



OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL

23-25 NEWTOWN AVENUE, ASTORIA, NY 11102 | 718.278.1834

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2023

5TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



“You are the light of the world. A city set on a mountain cannot be hidden.” - Mt 5:14

OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

PARISH MANAGER

Celeste Stewart, Ext. 111
cstewart@diobrook.org
church@mountcarmelastoria.org

RELIGIOUS ED COORDINATOR

Nelly Gutierrez, Ext. 114
reled@mountcarmelastoria.org
ccdmountcarmel@gmail.com

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 4

5:00pm Franco Brajkovic (Living), Dr. Luvimin Singco,
Alma Beckman

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5 (*Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time*)

8:00am Manuela & Arlona Grancaric (*Living*)
9:00am Gaspare Barretta (*2nd Anniversary*)
9:30am The Living & Deceased Members of
Our Parish's Rosary Society
11:00am Charles Cooper (*Anniversary*)
12:30pm Fredesvinda Mena, Armando Montesinos,
Rosendo Aguilar, Cristian Ponce Mera
(*Memorial de Cumpleaños*),
y Por Las Almas del Purgatorio
3:00pm For the people of our parish

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 6 (*Saint Paul Miki & Companions*)

8:00am Deceased Members of the Carlino Family
12:00pm Eileen Callahan

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 7

8:00am Mario Carullo
12:00pm Rose Tavano

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 8

(*Saint Jerome Emiliani, Saint Josephine Bakhita*)

8:00am Ophilia Lobo & Family (*Living*)
12:00pm In Thanksgiving for All Graces & Blessings
Received by the Guevara Family

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9

8:00am Vito Vicari
12:00pm Ninfa Rappa

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10 (*Saint Scholastica*)

8:00am Antonia Leto
12:00pm Girauco Family

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

8:00am Members of the Mother's Prayers Group
& their Families
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 Altigracia Delgadillo
11:00am John Thu Pham (*Birthday Remembrance*)
12:30pm Gregorio Nuñez (*40 Aniversario*),
Gilberto Hinojosa y Por El Sagrado Corazon
de Jesus y Maria
3:00pm For the people of our parish

MEMORIAL GIFTS THIS WEEK



The Altar Candles are being offered for
Gaspare Barretta,
requested by Tony & Nina Carullo and Family

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

SECOND COLLECTIONS

February 5, 2022— There will be a second collection after
communion for Black & Indian. Your donations are very
much appreciated.

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

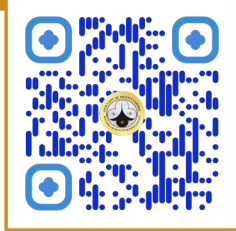
ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC ACADEMY

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

718.728.0724—www.stjosephsch.org

school@mountcarmelastoria.org

NEW TO THE PARISH?



WEEKLY OFFERING REPORT

(Does not include *Faith Direct*)

Last weekend's collection: **\$4,921**

Same weekend last year: **\$5,365**

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.

JOIN THE ENGLISH CHOIR

Choir rehearsals resume on Monday, February 6th at 7:30pm in the Lower Church. If you are interested in joining the choir, leave your name and number for Lucille at the parish office.





Dear parishioners,

In the Gospel of this Sunday, Jesus tasks his disciples with the mission to be salt and light to the world. What does this mean? And how do we become salt and light today in the context of our modern world and society?

I always find these metaphors of salt and light fascinating. In the ancient world, salt was highly valued. The Greeks called salt divine, and the Romans said, "There is nothing more useful than sun and salt." Do you know that our English word "salary" literally means "salt money?" In the time of Jesus, salt was associated with purity, because it was white and it came from the purest of all things, the sun and the sea. That's why salt was the most primitive of all offerings to the gods. People believed that it was the salt that kept the seas pure. Thus, when Jesus exhorts his disciples to be "the salt of the earth," he meant that Christians must be an example of purity, exercising purity in speech, in conduct, and even in thought. Salt is still the commonest of all preservatives wherever people do not have fridges and freezers. It is used to prevent the meat, fish, fruits, and pickles from going bad. Thus, as the salt of the earth, Christians must have a certain antiseptic, preserving influence on society, defeating corruption and making it easier for others to be good. In addition, salt lends flavor to food, seasoning it and giving it a richer taste. Through Baptism, our natural life is also "seasoned" with the new, richer life which comes from Christ. Christians therefore must reflect that newness and richness in their lives, and cannot become insipid themselves.

