OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL CHURCH

23-25 Newtown Avenue, Astoria, NY 11102
Tel. 718.278.1834 | www.mountcarmelastoria.org

Pastoral Staff

Pastor
Rev. Msgr. Cuong M. Pham

Parochial Vicars
Rev. Michael McHugh
Rev. Hung Sy Tran

Permanent Deacons
Deacon Ruben Mendez
Deacon Jacob Rodriguez

Parish Manager
Celeste Stewart
cstewart@diobrook.org

Religious Ed Coordinator
Nelly Gutierrez
ccdmountcarmel@gmail.com

Parish Secretary
Luis Sanchez
Lsanchez@diobrook.org

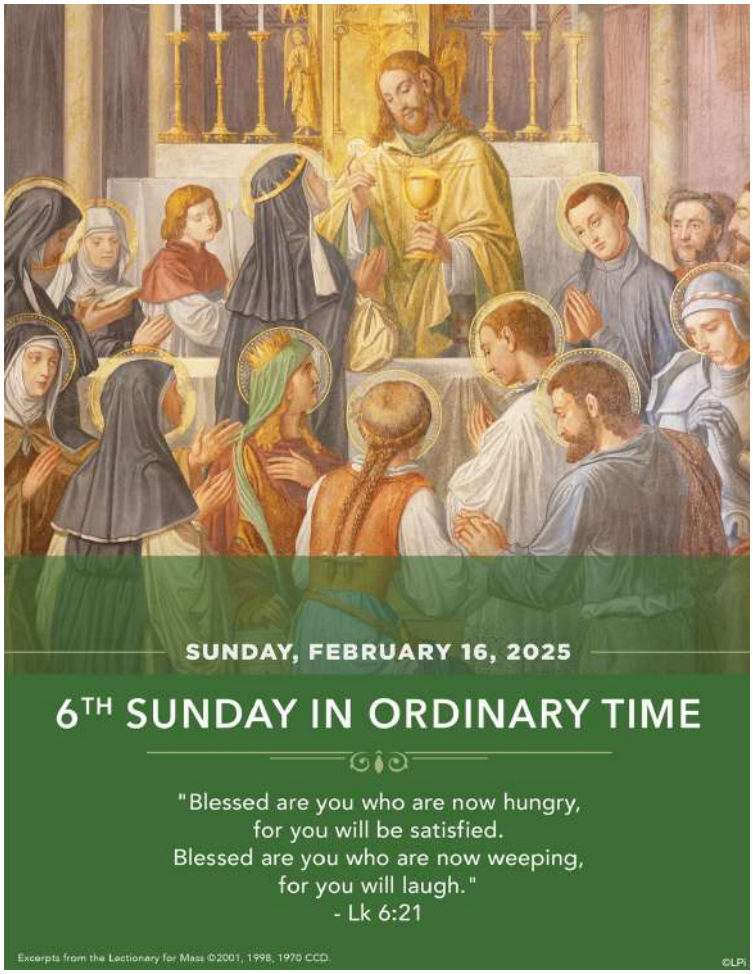
Music Director
Lucille Mascia

Youth Minister
Dayonel Mejia

Mass Times

Saturday	5:00 PM (Vigil Mass)
Sunday	Main Church: 8:00 AM (English) 9:30 AM (Bilingual) 11:00 AM (English) 12:30 PM (Spanish) 3:00 PM (Vietnamese) Chapel: 9:00 AM (Italian)
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

Live-streamed Masses can be accessed on our website



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—5:00pm

Follow us on Social Media:
@OLMCAstoria

Mass Intentions

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15
5:00pm Sheila & Ray Carrol, Amalia Lanteri, Manuel, Camilia & Mariano Sanchez, Adriana Georgiou, Ester Monterio *(Living– Birthday)*

