

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church
One Passaic Street, Ridgewood, NJ 07450 | 201.444.2000 | www.olmcridgewood.com

second sunday of
ADVENT



December 8, 2024

PARISH DIRECTORY
www.olmcridgewood.com

Parish Office: 1 Passaic Street, Ridgewood, NJ 07450-4309
Phone: 201.444.2000 Fax: 201.444.2002

Parish Office Hours
Monday-Friday—9AM-8PM | Saturday-Sunday—9AM-2PM

SERVED BY

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Dear Friends,

Excerpts from Pope Francis' letter, *Spes Non Confundit, Hope Does Not Disappoint*.

"Everyone knows what it is to hope. In the heart of each person, hope dwells as the desire and expectation of good things to come, despite our not knowing what the future may bring. Even so, uncertainty about the future may at times give rise to conflicting feelings, ranging from confident trust to apprehensiveness, from serenity to anxiety, from firm conviction to hesitation and doubt. Often we come across people who are discouraged, pessimistic and cynical about the future, as if nothing could possibly bring them happiness. For all of us, may the Jubilee be an opportunity to be renewed in hope. God's word helps us find reasons for that hope.

"Hope does not disappoint, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us (Romans 5:1-2, 5). Hope is born of love and based on the love springing from the pierced heart of Jesus upon the cross. That life becomes manifest in our own life of faith, which begins with Baptism, develops in openness to God's grace and is enlivened by a hope constantly renewed and confirmed by the working of the Holy Spirit.

"By his perennial presence in the life of the pilgrim Church, the Holy Spirit illumines all believers with the light of hope. He keeps that light burning, like an ever-burning lamp, to sustain and invigorate our lives. Christian hope does not deceive or disappoint because it is grounded in the certainty that nothing and no one may ever separate us from God's love. 'Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or the sword? **No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loves us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor present things, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.**' (Emphasis added). (Romans 8:35, 37-39). Here we see the reason why this hope perseveres in the midst of trials: founded on faith and nurtured by charity, it enables us to press forward in life."

*After touching on the specifics of the start of the Jubilee Year, both in Rome and in diocesan cathedrals around the world, the Holy Father addresses what signs of hope should we see in the world, for peace, for the sacredness of life, for prisoners, for the sick and the homebound and disabled, for youth, for the elderly, for the poor, and for the earth. He then continues in a section entitled, **Anchored in hope**.*

"Hope, together with faith and charity, makes up the triptych of the 'theological virtues' that express the heart of the Christian life. In their inseparable unity, hope is the virtue that, so to speak, gives inward direction and purpose to the life of believers. For hope is that theological virtue by

which we desire eternal life as our happiness. The Second Vatican Council says of hope that, 'when people are deprived of this divine support, and lack hope in eternal life, their dignity is deeply impaired, as may so often be seen today. The problems of life and death, of guilt and suffering, remain unsolved, so that people are frequently thrown into despair.' We, however, by virtue of the hope in which we are saved, can view the passage of time with the certainty that the history of humanity and our own individual history are not doomed to a dead end or a dark abyss, but directed to an encounter with the Lord of glory. As a result, we live our lives in expectation of His return and in the hope of living forever in Him. In this spirit, we make our own the heartfelt prayer of the first Christians with which Sacred Scripture ends: 'Come, Lord Jesus!' (Rev. 22:20)"

The conclusion next week.

Grace and Peace,
Fr. Ron

STEWARDSHIP

"I pray always with joy in my every prayer for all of you, because of your partnership for the gospel from the first day until now." What a thought Paul gives us in today's 2nd Reading. We are *partners* with God "for the gospel." Partners work for the same goal (the spread of the Kingdom). Partners share the load (witnessing by our lives, otherwise called discipleship). Partners share the profits (heaven). That's why the Christian Steward offers his/her gifts of **Time**, **Talent** and **Treasure**, because they know they are partners with God in His work. **Are you?**

The parish Stewardship of Treasure for the weekend of 11/24 was \$14,571. and for last week it was \$17,624. The parish Stewardship of Treasure the 4 weeks of November was \$112,390. It was received as follows:

Online Giving (WeShare/Venmo):	\$53,519
In Pew/Mailed to the Rectory:	\$58,871

God bless your generosity in "partnering" with the Lord to spread His Gospel.

