

## OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL

23-25 NEWTOWN AVENUE, ASTORIA, NY, 11102 | 718.278.1834 | MOUNTCARMELASTORIA.ORG

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 20, 2023**

## 20<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Then Jesus said to her in reply, "O woman, great is your faith!  
Let it be done for you as you wish." And the woman's  
daughter was healed from that hour. - Mt 15:28

# OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH



## PARISH MANAGER

Celeste Stewart, Ext. 111  
[cstewart@diobrook.org](mailto:cstewart@diobrook.org)  
[church@mountcarmelastoria.org](http://church@mountcarmelastoria.org)

## RELIGIOUS ED COORDINATOR

Nelly Gutierrez, Ext. 114  
[reled@mountcarmelastoria.org](mailto:reled@mountcarmelastoria.org)  
[ccdmountcarmel@gmail.com](mailto:ccdmountcarmel@gmail.com)

## OFFICE RECEPTIONIST

Luis Sanchez Ext. 110  
[reception@mountcarmelastoria.org](mailto:reception@mountcarmelastoria.org)

## PASTOR

Rev. Msgr. Cuong M. Pham

## PAROCHIAL VICARS

Rev. Michael McHugh  
Rev. Sy 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](mailto:music@mountcarmelastoria.org)

## Youth Minister

Dayonel Mejia

## MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

### SATURDAY, AUGUST 19 (*Saint John Eudes*)

5:00pm Glorinda Vargas, The Deceased Members of the Fernandez & De Los Santos Families, Healing of the Mamaril Family & Jimmy de Los Santos, In Thanksgiving to God  
Maria del Pilar Pineda (*Living— 50th Birthday*)

### SUNDAY, AUGUST 20

#### (*Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time*)

8:00am Franco Comunale  
9:00am Henry Chiesa  
9:30am Lino Alvarez & Lucila Tiburcio  
11:00am Dorothy Nacinovich (*Memorial*)  
Michael Nacinovich (*Living—Birthday*)  
12:30pm Maria Sonia Lasso (*Memorial de Cumpleaños*)  
Maria Juana Gahuancela (*20 Aniversario*),  
Aranza Sanchez (*Living—Birthday*)  
3:00pm For the People of the Parish

### MONDAY, AUGUST 21 (*Saint Pius X*)

8:00am Milwyda Chua  
12:00pm Giustina & Filippo di Rico

### TUESDAY, AUGUST 22 (*The Queenship of the B.V.M.*)

8:00am Sabbia & Raffaele Carullo and Family  
12:00pm Tabile Family

### WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 23 (*Saint Rose of Lima*)

8:00am Leonardo & Giuseppina Grippi  
12:00pm Benjamin & Natyvidad Nicasio

### THURSDAY, AUGUST 24 (*Saint Bartholomew*)

8:00am Stephen Brian Bacolor  
12:00pm Sr. Mary Gavan

### FRIDAY, AUGUST 25 (*Saint Louis; Saint Joseph Calasanz*)

8:00am Sr. Mary Gavan  
12:00pm Sr. Mary Gavan

### SATURDAY, AUGUST 26

8:00am Isabel Collins (*Living— Birthday*)  
5:00pm Joseph Visconti, Ninfa & Domenico Mignano,  
Enrique & Victor Cevallos,  
Emmanuel Jhon Pierre (*For Healing*),  
60th Wedding Anniversary of  
Norman & Dellie Wagner

### SUNDAY, AUGUST 27

#### (*Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time*)

8:00am Conception De Los Santos  
9:00am Maria Santissima del Romittello Borgetto  
9:30am Flora Jimenez  
11:00am Carmela Moretti & Frank Todisco  
12:30pm Lucino Sanchez, Estefany Fory & Carlos Cruz  
Max Sterling & Emilia Sepulveda (*Por Sanacion*)  
3:00pm For the People of the Parish

## MOUNT CARMEL STRING TRIO

The Mount Carmel String Trio will be playing at the 11:00am Mass on Sunday, August 27, 2023.

## SECOND COLLECTIONS

**August 19/20, 2023**— We will have a special second collection for Fr. PJ's school in Nigeria. The generous support you give make building the various school spaces needed possible. Thank you.

**August 26/27, 2023**— There will be a second collection after communion for our parish maintenance. Your donations enable us to maintain our parish spaces in good condition for your use.