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 16 *(Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time)*
8:00am God's blessings for Laura Cristina Roldan Perez for her Marriage & Pregnancy
9:00am Maddalena Giampino
9:30am Leonor & Manuela Sencion
11:00am Giulio Moretti
12:30pm Feliciano Verdejo, Ricardo Camacho Chiri, Roberto & Ricardo Camacho de la Puente, Williams de la Puente González, Reyna González Lucero, Julia Isabel Bravo *(Primer Aniversario de Muerte),* Florentino Amigon, Tania Cocuyo *(Cumpleaños)*
3:00pm For the People of the Parish

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 17 *(Presidents' Day)*
9:00am Lorretta Luizer *(Birthday)*

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 18
8:00am Victor Rodriguez
12:00pm Mike & Patricia Cini

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19
8:00am Mario & Carlita Sencion
12:00pm Zenaida Martinez

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20
8:00am Eduardo Sencion
12:00pm Rosie & Roselyn Manus

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21 *(Saint Peter Damian)*
8:00am Anna Lee *(Death Anniversary)*
12:00pm Diana Wilski

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22 *(Chair of Saint Peter)*
8:00am Elisa & Policarpo Trejo
5:00pm Armando Rodriguez, Amalia Lanteri, Thomas Reilly *(1st Month Aniversary),* Deceased Diocesan Priests *(1966 Class)*

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23 (Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time)
8:00am Jeny Adam D'Souza
9:00am Maria Letizia Arcabascio
9:30am Guadalupe Vidal (Living—Birthday)
11:00am All Nacinovich, Stanisich, Harvey & Mejia Family Members
12:30pm Victor Leonides Aguilar Zacatenco, Reyna Gonzalez Lucero, Victor Vazquez Hernandez, Santiago Carty Reyes *(4to Aniversario),* Francisco Flores *(Memorial de Cumpleaños y 5to Aniversario),* Juvenal Michaca Mendez *(2do Aniversario), Jose Antonio Malaga,* Idelina & Ferrer Michaca *(en su 25 Aniversario de Boda)*
3:00pm For the People of the Parish

UPCOMING SECOND COLLECTION

March 9, 2025- There will be a second collection after communion for Black & Indian Missions. Thank you for your generosity.

March 23, 2025– There will be a second collection after communion for our parish maintenance. Your generosity enables us to maintain parish spaces in good condition.

MEMORIAL OPPORTUNITIES

The Altar Candles this week are being offered for ***Williams De la Puente Gonzalez****, offered by Ana Camacho-Perno*

The Tree of Life: (east wall of the church vestibule)
Gift categories include:

Silver Leaf:	$ 500.00
Gold Leaf:	$1,000.00
Gold Rock at Base of Tree:	$2,500.00
Weekly Altar Flowers:	$100.00
Weekly Altar Bread and Wine:	$40.00
Weekly Sanctuary Lamp:	$30.00
Weekly Altar Candles:	$20.00

INFANT BAPTISM/ BAUTISMOS

Please call the office to make an appointment to speak with Deacon Jacob to register your child for Baptism.

Preparation Meeting Tuesday—6:00pm—Institute	**Baptism Ceremony 12:00pm—Upper Church**
February 18, 2025	February 22, 2025
March 18, 2025	March 22, 2025
NO CLASS AVAILABLE	*NO ENGLISH BAPTISMS*
May 20, 2025	May 24, 2025
June 24, 2025	June 28, 2025
Reunion de Preparacion Martes—6:00pm—Instituto	**Ceremonia de Bautismo 12:00pm—Iglesia de Arriba**
4 de Marzo 2025	8 de Marzo 2025
8 de Abril 2025	12 de Abril 2025
NO CLASE DISPONIBLE MAYO	*NO BAUTISMOS EN MAYO*
10 de Junio 2025	14 de Junio 2025

GROUPS AND SOCIETIES AT OUR PARISH INSTITUTE

Sunday, February 16

9:30am—11:00am	Grupo de Amistad #5	*Assumption*
10:00am—11:00am	Grupo de Amistad #9	*Balcony*
10:00am—12:00pm	Spanish OCIA	*Upper Room+ Fatima*
10:00am—12:30pm	Cursillo	*Gym*
10:00am—1:00pm	Czech Community	*Guadalupe A/B*
12:30pm—6:00pm	Via Crucis Food Sale	*Gym*
2:00pm—3:00pm	Grupo de Amistad	*Fatima*
6:00pm—8:00pm	Sagrado Corazon	*Guadalupe A/B*