Advent is the time of "new beginnings, new hope." Why not "begin" to support the parish in a new way, by becoming part of the "electronic" givers, those who use **WESHARE/ VENMO** to provide a consistent level of support for the work of the parish, the work of the Gospel.

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Financial Report for Fiscal Year 2024

Last weekend's bulletin included the Financial Report for OLMC's fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, inserted as a separate flier. For those who read the bulletin in digital format, you may view the Financial Report by following the link on our website homepage.

Our Lady of Mount Carmel's Music Ministry Presents

Rejoice! Rejoice!

An evening of Advent & Christmas Music

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13TH | 7:30PM | CHURCH

Tree Lighting & Reception to Follow

Free will offering will benefit the Sharing Tree!

Sharing Tree 2024

Gift Cards Only Please



As in the past, we are supporting organizations providing services to homeless women and children, nursing homes, survivors of human trafficking, an inner city parish as well as families and individuals within our own community.

The needs continue to be great so whatever help you can provide is greatly appreciated. Gift Cards, in any amount, for VISA, Amazon, Target, Shop Rite, and Walmart are needed.

Some organizations have requested gift cards be in \$25 increments. This provides greater flexibility in distributing to those in need. **Whatever the amount, please clearly identify the value of the card (including the receipt is best).** Whatever generosity you can offer is greatly appreciated.

If you need assistance, or you know of someone in need, please contact Anne Denyau. All requests are held in the strictest confidence.

Please place Gift Card(s) in an envelope labeled "Sharing Tree" and drop-off at the Rectory office NO LATER THEN MONDAY, DECEMBER 16TH. The mail slot may be used after hours.

**DO NOT LEAVE GIFT CARDS IN THE CHURCH
DO NOT WRAP GIFT CARDS**

**Questions? Contact Anne Denyau
annerafterdenyau@gmail.com or 201.970.1798**



A recurring online gift To Our Lady of Mt. Carmel is the best way to sustain the mission of this parish all year long.



Look for the **WeShare** link on our website homepage,
Scan this QR Code, or call 877.316.0260

Special Collection This Weekend—December 7 & 8 RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS

Your gift provides vital support for senior Catholic sisters, brothers and priests. Checks may be made payable to OLMC, with "RFR" on the memo line, and dropped in the collection basket or in the boxes at the doors of the church. Donations may also be made through WeShare, under Second Collections, or through Venmo with "RFR" in the note field. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

ADVENT MORNING PRAYER—MONDAY-FRIDAY | 6:00AM
Join us for morning prayer this Advent season every Monday through Friday at 6:00AM in the lower level of the school building. Enter through the rear door.

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Religious Education When Families Gather December Sessions

Sunday, December 8
9:30AM Mass & Gathering | 11:00AM Mass & Gathering
Church & Parish Center

Monday, December 9—5:00PM or 7:00PM
Parish Center

Parents Only Session
Monday, December 16, 7:00PM, Parish Center

Cathy Hunt, chunt@olmcridgewood.com
Pat McGarvie, pmcgarvie@olmcridgewood.com
Religious Ed office at 201.444.0211



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL 1736 ANNUAL SENIOR CITIZEN CHRISTMAS PARTY NEXT SUNDAY—DECEMBER 15TH 1:30PM-4:00PM

PARISH CENTER—ALL SENIORS WELCOME!

The Ridgewood Knights of Columbus will host the annual Senior Citizen Christmas Party, including lunch, music and entertainment, as well as a visit and gifts from Santa! Questions? Call Mike Megnin, 201.689.0562, or Mark Stappenbeck, 201.906.0102.

FR. ENGLISH PANTRY—FROZEN PAN MINISTRY RETURNS THIS MONTH!

PANS/RECIPES AVAILABLE AT ALL MASSES THIS WEEKEND

FROZEN CASSEROLE DROP OFF—NEXT SATURDAY, DEC. 14TH
(AT OUR MONTHLY FOOD DRIVE—9AM-12NN)

Please help us provide frozen casseroles to the Fr. English Food Pantry this month. Easy recipe options are provided with pans and lids. Casseroles must be **FROZEN**. Your generous response will make it possible for a family to sit around the dinner table and enjoy a prepared meal.

Questions? Call/Text Barbara—201.615.9624

ACADEMY OF OUR LADY CALENDAR RAFFLE 92 CHANCES TO WIN!

