

January 17, 2021

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January 17, 2021

# SECOND Sunday in ORDINARY TIME

As John the Baptist watched Jesus walk by, he said,  
“Behold, the Lamb of God.”

JOHN 1:36

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## **SPEAK, LORD, WE ARE LISTENING**

In today’s first reading God keeps calling out in the night to a sleeping boy. Neither the boy, Samuel, nor his teacher, Eli, understands who is calling. But God’s persistence convinces them. Samuel is then ready—not ready yet to do anything, but ready to listen. “Speak, for your servant is listening” (1 Samuel 3:10).

In the Gospel Jesus is out teaching. Various people notice him and begin to gather around. They soon become disciples and, like the young Samuel, are ready—not ready yet to do anything, but ready to listen. “Speak,” they say, “we are listening.”

God’s voice is always with us, awake or asleep. It swirls around us like fog on a waterfront, enveloping us, gently urging us to wake up, to listen. Awareness of the voice comes first; then willingness to listen; then, in time, the decision to act, to live according to God’s word. Let’s ask today for the ability to keep our ears open so we don’t miss God’s voice.

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## **FEAST OF FAITH - The Greeting**

At several points during the liturgy, the presider greets us with the words, “The Lord be with you.” These simple words are not like the greetings that we exchange all day long—our “good mornings,” our “hellos” and “how are you.” This liturgical greeting has roots deep in the Old Testament. In the book of Ruth, the words “the Lord be with you” are spoken by Boaz to the harvesters who are laboring in his fields (2:4); in the book of Judges, an angel speaks similar words to Gideon (6:12), where they are words of promise: for soon Gideon will lead his oppressed people to victory and freedom. For us, the words become a greeting of peace, a prayer that the Lord will indeed be with us, and a reminder of his promise to be with us always, to the end of the world (Matthew 28:20). Our response—“And also with you,” soon to be “And with your spirit”—returns to the presider this prayer for the Lord’s presence. As we know from the scriptures, a prayer for the Lord’s presence is no small thing, for when God comes in our midst, God brings healing, grace, and challenge. God’s presence transforms us.

—Corinna Laughlin, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

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Subscribe on Parish Website or Select the ministries from which you would like to receive notices. Text [mountcarmel](text:mountcarmel) to 84576 and follow the link sent to subscribe.

# Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church

## Initiation Programs and Adult Formation

### **Becoming Catholic**

Is Christ calling you into the Catholic Church? What does the Catholic Church actually believe? What does it mean to be a disciple of Christ? If you are interested in exploring the answers to these questions, we'd like to help.

The RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults, Youth & Children) process is one of conversion and spiritual formation for individuals interested in living the Christian life in the Catholic tradition. It is a time of prayer, reflection, study, faith sharing, discernment and participation in the life of the parish. This process is for those who have never been baptized, those who were baptized in another faith tradition, or those who were baptized Catholic and seek full initiation.

### **RCIA Sponsors**

Parish sponsors accompany those in the RCIA process of conversation and faith formation as companions on the journey. Sponsors support those in RCIA with prayers and their own witness to the Christian way of life. Serving as a sponsor fulfills the necessary ministry envisioned by the RCIA process, but it is also an incredibly enriching experience.

### **Awakening Faith**

Have you been away from the active practice of your Catholic faith? Would you like to feel more connected with your childhood faith or learn more about it as an adult? Consider attending the Awakening Faith Series. We can assist you return to the active practice of your faith and welcome you back to the Lord's Table.

### **Adult Confirmation**

Are you an active practicing Catholic adult who "missed" participating in the Sacrament of Confirmation? We invite you to enter the process of preparation at the parish.

### **Virtual Women's Bible Study**

The Activated Disciple Challenge - A 10 week video study + intro session – Mondays from 7pm - 8:30pm - 1/11 - 3/15. This study will meet via Zoom. Registration information is available at [olmc.org](http://olmc.org).