In the time of Jesus, when speaking of the light, what comes to mind is the image of an oil lamp. It was like a sauce-boat full of oil with a wick floating in it. When people went out, for safety's sake, they took the lamp from its stand and put it under an earthen bushel basket, so that it might burn without risk until they came back. Jesus challenges his disciples to be visible like a lamp on a "lamp stand." He therefore expects his followers to be seen by the world, radiating and giving light. "Let your light shine before all" (Mt 5:16). By this metaphor, Jesus means that our faith should be visible in the ordinary activities of the world, for example, in the way we treat a cashier across the counter, in the way we order a meal in a restaurant, in the way we treat our employees or serve our employer, in the way we play a game or drive or park a car, in the daily language we use, in the daily literature we read and the websites we visit online, etc.

The teaching of Jesus should make us think today about the quality of our own faith and mission. Is your salt salty and your light shining? If you have any doubt, take this little quiz: 1) Name the five wealthiest people in the world. 2) Name the last five Nobel Prize winners. 3) Name the last five World Series champions. Do you know all these answers? Probably not. Then ask yourself some additional questions: 1) Who fed and clothed you when you were helpless? 2) What was the name of the teacher who patiently taught you? 3) Who is the first person you would call in an emergency? You would know the answers to these questions. Look no further: these people are the salt and light of the world. If you see in yourself right now the positive qualities by which these people have inspired you and made a difference in your life, you can be assured about the quality of your own mission of being salt and light to the world.

Dear brothers and sisters, salt is a hidden but powerful influence. Light is a visible and revealing influence. Jesus calls us to be a humble presence that makes a visible, tangible impact on the world around us. Does your faith make a difference in anyone else's? In what ways can you make a difference today in the world around you? The answer to these questions depends on how closely we are like Jesus himself, who is the true Salt of the earth and Light of the world.

Devotedly yours in Christ,
Msgr. Cuong M. Pham



Estimados feligreses,

En el Evangelio, Jesús encarga a sus discípulos la misión de ser sal y luz para el mundo. ¿Qué significa esto? ¿Y cómo nos convertimos hoy en sal y luz en el contexto de nuestro mundo y sociedad moderna?

Siempre encuentro fascinantes estas metáforas de la sal y la luz. En el mundo antiguo, la sal era muy apreciada. Los griegos llamaban divina a la sal, y los romanos decían: “No hay nada más útil que el sol y la sal.” ¿Sabes que nuestra palabra en inglés “salary” (salario) significa literalmente “dinero salado?” En el tiempo de Jesús, la sal se asociaba con la pureza, porque era blanca y procedía de lo más puro de todas las cosas, el sol y el mar. Por eso la sal era la más primitiva de todas las ofrendas a los dioses. La gente creían que era la sal la que mantenía los mares puros. Por eso, cuando Jesús exhorta a sus discípulos a ser “la sal de la tierra,” quiso decir que los cristianos deben ser un ejemplo de pureza, ejerciendo la pureza al hablar, en la conducta e incluso en el pensamiento. La sal sigue siendo el más común de todos los conservantes donde la gente no tiene refrigeradores ni congeladores. Se utiliza para evitar que la carne, el pescado, las frutas y los encurtidos se pudren. Así, como la sal de la tierra, los cristianos deben tener cierto antiséptico, preservando la influencia en la sociedad, venciendo la corrupción y facilitando que los demás sean buenos. Además, la sal le da sabor a la comida, la sazona y le da un sabor más rico. A través del Bautismo, nuestra vida natural es también “sazonada” con la vida nueva y más rica que viene de Cristo. Los cristianos, por lo tanto, deben reflejar esa novedad y riqueza en sus vidas, y no pueden volverse insípidos.

