

## OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL

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

**SUNDAY, JUNE 16, 2024**

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



"To what shall we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable can we use for it? It is like a mustard seed that, when it is sown in the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on the earth. But once it is sown, it springs up and becomes the largest of plants." - Mk 4:30-32b

# 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  
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## OFFICE RECEPTIONIST

Luis Sanchez Ext. 110  
Lsanchez@diobrook.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

## Youth Minister

Dayonel Mejia  
YouthMinister@mountcarmelastoria.org

## MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

### SATURDAY, JUNE 15

5:00pm Franko Brajkovic, Gerlando Graci,  
Mildred Frangelo, Mercedes Beck,  
Robert Russo, Jr., Ernesto P. De Guzman,  
Oscar Perez, Angelo LoRusso (1 Month Anniversary)  
Special Intention

### SUNDAY, JUNE 16 (Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time)



8:00am 9:00am (Italian), 9:30am (Bilingual),  
11:00am, 3:00pm (Vietnamese)  
12:30pm Todos los Padres en nuestra Familia Parroquial

### MONDAY, JUNE 17

8:00am Grescila D. Castroverde  
12:00pm Ida Albanese

### TUESDAY, JUNE 18

8:00am Alfred Magistrado Sr.  
12:00pm Leonard Burton

### WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19 (Juneteenth)

9:00am Carlos Alberto Alvarado  
(2nd Death Anniversary)

### THURSDAY, JUNE 20

8:00am Luigi & Calogera Carlino  
12:00pm Romana B. Guevara

### FRIDAY, JUNE 21 (Saint Aloysius Gonzaga)

8:00am Domenica Montali & Robert Russo Jr.  
12:00pm Louis Ricci

### SATURDAY, JUNE 22

8:00am Sabbia & Raffaele Carullo and Family  
5:00pm Mario & Nicolo and Nicolino Del Greco,  
Rocco & Filippo DiRico and Antonio Ciancio,  
Andrew J. Caliendo, Joseph Spina,  
Cristina T. Dy, Krystina Syper

### SUNDAY, JUNE 23 (Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time)

8:00am Stessie Chounoune (In Thanksgiving)  
9:00am Margherita Petruso  
9:30am Zoraida de la Puente Viuda de Camacho  
11:00am Vito Todisco & Allen Lanner  
12:30pm Victor Leonides Aguilar Zacatenco,  
Christopher Garcia Gonzalez,  
Graciela Gloria Quinto Tapia,  
Narciso de Jesus Marquez  
3:00pm For the People of the Parish

## WEEKLY OFFERINGS



The Altar Flowers & Bread and Wine  
are being offered for  
**Grescila Castroverde & Romana Guevara,**  
by Mary Grace Castroverde.



The Sanctuary Lamp is being offered for  
**Vincenzo Barretta & Raffaele Carullo,**  
by Ida Barretta  
The Altar Candles are being offered for  
**Bernardino Petruso & Raffaele Carullo,** by  
Anthony, Rosalia, Margherita,  
Charlie & Kids



## MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday	5:00 PM (Vigil Mass)
Sunday	<b>Main Church:</b> 8:00 AM (English) 9:30 AM (Bilingual) 11:00 AM (English) 12:30 PM (Spanish) 3:00 PM (Vietnamese) <b>Chapel:</b> 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 (Bilingual)
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—8:00pm

## PARISH REGISTRATION

We encourage all who worship with us to consider registering to our parish. This will enable our parish to serve your needs better. Please return this form in the collection or drop it off at the parish office. Your participation will strengthen 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

## 2024 ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL

As of June 10, 2024, we have 115 donors who have pledged \$48,804 towards our parish goal of \$67,815. We have so far collected \$38,107. Your contributions to the Annual Catholic Appeal make a significant impact, aiding individuals in Brooklyn & Queens in ways beyond the capacity of any single parish. Please remember to use our parish **code #4167** in support of the 2024 ACA. To donate, visit **www.AnnualCatholicAppeal.org** or text **DONATE** to **917.336.1255**.