## MASS SCHEDULE

|               |  |
|---------------|--|
| Saturday      | 5:00 PM (Vigil Mass)   |
| Sunday        | <b>Main Church:</b><br>8:00 AM (English)<br>9:30 AM (Bi-lingual)<br>11:00 AM (English)<br>12:30 PM (Spanish)<br>3:00 PM (Vietnamese)<br><b>Chapel:</b><br>9:00 AM (Italian)<br>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)<br>and 7:30 PM (Bi-lingual)   |
| Holidays      | Only one Mass at 9:00 AM   |

### CONFESSIONS:

Saturday 3:30pm—4:30pm (Chapel)

### CHURCH HOURS:

Weekday: 7:00am—7:00pm

Saturday: 7:00am—6:00pm

Sunday: 7:00am—4:00pm

### 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](http://www.stjosephsch.org)

[school@mountcarmelastoria.org](mailto:school@mountcarmelastoria.org)



## Annual Catholic Appeal 2023

DIOCESE OF BROOKLYN

***We would like to thank all those generous individuals who made a pledge to the 2023 Annual Catholic Appeal.***

We are asking each family to consider making a tax-deductible gift today. It is important that our parish make its goal of \$67,815 in order to fulfill our mission and provide for all who depend on your generosity and good will. As of August 7, 2023 we have a total of 173 parishioners who have pledged a total of \$61,167 from which \$53,722 has been collected.

Give your support today on behalf of our parish online at [annualcatholicappeal.org](http://annualcatholicappeal.org), scanning the QR code or texting "ACA" to 917-336-1255 or call 718-965-7375 ext. 1602 to have a pledge card mailed to your home.

Suggested giving amounts:

\$100 one-time gift

\$200 pledge = \$25 a month

\$350 pledge = \$10 a week

\$1,200 pledge = \$5 a day



## REMEMBERING OUR BELOVED DECEASED

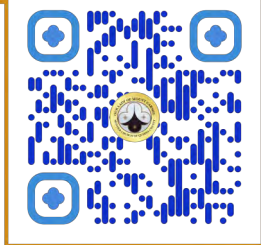
Remembering our deceased loved ones by having them prayed for at Mass on every first Friday of the month — the day traditionally dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, is a meaningful way to express our love. Enrollment is \$10 per name. Those enrolled the Purgatorial Society will be remembered for a whole year. We have currently enrolled **Kent Finley, Margarita Dostall, Victor Mayo, Lillie Bonanno, Mary Rocuzzo, Marco Rios, William Dsouza, John Dsouza, Sushila Dsouza, Carol Gigante, Mark Anthony Javier, Louis Jurilla and Aida Viera.**

## 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. We are currently praying for **Victor Ejercito & Malou Reformina, John Bryam Guevara, Antonio Portugal, Gerry Viz Conde, Walmor Berretta J.**

Welcome

### NEW TO THE PARISH?



## WEEKLY OFFERING REPORT

Does not Include Electronic Donations by Faith Direct, which will be reported monthly.

Last weekend's collection: \$4,588

Same weekend last year: \$5,885

Follow us on Social Media:

@OLMCAstoria





Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Warm greetings to you all during these sweltering summer days. I trust that each of you is keeping well and finding solace in close friendship with the Lord.

On this XX Sunday of Ordinary Time, our Scripture readings resonate with themes of universality and God's boundless love. The prophet Isaiah proclaims a message of inclusivity, suggesting that all, even foreigners, are welcome in God's kingdom (Is 56:1, 6-7). St. Paul echoes this by emphasizing the inclusion of the Gentiles in God's plan (Rom 11:13-15, 29-32). In the Gospel, the unwavering faith of the Canaanite woman becomes a beacon, illustrating that God's love and mercy know no bounds (Mt 15:21-28).

Pope Francis, with his visionary leadership, often calls us to break the barriers that segregate us, to recognize the face of God in every individual. As he often says, "God's love is unbounded: it has no limits!" In a globalized world that draws humanity ever closer together, this is a call to action for us as Christians, imploring us to show God's love universally, regardless of worldly divisions.

In recent months, our nation bore witness to the heartrending journeys of countless migrants, seeking hope and shelter upon our shores. Among them were young and old, individuals and families, hailing from various nations, and some even sought refuge within our very parish. Their stories of desperation and hope deeply moved us, echoing the universality of human struggle and resilience.