En tiempos de Jesús, cuando se habla de la luz, lo que viene a la mente es la imagen de una lámpara de aceite. Era como una salsera llena de aceite con una mecha flotando. Cuando la gente salía, por seguridad, quitaban la lámpara de su candelero y la ponían debajo de un celemín de barro, para que ardiera sin peligro hasta que volvieran. Jesús desafía a sus discípulos a ser visibles como una lámpara en un “candelero.” Por lo tanto, espera que sus seguidores sean vistos por el mundo, irradiando y dando luz. “Que nuestra luz brille ante todos” (Mt 5,16). Con esta metáfora, Jesús quiere decir que nuestra fe debe ser visible en las actividades ordinarias del mundo, por ejemplo, en la forma en que tratamos a un cajero en el mostrador, en la forma en que pedimos una comida en un restaurante, en la forma en que tratamos nuestros empleados o servimos a nuestro empleador, en la forma en que jugamos, conducimos o estacionamos un automóvil, en el lenguaje diario que usamos, en la literatura diaria que leemos y los sitios web que visitamos en línea, etc.

La enseñanza de Jesús debe hacernos reflexionar hoy sobre la calidad de nuestra propia fe y misión. ¿Tu sal es salada y tu luz brilla? Si tienes alguna duda, responde este pequeño cuestionario: 1) Nombra a las cinco personas más ricas del mundo. 2) Nombre los últimos cinco ganadores del Premio Nobel. 3) Nombre los últimos cinco campeones de la Serie Mundial. ¿Conoces todas estas respuestas? Probablemente no. Luego hágase algunas preguntas adicionales: 1) ¿Quién los alimentó y vistió cuando estaban indefensos? 2) ¿Cómo se llamaba el maestro que pacientemente les enseñó? 3) ¿Quién es la primera persona que llamarías en caso de una emergencia? Ustedes sabrían las respuestas a estas preguntas? No busquen más: estas personas son la sal y la luz del mundo. Si ves en ti mismo en este momento las cualidades positivas por las cuales estas personas les inspiraron y marcaron la diferencia en su vida, pueden estar seguros de la calidad de su propia misión de ser sal y luz para el mundo.

Queridos hermanos y hermanas, la sal es una influencia oculta pero poderosa. La luz es una influencia visible y reveladora. Jesús nos llama a ser una presencia humilde que tenga un impacto visible y tangible en el mundo que nos rodea. ¿Su fe hace una diferencia en la de alguien más? ¿De qué manera puedes hacer una diferencia hoy en el mundo que les rodea? La respuesta a estas preguntas depende de cuán cerca nos parezcamos al mismo Jesús, quien es la verdadera Sal de la tierra y Luz del mundo.

Devotamente suyo en Cristo,
Mons. Cuong M. Pham

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Sunday, February 5

9:00am—1:00pm Rosary Society *Lourdes A/B*
 10:00am—1:00pm Czech Community *Guadalupe A*
 10:00am—12:00pm Spanish RCIA *Upper Room+ Fatima*
 10:30am—12:30pm Cursillo *Guadalupe B*

Monday, February 6

7:00pm—9:00pm English Pre-Cana *Guadalupe A/B*

Tuesday, February 7

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*
 6:00pm—7:00pm Clase PreBautismal *Lourdes A/B*
 7:00pm—9:00pm Coro #1 *Nazareth*

Wednesday, February 8

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

Thursday, February 9

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 10

5:00pm—11:00pm CYO *Gym*
 6:30pm—8:30pm Youth Meeting *Gym*
 6:30pm—8:30pm Cursillo Meeting *Lourdes A/B*
 7:30pm—9:00pm English RCIA *Fatima*