*If you have not received your donation card or have had a difficult time contacting the Annual Catholic Appeal website or office, please call the parish office and we will assist you with any issues you have.*



Follow us on Social Media:  
**@OLMCAstoria**



## MASS ATTENDANCE RECORD

Weekend of June 8/9	Number of Attendees
Saturday English Vigil 5:00pm	89
Sunday English 8:00am	122
9:00am Italian	23
9:30am Bilingual	118
10:00am Czech	16
English 11:00am	261
12:30pm Spanish	327
3:00pm Vietnamese	68

## WEEKLY MASS OFFERINGS

### REGULAR CONTRIBUTIONS

Last Sunday: \$4,339      Same Week Last Year: \$5,171

### FAITH DIRECT CONTRIBUTIONS

May 2024: \$5,883      May 2023: \$5,535

## SMART WAYS TO SUPPORT OUR PARISH

Did you know that there are ways to support our beloved parish and the mission of the Church that can also provide you with tax benefits...and potentially even a source of income? If you have an asset such as appreciated stocks, a retirement plan, art, real estate or other assets, a planned gift could be a smarter way to give than cash alone. With a planned gift, like those mentioned above, you can sustain our beloved parish while also making smart financial decisions to benefit your family. To learn more please contact Neida Martinez at our parish office 718-278-1834 or call the Catholic Foundation at 718-965-7375.



Dear parishioners,

Greetings and peace to you from Vietnam, my homeland!

As we celebrate Father's Day this weekend, I wish to reflect on the beauty of fatherhood. A young boy once said, "It's just like Mother's Day, except you don't spend as much on the present." While Father's Day may not evoke the same sentimentality, its significance is profound.

Father's Day is an opportunity to honor not just our biological fathers but all those who have embraced the role of fatherhood through personal affiliation. These include stepfathers, foster fathers, godfathers, spiritual fathers, grandfathers, uncles, and other father figures who nurture and guide us. Each of them mirrors God's love and care for us uniquely.

For the past three years since my dad's passing, Father's Day has been challenging. Though he is physically absent, his influence remains strong. His words, faith, and way of life continue to guide me, showing that a father's love extends beyond physical presence, leaving an indelible mark on his children.

Beyond my dad, many men have been like fathers to me, including priests who have cared for me spiritually throughout my life. These remarkable individuals have imparted lessons and inspirations that continue to shape who I am.

I acknowledge that not everyone has experienced a father figure. Some may have missed out on a father's presence altogether. However, this does not diminish the profound essence of fatherhood, as intended by God. In a world experiencing a crisis of fatherhood, we need fathers to embrace this calling.

As a priest, I may not have biological children, but I have numerous spiritual children who call me "Father." Among them are young priests and seminarians I have adopted as my "spiritual sons" over the years. I feel a particular responsibility to support and inspire them in their vocations. Caring for their well-being brings me immense joy, similar to a father's experience with his own children. Though my spiritual sons are now spread across different states and continents, our relationship demonstrates that fatherhood can extend to the spiritual realm, where one generates and regenerates life in a special way.

On this Father's Day, let us express our gratitude for the fathers in our lives. Let us honor them for their love, sacrifice, and unwavering presence. For those who have lost fathers or faced difficult relationships, find solace in knowing our heavenly Father, the epitome of fatherhood, is always there for us. His love knows no bounds, His care is unwavering, and His presence is everlasting.

From our earthly fathers to our spiritual Father, let us draw strength and inspiration as we strive to embody the beauty of fatherhood in our own lives.

Wishing you all a joyous Father's Day!

**Msgr. Cuong M. Pham**



Estimados feligreses,

¡Saludos y paz desde Vietnam, mi tierra natal!

Al celebrar el Día del Padre este fin de semana, quiero reflexionar sobre la belleza de la paternidad. Un joven dijo una vez: "Es como el Día de la Madre, excepto que no gastas tanto en el regalo". Aunque el Día del Padre no evoca la misma sentimentalidad, su significado es profundo.

