor in Nicaragua and Guatemala. Shot to death in front of his students in 1982, his legacy of love lives on today through the many schools he started.

Official Prayer for the Intercession of Blessed Brother James Miller, FSC

O Blessed Brother James Miller, you heard God's call to become a Brother of the Christian Schools and so became a sign of faith to youth in the United States and in Central America. You placed your life and your trust in Divine Providence and, for spreading the faith, merited the crown of martyrdom. In a world that denies the dignity of the human person, obtain for us from Divine Providence an ever-increasing love of God and our neighbor, especially the poor and oppressed. Obtain for us also the favor we are now asking for [mention request] and the grace and strength to be a witness to Christ's love to all. Amen.

"You have heard that it was said to your ancestors, You shall not kill, and whoever kills will be liable to judgment. But I say to you, whoever is angry with his brother will be liable to judgment." - Mt 5:21-22a

DIGGING DEEPER ON THIS SUNDAY'S READINGS

First Reading

The Jewish sage Sirach speaks of the wisdom in being obedient and loyal to God's will and commandments. How can you exercise obedience and loyalty to God this week?

Second Reading

Paul instructs the Corinthians about the power of the Holy Spirit who guides believers to a mature faith and to understanding God's wisdom. In what ways do you experience the Holy Spirit in your life?

Gospel Reading

As Jesus continues with his Sermon on the Mount, he addresses a variety of topics in the daily life of his Jewish audience (the Law, anger, adultery, divorce, and oaths), only now filtered through God's point of view. How can Christians today live daily life according to these standards?

GOSPEL MEDITATION

ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

It's often said that the Catholic Church lays heavy rules on her members, rules that can almost seem impossible. Mass every Sunday? No lying ever? Sexual purity all the time?

I recently said to some non-Catholic friends that more than fifty adults were baptized at my parish at the Easter Vigil. One responded spontaneously with shock, "Why would anyone do that?" In other words, why would someone willingly place themselves in a system with such demanding and rigorous rules?

Of course, no one in the history of religions is more demanding and rigorous than Jesus himself. In the Sermon on the Mount, he says you have to be holier than pharisees or you're out. He says if you call someone a fool, you go to fiery Gehenna. He says you can't even look at a woman with lust or you're guilty of adultery (which was punishable by death). To top it all off, he says you can't even get divorced and re-married. Doesn't he know these are basically impossible demands? What world is he living in?

The new one, actually. He is the new world. Jesus' words aren't meant to condemn. They are meant to signal something new, a restored humanity. Jesus doesn't just give external laws; he gives us his Holy Spirit to internalize



the law through love. He wants to fill us with his love. That's what the Church exists to do. Love demands extraordinary things. The "demands" of the Church only make sense because she is filled with Jesus' love. That wildly demanding love is why we are Catholic.

- Father John Muir

WHAT DO THE COLORS OF THE PRIESTS' AND DEACONS' VESTMENTS MEAN?

In the Roman Rite of the Catholic Church, the colors of the vestments evolved over the course of several centuries and there was wide variation both in the colors used and in the feasts and seasons associated with particular colors. It was Pope Innocent III (d. 1216) who gave us the basic outline that was later prescribed by Pope Saint Pius V in 1570. The various colors remind us of the dominant themes of a particular season or celebration.

White: Used for the seasons of Christmas and Easter and in celebrations of the Lord, of Mary, the angels, and saints who were not martyrs. This color is also used in Masses for the dead, at baptisms, weddings, and other festive celebrations.

Red: As the color of both blood and fire, red is used on Palm Sunday and Good Friday, as well as Pentecost and special celebrations of the Holy Spirit. Moreover, red is used on the feasts and memorials of the Apostles and those saints who died as martyrs.

Violet: The color for Advent and Lent. Violet may also be used in Masses for the dead and on All Souls Day (November 2).



35th Anniversary of Vietnamese Apostolate, OLMC, Astoria 2022
Picture by Neida C. Martinez

Green: A color of life and hope, green is used throughout Ordinary Time.

Other colors: Rose may be used on the Third Sunday of Advent and the Fourth Sunday of Lent, black may be used in Masses of the dead, and on All Souls Day, gold or silver may be used on solemn occasions in place of white, red, or green.