Monday, February 17

6:00pm—9:00pm	CYO	*Gym*

Tuesday, February 18

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

Wednesday, February 19

7:30pm—9:00pm	CYO	*Gym*

Thursday, February 20

10:00am—11:30am	Legion of Mary	*Guadalupe B*
7:30pm—9:00pm	Young Adult Evening	*Gym*

Friday, February 21

5:00pm—11:00pm	CYO	*Gym*
6:30pm—9:00pm	Practica de Instrumentos	*Fatima*
6:30pm—9:00pm	OLMC Youth Group	*Guadalupe A*
6:30pm—10:00pm	Private Reception	*Guadalupe B*
7:00pm—9:00pm	OCIA Class	*Lourdes A/B*

Saturday, February 22

9:00am—12:30pm	AA Meeting	*Guadalupe A/B*
10:00am—12:00pm	Spanish Children's Choir	*Fatima*
3:00pm—5:00pm	Spanish Meeting	*Lourdes A/B*
5:00pm—7:00pm	Bilingual Choir Practice	*Nazareth*
5:00pm—7:00pm	Ministerio de Consolacion	*Fatima*
6:00pm—7:30pm	Porque Ser Catolico?	Guadalupe *A/B*

MASS BOOK OPENING

The second half of the Mass book from July to December 2025 will open on Tuesday, February 18, 2025 when the parish opens at 9:00am. Mass Intention Request forms will be available by the doors of the church this weekend. Please do not submit these forms before the 18th, they will not be accepted. **Please note that the Mass stipend has increased to $20 per intention.**

MASS ATTENDANCE RECORD

Weekend of February 8-9	Number of Attendees
5:00pm English Vigil	176
8:00am English	79
9:00am Italian	11
9:30am Bilingual	112
10:00am Czech	25
11:00am English	237
12:30pm Spanish	315
3:00pm Vietnamese	59

WEEKLY MASS OFFERINGS

REGULAR CONTRIBUTIONS FOR FEBRUARY 8 & 9

Last Sunday: $5,184 Same Week Last Year: $5,568

(Does Not Include Faith Direct)

Maintenance Collection: $2,011

FAITH DIRECT

The new year is filled with hope and promise as we seek to grow our vital ministries, explore new ways to share the good news of Christ's love, and reflect His care and mercy to those in need throughout the community. To continue to make a difference in 2025, we are reaching out to our parishioners.

Begin the new year with eGiving to help sustain and build ministries throughout 2025 that reflect the steadfast promise of God's love. The need is great in our community, and your generous online gifts will help people all around us. Sign up today by visiting faith.direct/NY370 or call their Customer Service team at 866-507-8757.

ROSARY SOCIETY NEWS

The next Rosary Society meeting will take place on **March 2, 2025** at the conclusion of the bilingual Mass in the Lourdes Room in the Parish Institute. $3.00 per person is the donation for refreshments. Yearly dues are $10.00 per person.

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, March 7, 2025**. 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.

FROM THE PASTOR'S HEART

February 16, 2025

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

I pray this letter finds you well and filled with God's peace. As we gather on this Sixth Sunday of Ordinary Time, I invite you to pause and ask yourself a question that has the power to change your life: **Where do you put your trust?**

The world tells us to rely on ourselves—to work harder, plan better, and take control. Success is measured by wealth, status, and approval. But how fragile these things are! One crisis, one unexpected loss, and everything we counted on can crumble. **So where is your trust?**

The Scripture for this Sunday gives us a clear answer: **those who trust in the Lord will never be shaken.** Jeremiah compares them to trees planted beside the waters, flourishing even in drought, while those who rely on human strength are like barren bushes in the desert (Jeremiah 17:5-8). Which one describes your life?

