



# Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish

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Facebook Page: Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church

## Fourth Sunday of Advent Christmas Season

### OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL

#### Clergy

Rev. Brian Van Fossen	Pastor
Rev. Richard Gyansah-Tabiri	Assistant
Deacon Gene Blockus	Deacon

#### Staff Members

	Stewardship Coordinator
Ann Rish	Office & Bulletin Coordinator
Daniel Kotsko	Faith Formation Coordinator
Amanda Matysik	Youth and Young Adult Minister
Matt Shaul	Sacred Music Coordinator
Chris Janusz	Maintenance Coordinator

#### Sacraments

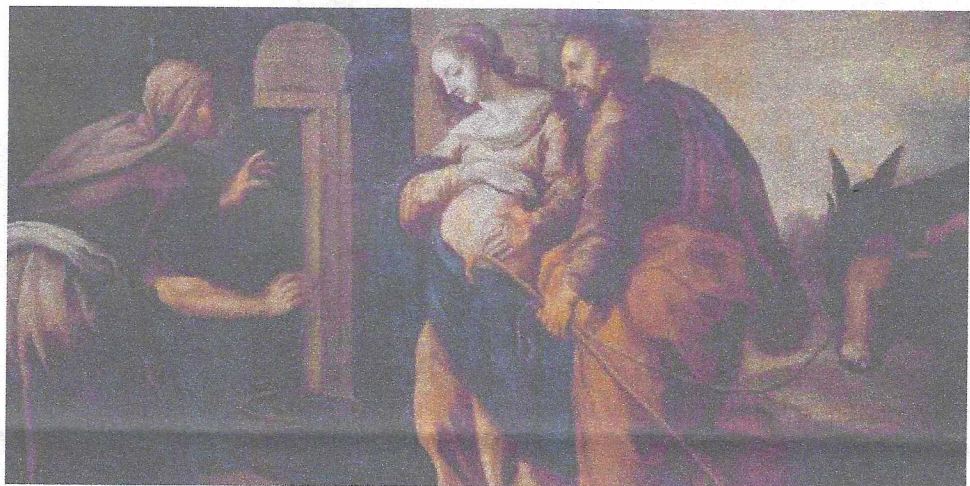
**Baptism:** Parents wishing to have their child baptized are asked to call the Parish Office to schedule a preparation session and the tentative date.

**Matrimony:** Couples planning to enter into Holy Matrimony are to call the office at least one year prior to set a tentative date and schedule Pre-Cana.

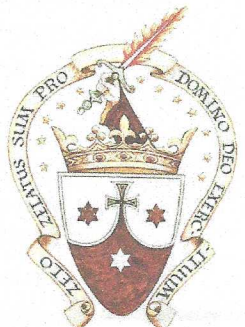
**Reconciliation:** Please consult the bulletin for dates and times or call one of our priests for an appointment.

**Hospital and Homebound:** Please call the office for First Friday or Anointing.

**Priesthood and Religious Life:** Contact our priests for an appointment.



Today is a unique day in the liturgical calendar. The Fourth Sunday of Advent is celebrated on Sunday morning and Christmas Eve begins its celebration in the evening. Are you prepared? If a child is brought into the world through a natural birth the time is often unexpected. In the morning there might be some discomfort. However, when the labor pains begin, whether the couple is ready or not, the child is on their way. Everything stops and the only thing that matters is the mother and the child. Could you imagine St. Joseph along the road to Bethlehem? All of a sudden, by evening, while trying to find a place to stay, Mary tells him the child is coming. Can you imagine the anxiety? To add to the concern, St. Joseph most likely did not know how to bring a child into the world. Midwives were common but never a male one. With no one to help and no where to go, the Holy Family's Fourth Sunday of Advent becomes Christmas Eve. After all that anxiety, trying to create a space for the birth of a child, trying to bring Christ into the world, and then the exhausting adrenaline crash, St. Joseph and Mary along with the Baby Jesus lay sleeping in the only shelter they could find. It all gave away to peace. As we move through these troubled times, may the peace of that first Christmas be with you and your family. We cannot avoid concerns in our lives, but we can always approach them with hope and love. This hope comes from our relationship with a God who knows our weakness. The love is that God never abandons us in spite of our sin. May the Holy Family bring you the gift of healing and peace only God can give. God's Peace, Fr. Brian





## Mass Intentions

**December 25th - December 31st**

### The Nativity of the Lord

<b>Sunday Vigil</b>	<b>4:00pm</b>	<b>Fr. Ed Zawodniak</b>
	<b>10:00pm</b>	<b>Priestly Vocations in the Diocese of Scranton</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>10:00am</b>	<b>All living &amp; deceased Members &amp; Benefactors of OLMC</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>8:30 AM</b>	<b>Ken Maculloch, Sr. by OLMC</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>8:30 AM</b>	<b>Lisa Petruska by Mark &amp; Marilyn Kornoski</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>5:30 PM</b>	<b>Donna Gavlick by Steve &amp; Judy Boyanowski</b>

### The Holy Family

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>8:30 AM</b>	<b>All living &amp; deceased Members &amp; Benefactors of OLMC</b>
	<b>11:00 AM</b>	<b>Raymond S. Bartuski by Bonnie &amp; Pam Turchin</b>