Yet, just as we begin to grasp the gravity of the migrants' sufferings, sad news from Maui reaches us. Our hearts weigh heavy with the tragic wildfire there that has led to immense loss and destruction, reminding us of life's fragility and the interconnectedness of our global family. During such times, the Gospel message of charity and solidarity shines ever more brightly. As the Church prepares to offer aid, let us be at the forefront, extending our hands and hearts in prayerful support to our brothers and sisters in Hawaii. I will keep you informed about how we can help.

Life presents manifold challenges, yet the unwavering faith of individuals like the Canaanite woman in the Gospel story this Sunday inspires resilience and hope. Though she faced obstacles, her trust in the Lord remained steadfast. As we confront the challenges of our time, may we too harness such unwavering faith, knowing that God's love and power will bring restoration and hope, and that persistent prayer will result in miracles beyond our imagination.

On a personal note, I was recently blessed to address a National Convocation of Permanent Deacons and their wives in Jacksonville, Florida. Their stories unveiled the tangible challenges of suffering, both material and spiritual, faced by many. Yet, it was evident how God's grace works miracles through such dedicated individuals. Their commitment, even in adversity, reinforced the universality of our mission and the power of perseverance and faith. Their tales of service rekindled my own passion to serve you better and deepened my understanding of the struggles that many in our parish community face daily.

As we reflect on the universality and boundless nature of God's love, let us embody this love, whether by being more accepting, by lending a helping hand, or by just keeping someone in our prayers. Let us seek the intercession of Mary, our Blessed Mother, to guide and sustain our hearts.

With my personal blessing and prayers,

***Msgr. Cuong M. Pham***



Queridos hermanos y hermanas en Cristo,

Cálidos saludos a todos ustedes durante estos abrasadores días de verano. Confío en que cada uno de ustedes se encuentre bien y encuentre consuelo en la cercana amistad con el Señor.

En este XX Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario, nuestras lecturas bíblicas resuenan con temas de universalidad y del amor sin límites de Dios. El profeta Isaías proclama un mensaje de inclusividad, sugiriendo que todos, incluso los extranjeros, son bienvenidos en el reino de Dios (Is 56:1, 6-7). San Pablo refuerza esto al enfatizar la inclusión de los gentiles en el plan de Dios (Rom 11:13-15, 29-32). En el Evangelio, la fe inquebrantable de la mujer cananea se convierte en un faro, demostrando que el amor y la misericordia de Dios no conocen límites (Mt 15:21-28).

El Papa Francisco, con su liderazgo visionario, nos llama con frecuencia a romper las barreras que nos segregan, a reconocer el rostro de Dios en cada individuo. Como él suele decir: “¡El amor de Dios no tiene fronteras: no tiene límites!” En un mundo globalizado que acerca cada vez más a la humanidad, este es un llamado a la acción para nosotros como cristianos. Nos insta a manifestar el amor de Dios de forma universal, independientemente de las divisiones mundanas.

En meses recientes, nuestra comunidad fue testigo de los desgarradores viajes de innumerables migrantes, buscando esperanza y refugio en nuestras costas; algunos incluso buscaron refugio dentro de nuestra misma parroquia. Sus historias de desesperación y esperanza nos conmovieron profundamente, haciendo eco de la universalidad de la lucha y resiliencia humanas.

Sin embargo, justo cuando comenzamos a comprender la gravedad del sufrimiento de los migrantes, nos llegan noticias desde Maui. Nuestros corazones se sienten afligidos por el trágico incendio forestal que ha causado una inmensa pérdida y destrucción, recordándonos la fragilidad de la vida y la interconexión de nuestra familia global. Durante estos momentos, el mensaje evangélico de caridad y solidaridad brilla con mayor intensidad. Les mantendré informados sobre cómo podemos unir esfuerzos con otras parroquias en la Diócesis.

La vida presenta desafíos innumerables, pero la fe inquebrantable de individuos como la mujer cananea en la historia del Evangelio de este domingo inspira resiliencia y esperanza. Aunque enfrentó obstáculos, su confianza en el Señor permaneció firme. Al enfrentar los desafíos de nuestra época, que también podamos abrazar tal fe inquebrantable, sabiendo que el amor y el poder de Dios traerán restauración y esperanza, y que la oración persistente resultará en milagros más allá de nuestra imaginación.