EVERY TICKET CAN WIN MORE THAN ONCE! \$20/TICKET
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ERINOHALLORAN@ROCKETMAIL.COM
917.621.7241

(CHECKS PAYABLE TO: ACADEMY OF OUR LADY)

DRAWINGS BEGIN EARLY MARCH

GET YOUR TICKETS NOW! GREAT STOCKING STUFFERS!

Tickets will be available at the doors of the church the next two weekends—Dec. 7 & 8 and Dec. 14 & 15

Dear Msgr. & the Entire OLMC Family,

GREETINGS & WISHING YOU
GOD'S ABUNDANT BLESSINGS!

On behalf of the OneHopeChildren Foundation, I would like to extend our deepest gratitude to each and every one of you for your incredible generosity and support. Your recent donations have made a meaningful difference in the lives of countless children and families, helping to provide access to education, clean water, healthcare, food security, vital development programs, and our self-sustaining farm programs.

Because of your kindness, children who once had little hope for a brighter future will now be able to attend school, drink clean water, receive essential medical care, and grow up in a community that nourishes their faith, their bodies and their minds. Your contributions are truly transforming lives and offering hope where it was once scarce.

As you celebrate the hope of Jesus' coming at Christmas, we want to thank you for providing that same hope by your selfless acts of kindness, generosity, and compassion. We are deeply grateful for your continued partnership in this mission.

We wish you all a joyful and blessed Advent and Christmas, filled with peace, love, and the warmth of family and community. May you continue to be richly blessed, as you have so abundantly blessed others.

With heartfelt thanks and prayers,
Fr. Felix



YOUTH MINISTRY MONTHLY FOOD DRIVE NEXT SATURDAY—DEC. 14TH 9AM-12NN

DRIVE THRU—SCHOOL BUILDING DRIVEWAY

FR. ENGLISH: Anything high in protein!! Bagged or Canned Beans (Black & Kidney), Chick Peas, Peanut Butter, Jelly, Nuts, Canned Meats (Chicken, Spam, Hams), Tuna, Oatmeal, Cereal, Granola Bars, Pop Tarts, Complete Pancake Mix, Syrup, Juice (Apple, Tomato, V8), Jiffy or Similar Muffin Mix, Coffee, Tea, Saltine Crackers, Raisins, Pasta, Pasta Sauce, Shelf Stable Milk, Canned Veggies,

SOCIAL SERVICES: Cereal, Oatmeal, Pasta, Pasta Sauce, Peanut Butter & Jelly, 100% Fruit Juice, Hearty Soups, Canned Veggies, Canned Tuna/Chicken/Ham, Rice, Shelf Stable Milk, Cleaning Products, Laundry Detergent

RIDGECREST Depends for Women any size, Paper Towels, Toilet Paper, Tuna, Canned Chick Peas/Chicken/Lentils; Raisin Bran, Cheerios (original), Low/No Sugar (instant oatmeal, pudding, Jello, Salad Dressings, Mayonnaise, Bagged Beans, Shelf Stable Milk, Sponges, Toilet Bowl Cleaner

HEALING MEALS: Fresh Carrots/Celery/Onion; Garlic (fresh/jars); Lasagna Noodles; Whole Wheat Flour; Olive Oil, Pasta Sauce (cans/jars); Canned Diced Tomatoes; Marinara Sauce; Canned Cannellini Beans; Dark Brown Sugar; Molasses; Quart Size Freezer Bags; Latex-Free Gloves

Questions? Contact Glen McCall, gmcalls@olmcridgewood.com



You can support OLMC via venmo!

Find us under "Charities" @olmcridgewoodnj
or scan the QR code here.



PERPETUAL EUCHARISTIC ADORATION (PEA)

**CHAPEL IS OPEN 24/7
EVERYONE IS WELCOME!**

Everyone is invited to participate in Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration and to be an Adorer of Jesus in the Holy Eucharist. Stop by the chapel any time. Better yet, sign up for an hour that is good for you.

SCHEDULED ADORERS URGENTLY NEEDED

Wednesdays: 4-5AM, 7-8AM;
Fridays: 2-3AM, 8-9AM, 6-7PM, 7-8PM;
Saturdays: 3-4PM, 5-6PM, 6-7PM

Contact Cynthia—551.574.1063, cynthiabtorres@yahoo.com

Monday, December 9, 2024

**The Immaculate Conception Of the Blessed Virgin Mary
A Holy Day of Obligation**

Mass Schedule

6:30AM 8:30AM 12:00 Noon 7:30PM

Please Note: parish offices will be closed on Monday, December 9. A priest is always available for emergencies.