El Día del Padre es una oportunidad para honrar no solo a nuestros padres biológicos, sino también a todos aquellos que han asumido el papel de la paternidad a través de la afiliación personal. Esto incluye a padrastros, padres adoptivos, padrinos, padres espirituales, abuelos, tíos y otras figuras paternas que nos nutren y guían. Cada uno de ellos refleja el amor y el cuidado de Dios de una manera única.

Durante los últimos tres años desde el fallecimiento de mi papá, el Día del Padre ha sido desafiante. Aunque físicamente ausente, su influencia sigue siendo fuerte. Sus palabras, fe y forma de vida continúan guiándome, mostrando que el amor de un padre se extiende más allá de la presencia física, dejando una huella indeleble en la vida de sus hijos.

Más allá de mi papá, muchos hombres han sido como padres para mí, incluidos los sacerdotes que me han cuidado espiritualmente a lo largo de mi vida. Estos individuos notables han impartido lecciones e inspiraciones que continúan formando quién soy.

Reconozco que no todos han tenido una figura paterna. Algunos pueden haber carecido de la presencia de un padre por completo. Sin embargo, esto no disminuye la esencia profunda de la paternidad, tal como Dios la ha concebido. En un mundo que atraviesa una crisis de paternidad, necesitamos que los padres abracen este llamado.

Como sacerdote, puede que no tenga hijos biológicos, pero tengo numerosos hijos espirituales que me llaman "Padre." Entre ellos hay jóvenes sacerdotes y seminaristas a quienes he adoptado como mis "hijos espirituales" a lo largo de los años. Siento una responsabilidad especial de apoyarlos e inspirarlos en sus vocaciones. Cuidar de su bienestar me brinda una inmensa alegría, similar a la experiencia de un padre con sus propios hijos. Aunque mis hijos espirituales ahora están repartidos en diferentes estados y continentes, nuestra relación demuestra que la paternidad puede extenderse al ámbito espiritual, donde uno está llamado a generar y regenerar vida de una manera especial.

En este Día del Padre, expresemos nuestra gratitud por los padres en nuestras vidas. Honrémoslos por su amor, sacrificio y presencia inquebrantable. Para aquellos que han perdido a sus padres o enfrentado relaciones difíciles, encuentren consuelo al saber que nuestro Padre celestial, el epítome de la paternidad, siempre está allí para nosotros. Su amor no conoce límites, su cuidado es inquebrantable y su presencia es eterna.

Desde nuestros padres terrenales hasta nuestro Padre espiritual, saquemos fuerza e inspiración mientras nos esforzamos por encarnar la belleza de la paternidad en nuestras propias vidas.

¡Les deseo a todos un feliz Día del Padre!

**Monseñor Cuong M. Pham**



# THIS WEEK AT OUR PARISH

## Sunday, June 16

10:00am—1:00pm	Czech Community	Lourdes A/B
10:00am—11:00am	Grupo de Amistad	Fatima
10:30am—12:30pm	Cursillo	Guadalupe A/B
12:30pm—3:30pm	San Diego Food Sale	Guadalupe A/B
6:00pm—8:00pm	Sagrado Corazon	Guadalupe A/B

## Tuesday, June 18

7:00am—4:00pm	TYWLS	Gym
3:30pm—6:00pm	Porque Ser Catolico?	Fatima
5:30pm—7:00pm	Mariachi School	Balcony
6:00pm—9:00pm	Marriage Encounter	Guadalupe+ Fatima
6:30pm—9:00pm	Deacons Meeting	Rectory Offices
7:00pm—9:00pm	Coro #1	Nazareth

## Thursday, June 20

7:00am—5:00pm	TYWLS	Gym
10:00am—11:30am	Legion of Mary	Guadalupe A/B
5:00pm—9:00pm	CYO	Gym
6:00pm—9:00pm	Consagracion V. del Carmen	Lourdes A/B
7:30pm—8:30pm	Grupo de Amistad	Fatima

## Friday, June 21

7:00pm—6:00pm	TYWLS	Gym
6:30pm—9:00pm	Practica de Instrumentos	Fatima
6:30pm—9:00pm	Youth Group	Gym