En una nota personal, recientemente tuve la bendición de dirigirme a una Convocación Nacional de Diáconos Permanentes y sus esposas en Jacksonville, Florida. Sus historias revelaron los desafíos tangibles del sufrimiento, tanto material como espiritual, que muchos enfrentan. Sin embargo, era evidente cómo la gracia de Dios obra milagros a través de personas tan dedicadas. Su compromiso, incluso en la adversidad, reforzó la universalidad de nuestra misión y el poder de la perseverancia y la fe.

Al reflexionar sobre la universalidad y la naturaleza sin límites del amor de Dios, encarnemos este amor, ya sea siendo más aceptantes, extendiendo una mano amiga o simplemente manteniendo a alguien en nuestras oraciones. Busquemos la intercesión de María, nuestra Madre Bendita, para guiar y sostener nuestros corazones.

Con mi bendición y oraciones personales,

**Mons. Cuong M. Pham**

# THIS WEEK AT OUR PARISH

## Sunday, August 20

10:00am—1:00pm Czech Community *Lourdes A/B*  
 10:30am—12:15pm Cursillo *Guadalupe A/B*  
 1:30pm—3:00pm Practica Coro *Guadalupe A/B*  
 6:00pm—8:00pm Sagrado Corazon de Jesus *Lourdes A/B*

## Tuesday, August 22

3:30pm—6:00pm Porque Ser Catolico? *Fatima*  
 5:30pm—7:00pm Mariachi School *Balcony*  
 6:00pm—7:00pm Baptism Prep *Lourdes A/B*  
 6:00pm—9:00pm Marriage Encounter *Guadalupe+ Fatima*  
 7:00pm—9:00pm Coro #1 *Nazareth*

## Thursday, August 24

10:00am—11:30am Legion of Mary *Guadalupe A/B*  
 7:30pm—8:30pm Grupo de Amistad *Lourdes A/B*

## Friday, August 25

5:00pm—7:00pm Bilingual Choir *Nazareth*  
 7:00pm—9:00pm Youth Night *Guadalupe A/B*

## Saturday, August 26

9:00am—1:00pm AA Meeting *Guadalupe A/B*  
 10:00am—12:00pm Spanish Children's Choir *Fatima*

## PARISH SUPPORT THROUGH E-GIVING

Our parish ministries depend on the steady, consistent support provided by monthly givers. It is a lifeline that sustains us year-round when summer vacations, holiday travels, inclement weather, and other forces keep people away from services. Plus it eases the workload on our hardworking staff (who also want to take vacations!), since they have fewer cash and check donations to process. Getting started with eGiving is easy. Here are the ways to sign up:

- Visit [faith.direct/NY370](http://faith.direct/NY370)
- Call Faith Direct Customer Service at 866-507-8757
- Text "Enroll" to 929-254-3850



## DONACIONES ELECTRONICAS

Nuestros ministerios parroquiales dependen del apoyo constante y constante proporcionado por los donantes mensuales. Es un salvavidas que nos sostiene durante todo el año cuando las vacaciones de verano, los viajes de vacaciones, las inclemencias del tiempo y otras fuerzas mantienen a las personas alejadas de los servicios. Además, alivia la carga de trabajo de nuestro personal trabajador (¡que también quiere tomarse vacaciones!), ya que tienen menos donaciones en efectivo y cheques para procesar. Comenzar con eGiving es fácil. Estas son las formas para registrarse:

- Visite [faith.direct/NY370](http://faith.direct/NY370)
- Llame al Servicio al Cliente de Faith Direct al 866-507-8757
- Envíe un mensaje de texto con la palabra "Enroll" a 929-254-3850

## CONFRATERNITY OF OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL

All members meet every fourth Sunday of the month for the recitation of the Rosary before by the 9:00am Italian Mass. If you are interested in becoming a member please call the parish office and leave your name and number.



## DIGGING DEEPER INTO SUNDAY'S READINGS

### First Reading

The Lord instructed the prophet Isaiah to be open to "foreigners" (nations other than Israel) for God's covenant with Israel is intended for all people. How welcoming are you to outsiders in your life?

### Second Reading

Paul believed that Israel's rejection of Jesus became a vehicle for God to reveal his mercy to all people, Jew and Gentile alike. Is there someone in your life who needs your mercy and forgiveness?