PLEASE PRAY FOR THE ILL MEMBERS OF OUR PARISH

Joan Donegan Alsas, Frederick Bruno, Mike Bucci, Charles Buckley, Kimberly Parsons Daub, Nick DiDonato, Maura Gillen Eidschun, Marie Evans, Kay & Bill Forster, Frank Gillen, Susan Hart-White, Joseph Hyon, Marc Johnson, Tom Keleher, Claudia LaFrance, Susan Lois, Cambell McArthur, Christine O'Brien, Margaret Peak, Mary Kathleen Rame, Cathy Ricciuto, Francis Tedaro Ristor, Michael Runz, Nancy Steen, Don Strittmatter, Larry Switaj, Nickolas John Tedaro, Christina Volpe, Rochelle West, Rosemary Wright, Walter John Zelop, Jr.

Parishioners may call the Rectory with the name of a family member who is sick to have them included in our prayers.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR PARISHIONERS SERVING IN THE MILITARY:

Timothy Bombace, Aedan Cannon, Edgar Delgado,
Nick Haddad, Durkin McCarthy, John Morano,
James Nardelli, Robert Smith, Thomas Tesoriero

THE WEEK AHEAD

Sun. Dec. 8	9:30AM	WFG Mass & Session (Church, PC)
	11:00AM	WFG Mass & Session (Church, PC)
	1:30PM	OCIA (MR)
	1:30PM	Bell Choir (PCB)
	2:00PM	CYO Basketball (Gym)
	4:00PM	Spanish Apostolate (PCA)
	5:00PM	Jr. High 7C (PCB)
	7:30PM	Jr. High 7D (PCB)
	7:30PM	Grassi/Wallace Conf. Group (YCA)
	7:30PM	Cadaret Confirmation Group (YCB)
Mon. Dec. 9	5:00PM	WFG Family Session (PC)
	5:30PM	CYO Basketball (Gym)
	6:00PM	Spanish Play Rehearsal (MR)
	7:00PM	WFG Family Session (PC)
Tues. Dec. 10	3:45PM	Jr. High 8A (PC)
	4:00PM	Religious Ed Grades 1-6 (Gym)
	5:00PM	Choir Rehearsal (Church)
	5:30PM	CYO Basketball (Gym)
	7:00PM	Neocatechumenal Way (NCW)
Wed. Dec. 11	3:45PM	Jr. High 8B (PC)
	4:00PM	First Penance Preparation (Church)
	5:30PM	CYO Basketball (Gym)
	7:00PM	Neocatechumenal Way (NCW)
	7:00PM	First Penance Preparation (Church)
	9:00PM	Opus Dei (PCA)
Thur. Dec. 12	10:30AM	Sunday Liturgy Scripture Study (SMR)
	5:00PM	Concert Dress Rehearsal (Church)
	5:00PM	Jr. High Gift Wrap Social (PC)
	5:30PM	CYO Basketball (Gym)
	5:30PM	NCW 3rd Community (YCB)
Fri. Dec. 13	10:30AM	WCST Bible Study (Library)
	5:30PM	CYO Basketball (Gym)
	7:30PM	Concert & Tree Lighting (Church, PC)
	9:00AM	CYO Basketball (Gym)
Sat. Dec. 14	9:00AM	Men's Basketball (Gym)
	9:00AM	AoOL Girls Basketball (Gym)
	9:00AM	First Penance Preparation (PCB)
	9:00AM	Youth Group Food Drive (Driveway)
	2:00PM	Spanish Play Rehearsal (MR)
	6:00PM	Neocatechumenal Way (PC)

REGISTER NOW!

**ANNUAL MEN'S CORNERSTONE RETREAT
FRIDAY-SATURDAY—JANUARY 24-25, 2025**

Registration is now open for our Annual Men's Cornerstone Retreat held in the Parish Center. Use the QR Code here to register now.

Expect to find camaraderie, fellowship and opportunity for renewal in a relaxed environment. This year's event is fast approaching, scheduled two weeks before Super Bowl LIX. Consider it a gift to yourself.