**Are you a fan or a follower?** As Catholics, we practice our faith, and we study what it means to truly be a disciple of Jesus Christ. We often find that we're not fully living out the bold, abundant, Christ-life life we're called to live.

*The Activated Disciple 40-Day Challenge* is a clear, step-by-step transformative process that helps you put what you've been studying into action. To become the activated disciple you are called to be.

An activated disciple is someone who strives every moment of every day to imitate Jesus. It's someone who desires such a close relationship with God that every area of his or her life is fully transformed. It's someone who actively proclaims the Gospel in their daily life.

You are invited to take the challenge. As you reorient your life toward Jesus, you will notice the profound transformation a close relationship with him brings each day. Registration information is available at [olmc.org](http://olmc.org).

### **That Man Is You – New Sessions begin in January!**

That Man Is You is an interactive, multimedia men's program focused on the development of authentic male leadership. That Man Is You! is successful at attracting large numbers of men, including younger men still actively parenting, and then transforming their spiritual lives. TMIY will meet on Saturday mornings at OLMC. Join the men of the parish for breakfast, a short video presentation and small group discussion designed especially for men. Registration information is available at [olmc.org](http://olmc.org).

### **Discipleship Small Groups: Faith and Fellowship**

Life is all about relationships. Small groups deepen our relationships with Christ and one another. The New Year is a great time to consider trying a small group! These small groups are a place to grow spiritually, find support and encouragement, face challenges together and share fellowship. There are no teachers in small groups. Trained parishioners facilitate conversations. The groups will discuss life and faith, reflect on God's Word together, seek God together and pray for and with one another.

If you have not participated in the past, give it a try this season! Groups are forming for men, women, couples and young adults.

### **NEW! Pathways: Delivered Catechist Certification is here!**

Pathways: Delivered is a self-paced, online learning process that forms parish catechists within the Diocese of Richmond. The formation offers practical training, flexible solutions, and ongoing support. The formation is available to all who hand on the faith to adults, youth and children in the parish.

If you are discerning serving as a catechist at our parish, contact us to learn more about the role of catechist and to how to access the Tier-One Catechist Training. The parish covers all fees for Pathways: Delivered.

If are currently serving as a catechist and have completed Pathways, we will notify you when Tier-Two and Tier-Three Catechist Training become available. To learn more, visit [olmc.org](http://olmc.org) or contact Christa at the parish office at extension 107 or email [cblomstrom@olmc.org](mailto:cblomstrom@olmc.org).

# Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church

## Social Ministry

*Transformed by **The Eucharist...**  
**Reaching Out** into community*

Contact Tina Wandersee at [twandersee@olmc.org](mailto:twandersee@olmc.org) or ext. 118

### OLMC Food Pantry

Thank you so much for your weekly support of the food pantry! If you do not have the habit of bringing food each week for the food pantry - it is never too late to start. Just remember to bring one item off of our list with you as you head out the door to Mass each weekend. Drop your item in the white bin located on the right side of the commons of the Church.

**Currently we are in need of:** Tuna and Chicken Helper, Peas and Carrots (we have PLENTY of green beans and corn!), Macaroni n' Cheese, Jelly, Canned Pasta, Soup.

**Personal Care Items Needed:** At this time we are in desperate need of family sizes. Shampoo, Conditioner, Body Lotion, Soap, Toothbrushes, Toothpaste

*Please be mindful that perishable or refrigerated items should not be placed in the white bin in the commons. These items do have to be thrown away when we come across them as we do not have a good idea of how long they have been there.*

### Pregnancy Outreach

Thank you so much for all of your donations this past Christmas Season! Pregnancy Outreach is always accepting new or gently used clothing from 0-24mo (2T). We are always accepting items for layettes such as: wash cloths, teethers, bibs, onesies, sleep sacks, 0-3 rattles and toys, etc.