### Gospel Reading

Jesus rewards the Canaanite woman for her great faith by granting the woman's request to heal her daughter. Who would you say has helped you grow in your faith?

## INFANT BAPTISM/ BAUTISMOS

| Preparation Meeting             | Baptism Ceremony             |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------|
| <b>Tuesday—6:00pm—Institute</b> | <b>12:00pm— Upper Church</b> |
| 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            |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>Martes—6:00pm—Instituto</b> | <b>12:00pm—Iglesia de Arriba</b> |
| 5 de Septiembre, 2023          | 9 de Septiembre, 2023            |
| 10 de Octubre, 2023            | 14 de Octubre, 2023              |

**NO HABRA BAUTISMOS EN NOVIEMBRE**  
 5 de Diciembre, 2023      9 de Diciembre, 2023

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION REGISTRATIONS



Registrations for our Religious Education Program will be open during the month of **August ONLY**.

For new registrations, please pick up an application at the parish office, fill it out with clear letters, & please provide the certificates of all the sacraments your child has already made along with the birth certificate and pay the required fee.

If your child was in our religious education program this year, please ask for the re-registration form, update the form as needed and pay the required fee.

Registration Fee for **August: 1 Child \$75.00,**  
**2 Children \$120.00,**  
**3 or more \$160.00**

## 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 participation will strengthen your faith and your sense of belonging in God's family.

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Apt \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

### PLEASE CHECK:

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

## REGISTRACION PARROQUIAL

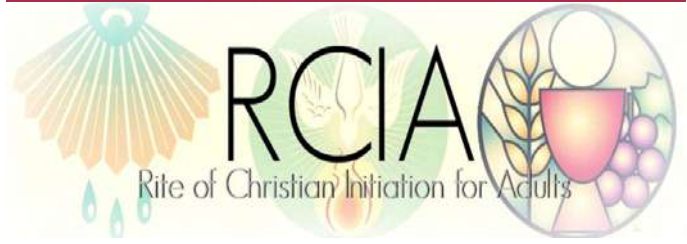
*Registrarse permite que nuestra parroquia les pueda servir sus necesidades espirituales. Por favor devuelva este formulario en la colecta o déjelo en la oficina parroquial. Su participación fortalecerá su fe y su sentido de pertenencia en la familia de Dios.*

Nombre(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
Dirección: \_\_\_\_\_ Apt \_\_\_\_\_  
Ciudad \_\_\_\_\_ Estado \_\_\_\_\_ C. Postal \_\_\_\_\_  
Teléfono: \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

### POR FAVOR MARCAR:

Nueva Registración  Cambio de dirección  
 Prefiero Sobres  Donaciones en línea

## RITE OF INITIATION FOR ADULTS



If you are an adult, 18 years or older, who has not received the Sacraments of Baptism, Communion and/or Confirmation, we invite you to consider preparing yourself to receive these very important spiritual gifts. Please call the parish office and leave a message with your contact information to learn how you can participate in this program.

*Si usted es un adulto, mayo de 18 años, quien no ha recibido los sacramentos de Bautismo, Comunión y/o la Confirmación, se le invita a considerar prepararse para recibir estos regalos espirituales muy importantes. Por favor llame a la oficina parroquial y deje su información de contacto para aprender como puede participar en este programa.*

## ROSARY SOCIETY

The Rosary Society will resume their monthly meetings starting September 3, 2023 after the 9:30am Mass. Refreshments will be served. All ladies over age 15 are invited to join. Bring a friend.



## 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, September 1, 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.



## RETIRO CARISMATICO

GRAN RETIRO ESPIRITUAL  
SEP. 9/2023 EN N.SRA DE MONTE CARMELO  
23-25 NEWTON AVE ASTORIA, NY 11102  
9:00 AM 5:00PM

GPO.DE ORACION  
MANANTIALES DE GRACIA  
INVITA

# SANACION Y LIBERACION INTERIOR DESDE EL VIENTRE MATERNO

**PREDICA**  
DIACONO ELKIN TAMAYO  
OSVALDO FERNANDEZ  
MARIA ACEVES  
ANA GUZMAN

EXPOSICION DE  
**JESUS**  
SACRAMENTADO AL FINAL



## VENTA DE COMIDA

EL COMITE GUADALUPANO LES DA LAS GRACIAS POR SU APOYO!