## Saturday, June 22

9:00am—4:00pm	Retiro Carismatico	Gym
9:00am—12:30pm	AA Meeting	Lourdes A/B
10:00am—4:00pm	Rosary Society Lunch	Guadalupe A/B
10:00am—12:00pm	Spanish Children's Choir	Fatima
4:30pm—12:00am	Dia De Los Padres	Guadalupe A/B
5:00pm—7:00pm	Bilingual Choir Practice	Nazareth
5:00pm—7:00pm	Ministerio de Consolacion	Lourdes A/B
6:00pm—7:30pm	Porque Ser Catolico?	Fatima

## Sunday, June 23

10:00am—1:00pm	Czech Community	Lourdes A/B
10:00am—11:00am	Grupo de Amistad	Fatima
10:30am—12:30pm	Cursillo	Guadalupe A/B
2:00pm—7:00pm	Convivio Cursillo #722	Gym



## OFFICE CLOSING & MASS SCHEDULE

The office will be closed on Wednesday, June 19, 2024 in observance of Juneteenth. There will be only one Mass celebrated in English in the Main Church at 9:00am. The office will reopen on Thursday, June 20, 2024 and will resume regular office and Mass schedules.

## JORNADA NEWS

**JUNE 29, 2024**

**TRIP TO MARIAN SHRINE HAVERSTRAW**

**YOUTH & FAMILY PICNIC**

**\$45 To Cover Transportation, Driver's Tip & Park Donation**  
 Bus Leaves OLMC at 7:30am (Please arrive 7:15am)  
 Outdoor Mass begins at 10:00am  
 Bus Leaves the Park at 4:30pm

Unaccompanied minors must present a permission form along with payment at the parish office by Wednesday, June 19, 2024. Trip sponsored by the Jornada Movement of the Diocese of Brooklyn.  
[www.jornadista.com](http://www.jornadista.com) Contact: Luis Sanchez 718.278.1834

The Jornadistas of Our Lady of Mount Carmel invite all to our annual Haverstraw trip, visiting the religious grounds of Marian Shrine in Stony Point, NY. Please reserve your bus seats at the parish office.

There will be a special raffle the day of the trip to raise funds for the Jornada movement, to help continue it's mission of "Youth Evangelizing Youth" in the Diocese of Brooklyn & Queens. Winner need not be present. Tickets are still being sold at the parish office.

## JORNADA YOUTH RAFFLE

\$10 EACH TICKET  
OR  
\$20 FOR 3 TICKETS

1ST



## ROSARY SOCIETY NEWS

### ROSARY SOCIETY SUMMER FUNDRAISER LUNCHEON

Saturday, June 22, 2024  
12:00PM-3:00PM in the Institute  
Hot Buffet Lunch\* including wine and soda will be served  
50/50 Raffle

Reserve your seat along with your payment of \$50 in either cash or check made out to Our Lady of Mount Carmel at the parish office. For more information, call the parish office or email Neida Martinez at [media@mountcarmelastoria.org](mailto:media@mountcarmelastoria.org).

\*Food will be catered by Cronin & Phelan.

### DIGGING DEEPER INTO SUNDAY'S READINGS

**First Reading:** During their captivity and exile in Babylon, God assured the Israelites He would restore them into a mighty majestic cedar tree. How do you find comfort in times of despair?

**Second Reading:** Paul teaches the Corinthians to aspire to please the Lord, no matter your present circumstances. What could you do this week at home or at work to please the Lord?

**Gospel:** We hear how Jesus often spoke in parables about the kingdom of God, stretching people's thinking and imaginations. Where do you see the kingdom of God at work?

