



Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish

2011 State Route 29 ~ Hunlock Creek, PA ~ 18621-4303

Office Phone: (570) 477-5040 ~ Fax: (570) 477-3040

Email: olmchc@gmail.com

Website: www.olmcsilkworth.com

Facebook Page: Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church

First Sunday in Lent

OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL

Clergy

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

Staff Members

Ellie Scovish	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.



The church now stands as the priest invites them to share in the Sacrifice of the Altar. Remember what it means when we stand, we are moving. This procession is to Calvary. As we make this sacrifice we unite ourselves, priest and congregation, to Jesus on His way to Golgotha. St. Paul writes,

“And you who once were alienated and hostile in mind because of evil deeds He has now reconciled in His fleshly body through His death, to present you holy, without blemish, and irreproachable before Him, provided that you persevere in the faith, firmly grounded, stable, and not shifting from the hope of the gospel that you heard, which has been preached to every creature under heaven, of which I, Paul, am a minister. Now I rejoice in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am filling up what is lacking in the afflictions of Christ on behalf of his body, which is the Church, of which I am a minister in accordance with God’s stewardship given to me to bring to completion for you the word of God, the mystery hidden from ages and from generations past.” (Colossians 1: 21-26a)

We can see this movement of offering our best gift at the altar. The priest offers “my sacrifice and yours” to God. And the people pray that the Lord may accept this sacrifice at the priest’s hands, “for the praise and glory of His name, for our good and the good of all His holy Church.” Like St. Paul, the priest offers the Body of Christ, in the same way Christ offered Himself, to the Father for our salvation. Every Holy Mass we unite ourselves to the sacrifice which helps us grow in our relationship with God and each other. Like Simon, we help carry the cross. God’s Peace!



Fr. Brian



Mass Intentions

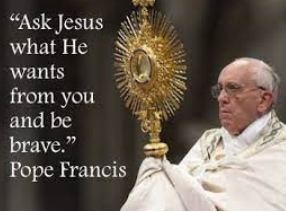
February 19 - February 25

Monday	8:30 AM	Thanksgiving for God's Healing, Blessings & Graces <i>Anonymous</i>
Wednesday	8:30 AM	Lavern, Marie & Robert Fontaine
Friday	8:30 AM	Pauline Zbieg <i>by Family</i>
Saturday	5:30 PM	Bob Folmar <i>by Mr. & Mrs. William Wallace</i>
Second Sunday of Lent		
Sunday	8:30 AM	All living & deceased Members & Benefactors of OLMC
	11:00 AM	Helen Zapusek <i>by Daughter & Son-in-Law</i>

The Light is On for You

Beginning **Monday**, February 19th, beginning at **5:30pm until 7:30pm** the church will be open for Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

There will also be a priest available for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. There is no better way to spend only one hour a week with the Lord through Lent!



Ecumenical Soup and Scripture Wednesdays @ 6pm

Every Wednesday we will be coming together as Christians to explore the Sacred Scriptures. The hosting parish will offer fellowship followed by a teaching from Sacred Scripture.

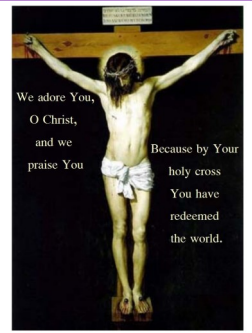


All are invited to attend!

Feb 21	Maple Grove UMC 5876 Main Rd - Hunlock Creek
Feb 28	Our Lady of Mount Carmel Please bring some food for our guests!
March 6	Prince of Peace Episcopal
March 13	Lehman-Idetown UMC
March 20	St. Paul's Lutheran

Stations of the Cross Fridays at 6:00pm

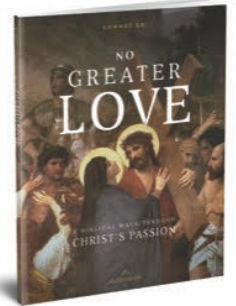
we will journey with Jesus along His way of the Cross. This Lenten devotion is rooted in ancient times of pilgrimage to the Holy Land. For those who cannot make this pilgrimage, we are given the opportunity at our local parishes.



ALSO remember that every Friday is a day of abstinence. Every Catholic, especially during Lent, is to abstain from meat on Fridays. Outside of Lent, another act of penance must be performed on Fridays when meat is eaten.