### Solemnity of Mary

<b>Sunday Vigil</b>	<b>5:30pm</b>	<b>Tracy Gototweski by Steve &amp; Mer Rish</b>
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### **First Friday and Saturday Devotions January 5 @ 8:30 am**

First Friday Devotions to the Sacred Heart of Jesus  
Mass followed by Eucharistic Adoration, Prayers to the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

**January 6 @ 8:30 am**

First Saturday Mass w/Devotions to the Immaculate Heart of Mary  
**Held at Our Lady of Mount Carmel**  
Eucharistic Adoration, Prayers to the Immaculate Heart of Mary and Confession



**HAPPY NEW YEAR  
2024**

**The Office will be closed  
Friday, December 29th and  
Monday, January 1st**

### **Stewardship Report**

As the new year begins we would like to thank you for all the care and support you have provided our parish during 2023. Your contributions of your time, talent and treasure have allowed us to continue our ministry. Please be assured of our continued prayers for your and your family!



Scan to donate  
or visit  
[annualappeal.org](http://annualappeal.org)



### **Bishop's Annual Appeal**

<b>Parish Goal</b>	<b>\$19,000.00</b>
<b>Total Raised</b>	<b>\$12,667.00</b>
<b>Surplus / (Deficit)</b>	<b>(\$6,333.00)</b>
<b>Participating Members</b>	<b>23.11%</b>

### **Twelve Days of Christmas**

#### **Celebration Lottery**

**\$25.00 per ticket**

Benefits our OLMC Building Fund



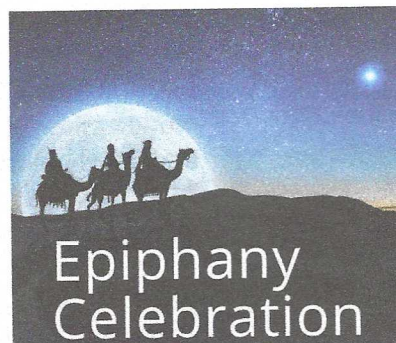
\$250.00 for Christmas

\$240.00 for Mary, Mother of God (New Years Day)

\$120.00 all other 10 days of Christmas

On Sale at the Office or after Mass

**THANK YOU for your support!  
Winning Begins Christmas Day!!**



**Epiphany  
Celebration**

### **Rectory Open House**

Fr. Brian and Fr. Richard would like to invite the parish to an open house at the rectory.

**Sunday, January 7th  
2pm - 6pm  
38 West Church St.  
Nanticoke, PA**

We will provide the food and come provide the fellowship.

It is our little gift to the parish to say  
**THANK YOU and welcome the New Year!**



### **Altar Flowers**

Anyone who would like to donate an altar bouquet or offer the Weekly Sanctuary Candle in memory of a loved one please call the

[www.eucharisticrevival.org](http://www.eucharisticrevival.org)

**100th Anniversary Merch  
T-shirts and Ornaments**




These shirts will be available at the parish office! We have a variety of sizes and, if we run out, we will order more!

We will also have Christmas Ornaments available for purchase. These pewter ornaments are beautifully crafted and great gifts for this coming year.




<b>Ornaments</b>	<b>\$10</b>
<b>T-Shirts</b>	<b>Kids \$10</b>
	<b>Adult \$13</b>
	<b>3x or higher \$15</b>

**Anniversary Dedication Book**



Do you have a favorite Our Lady of Mount Carmel story or special memory you would like to share?



We would love to include it in our Parish 100th Anniversary Book. You are welcome to share via email: [olmchc@gmail.com](mailto:olmchc@gmail.com) or mail to the parish office or simply drop it in the collection. Please label

**"OLMC 100th Anniversary Memories"**

Deadline for submission  
December 31, 2023

**DIOCESE OF SCRANTON**

**Women's Retreat**

**Bold and Beloved**

*Inspired by the teaching of St. Thérèse of Lisieux*

**January 26-28, 2024**

Holy Transfiguration Retreat Center  
1000 Seminary Rd, Dalton, PA 18414







**Kara Kardell**  
Sinner striving for sainthood.  
Wife and mother of 3.



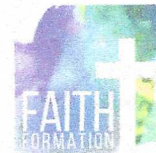
**Fred Shellabarger**  
Husband, Father, Spiritual Artist.  
Big Kid Who Loves Jesus.



**JMJ Catholic Radio 104.5 FM**



**Faith Formation Classes are on a little  
Christmas Break  
Dec. 24 to Jan 7**



**Confirmation classes** will be held on the  
**first Thursday of the month.**




**Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA)**  
Is being offered at our parish for this coming season. RCIA is a wonderful way to explore Catholicism. This time is mostly for members of our community who want to

explore becoming united more closely to the Catholic Church and Jesus Christ. It is for those who have been baptized and those who are not. If you or someone you know is interested in joining RCIA, please call the office. We would love to have you join our family of faith!

**EUCCHARISTIC  
ADORATION**

*Sponsored by the Diocesan Offices for Parish Life and Vocations*



**Thursday,  
January 4th**

**7:00 PM**

St. Maria Goretti Church  
42 Redwood Drive - Laflin

**Christmas  
PIEROGI  
SALE**

**Final Call**

Get your potato Christmas Pierogi after the Fourth Sunday of Advent Mass.

**\$10 per dozen**



Christmas Oplatki is available near the altar.  
Requested Donation is \$5.00

Calendars are at the doors of the church. Thank you for sharing the beauty of our faith!