### INFANT BAPTISM/ BAUTISMOS

Preparation Meeting	Baptism Ceremony
<b>Tuesday—6:00pm—Institute</b>	<b>12:00pm— Upper Church</b>
July 23, 2024	July 27, 2024
August 20, 2024	August 24, 2024
September 24, 2024	September 28, 2024
October 22, 2024	October 26, 2024
November 19, 2024	November 23, 2024
December 17, 2024	December 21, 2024
<b>Reunión de Preparación</b>	<b>Ceremonia de Bautismo</b>
<b>Martes—6:00pm—Instituto</b>	<b>12:00pm—Iglesia de Arriba</b>
9 de Julio	13 de Julio
6 de Agosto	10 de Agosto
10 de Septiembre	14 de Septiembre
8 de Octubre	12 de Octubre
5 de Noviembre	9 de Noviembre
10 de Diciembre	14 de Diciembre

### SAINT OF THE WEEK

St. Thérèse of Lisieux (1873- 1897) was a French Carmelite sister whose autobiography has inspired Catholics across the world to deepen their relationship with God. She died at 24 from tuberculosis and is currently the youngest person to be named a Doctor of the Church.



#### Prayer for God's Increase

Dear God, Work here! Bring growth and increase to the work we are doing in Your name. Bless us as we follow where You invite, and work where You direct. Amen.

### SUMMERTIME CONVENIENT GIVING

Making plans for the summer? Make sure to plan for your offertory as well! When your summer travels take you away from Sunday services, eGiving lets you continue to support our church and the ministries you cherish. Recurring gifts sustain our parish through the busy summer months. You'll provide us with consistent support, even if you're away on a Sunday, so the programs, services, and ministries that mean so much to our community will never miss a beat. You can sign up online at [faith.direct/NY370](http://faith.direct/NY370) or call Faith Direct customer service at 866-507-8757. Thank you for your continued support of our parish family.



# REGISTER FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

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Registrations for our Religious Education Program is opened from May 1st through the end 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.

	May Prices	June, July, August Prices
For 1 Child	\$65.00	\$75.00
For 2 Children	\$100.00	\$120.00
For 3 or more children (Siblings)	\$140.00	\$160.00

# INSCRÍBANSE PARA LA EDUCACIÓN RELIGIOSA

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Las inscripciones para el programa de catecismo esta abierto desde el 1 de **Mayo, Junio, Julio y Agosto SOLAMENTE**. Para una nueva registración, por favor recoja una aplicación en la oficina parroquial y llene el cuestionario con letra clara y además 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. La cuota de inscripción es la siguiente:

	Mayo	Junio, Julio y Agosto
1 niño (a)	\$65.00	\$75.00
2 niños (as)	\$100.00	\$120.00
3 niños(as) o más (hermanos)	\$140.00	\$160.00



## REMEMBERING OUR BELOVED DECEASED IN THE 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. Currently enrolled: **Teresa Valera, Carlos Charini, Maria Severina Moloche, Enrique Zavala, Carlos Oswaldo Zavala Moloche, Susana Charini de Zavala, Nelly Zavala de Obando, Susanita & Luchito Zavala Charini, Julio Obando Alva, Eduardo Toledo Anicama, Teresa Stuard de Zavala, Enrique Araki, Guillermo Ames, Cesar Augusto Rodriguez Valeria, Cristina Zavala Vola de Loayza, Hector Loayza, Esperanza de Zavala, Carlos Enrique, Hernan, Lucho & Jose Zavala, Francisca Gonzalez, Ramon Feliz Nunez, Maxino Vega, Lucha Rodriguez de Vega, Priest Missionaries & Religious, Gillermo Rivarola, Manuel Bazul Torero, Azpauza Family, Miguelina Acevedo, Genara Acevedo, John Bodnar, Anna Danyluk, Margarita Dostall, Blanca Marina Gallego, Christian Alfonso, Augusto "Papa Ogot" Martinez.**

## UPCOMING SECOND COLLECTIONS

Second collections are taken after communion during Mass. We thank you for your continuous support.

- June 23, 2024: Peter's Pence
- July 7, 2024: Our Parish Maintenance
- July 28, 2024: Air Conditioning



## WEEKLY CHURCH REMINDERS

To avoid fire hazards, please keep the aisles free from carriages, strollers and similar items. Our ushers are here to help guide you to designated storage areas for these items during Mass.

We also request that you clearly write the donation amount when using your contribution envelopes. This greatly assists our collection counters.