Saturday, February 11

9:00am—1:00pm AA Meeting *Guadalupe A/B*
 10:00am—12:00pm Spanish Children's Choir *Upper Room*
 2:00pm—11:00pm Santiago Apostol Fundraiser *Gym*
 3:00pm—5:00pm First Communion Session 4 *Guadalupe*
 5:00pm—7:00pm Ministerio de Consolacion *Nazareth*
 5:00pm—7:00pm Bilingual Choir Practice *Fatima*

INFANT BAPTISM

BAUTISMO

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

Reunión de Preparación	Ceremonia de Bautismo
Martes—6:00pm—Instituto	12:00pm—Iglesia de Arriba
7 de Febrero, 2023	11 de Febrero, 2023
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

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.

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

REGISTRACION PARROQUIAL

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.

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.

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

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

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

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

VOCATION DISCERNMENT OPPORTUNITIES



Fraternitas

February 11, 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.

ROSARY SOCIETY MEETING

The next Rosary Society meeting will take place **today, February 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.

FIRST FRIDAY EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

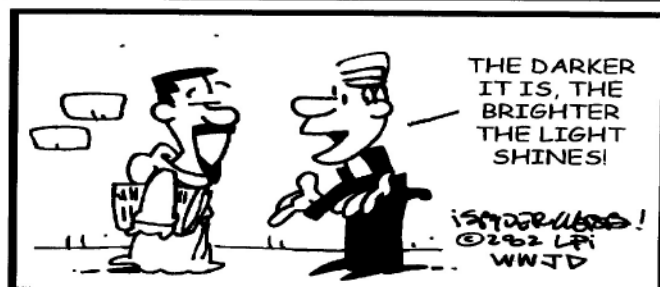
Spiritual writers speak of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament as "the Mass held in contemplation." As a way of encouraging devotion to the Eucharist, we invite all parishioners to come and spend some time before the Real Presence of the Lord on **Friday, March 3, 2023**. Exposition and Adoration will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

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.



5TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



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, 11 de febrero, 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 febrero, 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

5 de febrero 2023— La segunda colecta después de la comunión para las comunidades en necesidad. Sus donaciones, como siempre, son muy apreciadas.

BOLETOS PARA CENA-BAILE

Boletos para la Cena-Baile el 11 de febrero, están disponibles esta semana en la oficina parroquial. \$30.00 por boleto. Para reservar una mesa exclusivamente para 8 personas se paga \$150.00 adicionales a la venta de los boletos. Si desea pagar el día de la fiesta, la entrada costaría \$40.00. Los fondos recaudados son para realizar la fiesta de Santiago Apóstol.

SAINT JOSEPH'S TEEN RETREAT INVITATION

"The Eucharist
is my highway
to heaven"
Carlos Acutis



Come to have a day with Jesus in the Eucharist.

February 18 2023

10 am to 2pm

St Joseph's school gym 28-46, 44th st, Astoria

Teens from 12 to 19 years old

JESUS IS WAITING FOR YOU

FOR MORE INFO
EMAIL YULIANA

YOUTH.MINISTRY@STJOSEPHASTORIA.ORG



We invite youth to attend this special retreat hosted by St. Joseph's parish. Pizza lunch will be served.

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.

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

"If..." It's a surprising little word. For such a short word, it holds an abundance of excuses.

Personally, I could buy a new car if I had a dollar for every time I used the word "if" to explain away my own flaws. "If I wasn't so tired. If we had more money. If the kids weren't always on my last nerve. If I had more talent. If life wasn't so hard."

If, if, if.

I don't always feel like being the salt of the earth. Can't someone else season the dish? Sometimes it's more than I want to give, more than I want to do, more than I want to be. Sharing my bread, sheltering the oppressed, clothing the naked, and accompanying my neighbor in doing these things in the literal or figurative sense can be completely exhausting. Mediocrity is so easy. It's so comfortable.

But if. It looms again, that short but powerful word.

"If" can be deep with excuses, but it can also be wide with possibility. If I bring it all to God. If I stop relying on my own abilities. If I prayed more than talked. If I make my heart firm. If my faith does not rest on human wisdom.