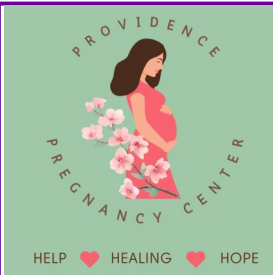
Soup, Salad and Study for the Soul

After Stations of the Cross on Friday, our community will gather to discover faith and fellowship.



Every **Friday** beginning around **6:30pm** we will be examining a journey of faith through **No Greater Love: A Biblical Walk through the Lord's Passion** with **Edward Sri**.

Also, if you would like to bring some vegetarian soup (that includes the broth), salad (no bacon bits) or bread please bring some to share!



Our Lenten Alms Giving will be focusing on baby bottles for the **Providence Pregnancy Center**. We encourage you to take a bottle home and fill it with coins, cash, or checks (made payable to Providence Pregnancy Center) throughout the season of Lent.

All the proceeds will go directly to women and children in crisis who need counseling, diapers, clothing, groups, and education. **Please return your bottle by March 24th**. You can learn more about Providence Pregnancy Center at www.ppcscranton.org. Thank you and a Blessed Lent.

Vocation Ministry



"I establish My covenant with you." If in your listening to the Lord you are sensing the invitation to follow Christ as a priest, sister, or brother, talk to your priest or reach out to the Vocation Office @ (570) 207-1452 or email vocations@dioceseofscranton

Stewardship Report

Weekly Budget	\$ 2,787.51
Week February 4	\$ 2,365.05
To Date Budget	\$ 123,718.14
To Date Donations	\$ 112,621.62
Total Surplus/(Deficit)	(\$11,096.52)



The parish office will be closed on **Monday Feb 19th**



Office Hours

Monday 9:00am - 4:00pm
Wednesday 9:00am - 4:00pm
Friday 9:00am - 4:00pm

If there is an immediate need please call St. Faustina Office at (570) 735-4833.



Scan to donate or visit annualappeal.org



Bishop's Annual Appeal

Parish Goal	\$19,000.00
Total Raised	\$18,782.00
Surplus / (Deficit)	(\$218.00)
Participating Members	27.12%



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 parish office (570-477-5040)



First Friday and Saturday Devotions

March 1 @ 8:30 am

First Friday Devotions to the Sacred Heart of Jesus

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

March 2 @ 8:30 am

First Saturday Mass w/Devotions to the Immaculate Heart of Mary

Held at Our Lady of Mount Carmel

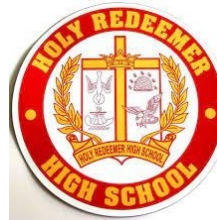
Eucharistic Adoration, Prayers to the Immaculate Heart of Mary and Confession



Faith Formation Classes

Sundays at 9:30 AM

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

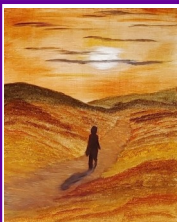


Holy Redeemer Spring Open House

Join us for a school tour meet our teachers, and become a ROYAL!!

Saturday, March 9, 2024 from Noon - 2:00 PM

Please call to register @ 570-829-2424 or www.holyredeemerhs.org



Lenten Men's Retreat

"Spiritual Direction: I'm Not Lost, I'm Wondering"

March 15th to March 16th

Holy Transfiguration Retreat Center, Dalton.

The cost of the retreat is only \$75

To register, visit www.beacatholicman.com. For more information, contact Joe Adcroft at 570-380-5070



Prayers Appreciated!

Please pray for our First Communion Students who received their First Penance on Saturday, Feb. 17th!

Please also keep our Level II - Confirmation Students in your prayers as they prepare for their Confirmation Retreat on March 2nd.



Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA)

RCIA is being offered at our parish. RCIA is a wonderful way to explore Catholicism. 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. We would love to have you join our family of faith!



Choir Members Welcome!

We have a couple celebrations coming up in the next few months: Holy Week and Easter at the end of March and Confirmation with Bishop Bambara on April 10th with a combined choir. If you love to sing, we would love to have you join us!

Our Lady of Mount Carmel

Pastor: Rev. Brian F. Van Fossen, V.F.
 Assistant: Rev. Richard Gyansah-Tabiri
 Deacon: Rev. Mr. Eugene Blockus

The data in this report has been supplied to the Diocese of Scranton by the parish. The Catholic School information was provided by the Diocesan Catholic Schools office. A dash (-) signifies there was no number submitted to the Diocese in that category that year. If you have any questions please contact the parish office for more information.