## 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. This week please pray for **Manuela Mejia & Vanessa Torres**.



## PROXIMAS VENTAS DE COMIDA

FECHA	COMITE	LUGAR
16 de Junio	San Diego Alcalá	Guadalupe A/B
30 de Junio	C. Guadalupano	Guadalupe A/B

Gracias por su apoyo!

## CORONILLA CANTADA— DIVINA MISERICORDIA

Nuestra Señora del Monte Carmelo  
23-25 Newtown Avenue  
Astoria, NY 11102

# CORONILLA CANTADA

6:30pm en la  
Iglesia de Arriba



### Sabados en 2024:

25 de mayo  
29 de junio  
31 de agosto  
28 de september  
26 de octubre  
30 de noviembre

Jesus, en Ti confio!

Comuniquese con la oficina parroquial si necesita alguna informacion adicional.

## 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

## CELEBRATING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF GRANT WILL FRANCIS AND MAX RUIZ



Congratulations to Grant Will Francis and Max Ruiz, proud graduates of the St. Joseph Catholic Academy Class of 2024! We are thrilled to announce that their commencement ceremony will take place on June 14th.

We are incredibly proud that both Grant and Max have received scholarships to high schools. Grant Will Francis, who aspires to a career in medicine, will be attending the prestigious High School for Health Professions & Human Services. Max Ruiz will be furthering his education at the esteemed St. John's Preparatory High School.

If you are interested in providing your children with the exceptional education and community that St. Joseph Catholic Academy offers, please contact the parish office to leave your information. We look forward to welcoming your family to our school community!

## MEDICAL SUPPLIES AVAILABLE

Limited medical supplies are available. They are free to whomever is in need: Large wheelchair, 2 Rollators, Walkers, Raised toilet seats. Adult Pull ups in XL and 2XL sizes, Crutches and a few canes. Please call the parish office, leave your name and phone number & you will be contacted to make pick up arrangements.

Hay suministros médicos limitados disponibles. Estos son gratuitos para quien los necesite: Silla de ruedas de grande, andadores, asientos de inodoro elevados. Pull-Ups para adultos en tallas XL y 2XL, muletas y algunos bastones. Si está interesado, llame a la oficina parroquial, deje su nombre y teléfono y nos comunicaremos con usted para que recoja lo que necesita.

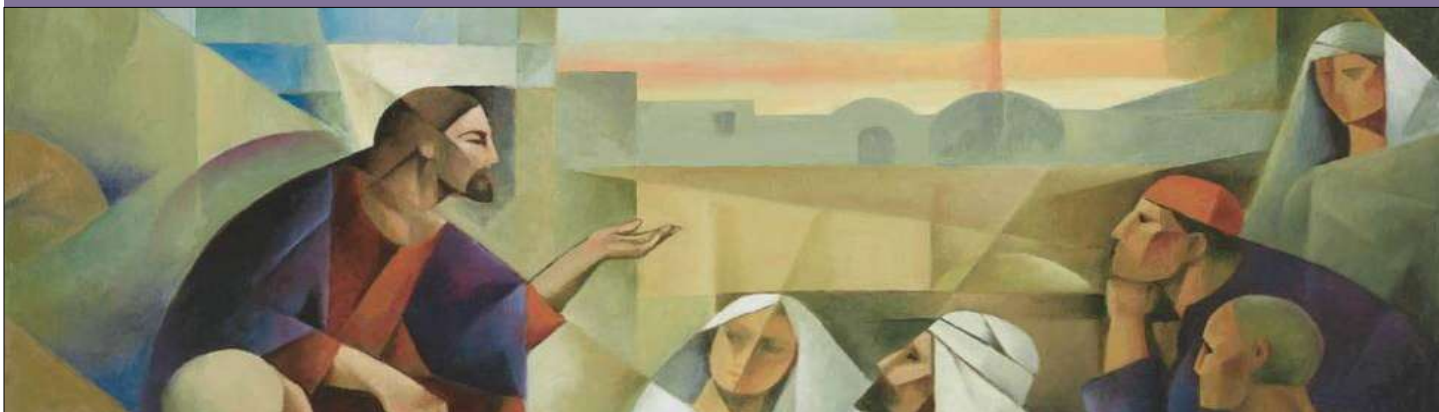
## GOSPEL MEDITATION

My mother and father fell in love with each other rather quickly. It was only a span of two months between their first meeting and quiet betrothal. They waited for a significant period of time before going public with the happy news. It simply wasn't time. Love's strength and speed can sprout scandal in public. Until the big reveal, they gave the outside world only little hints, gestures, and riddles.

