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NEWPORT NEWS, VA

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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

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church

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Reflection for June 19, 2022—Body and Blood of Christ

Reflection by Rev. Leonard N. Peterson

As a boy of the Fifties, I was an avid fan of those now dated science fiction movies of the day. To view them now would bring a smile at their primitive technology compared to much later productions like “ET” and my all-time favorite “Close Encounters of the Third Kind.” I can recall being disappointed many years ago to see a zipper running up the back of a so-called alien!

Except for the two I named, all of the other films depicted creatures from other worlds as not only far ahead of us in their technology but also completely hostile to us and dead set on our destruction. They had no interest in learning about us as fellow creatures, much less our way of life. Only “Close Encounters” showcased any attempt at friendship with us.

All of this cinema history came to mind as I reflected on today’s feast, under the category of interest in us. How humbling yet comfort giving it is to consider how much God loves us.

Despite our stubborn persistence in sinning, brought about by our abuse of the gift of free will, He manifests a love so deep. It’s a wonder that He has not given up on us. Far from it!

Today we consider His unique arrangement for remaining with us even after He had to leave us physically for His return to the Father in heaven. He chose to be with us through a meal, the one way we always celebrate being together.

He took a piece of the unleavened bread and pronounced it His Body; a cup of wine pronounced it His Blood. His one instruction to the stupefied men with Him at that Last Supper was “Do this in memory of Me.” That’s why we do what we do at every Mass, in obedience to His mandate right up to this very morning.

None of us can fully understand *how* it happens, we with our sin hampered intellects and faulty imaginations. But *that* it happens is not in doubt because He is God’s only Son, raised from the dead. No other founder of any religion can make that claim or issue that order. It’s as simple as that. And as mysterious. Our one physical connection to Our Lord and God and Best Friend.

Think back to how we missed the Mass in person during that long Covid lock down. How the weird feeling of being in prison for no crime caught us by surprise. All we could do was stare at a screen and watch the priest consecrate what he was unable to share with us. Right or wrong for our government to demand all the closures, we felt somehow adrift on many Sundays. Is the virus the work of the devil? To me, very likely, just as any of his other clever efforts like the clergy abuse scandal.

Today’s Second Reading antedates all four Gospels. In another sense it bears a second reading, and a third and more.

Reading I: Genesis 14: 18-20

Melchizedek, the king of Salem (peace) and priest of God most high, gives a blessing to Abram by offering bread and wine to the Lord.

Reading II: I Corinthians 11: 23-26

Paul passes on to his readers what he had received from the Lord. We recognize that Jesus fulfills Melchizedek’s offering here by giving us His Body and Blood under the forms of bread and wine.

The Gospel: Luke 9: 11b-17

Jesus had no difficulty feeding the hungry crowd of at least ten thousand people with five loaves and two fish. Clearly a harbinger of the Holy Eucharist, whereby He would feed the world.

Initiation Programs and Adult Formation

Initiation and Adult Faith Formation



Becoming Catholic

The RCIA 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 adults and children who have never been baptized, those who were baptized in another faith tradition, or those who were baptized Catholic and seek full initiation.

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 your 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.

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.

That Man Is You (TMIY)

That Man Is You! is an interactive men's program focused on the development of male leadership in the modern world. It combines the best research in science with the teaching of the Catholic faith and the wisdom of the saints to develop the vision of authentic men capable of transforming themselves, their families, and the greater society.

Small Groups

Small groups are life changing – join one at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church this fall! Our small groups offer men and women an opportunity to pray, study and grow in their faith together. Small groups journey together in discipleship. To learn more about being a part of a small group or to receive training to start a small group find us online at olmc.org.

A graphic with a warm, golden-brown background. At the top, the text "Enjoy the Summer" is written in a large, elegant, black cursive font. Below this, there is a rectangular inset photograph showing three young children in purple shirts looking at something together. To the right of the photo is a large, white daisy flower with a monarch butterfly perched on its stem. At the bottom left, the text "School resumes August 22nd" is written in a bold, black, sans-serif font. At the bottom right is the circular logo of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic School, featuring a shield with a cross, a lamp, and a book, surrounded by the school's name.

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church

Pastoral Care

An Invitation to Serve -

Visiting the Sick and Homebound - Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion for the Sick are lay ministers sent by the parish to bring the Word of God and the Holy Eucharist to parishioners who are confined to their homes, to hospitals, or senior living communities.

You are invited to prayerfully consider if God is calling you to serve in this way. Serving as an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion for the Sick is both an honor and a responsibility, and those who commit deserve proper training. If you feel called to be a bridge of faith and bring Jesus into the lives of others, contact Christa Blomstrom at the parish office.

“Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am meek and humble of heart; and you will find rest for yourselves. For My yoke is easy, and my burden light.”

-Matthew 11:28-30

Emmaus Journey: A Retreat for Grieving Parents

The Emmaus Journey is a spiritual retreat for parents whose child(ren) of any age have died by any cause, no matter how long ago. The Emmaus Journey offers a safe place where you can find peace, comfort and hope.

Gather with us in a warm and loving environment with others who know something of your pain. The one-day retreats are offered in the Diocese of Richmond. The next retreat will be at **Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church on Saturday, August 13th**. Pick up a brochure after Mass at the Welcome Desk for an outline of the retreat.

Find out more at olmc.org or contact Christa at the parish office.

Nourish for Caregivers – meets monthly

Do you care for a loved one? Be Nourished! Join our Nourish Group.

Nourish for Caregivers provides the tools and resources to build a caregiver’s resilience in a format rich with Inspiration, practical information, spiritual nourishment... AND time for open sharing and interactive activities. Leave less stressed, feel more confident and connected to others. Enrich your prayer life. Come! Be Nourished!

Circle of Hope

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 is taking a break for the summer and will resume the first Saturday in September.

Respite Ministry

Are you a caregiver who is seeking some respite time for yourself? The Respite Ministry provides parishioners who are full time caretakers of a home-bound loved one, a break of a few hours’ time to use as he or she sees fit.

During that time, a trained parish Respite Minister will provide safety, supervision, and companionship to the homebound family member.

To find out more about Nourish for Caregivers, Circle of Hope and/or the Respite Ministry, call Christa at the parish office ext. 107.

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 to complete the Virtus Safe Environment Training.

To register for the Virtus Training and to view additional training dates, please visit virtusonline.org.

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church

Social Ministry

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

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

OUTREACH OFFICE

The Outreach Office receives those in need of assistance into our office 2 hours each day during the week. We could use extra support interviewing those seeking assistance on Wed or Thurs from 12-2pm, or answering the door & doing some office work on Tuesday morning from 9-11am. If you have time & aren't sure if this is for you, please schedule a time to check us out. You do not need to have any prior training as the office is training ground enough. Contact Tina, info above.

FOOD PANTRY

Currently we need: Spam, Can Chicken, Tuna, Vienna Sausages, Salmon, Can of Mix Veggies, Carrots, Tomatoes, Pasta Sauce, Hamburger/Tuna/Chicken Helpers, Chunky Soup, Chicken Noodle Soups, Cream Soups, Muffin Mix, Spaghetti/Pasta, Juice, Ramen Noodles, Oatmeal, Baked Beans, Large Peanut Butter, Box Potatoes, Pancake Mix and Syrup

Personal Care Items: Toothbrushes, Body Lotion, Shampoo, Toilet Paper, Paper Towels

Pregnancy Outreach Office MAY Statistics

Assisted With	# Items	Est. \$\$ Value
Wipes	10	\$60.00
Diapers	12	\$144.00
Baby Care	4	\$11.00
Layette	1	\$370.00
Formula	7	\$175.00
Baby Food	17	\$25.50
Baby Clothes	51	\$1530.00
TOTAL		\$2,315.50

Thank you so much for your generosity!

We are always accepting gently used and new clothing for boys and girls size 0-24months or (2T). Please freshly wash the clothes before donating them and place them in smaller bags as the large trash bags are hard to lift and manage. Your generosity is greatly appreciated by those seeking assistance with us.

Community

Ladies of Carmel Annual Garage Sale- Donations and Help Needed!



The Ladies of Carmel Annual Garage Sale will be Saturday, July 23 in the OLMC School Air-Conditioned Gym and Cafeteria from 7:30-11:30. Donations can be dropped off on Thursday, 7/21 from 6:30-8:00pm and Friday 7/22 from 9:30-5:30. Volunteers and carts will be available to help unload your donations. Drop off area is to the left of the school, between the Convent and school, enter through the double doors leading to the cafeteria. All parishioners, especially teens, are encouraged to volunteer to help set up, help on the day of the garage sale and with clean up. To volunteer please email paulakrew@gmail.com or call 757-593-2348. Ladies of Carmel fundraisers directly support the OLMC Community.



MINISTERIO HISPANO

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

“En cada uno se manifiesta el Espíritu para el bien común”.
 ¿Es que tu don del Espíritu Santo es el discernimiento de una vocación al sacerdocio? Llama al Padre Brian Capuano al (804) 359-5661 o escríbele a:

vocations@richmonddiocese.org.

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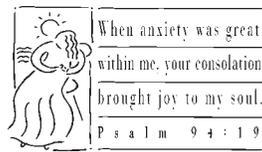
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