Many of us carry burdens alone, believing everything depends on us. But Jesus reminds us that true security isn't in worldly success. He proclaims, ***"Blessed are you who are poor… hungry… weeping… hated"*** (Luke 6:20-22). At first, this sounds upside down. How can poverty, hunger, or suffering be a blessing? Because when we are empty, we become open to God. When we let go of our false sense of control, we allow Him to be our strength, our source, our provider.

Yet trusting God is not always easy. The world tells us to seek financial stability, career success, independence or social approval. How often do we measure our worth by our job, our bank account, or the stability of our lifestyle? We may think, *"If I just had more money, then I wouldn't worry."* But even when we get that raise, it never seems to be enough. We may say, *"If I just get this promotion, then I'll feel accomplished."* But when we reach it, we still feel unfulfilled. **The truth is, the more we rely on temporary things, the more fragile our peace becomes.** One job loss, one economic downturn, one unexpected health crisis, one betrayal, and suddenly, fear takes over.

Maybe for you, the struggle isn't financial, but relational. Do you put your trust in the approval of others? Do you seek validation from social media, from your boss, from your peers? When we live for the applause of the world, we will always be disappointed—because the world is fickle. One moment, people praise you; the next, they forget you. But God's love never changes. **He alone is the foundation that will not crumble.**

Or perhaps you are carrying a personal burden—an illness, an addiction, a heavy worry, a fear you've been battling alone. You tell yourself, *"I have to be strong. I can't show weakness."* But the Lord is saying to you today: *"You don't have to do this alone. Lean on me. Let me carry you."* Pope Francis reminds us: ***"Trusting in the Lord means entering into His designs without demanding anything, even in the face of trials and obstacles."*** (General Audience, May 23, 2018)

This is real faith—not just trusting God when things are going well, but holding onto Him even when life is uncertain, when prayers seem unanswered, when suffering lingers, and when we don't understand His plan. **Faith is not about having all the answers—it's about trusting the One who does.**

So, **where do you put your trust?** This week, I invite you to surrender one area of your life where you have been relying more on yourself than on God. Whether it's your finances, family, future, or fears, place it in His hands. Pray, open your hands, and let go. **When we release control, we make space for grace.**

Blessed are they who hope in the Lord—because they will NEVER be put to shame!

With ardent faith,

Msgr. Cuong M. Pham

DEL CORAZON DEL PASTOR

16 de febrero, 2025

Queridos hermanos y hermanas en Cristo,

Les envío un saludo lleno de esperanza y paz en el Señor. Al reunirnos este VI Domingo Ordinario para escuchar Su Palabra, quiero invitarlos a hacer una pausa y reflexionar sobre una pregunta que todos enfrentamos en algún momento de la vida**: ¿En quién o en qué están depositando su confianza?**

Vivimos en un mundo que los empuja a depender de sus propias fuerzas. Les enseñan que, con suficiente esfuerzo, dinero, reconocimiento o la aprobación de los demás, pueden asegurarse un futuro sin preocupaciones. Pero ¿qué tan cierto es esto? Un cambio inesperado en el trabajo, una crisis económica, una enfermedad, una traición… y todo aquello que parecía firme de repente se tambalea. Nos damos cuenta de que, por más que intentemos controlar nuestra vida, hay muchas cosas que escapan de nuestras manos.

La Escritura de este Domingo nos ofrece una respuesta clara. El profeta Jeremías nos dice: *"Bendito el hombre que confía en el Señor, y pone en él su esperanza. Será como un árbol plantado junto al agua, que extiende sus raíces hacia la corriente y no teme cuando llega el calor"* (Jeremías 17:7-8). En cambio, quien deposita su seguridad únicamente en sus propias fuerzas es como un arbusto seco en el desierto, sin raíces profundas, vulnerable a cualquier tormenta.