Kingston Deanery

All Saints	Plymouth
Gate of Heaven	Dallas
Holy Family	Luzerne
Holy Spirit	Mocanaqua
Our Lady of Mount Carmel	Lake Silkworth
Our Lady of Victory	Harvey's Lake
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton	Swoyersville
St. Faustina Kowalska	Nanticoke
St. Frances X Cabrini	Carverton
St. Ignatius Loyola	Kingston
St. John the Baptist	Larksville
St. Theresa	Shavertown

Parish Demographic Information

	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
Number of Households	548	424	546	544	561
Number of Parishioners	1330	977	1263	1267	1325
Total Number of Weekend Masses	3	3	3	3	3
Average Attendance per Weekend	233	218	198	123	393


Mass counts are taken every October

Sacramental Information


	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
Baptisms	14	11	9	13	5
First Holy Communion	15	8	11	9	11
Confirmation	10	12	11	20	16
RCIA / Baptism	1	0	1	1	7
RCIA / Full Communion	0	0	2	2	3
Marriages	2	5	4	4	5
Funerals	12	23	21	19	19

Faith Formation Participation

	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
Faith Formation K-8	46	61	65	74	67
Faith Formation 9-12	2	0	0	0	0
Catholic School Students	13	16	10	0	14
Adult Faith Formation	5	1	0	0	4

	VISION 2030	<i>Creating Parish Communities Rooted in the Life of Jesus Christ</i>	 DIOCESE OF SCRANTON
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Out of the current families, we have 409 households that contribute to the parish. 247 of these families contribute on a regular basis. We truly appreciate all the time, talent and treasure which makes our parish successful in proclaiming the Gospel. The welcome offered to visitors and community alike makes a person feel not only welcomed but also a valued member of our parish family. We can see this especially through our RCIA program which welcomes several new members this coming Easter. Please keep our parish in your prayers! God's Peace!




EZRA 10:4

A RETREAT FOR MEN DISCERNING THE PRIESTHOOD

Rev. Alex Roche


SCAN TO REGISTER
College Age +



Holy Family Spiritual Renewal Center, Nanticoke
Hosted by the Diocese of Scranton Vocations Office

MARCH 1-2, 2024

REGISTER AT DIOCESEOFSCRANTON.ORG/VOCATIONS



SAVE THE DATE!



REC'TORY, SET, COOK! 2024
COLLARS + SCHOLARS

**COMING THIS LENT!
TO A VIRTUAL KITCHEN
NEAR YOU!
LAUNCHES FEB. 13, 2024!**

WHO: DIOCESE OF SCRANTON PASTOR CHEFS
AND STUDENT OR GUEST CHEF PARTNERS FROM ELEVEN COUNTIES

WHAT: RECTORY, SET, COOK! III:
COLLARS + SCHOLARS!

WHEN: FEB. 13, 2024,
(FAT TUESDAY) THROUGH MARCH 26, 2024

WHERE: ANY COMPUTER SCREEN
OR MOBILE DEVICE

WHY: RECTORY, SET, COOK! IS A DIOCESE
OF SCRANTON ANTI-HUNGER AND ANTI-HOMELESSNESS
INITIATIVE. ALL SPONSORSHIP PROCEEDS
WILL BENEFIT CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES'
FOOD KITCHENS, FOOD PANTRIES
AND MEN'S AND WOMEN'S SHELTERS.

For more information,
call Sandra Snyder
at 570-591-5004
or email
Sandra-Snyder@dioceseofscranton.org



Church Festival Survey

There has been some changes in our parish festival over the past years. We moved from a three day to a two day festival. We are in need of volunteers and individuals who would like to lead in areas of the festival. We have been up against some other festivals and was wondering if a change is needed. Please take a few minutes to complete this survey and drop it in the collection basket. Your input will help us discern the future of our parish festival!

When would you like the festival to take place?

- Mid-July - around the 15th _____
- Mid-August - around the 15th _____
- Mid-September - around the 15th _____

How many days would you like the festival?

- Thursday _____
- Friday _____
- Saturday _____
- Sunday _____

What hours do you recommend for these days?

Please include opening and closing times.

- Day 1 _____ to _____
- Day 2 _____ to _____
- (Day 3) _____ to _____

What is your favorite aspect of our parish festival?

Please be specific on food or games.

What can we improve upon in the festival?

Would you be willing to volunteer?

Please include your name, phone, and an area you would like to volunteer (beer stand / food stand / raffle / etc.).

Would you like our festival to have a band or DJ?

Yes _____ No _____ DJ is OK _____