

OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL CATHOLIC CHURCH

NEWPORT NEWS, VA

We find Christ here. We bring Christ to the world.



**"I SHALL CULTIVATE THE GROUND
AROUND IT AND FERTILIZE IT;
IT MAY BEAR FRUIT IN THE FUTURE.
IF NOT YOU CAN CUT IT DOWN."**

LUKE 13:8-9

100 Harpersville Road, Newport News, VA 23601

Phone: 757-595-0385 - www.olmc.org

Parish Office Hours: Monday - Thursday: 9 am - 5 pm; Friday: 9 am - 3 pm

Outreach Office Phone: 757-596-1727

Outreach Office Hours: M, W, Th: 12 noon - 2 pm; T, F: 9 am - 11 am

Pregnancy Helpline: 757-870-3131

Pharmacy Outreach: ext. 125

Please Note Changes to Schedule

Solemnity of the Annunciation Holy Mass, Friday, March 25th 10:30am with school. NO 7:00 am Mass

Stations of the Cross, Friday, March 25th 7:00 pm

Stations of the Cross, Friday, April 1st 7:00 pm

Stations of the Cross, Friday, April 8th 7:00 pm in Spanish

Stations of the Cross, Good Friday, April 15th Noon

Easter Flowers

This Easter Season, remember your loved ones by sponsoring an Easter Lily used to decorate our Worship Center. Please bring your check or cash donation of \$15 to the Parish Office along with a note telling us who the plant is in memory of no later than April 13.

If you wish to place your donation in the offertory, please mark the envelope "Attn: Eileen" and be sure to include the name(s) in the envelope.



Join **Our Lady's Prayer Group** to pray the rosary and Chaplet of Divine Mercy the last Saturday of every month from 9:00am—10:30 am in the church. Bring your Intentions .

Third Sunday of Lent

Elizabeth Barret Browning wrote, "Earth's crammed with heaven, And every common bush afire with God, But only he who sees, takes off his shoes; The rest sit round it and pluck blackberries." We are challenged today to experience the mystery of God with the image of Moses and the burning bush—a God who answers all questions in a simple, bold manner. Like an exasperated parent telling a child "Because I said so," God tells Moses "I am who I am," and "tell the Israelites I AM sent me to you." God may as well have said, "Save all your questions, and trust in me. Quit being so stubborn." The passage from First Corinthians reminds us what happened when the Israelites did not listen to God's message. They grumbled and complained because manna from heaven was not enough! Lastly, an annoyed Jesus calls on his listeners to repent and uses a difficult parable to stress transformation.

A CONTINUOUS LENT

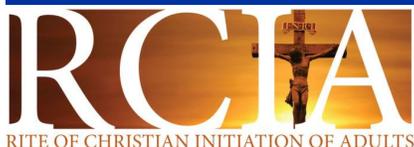
In the Rule of Saint Benedict, the monks are told that their lives should be a "continuous Lent." At first, this may sound like a negative, difficult thing, or entirely depressing. Rather, it is simply a call to be open and continue growing. In fact, one of the vows that Benedictines profess is Conversatio Morum, that is, "conversion of life." In a nutshell, that is what Jesus is saying this week. We are being called to change our lives. Some people came to Jesus with gossip and a gruesome story about Pilate; Jesus challenged them with a couple of pointed questions, and then related the parable of the fig tree. To put it in context, usually figs blossom within two years, and then can be harvested twice a year. When a tree has been barren three years, it might be best just to remove it, but this is not the approach that Jesus suggested. Rather, the gardener in the parable chose to nurture the tree, fertilizing it with dung. He was not willing to give up on it.

GROWTH

There are times when we may feel our lives are covered in dung, and we lie dormant through a plethora of difficult and painful moments. But Jesus is calling us to use this time, to draw strength from it, to use the dung in our lives as fertilizer, to begin a slow and steady transformation to a new and better place, until we too can bear fruit. Growth is always a process, and we have to start somewhere. While there is always a call to repentance and conversion, we are blessed with a God who is loving enough and patient enough to wait for us to come to our senses, however long that may take. This Lent we are being called to life. We are called to repent. We are called to be nurtured and fertilized and take the time and effort to grow.