Jesús, en el Evangelio de hoy, también nos desafía con palabras que parecen ir en contra de la lógica del mundo: ***"Bienaventurados los pobres, los que tienen hambre, los que lloran, los que son rechazados por causa del Hijo del Hombre"*** (Lucas 6:20-22). Si lo analizan desde una perspectiva humana, podrían preguntarse: ¿Cómo pueden ser una bendición la pobreza, el sufrimiento o el rechazo? Pero Jesús nos enseña que aquellos que confían solo en las riquezas, en el reconocimiento social o en sus propios planes, tarde o temprano se encuentran vacíos. En cambio, los que ponen su confianza en Dios encuentran una paz que nada ni nadie puede arrebatarles. **Una paz que no depende de las circunstancias, sino de la certeza de que Dios es nuestro refugio y sostén en todo momento.**

Tal vez hoy se sienten agobiados por problemas económicos y creen que todo depende de ustedes. Quizás están preocupados por el futuro de su familia, cargando con un dolor que pocos conocen, o sintiéndose desanimados por el rechazo o la indiferencia de otros. Tal vez han buscado aprobación en redes sociales, en el éxito profesional o en el reconocimiento de los demás, solo para descubrir que esas cosas son pasajeras. Pero cuando ponen su confianza en Dios, Él transforma sus preocupaciones en esperanza, su miedo en fortaleza y su sufrimiento en bendición.

En medio de todo esto, el Señor les dice: *"No tengan miedo. Confíen en mí. Yo sostendré sus vidas."* Confiar en Dios no significa que no habrá dificultades, sino que tenemos la certeza de que no estamos solos. El Papa Francisco nos recuerda: ***"Confiar en el Señor significa entrar en sus designios sin exigir nada, incluso ante las pruebas y obstáculos."*** (Audiencia General, 23 de mayo de 2018).

Entonces, hermanos y hermanas, de nuevo les pregunto: **¿En quién o en qué están depositando su confianza?**

Esta mañana, les hago una invitación concreta: **entréguenle al Señor una preocupación que les robe la paz.** Ya sea su futuro, su salud, su familia o una carga personal, **pónganlo en Sus manos.** Tómense un momento para orar, para soltar el miedo y para dejar que Dios tome el control. Cuando nos rendimos a Él, Su gracia nos sostiene y Su amor nos da fuerza.

Bienaventurados los que esperan en el Señor, porque jamás serán defraudados.

Con fe y amor en Cristo,

Mons. Cuong M. Pham

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 Thomas Gannon, Thomas Dugan, and Louella Coligado, Edwin Alvarez.

PURGATORIAL SOCIETY

We remember 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) as 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: **Ulises Meza, Nelson Morales, Julio Cesar Valentin, Anabel Garcia Barcena, Sandra Garcia, Rodolfo Avila Lazaro, Jesus Pinzon Villanueva, Diana Alba, Jorge Lavandera, Lucia Puentes, Emilia Rendon, Isauro Villanueva Chavez, Eulalio Valentin, Franco Valente Nava, Inoel Valente, Maestra Sofia, David Leyva, Candido Torres, Juan Carlos Larumbe, Tello Lorenzo, Proto Abarca, Maura Morales.**

DIGGING DEEPER INTO SUNDAY'S READINGS

First Reading: Jeremiah believes it is wise to trust in the Lord. When have you had to place your trust in God?

Second Reading: Paul challenged those in the Corinthian community who did not believe in the resurrection of the dead. How do you support family or friends who are non-believers?

Gospel: We hear today how Jesus brought comfort to those struggling in life and challenged those who lived a life of ease. Is there someone you know who could benefit from your words of comfort this week?

CARNIVALE AND MARDI GRAS CELEBRATIONS ARE LINKED TO ASH WEDNESDAY AND THE LENTEN SEASON. WHAT ARE THE CONNECTIONS BETWEEN THESE EVENTS?

Ash Wednesday is the beginning of the forty days known as Lent. Every year. Christians highlight this penitential season as a time of self-examination, reformation of one's life, and continued development of a deeper spiritual life. The recommended practices of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving become the focus of Lenten activity and ritual. Each of these spiritual practices is aimed at personal discipline as well as continued concern for the other, especially the poor or alienated.

Forty days is a symbolic biblical period of time, during which personal transformation occurs and out of which people surface as more spiritual, ready to carry out God's mission. Relying on God's providence and care, no matter how difficult life becomes, is crucial. to Lenten spirituality. Fasting was initially stricter, permitting only one simple meal a day without meat, fish, or other delicacies. Such things were not even allowed in the house.
In order to prepare for this in an age of no refrigeration, people gathered to consume whatever was not allowed during Lent. This led to parties or celebrations originally referred to as Carnivale, literally meaning "goodbye to meat" or Mardi Gras, literally meaning "Fat Tuesday."

The eating and celebrating ended on the Tuesday just before Ash Wednesday. Today we focus more on moderation in all things, as well as a strong concern for the poor. What are you doing for the poor this Lent?

REGISTRACION PARROQUIAL

BIENVENIDO

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*

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

The Knights of Columbus have established a council in Our Lady of Mount Carmel parish. We are looking for men to join the Order. You must be a man, at least eighteen years old and be in union with the Catholic Church. The Knights meet in the Guadalupe room in the Institute every second Wednesday of the month. Thank you.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

HOPE WALKS

Join us in supporting Hope Walks in freeing children, families, and communities from the burden of clubfoot and helping provide free clubfoot and holistic care for families impacted by this treatable disability. We will be painting the leather that would be turned into the brace.

March 12, 2025

St. Bartholomew Church

87-34 Whitney Ave, Elmhurst, NY 11373

7 pm -Convent

$20 Donation to cover the cost of making the leather into braces for children with clubfoot

Monetary donations also welcomed at the parish office. Please bring it in an enveloped marked "Hope Walks" in the care of Luis Sanchez.

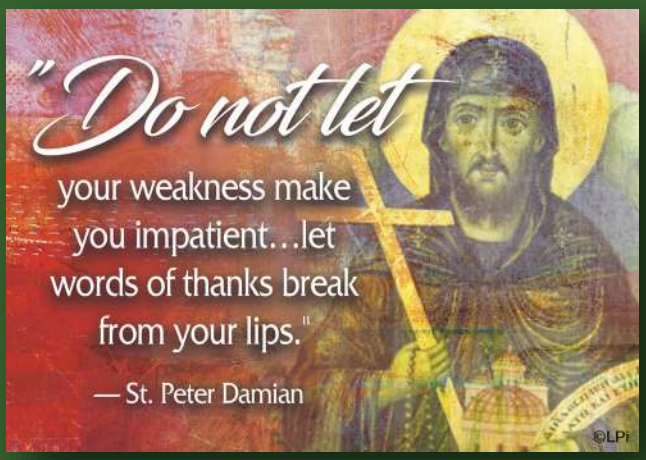
GOSPEL MEDITATION

I craved four things as a teenager: success in sports, food, fun and the attention of popular people. However, I noticed that as I acquired them, I was more unsatisfied than before. So, I'd strive even more energetically, achieve more, and the sense of emptiness was greater still. These four things started to feel like burdens or even curses. Soon after, I encountered Christ in. my high school youth group. Experiencing his love was totally different than anything those four things previously produced. It produced a lasting happiness.

Jesus utters a kind of four-fold curse in this week's Gospel of Saint Luke's "woes": "Woe to you who are rich...who are filled now...who laugh now...who are well-spoken of" (cf. Luke 6:24-26). How marvelous that these correspond perfectly to the four things that obsessed my teenage soul: riches, food, laughter and good reputation. The "woes" the Lord speaks are warnings: when those things are the purpose of your life, you'll be miserable. He is saying, "You'll be happy, or blessed, in the measure that these things do not determine the shape of our lives, and the kingdom of God does."

To some degree, we're all spiritual teenagers, addicted to one or more of those four "woes." How splendid that the Lord wants his to bless us that is, to satisfy us, make us laugh with joy, and in the kingdom of God, offer us what will truly satisfy us. But first let's admit what is causing our "woes."

Father John Muir



LUNAR NEW YEAR LUCKY LOTTERY

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all parishioners who supported our Vietnamese Lunar New Year celebration on January 26 by purchasing lottery tickets for the lucky draw. While many winners claimed their prizes in person that evening, a few prizes of **$100** each remain unclaimed for ticket numbers: **174, 504, 130,** and **457.** Additionally, the third prize of **$200** is still available for ticket **151.** If you hold one of these winning tickets, please contact the parish office TO CLAIM YOUR PRIZE.

LOTERÍA DEL AÑO NUEVO LUNAR

Agradecemos de corazón a todos los feligreses que apoyaron nuestra celebración del Año Nuevo Lunar Vietnamita el 26 de enero comprando boletos para el sorteo. Aunque muchos ganadores reclamaron sus premios en persona esa noche, aún quedan algunos premios de ***$100*** *para los boletos* ***174, 504, 130,*** *y* ***457.*** *Además, el tercer premio de* ***$200*** *sigue sin reclamar para el boleto* ***151.*** *Si usted tiene uno de estos boletos ganadores, por favor comuníquese con la Oficina Parroquial para reclamar su premio.*

Kantilena Choir

from Brno, Czech Republic will perform in the main Church on Sunday February 16, 2025 at 2:00pm (after the Spanish Mass)

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

Free Admission | Limited Parking Available

IN THE END, DOES IT MATTER?

Jesus was radical in his teaching that the "stuff" in life wasn't all that important. It was radical for him to say that the worldly signs of success did not amount to a whole lot in the grand scheme of things and that suffering could sanctify us. Are we ready to be radical, too?

I love today's Gospel passage, and not just because I love a When I was a teenager, the priest I would go to for confession used to tell me, over and over: "In the end, we all get the same dirty hole in the ground."

What he meant was, it doesn't matter how rich or smart or well-liked we are. We're all heading to the same place. This life comes to an end for every man. All the money he earns, all the stuff, all the worldly esteem, will at some point be of no further use. We all get the same dirty hole in the ground.

It was an important message for me to hear, because at the time, it all seemed so important: my after-school job and my FAFSA application and my grades. The admiration of my friends and teachers. I was so consumed with what I was going to become that I wasn't spending a lot of time thinking about who I was going to become. But the who is the only thing that lasts until the next life.

And to be honest, it's all still too important to me. Avoiding sadness and disappointment. Saving money and being liked. Focusing on "the five-year plan" when it comes to career, house plans, and a whole bunch of other things I can't take to my dirty hole in the ground.

Jesus was radical in his teaching that the "stuff" in life wasn't all that important. It was radical for him to say that the worldly signs of success wealth, popularity, pleasure - did not amount to a whole lot in the grand scheme of things and that. suffering could sanctify us. It was radical in the ancient world, and it's radical today. Are we ready to be radical, too?

Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

YOUNG ADULT HOLY HOUR

and Fellowship

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church

FEB | 20th | 6:30pm

23-25 Newtown Ave
Astoria, NY 11101
(Parking is available)

Step away from the noise and join us for a sacred hour of adoration and prayer, focused on the boundless love of Christ and the gift of friendship. Together, we'll reflect on how God's love transforms our relationships and strengthens the bonds we share.

Afterwards all are invited to share in fellowship in the gym of the parish institute, 23-20 Newtown Avenue, Astoria, NY 11102.

Come as you are, and bring a friend! Let's draw closer to Christ, the source of all love and the perfect model of friendship. We can't wait to see you there!

"We love because He first loved us."– 1 John 4:19

CATHEDRAL PREPARATORY HIGH SCHOOL & SEMINARY
56-25 92ND ST, ELMHURST, NY 11373

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$25 • LEARN MORE & REGISTER

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GET THE TOOLS, STRATEGIES, & A CLEAR PLAN TO 10X THE IMPACT OF YOUR MINISTRY FOR MEN

FEATURED SPEAKERS

BISHOP ROBERT BRENNAN
FR. CRISTIANO PINHEIRO
GILBERT RODRIGUEZ
MIKE DONOVAN

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