### COMIDAS

TACOS DE BISTEC  
FRUTA

TLACOYO DE FLIJOL Y QUESO  
QUESADILLAS DE PAPA Y QUESO  
POZOLE  
TOSTADAS DE TINGA DE POLLO  
TACOS DORADOS DE QUESO  
PASTEL

### BEBIDAS

AGUA Y SODA

**27 DE AGOSTO**  
**EN SALON GUADALUPE**  
DESPUES DE LA MISA DE 12:30PM

## REGISTRACIONES PARA CATECISMO

Las inscripciones para el programa de catecismo están abiertas desde ahora hasta fin de **Agosto SOLAMENTE**.

Para una nueva registración, por favor recoja una aplicación en la oficina parroquial, llene el cuestionario con letra clara y debe de traer los certificados de los sacramentos ya recibidos y haga el pago requerido.

Si su niño/a ya estuvo en nuestro programa este año, por favor vaya a la oficina y pida el formulario de re-inscripción y haga el pago requerido.

Cuota de Inscripción:

Por el mes de **Julio y Agosto**

**1 niño (a)** \$75.00

**2 niños (as)** \$120.00

**3 niños (as) o más** \$160.00





# OLMC Youth Group

## 5 REASONS TO JOIN!

- 1 A FAITHFILLED COMMUNITY
- 2 A DEEPER RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD
- 3 LEARN ABOUT YOUR FAITH
- 4 SPORT NIGHTS
- 5 YEARLY RETREATS



MEET WITH US EVERY FRIDAY @ 7PM

OLMC Youth Group



OLMC INSTITUTE  
23-20 NEWTOWN AVE  
ASTORIA, NY 11102  
(718) 278-1834  
[www.mountcarmelastoria.org](http://www.mountcarmelastoria.org)



## **SUMMERTIME PLANNED GIVING SUGGESTIONS**

As you enjoy the summer months and the chance to take some time for yourself, you may want to take some time to check your important financial documents to make sure you and your family are protected. For example, are the beneficiary designations for your pension or retirement accounts up to date? Many people assume their spouse and/or children are the named beneficiaries, but sometimes an accurate beneficiary designation has not been made. Taking the time to check doesn't take long to make sure your intentions are accurately shown.

Another summer checkup is the beneficiary designations on your life insurance policies. Again, over time and through some of life's circumstances, the designations made when you took out the policy may not accurately reflect your intentions today. It only takes a short time to do the review to make sure your family is protected. A little summertime review provides additional peace of mind for an enjoyable summer season.

If you would like to learn more about naming our parish as a beneficiary or other estate planning information, please call Catholic Foundation at 718-965-7375.

## **SUGERENCIAS DE DONACIONES PLANIFICADAS PARA EL VERANO**

Mientras disfrutas de los meses de verano y de la oportunidad de tomarte un tiempo para ti, es posible que desees dedicar un momento para revisar tus documentos financieros importantes y asegurarte de que tú y tu familia estén protegidos. Por ejemplo, ¿están actualizadas las designaciones de beneficiarios para tu pensión o cuentas de jubilación? Muchas personas asumen que su cónyuge y/o hijos son los beneficiarios designados, pero a veces no se ha realizado una designación de beneficiario correcta. Dedicar un momento para verificar no toma mucho tiempo y es importante para asegurarte de que tus intenciones se reflejen correctamente.

Otra revisión de verano son las designaciones de beneficiarios en tus pólizas de seguro de vida. Nuevamente, con el tiempo y debido a ciertas circunstancias de la vida, las designaciones hechas cuando adquiriste la póliza pueden no reflejar con precisión tus intenciones actuales. Solo toma un breve momento hacer la revisión para asegurarte de que tu familia esté protegida. Una pequeña revisión veraniega ofrece una tranquilidad adicional para una temporada de verano agradable.

Si deseas saber cómo nombrar a nuestra parroquia como beneficiaria u otra información sobre planificación patrimonial, por favor llama a la Fundación Católica al 718-965-7375.

## **GOSPEL MEDITATION**

### *ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE*

The suffering of a child symbolizes uniquely terrible evil as well as despair about the future. This week's Gospel gives a "limit" case in which Jesus encounters this evil in the form of a mother with a suffering daughter. What he does is stunning and massively helpful for us if we bravely ponder the details.