Today's Readings: Ex 3:1-8a, 13-15; Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8, 11; 1 Cor 10:1-6, 10-12; Lk 13:1-9

Initiation Programs and Adult Formation



RCIA: Journey toward Easter

Our Elect continue their journey toward Easter as we as a parish celebrate the scrutinies. These very special rites are celebrated on the middle three Sundays of Lent, at liturgies where the Elect are present. The Elect are those in our midst who are preparing for Baptism. Part of their journey to the font is that they have been received among us at the Rite of Acceptance, and they have been enrolled in the Book of the Elect at the Rite of Election.

Even if these rites are not celebrated at the liturgy we attend, it can be wonderful to reflect upon the journey these Elect are making during Lent, as an inspiration and source of renewal for us in our journey.

This is a beautiful way for the church community to provide support for those seeking Baptism or full communion with the Catholic Church – and to deepen our own commitment to our Catholic faith. Please continue to pray for our Elect and candidates during their Lenten journey and may their witness enrich our journey as well.

Adult Confirmation – Sessions begin in May

Adult Confirmation is for Catholic adults who have already received Baptism and First Holy Communion. The next Adult Confirmation session will begin May 3, 2022.

To register, visit olmc.org or contact Christa at the parish office at extension 107 or email cblomstrom@olmc.org.



Married Couples Retreat

We invite married couples from throughout the Diocese of Richmond to participate in our **Married Couples Retreat at Wintergreen Resort on April 29-30**. This retreat is open to all married couples regardless of how long they have been married. We'll have talks, prayer, Mass, and plenty of time for couples to spend with each other in conversation and reflection. If you are interested, please sign up at evangelizerichmond.org.



walking with purpose

Walking With Purpose – Meets on Wednesdays at 7pm

Are you stretched and would like a way to refuel and be refreshed while making authentic connections with others? Would you like to have a better understanding of your faith and learn more about God?

Walking with Purpose is a Catholic Bible study for women that aims to bring women to a deeper personal relationship with Jesus Christ by offering personal study and small group discussion that link our everyday challenges with the solutions given to us through the teachings of Christ and the Catholic Church.

Details at olmc.org or call the parish office to register.

Small Groups: Lent is a great time to join a small group! Life is all about relationships. Small groups deepen our relationships with Christ and one another. These small groups are a place to grow spiritually, find support and encouragement, face challenges together and share fellowship.

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! **Interested? Fill out the short interest form on our website at olmc.org or call the parish office.**

“For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.” Matthew 18:20

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church

OLMC Men's Group – That Man is You! – Meets Saturday mornings

Our Lady of Mount Carmel invites all the men of the parish to consider being a part of That Man Is You. TMIY meets Saturday mornings in St. Michael Hall from 7:00 - 8:30 AM.



We gather weekly for fellowship, to watch a video, and engage in small group discussion. This year we are contemplating the quote by St. Irenaeus, "The Glory of God is a man fully alive".

If, like us, you are striving to be a man of God, one who embraces his vocation, whether as husband, father or single man, TMIY is for you. Lent is a perfect time to turn to the Lord and join other brothers who the Lord has gathered together to support and encourage each other.

If you desire to grow in holiness this Lent, we urge you to join us. So many have found that the Lord transforms this small sacrifice of time and sleep on a Saturday morning into a closer relationship with Him, and a greater love for those who have been entrusted to you! **For more info call the parish office or register at this link: <https://tinyurl.com/TMIYolmc>**

Pastoral Care

Lenten Challenge: How can you show up for others?

The call to almsgiving in Lent challenges us to show up to the suffering of others. We are called to look at the world through the heart of Christ and feel His compassion for the poor and suffering around us. As we enter this season of Lent, may we grow in selflessness and service to others.