*Please note that we are not able to accept any other sized clothing to include adult items or household items, luggage, etc. These items can be dropped off directly at LINK of Hampton Roads or your local Goodwill Store.*

**Thank you so very much for your continued support!**



**Our Lady of Mount Carmel**  
PRE-K THROUGH 8TH GRADE CATHOLIC SCHOOL



*Shine Like the Stars*

OLMC DINNER & AUCTION | 03.13.2021

### Shine Like the Stars OLMC Dinner & Auction

This year our auction will look a little different. We're going virtual with dinner-to-go.

Outback Steakhouse will cater our take out dinner. We invite you to pick up your dinner from St. Michael Hall on Saturday, March 13, 5:00pm – 6:30pm. Outback will be serving chicken, steak, mashed potatoes, Caesar salad, and a roll. **Tickets must be purchased in advance and are available from the school Monday, February 8<sup>th</sup>.**

Stay connected though the OLMC School Website at  
<https://www.olmc-school.com/support-our-school/auction/>  
Or on Facebook by searching @OLMCCatholicSchoolAuction.

# MINISTERIO HISPANO

Segundo Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario

Director - Diácono Francisco Anleu: Oficina - (757) 595-0385 Ext. 123, Celular - (757) 846-0628, Email - fanleu@olmc.org

Misas en Español: Domingos - 2:00 PM

Confesiones: Sábados, 3 PM, Miércoles, 5 PM



## HABLA, SEÑOR, ESTAMOS ESCUCHANDO

En la primera lectura de hoy Dios llama repetidas veces en la noche a un niño dormido. Ni el niño, Samuel, ni su maestro, Elí, entienden quién está llamando. Pero la persistencia de Dios los convence. Samuel ya está listo; no para hacer algo todavía, pero dispuestos a escuchar. “Habla Señor, tu siervo te escucha” (1 Samuel 3:10).

En el Evangelio, Jesús está afuera enseñando. Varias personas lo ven y comienzan a reunirse alrededor. Pronto se convierten en discípulos y, al igual que el joven Samuel, están listos, no para hacer algo todavía, pero dispuestos a escuchar. “Habla”, dicen, “te escuchamos”.

La voz de Dios está siempre con nosotros, ya sea que estemos despiertos o dormidos. Se arremolina a nuestro alrededor como la niebla en una costa envolviéndonos, suavemente nos urge a despertar, a escuchar. Estar conscientes de la voz es lo primero; luego la voluntad de escuchar; y más luego, con el tiempo, la decisión de actuar, de vivir según la Palabra de Dios. Vamos a pedir hoy por la capacidad de mantener los oídos abiertos para que no se pierda la voz de Dios.

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## FIESTA DE LA FE

### Del cumplimiento a la espiritualidad

La Eucaristía dominical ha de ser más que un mero cumplimiento de uno de los mandamientos de la santa madre Iglesia. La participación plena, consciente y activa en la celebración litúrgica supone ser un punto no negociable en la vida de los cristianos. No es del mero cumplimiento del precepto donde obtenemos lo necesario para continuar nuestra vida (aunque puede darse), es más bien, de asumir en nuestra vida lo que implica celebrar la Eucaristía. Es, creo yo, hacernos eco de la voz de los mártires del Norte de África que, ante la posibilidad del martirio y la experiencia de la tortura a causa de su fe, fueron capaces de afirmar: “No podemos ser cristianos sin la Eucaristía”. Resulta obvio que la celebración es parte de esta cláusula, pero más allá está el atar la vida a ese misterio que se celebra; el transformar nuestra vida por la palabra proclamada, vivir con la frescura de tratarlos como hermanos y hermanas, hacernos pan para que todos coman; trabajar por la justicia como una posibilidad que puede comenzar ahora mismo y que como resultado tendrá la misericordia y la compasión hacia los demás. Si en realidad celebramos la plenitud del sacramento, domingo a domingo, no podremos ser cristianos sin la Eucaristía, sin convertirnos en lo que celebramos.

—Miguel Arias, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.



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Meetings are on the 2nd & 4th Tuesday

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