If not me, who? If not now, when?

"You are the light of the world. A city set on a mountain cannot be hidden." - Matthew 5:14

Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

DIGGING DEEPER ON THIS SUNDAY'S READINGS

First Reading

The prophet Isaiah spoke of God's desire for us to not only feed the hungry and take care of the afflicted but also to rid ourselves of malicious and accusatory speech. Which of these directives might you be able to do this week?

Second Reading

Paul teaches the Corinthians to place their faith in the power of God more so than in human wisdom. What could be some good ways to make sure this becomes a regular spiritual exercise?

Gospel Reading

Jesus calls his followers to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world. In other words, Jesus is calling his followers to have a positive influence on the world. In what ways can believers today do good in the world?

LIVE THE LITURGY

"Nor do they light a lamp and then put it under a bushel basket; it is set on a lampstand, where it gives light to all in the house. Just so, your light must shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father." Mt 5:15-16

SAINT OF THE WEEK



Venerable Father Mazzuchelli was one of the first Catholic missionaries to the Great Lakes region traveling the vast area via horseback, canoes, and on foot. He worked alongside new immigrant settlers and native tribes to establish over 24 Catholic communities.

Prayer for the Beatification of Father Samuel Mazzuchelli

Lord Jesus, you called your servant, Samuel, even in early youth, to leave home and all for a Dominican life of charity in preaching your holy gospel. You gave him abundant graces of Eucharistic love, devotion to your holy Mother of Sorrows, and a consuming zeal for souls. Grant, we beseech you, that his fervent love and labors for you may become more widely known, to a fruitful increase of your Mystical Body, to his exaltation, and to our own constant growth in devoted love of you who with the Father and the Holy Spirit live and reign one God, world without end. Amen.



INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

GOSPEL MEDITATION

ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

I recently decided to learn to cook. As I sit at the feet of various YouTube cooking masters, I notice how much cooking is adding ingredients that don't provide any more nourishment, like herbs and other seasonings. But man! They make all the difference because they make the meal delightful to eat and share.

Jesus calls his disciples the "salt of the world." No one eats just salt. So, Christians are not meant to replace or do away with the world. They are meant to be agents of preservation and glorification. Notice how often these days the Church seeks to preserve what is threatened: the goodness of marital and family love, the desires of young people for greatness, the value of honest work, healthy economics, and altruistic political engagement, the dignity of the poor and vulnerable. Over and over, we say to a world that wants to throw things out, "It's worth saving! We'll preserve it! We'll show you it's wonderful." If we can't engage the world like that, Jesus says we are the ones who get thrown out, because salt alone is worthless.



Jesus only asks us to do for others what he does for us. He is the "salt" of everything in our lives. Is something in your life starting to rot a bit? Something tasting bland and boring? Let Jesus salt it and see if you like it better.

WHAT IS THE "MIRACULOUS MEDAL" AND WHY IS IT CALLED THAT?

Answer: The medal of the Immaculate Conception that has come to be called simply the "Miraculous Medal" dates back to an apparition of Mary to Saint Catherine Laboure, who was then a novice sister with the Daughters of Charity. On November 27, 1830, Our Lady appeared to her standing on a globe, with shafts of light streaming from her hands and the words, "O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee," surrounding the image. In the same vision, Catherine saw a capital "M" with a cross above it and below two hearts. Catherine seemed to hear a voice telling her to have what she saw struck as a medal and a promise that those who wore the medal would have the protection and intercession of the Mother of God. The first 1,500 medals were distributed in 1832. Many miraculous favors were attributed to the use of the medal.

Saint Catherine's "Miraculous Medal" is among the recognizable and popular symbols of modern Catholicism. Reflecting on its widespread use, the 2001 Vatican document, "Directory on Popular Piety and Liturgy," observes that the medal "recalls the mystery of Redemption, the love of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and of the Sorrowful Heart of Mary. It signifies the mediatory role of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the mystery of the Church, the relationship between Heaven and earth, this life and eternal life."