Questions/More Information

Contact Dan O'Keefe, danokeefe@icloud.com

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT



TODAY'S READINGS

Monday, Dec. 9 *The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary*

- + **6:30AM Diane Accardi**
req Barbara & Joanne Sidote
- + **8:30AM Keith Fine**
req Penny & Ken Fine
- + **12:00NN Sanna Brizzi**
req Dolores Morrison
- + **7:30PM Danny McGinley**
req His Family

Tuesday, Dec. 10 *Our Lady of Loreto*

- + **6:30AM Joan Flores**
req Rich & Marie Cummings
- + **8:30AM Don Crowe**
req Peggy Frazza
- + **12:00NN Alma Hart**
req Linda English

Wednesday, Dec. 11 *Saint Damasus I, Pope*

- + **6:30AM Christine Jablonski**
req Dcn. Bob & Tessie Liwanag
- + **8:30AM Nicolo & Antonia Scrivanich**
req Luciano & Dina Scrivanich
- + **12:00NN Eileen & Barbara Wells**
req The Wells Family

Thursday, Dec. 12 *Our Lady of Guadalupe*

- + **6:30AM Mark Buscher**
req Russ & Marianne Titus
- + **8:30AM Andrew & Lillian Lucchesi**
req Joanne & Bob Delaney
- + **12:00NN Gerard Perin**
req Ethel Perin

Friday, Dec. 13 *Saint Lucy, Virgin and Martyr*

- + **6:30AM Sondra Varoli**
req John & Jean Boyle
- + **8:30AM Maureen Sullivan Sirles**
req Jim & Marianne Sullivan
- + **12:00NN Fortuna Genot**
req Joel & Michelle Lustberg

Saturday, Dec. 14 *Saint John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church*

- + **8:30AM Marge & Jim Lynn**
req The Lewis Family
- + **5:30PM Christopher Zuza**
req Ann & Bill Leahy

Sunday, Dec. 15 *Third Sunday of Advent*

- 8:00AM For the People of the Parish**
- + **9:30AM Stephen Sawula**
req The Sawula Family
- + **11:00AM Al Farnsworth**
req Priscilla Farnsworth
- + **12:30PM Salvatore Pallone**
req Louise Pallone
- 3:00PM Special Intention of Jessy Ozuna**
req The Ozuna Family
- + **6:30PM Al Yancius**
req Nancy's ChristLife Table 7 Friends

1. Baruch 5:1-9

Baruch served as scribe to Jeremiah, writing down, and even speaking, the oracles against Judah and the Jerusalem temple. But in his own right, Baruch writes words of hope to the exiles in Babylon, now more disposed than before to listen to God's word. Baruch invites the exiles to stop mourning and prepare to celebrate a brighter future. Jerusalem, once ruined by faithlessness, would be restored and become a standard of faith. The exiles' return is contrasted with their banishment.

2. Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11

Paul holds up the community of Philippi as models to be emulated by other churches. In this excerpted text, he encourages them to continue their progress toward fullness of life in Jesus, promising them his prayers so they would be ready for the day of Christ, the day of His coming. But on that day, they will triumph because the God Who began the work in them will bring it to completion.

3. Luke 3:1-6

Before introducing the figure of the Baptist, Luke wants his readers to know that this man (John), and the Jesus he points to were real historical figures, not fictional characters dreamed up in someone's imagination. To do this, he sets them in the historical context of the civil and religious leaders of the day. Only then does he introduce the Baptist, using the prophet Isaiah as a reference. This Baptist's preaching calls his hearers to submit to God's will and repent of their sins. Having accepted the call, they will find themselves included in the restored people of God.

REFLECTIONS FOR THE WEEK

1. Baruch proclaims we are remembered by God and that a brighter future lies ahead. As you look at the world today, and all its problems, do you see a brighter future?
2. What is needed in your life to make the roads of your journey straighter and easier to travel?
3. Where are you in your relationship to Jesus: wandering, an exile or a disciple?

NEXT WEEKEND'S PRESIDERS

Sat. 12/14	5:30PM	Fr. Frank
Sun. 12/15	8:00AM	Fr. Jakov
	9:30AM	Fr. Ron
	11:00AM	Fr. Ron
	12:30PM	Fr. Frank
	3:00PM	Fr. Jakov
	6:30PM	Fr. Frank

Late changes appear on the website after 12NN
on the Saturday of that weekend.



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