Take some time to reflect upon the Corporal Works of Mercy and prayerfully consider how you can be Christ to another during this season of Lent. If you feel called to support the Pastoral Care Ministry, give us a call at the parish office or attend one of the upcoming trainings.

Respite Ministry – March 24 Training Opportunity

Are you being called to be a compassionate companion a few hours a month? The Respite Ministry is in need of ministers to provide in-home respite care that provides caregivers with an opportunity to run errands, visit the doctor, or attend Mass knowing that their loved one is being well cared for while they are away. You are invited to attend the upcoming training and learn more about this important ministry.

Respite Ministry Training

6:30pm Thursday, March 24, 2022

Gathering Room (located in the church)

Contact us at respitcare@olmc.org, Kindly RSVP by 3/20.



Nourish for Caregivers – 7:00pm, Thursday, April 7 at Saint Michael Hall
This month's topic: "Speak Up -- Overcoming Challenges of Advocacy"



Circle of Hope – 10:00am Saturday, April 2 at Saint Michael Hall

Have you been touched in some way by cancer or by a chronic illness or condition?

You are invited to attend a Circle of Hope gathering to find faith-based support and encouragement. Circle of Hope is a community that prays together, shares stories with one another and finds hope in God together. Caretakers, survivors and those living with a diagnosis are all invited to attend our monthly gatherings.

Circle of Hope meets the first Saturday of most months, give us a call for more information.

Emmaus Journey Retreat for Grieving Parents

To meet the spiritual needs of parents whose children of any age have died by any cause, no matter how long ago, the Diocese of Richmond now offers the Emmaus Journey retreat. A faith-based, day-long, spiritual retreat for grieving parents, The Emmaus Journey offers a safe place where you can seek peace, comfort, and hope. Our next retreat is at Church of the Epiphany in Richmond on March 19. If you are interested, please sign up at evangelizerichmond.org.

Virtus Training at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church

The Diocese of Richmond requires that all those who minister with children, youth or vulnerable adults complete the Virtus Safe Environment Training. **To register for the Virtus Training and to view additional training dates, please visit virtusonline.org.**

YES YOU CAN! - Learn more about our faith this Lent by reading one of the books in our parish library. The parish library is located in the narthex and many books are available for your Lenten spiritual reading.

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church



Baptism classes are the first Saturday of the month. For more information please contact Christy Barton 595-0385 ext. 131 or cbarton@olmc.org.



Vacation Bible School is June 20-24. Virtus trained volunteers are needed. If you are interested in volunteering please contact Christy Barton 595-0385 ext. 131 or cbarton@olmc.org.

RESCHEDULED Bunco Party & Silent Auction!

Let's get together and join your fellow parishioners for a night of fun and excitement at the **Bunco Party & Silent Auction on Friday, April 29, in St. Michael Hall**. The evening will begin at 7:00 with our Silent Auction, accompanied by complimentary hors d'oeuvres, wine, and beer. The guilds of the Ladies of Carmel are donating themed gift baskets and other wonderful items to the auction.



Bunco begins at 7:45. **Never played Bunco before? Fear not!** It's really easy, and our resident Bunco expert, Susan Adams, will teach us all how to play! Cash prizes will be awarded in several categories of winners (& even losers)! We will also have a 50/50 raffle that evening.

Tickets are \$25 per person and are available in the Parish Office during the week and in the Commons the weekends of March 26/27 and April 23/24. **Only 80 Tickets will be sold, so get yours soon!**

LADIES OF CARMEL MEMBERSHIP

The Ladies of Carmel will be hosting a morning meet and greet at the school soon to form a guild composed of school moms. Stay tuned for further details!! All ladies of the parish are encouraged to join the Ladies of Carmel. Please contact PaulaKrew@gmail.com or LOC@OLMC.ORG for information.

Holy Week Schedule

Holy Thursday, April 14

7:00 p.m. Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper

Good Friday, April 15

12:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross
3:00 p.m. The Passion of the Lord (Spanish)
7:00 p.m. The Passion of the Lord (English)

Holy Saturday, April 16

No Sacrament of Reconciliation on Holy Saturday
8:00 p.m. The Great Easter Vigil in the Holy Night

Easter Sunday, April 17

Holy Masses: 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., 12:00 a.m.,
2:00 p.m. (Santa Misa en Español)

Please note: No 5:00 pm Mass on Easter Sunday

Parish Office Closures

Monday, April 11—Offices close at Noon
Offices are closed April 14—April 19



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



Thank you for supporting
our annual
school auction!



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

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church

Social Ministry

*Transformed by **The Eucharist...***

***Reaching Out** into community*

Contact Tina Wandersee at twandersee@olmc.org or ext. 118

Thank you so very much for your continued support of the POOR Fund (Parish Charities Envelope) each month! We are able to provide support to those in need in the city of Newport News due to your generosity.

The FOOD PANTRY Needs Your Weekly Support

The Food Pantry is stocked by your weekend donations and we need your support! If you are not in the habit of bringing a food item to Mass with you please consider starting this during the Lenten season. With the size of the parish, one item per family would be more than enough to stock the pantry.

Currently we need: Pasta and Pasta Sauce, Macaroni n Cheese, Canned Tomatoes, Tuna and Chicken Helper, Canned Fruit, Chef Boy R Dee, Crackers, Juice

Personal Care: Shampoo, Deodorant, and Toilet Paper

40 Days for Life Spring Campaign



Have you ever been to the March for Life in Richmond or in Washington DC, come home, and found yourself wondering what next?

I'd like to invite you to prayerfully consider joining us for our Spring Campaign of 40 Days for Life, we begin praying on March 2nd. You will be joining one of the largest and most successful pro-life international prayer groups. To date over 20,000 precious little babies have been saved. Please join us by simply giving one hour each week to pray with us as we lift up in prayer all of the vulnerable mothers, who through tremendous difficulties in their lives, are now considering abortion.

Please register to pray with us at: www.40daysforlife.com/en/newportnews

Please contact Caroline at: BabiesAreBlessingsYouCanCuddle@gmail.com

New Partnership - NNP Domestic Violence Unit

Our Lady of Mt Carmel has started a new partnership with the NNP Domestic Violence Unit. Between 1/1/2021-1/31/2022, there were 10,389 domestic related calls for service (calls that were cancelled by communications were removed from this figure). Community based response is a component of NNP advocates in making sure that families and children are safe. The current need is for a family removed from a violent situation to be able to replace eye glasses for a legally blind child in the family, whose glasses were broken. If you would like to assist us with this need please consider a \$25, \$50 or \$100 Visa gift card toward the purchasing of these glasses. Place card in an envelope to Tina - NNP and I will drop it off to headquarters in the coming week. Any additional cards we receive and don't use for this family will be kept in inventory to go towards the needs of other families.



“This is my beloved Son, hear him.” Is our Lord asking you to follow him in tending His flock as a priest? Call the Vocations Office, (804) 359-5661, to speak with Fr. Brian Capuano; or write to vocations@richmonddiocese.org.

MINISTERIO HISPANO

Tercer Domingo de Cuaresma

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

Misas en Español: Domingos - 2:00 PM

Confesiones: Sábados, 3 PM, Miércoles, 5 PM



Actividades durante la Cuaresma Ministerio Hispano 2022

Todos los días Lunes de Cuaresma a las 7:00pm.

Estudio Bíblico sobre: La Pasión Muerte y Resurrección de Jesucristo

Lugar: Iglesia.

Viernes Durante la Cuaresma:

Catequesis sobre el Viacrucis

8:00pm en la Iglesia.

Empezaremos con el Viacrucis en español.

Retiro de Emaús Cuarto Día.

Sábado 19 de marzo

9:00am a 3:00pm

Salón San Miguel

Reflexión Cuaresmal

Lunes 21, martes 22, En la Iglesia. 7:00pm.

Miércoles 23 Salón San Miguel.

Jueves 24 de marzo.

Cierre de la reflexión Cuaresmal con la

Santa Eucaristía a las 6:30pm.

Viernes 8 de abril

Viacrucis en vivo

7:00pm en la Iglesia

Sábado 9 de abril

Retiro de Cuaresma

Salón San Miguel

9:00am a 3:00pm.

Dando Inicio con la Santa Eucaristía



Tercer Domingo de Cuaresma

Elizabeth Barret Browning escribió: "La tierra está repleta de cielo, y todos los arbustos comunes arden con Dios, pero sólo el que ve, se quita los zapatos; el resto se sienta alrededor y arranca moras". Hoy se nos desafía a experimentar el misterio de Dios con la imagen de Moisés y la zarza ardiente: un Dios que responde a todas las preguntas de forma sencilla y audaz. Como un padre exasperado que le dice a su hijo "Porque yo lo digo", Dios le dice a Moisés "Yo soy el que soy" y "dile a los israelitas que YO SOY me ha enviado a ti". Dios bien podría haber dicho: "Ahórrate todas tus preguntas y confía en mí. Deja de ser tan terco". El pasaje de la primera carta a los Corintios nos recuerda lo que sucedió cuando los israelitas no escucharon el mensaje de Dios. Refunfuñaron y se quejaron porque el maná del cielo no era suficiente. Por último, un Jesús molesto llama a sus oyentes a que se arrepientan y utiliza una parábola difícil para enfatizar la transformación.

UNA CUARESMA CONTINUA

En la regla de san Benito, se dice a los monjes que su vida deber ser una "Cuaresma continua". Al principio, esto puede sonar como algo negativo, difícil o totalmente deprimente. Más bien, es simplemente una llamada a estar abiertos y seguir creciendo. De hecho, uno de los votos que profesan los benedictinos es la Conversatio Morum, es decir, la "conversión de la vida". En pocas palabras, eso es lo que Jesús está diciendo esta semana. Estamos llamados a cambiar nuestras vidas. Algunas personas se acercaron a Jesús con chismes y una historia espantosa sobre Pilato; Jesús los desafió con un par de preguntas punzantes, y luego relató la parábola de la higuera. Para ponerlo en contexto, normalmente los higos florecen en dos años, y luego se pueden cosechar dos veces al año. Cuando un árbol lleva tres años estéril, lo mejor sería eliminarlo, pero este no es el enfoque que sugirió Jesús. En cambio, el jardinero de la parábola optó por nutrir el árbol, fertilizándolo con estiércol. No estaba dispuesto a abandonarlo.

CRECIMIENTO

Hay momentos en los que podemos sentir que nuestras vidas están cubiertas de estiércol, y nos quedamos dormidos en una plétora de momentos difíciles y dolorosos. Pero Jesús nos llama a utilizar este tiempo, a sacar fuerzas de él, a utilizar el estiércol de nuestras vidas como abono, a comenzar una transformación lenta y constante hacia un lugar nuevo y mejor, hasta que nosotros también podamos dar fruto. El crecimiento es siempre un proceso, y tenemos que empezar por algún sitio. Aunque siempre hay una llamada al arrepentimiento y a la conversión, hemos sido bendecidos con un Dios que es lo suficientemente amoroso y paciente como para esperar a que entremos en razón, por mucho tiempo que nos lleve. En esta Cuaresma se nos llama a la vida. Estamos llamados a arrepentirnos. Estamos llamados a ser alimentados y fertilizados y a tomarnos el tiempo y el esfuerzo para crecer.

Lecturas para hoy: Ex 3:1-8a, 13-15; Sal 103 (102):1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8, 11; 1 Cor 10:1-6, 10-12; Lc 13:1-9

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"YO SOY me ha enviado a ustedes". ¿Podría ser que el Señor te está llamando para proclamar Su nombre como sacerdote? Llama al Padre Brian Capuano al (804) 359-5661 o escríbele a: vocations@richmonddiocese.org.

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