Something like this but even more wonderful is at play when Mark says of Jesus, "he did not speak to them without a parable, but to his disciples in private he explained everything." Jesus is the long-awaited messiah-king, but his identity as the Lord and Son of God is so new, surprising, and scandalous to human ears that the big reveal would have to wait. Thus,

his parables are riddles, meant to conceal more than reveal. Even the disciples who hear things explained directly barely grasp what he is up to, It's only at the cross that Jesus' love for Israel and the world is explicitly revealed. Until then, much stays hidden and comes in riddles.

So it goes with us, too. I wonder at times why doesn't the Lord just speak to us directly in prayer about what we should do, or how to fix our problems. Or why doesn't he reveal himself directly to powerful leaders who are slow to act? Why does he allow life so often to be confounding, contradictory, and crazy? Because it simply isn't time yet. One glorious day, it will be. Until then, he teaches us in riddles, and only sometimes explains them.



## THIS IS MY BODY

Whenever someone begins a sentence with, "This parable means..." I roll my eyes. (Sometimes I do this inwardly, to be polite. But I still do it.)

We have a tendency to treat the parables like our mom's favorite casserole recipe. Ah yes, we think as we sit down to dinner, smiling as we inhale the aroma of childhood. *Good ol' mushy-chicken-rice-thing. I recognize you. I know exactly what you are. I don't even have to think about you.*

Parables are often presented as an example of how God stoops to meet the limits of human understanding: truth, but in a cute little story! And while it's certainly true that the parables of Christ each word, each detail, each character are painstakingly crafted to suit the imagination and intelligence of man, we need to be careful how we think about that.

Sometimes we have a tendency to think of parables

as simple and formulaic. We consign them to the genre of bedtime stories, whose point is to soothe, to lull. But these are stories that are meant to keep us awake. They are meant to keep us wondering.

When Christ spoke of the mustard seed, he was speaking the truth in words that his disciples needed to hear two thousand years ago. But he was also speaking to you today. And he was speaking to you tomorrow, and next year, and three years from now, and on your deathbed. If you read this parable on each of those occasions, you will hear something different each time. The parable, you see, is something alive.

It doesn't change, exactly, because the truth never changes. But people change, and what they need to hear changes too. Don't ever make the mistake of thinking you can finish Jesus' sentences.

*"With many such parables he spoke the word to them as they were able to understand it." - Mark 4:33*



# Youth Jubilee in Rome!

HELP SEND OUR YOUTH GROUP TO ROME!



ASISI



ROME



ST PETERS

Our Lady of Mount Carmel will be sending some of our youth leaders to the Youth Jubilee Pilgrimage in Rome in July, 2025!

## But these young people need your support!

Please take part in the upcoming fundraising events to help cover the cost of transportation, food and lodging.

More details to follow in the upcoming bulletins.



MORE INFO TO COME

MOUNTCARMELASTORIA.ORG

OLMC YOUTH GROUP'S

# CAR WASH

July 20, 2024 at 10 AM  
in OLMC Parking Lot



Last Wash/ Ultima Lavada: 4:30 PM  
Rain Date/ Fecha de Lluvia: July 27, 2024

HELP OUR YOUTH GROUP,  
CLEAN YOUR CAR  
AND GET SOME FOOD!  
IT'S A WIN-WIN-WIN!

APOYA A NUESTRO GRUPO  
LIMPIA TU COCHE  
¡Y CONSIGUE ALGO DE COMER!  
TODOS GANAN!

EXTERIOR WASH

\$20



EXTERIOR AND VACUUM

\$30