The Canaanite woman comes to Jesus and begs his mercy. "My daughter is tormented by a demon," she declares to him. Shockingly, he responds first with silence, then with a dismissive comment, and only then finally accedes to her third request. Is this simply a lesson in perseverance in our petitions to God, who is like a genie in a bottle? Does that justify the humiliation and pain this woman suffers? Is the Lord cruel?

I don't think so. Notice how the encounter ends. She compares herself to a dog at the table of a master. Jesus responds by praising her great faith and fulfills her deep desire. Somehow this non-Israelite woman intuits that this harrowing situation is not dumb suffering. She senses that the door of God's family is, in Jesus, being opened to her and her loved ones. She trusts she is at the Lord's table, and her desires will be fulfilled and that all her sufferings and her daughter's, too will lead a great banquet. In our sufferings this week, the Lord wants us to treat him less like a genie in a bottle and more like the Master who has taken us - lost little dogs that we are into his home forever. Trust that and keep praying in the face of evil.

*- Father John Muir*

## WHAT IS THE MEANING OF THE LETTERS THAT PROFESSED RELIGIOUS HAVE AFTER THEIR NAMES?

The Catholic Church includes hundreds of religious communities. The priests, religious brothers, religious sisters, and nuns of these communities (which are often referred to as "religious orders") are committed to particular spiritual traditions and often to a particular charism (such as teaching, healthcare, social work, or pastoral care).

To help identify a person as a member of a particular religious community, the custom developed of including post-nominal letters that provide a sort of shorthand for the name of the community that the priest, brother, sister or nun is part of. So, for example OSB after a person's name would indicate that they are a member of the Order of St. Benedict (the Benedictines), just as SJ would indicate that a priest or brother is a member of the Society of Jesus (the Jesuits) or RSM would show that a woman is a Sister of Mercy.

Other common examples include:

DC= Daughters of Charity

FSC The Brothers of the Christian Schools/Christian Brothers OCist The Order of Cistercians

OCD Order of Discalced Carmelites OFM The Order of Friars Minor (the Franciscans)

OFM Cap The Capuchin Franciscans OP The Order of Preachers (Dominicans) OSF Franciscan Sisters

SC Sisters of Charity SDS Society of the Divine Savior (Salvatorian Priests and Brothers and Salvatorian Sisters)

SSND School Sisters of Notre Dame

SVD = Society of the Divine Word (Divine Word Missionaries)

## SAINT OF THE WEEK

Venerable Mother Celestina Bottego was born in Ohio. She went on to be the foundress of the Xavier Missionaries Sisters of Mary in Italy. The Sisters rejected the traditional habit commonly worn by religious women in favor of wearing the same clothing styles as those they served.

### Prayer

Almighty and merciful Father, You placed in the heart of Mother Celestina Bottego the ardent desire that Your Kingdom spread throughout the world and made her capable of giving all of herself for the creation of a missionary Family. We humbly ask You to allow us to imitate her holiness of life and, through her intercession, to grant us the grace that we confidently ask of You.

## THE PRAYERS GOD ALWAYS ANSWERS

When I was a child, my mother bought a book called "The Prayers God Will Always Answer." I remember my anticipation as I cracked the spine and turned to the first page.

I had been spending a lot of time asking God - begging God, actually - over and over again for some specific things that were not materializing. Frankly, it was beginning to feel a lot like that time I asked Santa Claus for a new house, only to wake up on Christmas morning to find ordinary, non-house-shaped presents under the tree - and a growing sense of suspicion that my faith had been ill-placed.

To the great disappointment of my pre-teen heart, my mother's book was not a directory of magical phrases God is compelled to obey. It was a list that included things like "Forgive me" and "Help me." I tossed it aside, disappointed.

I marvel at the wisdom and the confidence of the

Canaanite woman who persists in begging Jesus to heal her daughter. She is ignored, and still she will not be deterred. The disciples try to dismiss her - still, she presses on. Christ himself challenges her, and her faith makes her ready with a reply.

Somehow, I am sure that even if Christ had said, "No, it cannot be done for you as you wish," she would have still dropped to her knees and worshiped him, because she knew what I did not: God is not a vending machine, and he's not the genie from "Aladdin." Prayer is not a negotiation, but a relationship.

The story of the Canaanite woman is not a story about how to get God to give you what you want. It is a story about the prayers God always answers.

"Then Jesus said to her in reply, 'O woman, great is your faith!'" - Matthew 15:28

*Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman*