

Our Lady of Mount Carmel

Sunday, December 18, 2016
Fourth Sunday of Advent



Weekend Masses

Saturday: 5:00pm
Sunday: 7:30am / 9:00am / 11:00am

Daily Masses

Monday-Saturday: 8:30am (except Wed.)
Wednesday: 7:00pm

First Friday Mass: 2:00pm
@Homestead Nursing Home
Civic Holidays: 9:00am
Holy Days: 8:30am / 7:00pm

Eucharistic Adoration

Monday 9:00am-12:00pm

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday 4:15pm-4:45pm

Sacraments of Baptism, Marriage, & Anointing of the Sick

Please contact the office to arrange.

Youth Group

Heather Falotico
olmcyg@gmail.com

Golden Angels Senior Ministry

Margie Palazzo
973-948-6104

Knights of Columbus, Council 9920

Terrence O'Connor, Grand Knight

Served by:

Father Abuchi F. Nwosu, *Pastor*
fatherabuchi@aol.com
Father Angelus Croce, *Weekend Assistant*
Father Peter Oddo, *Weekend Assistant*
Deacon Anthony Barile
Deacon Edward Muller
Allison Murphy, *Music Director*
olmcmusicministry@gmail.com
Dan Salvatore, *Coordinator of Religious Ed.*
Kathy Modrow, *Secretary*
Ann Johnson, *Secretary*

Parish Office

203 Newton-Swartzwood Road
Newton, NJ 07860
Hours: 9:00am-1:00pm
Phone: 973-383-3566
Fax: 973-383-3831
mtcarmelswartzwood@gmail.com
www.olmcswartzwood.org

Religious Education Office

Hours: 9:00am-1:00pm
Phone: 973-579-2355
olmcccd@gmail.com

DEALING WITH THE UNEXPECTED !

Each of us deal and handle crisis differently. "Moments of crisis reveal aspects of ourselves that we don't face up to very often. They can show where our real self lies." Besides, the way we handle crisis reveals our true character and personality. "Do we react defensively or aggressively out of self-concern, or are we able to see beyond ourselves to the care of others?" Sometimes crisis puts our faith to the test; are we really convinced about God's care and support for us?

Today's gospel presents to us how Joseph dealt with his first marital crisis. Joseph was very close to Mary. However, the unexpected pregnancy of Mary was not a sign to confirm his trust either in her or God, it was a contradictory sign. In the hours of his darkness and confusion he never wanted to act so quickly. As a patient man, he seems to understand the consequences of rash judgments in life. Even our Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches, "To avoid **rash judgment**, everyone should be careful to interpret insofar as possible his neighbor's thoughts, words, and deeds in a favorable way" (2478). It is so easy for Joseph to report Mary to face dire consequences for pregnancy outside of the wedlock but he chooses not to do so. While patient in the moment of his confusion and darkness "he found the enlightening Spirit of God, the Spirit who teaches us not to judge by what our eyes see or by what our ears hear" (cf. Is 11:3.) "This gospel shows us that the signs God gives are not always the ones we would choose for ourselves. He gives signs for those who are willing to take on the darkness of doubt in openness and sincerity."

In the moment of his humility, quietness and patience, God gave answer to Joseph which encourages him not to be afraid to take Mary as his lawful wife for she has indeed conceived through the power of the Holy Spirit. Joseph's action in today's gospel teaches us how to deal with unexpected. It also points to the importance of patience and kindness when dealing with people. More importantly it teaches us in the moment of darkness and confusion to wait upon the Lord for answers.

Fr. Abuchi

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, December 17

Gn 49:2, 8-10 / Mt 1:1-17
 8:30am Souls in Purgatory
 5:00pm Pat Bush

Sunday, December 18

Is 7:10-14 / Rom 1:1-7/ Mt 1:18-24
 7:30am Private intention of Deacon Anthony Signorelli
 9:00am Intentions of Brian & Tina Johnson
 11:00am Marie Tosti

Monday, December 19

Zec 2:14-17 / Lk 1:26-38
 8:30am Farris DeRoma, Sr.

Tuesday, December 20

Zep 3:1-2, 9-13 / Mt 21:28-32
 8:30am Connie Romano

Wednesday, December 21

Is 45:6C-8, 18, 21C-25 / Lk 7:18B-24
 7:00pm Bob Froetscher, Duncan Fitton,
 Fr. Paul Longua

Thursday, December 22

Is 54:1-10 /Lk 7:24-30
 8:30am For Peace in the World

Friday, December 23

Is 56:1-3A, 6-8 / Jn 5:33-36
 8:30am Tim Sanford

Saturday, December 24

Gn 49:2, 8-10 / Mt 1:1-17
 8:30am NO MASS TODAY
 6:00pm For OLMC Parishioners & their Families
 12:00 am For OLMC Parishioners & their Families

Sunday, December 25

Is 7:10-14 / Rom 1:1-7/ Mt 1:18-24
 7:30am For OLMC Parishioners & their Families
 9:00am For OLMC Parishioners & their Families
 11:00am For OLMC Parishioners & their Families

Please Remember and Pray For the Following

Ann Bott, Walter & Concetta Brock Jr., Lindsey Brooke, Joseph Colon, Terry Comex, Carmine Curulli, Ingrid Diaz, Doug Ernst, Sr. Thomasina Gebhard, Richard Hennings, Les Humienny, Ava Kljajic, Bruce Konar, Joshua Koontz, Kden LeoGrande, Charles Longo, Pete Mahler, Mary Jo Manno, Susanne Martone, James B. Nienstedt, Mary Ellen Nienstedt, Sister Peggy Noone, John Samsok, Stephen Osborn, Margie Palazzo, Jerome Pasternak, Connie Pyne, Peter F. Reynolds, Colleen Romano, Sal Romano, Carol Rock, Joan Royer, Rose Marie Sciascia, Carole Salvatore, Diane Scarince, Greg Schmiditty, Rose Marie Sciascia, Gloria Shope, Carole Sisco, Debbie Smith, Richie Sorce, Andrew Sorce, Michael Sugar, Dale Swoboda, Roberta Treptau, David & Vince Ventresca, Pat Zaleski, Virginia Zaleski

A GOOD STEWARD

Sunday, December 11		\$3,359.00
Sunday, December 11	Retired Religious	\$1,477.00

Thank you for your generosity!

SANCTUARY LAMP

This week the Sanctuary Lamp burns for the Intentions of Barbara, Michael & Elyssa



WOMEN AND MEN OF THE ARMED FORCES



We ask God the Father, through the intercession of St. Michael the Archangel to protect all the men and women in our Armed Forces. May they be brought back safely to those whom they love: Larisa Furs, US Navy; Lt. Jason Gieniewski, U.S. Army; Pvt. Daniel Michael Mobilio, Army; Captain

Richi M. Pazdzierski, US Army; Captain Jane Petrick, Army; Lt. Daniel T. Pevarnik Jr., National Guard; Captain Cheryl Ryan, US Army; Seaman Recruit Tylor Joseph Salonia; Michael Valeich, Staff Sergeant; Robert Williams, Airman

CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

Wednesday, December 21st

Reconciliation at 7:30 pm after the 7:00 pm Mass

Saturday, December 24th

Christmas Eve

6:00 pm	Family Mass
12:00 am	Midnight Mass

Sunday, December 25th

Christmas Day

Masses at 7:30 am, 9:00 am and 11:00 am

Saturday, December 31st

New Year's Eve

5:00 pm Mass

Sunday, January 1st

New Year's Day

Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God

OLMC LOGO

Thank you to all who submitted entries for the OLMC Tee Shirt Logo contest. The Parish council has voted and the choice has been made! Stop by the church hall after Mass and see the winning logo on our tee shirts and sweatshirts — which, by the way, would make a great Christmas gift.

GIVING TREE

As a reminder, please return wrapped gifts no later than Sunday, **December 18th**, with the tags attached. Thank you for your generosity. Know that your kindness is bringing joy to the the less fortunate in our area.



A FLOWER FOR JESUS

We are inviting you do to something concrete for Jesus Christ. As a sign of your dedication to Jesus we would like each family of the parish (or each member of the family) to bring a single flower to place in front of the manger. We will have a basket in front of the manger so before Christmas mass please place your flower in the basket as a pleasing sign to Jesus.

FR. ANGELUS CROCE'S RETIREMENT

After serving the community for many years and being the Chaplain for the Salesian Sisters for over twenty years Fr. Angelus Croce is retiring to Nazareth Village in Chester.

A simple reception will take place at Sacred Heart Center from 1:30-3:00 p.m. on Sunday, January 8th. Please RSVP by email at croceretirement@gmail.com or leave a message at [201-396-1101](tel:201-396-1101). Please come and wish Fr. Angelus a happy retirement.

WOMEN'S WEEKEND RETREAT

Sacred Heart Spirituality Center in Newton, NJ, is hosting our Women's Weekend Retreat January 6 – 8, 2017. The theme for this retreat is "Listen to my Voice." Come and spend some get-away time with Our Lord, listening to Him speak of His great love for you! Register now by downloading a registration form at our website <www.sacredheartspiritualitycenter.org> For further information, please call 973-383-2620 or e-mail shretreatcenter@gmail.com

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

There will be a Confirmation Service Opportunity for in-church hours to assist with Christmas Food Basket assembly and sorting gifts from our giving tree by family on **Sunday, December 18th at 4:30 pm**. Pizza dinner provided for all volunteers.

There will be a Confirmation Gathering on Sunday, **December 18th** at 7pm in the church hall.

Christmas Vigil Mass at 6 pm on Saturday, **December 24th** will be the children's Christmas Mass.

Attention Youth Group and all Church members: Please see the youth group bulletin board for all upcoming youth group events. The board is located in the entry way to the hall. For more information on the youth group and upcoming events, please email olmcyg@gmail.com.

RIGHT TO LIFE LAPEL ROSES

The Knights of Columbus will be selling Right to Life Lapel Roses on December 17th and 18th after all the Masses. We will be taking a bus trip to Washington D.C. on January 26th for the March for Life. We need your help to pay for the bus. Your donations will be greatly appreciated.



LEGACY GIFTS

Lord reminds us of the abundant blessings that come from a generous heart. "Give and gifts will be given to you; a good measure, packed together, shaken down, and overflowing, will be poured into your lap. For the measure with which you measure will in return be measured out to you."

When you give your time, talent and financial resources to our parish, it strengthens our faith community in so many wonderful ways!

Did you know that there are also opportunities to make a legacy gift to Our Lady of Mount Carmel that will touch the lives of parishioners for generations to come? Please prayerfully consider remembering our parish in your will and estate plans. For more information, call our parish at 973-383-3566 or contact our diocesan development office at 973-777-8818, ext 215 for further assistance and to discuss options that might work for you. Thank you so much for all you do for Our Lady of Mount Carmel — now and in the future!