

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish

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

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Facebook Page: Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church



Christmas Season The Epiphany of the Lord

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

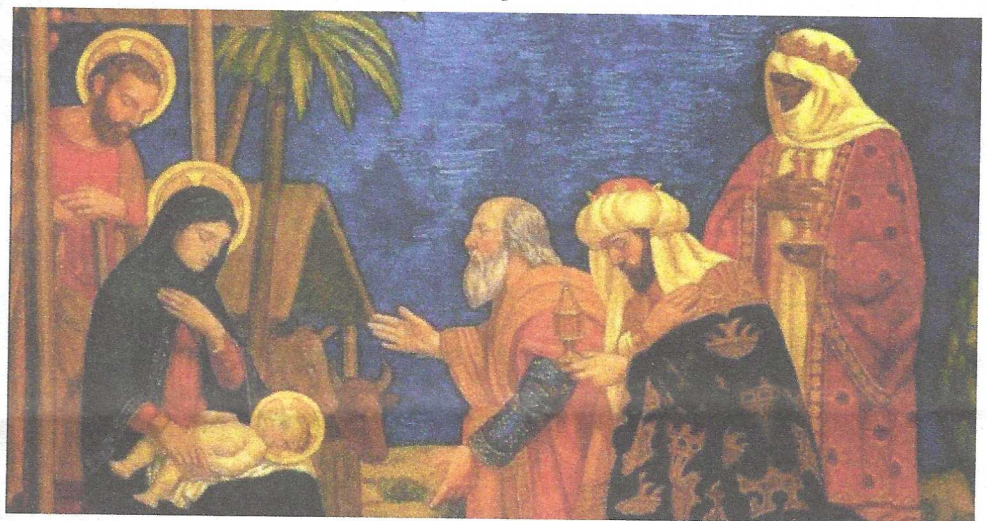
Baptism: Parents wishing to have their child baptized are asked to call the Parish Office to schedule a preparation session and the tentative date.

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.

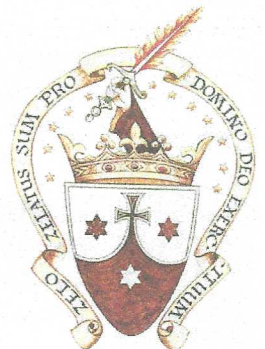
Reconciliation: Please consult the bulletin for dates and times or call one of our priests for an appointment.

Hospital and Homebound: Please call the office for First Friday or Anointing.

Priesthood and Religious Life: Contact our priests for an appointment.



Merry Little Christmas! Like the past two weekends, the weekend is no different. We celebrate two back to back solemnities, Epiphany of the Lord and the Baptism of the Lord. This marks the end of the Christmas Season in the current calendar. However, you can also continue the celebration until February 2nd, The Presentation of the Lord. This ended the Christmas Season in the old liturgical calendar. There are many traditions centered on the Visitation of the Magi. The first Christmas card one would receive with the Magi featured in the art would be displayed throughout the year on the door post. The blessing of homes with the inscription 20+C+M+B+24 would be placed on the door mantel throughout the year. "Christus Mansionem Benedicat" (Christ Blesses this House) or "Casper, Melchior and Balthasar" are the two meanings associated with this inscription. These traditions herald back to the Mezuzah which is used in Jewish households. It is placed on the door frame of the house and recalls two passages of Sacred Scripture, Deuteronomy 6:4-9 and 11:13-21. It also recalls the Passover Sacrifice of the blood of the lamb on the doorposts. Thus, this simple gesture reminds us along with all who visit our house several things. That no matter where our journey takes us we have a home in God. That God alone is Lord of our home and family and we serve no other gods. That we teach our children and are open to sharing our faith with others. The Christ, the paschal lamb, is claimed and claims us in our Baptism. And that God's peace is always welcome and presented to all. God's Peace, Fr. Brian





Mass Intentions

January 8-January 14

Monday	8:30 AM	Paul & Bertha Almeter
Wednesday	8:30 AM	Nicholas E. Perry
Friday	8:30 AM	John Zbick <i>by Family</i>
Saturday	5:30 PM	Donald Schlosser <i>by Nancy Barrett</i>
Second Sunday in Ordinary Time		
Sunday	8:30 AM	All living & deceased Members & Benefactors of OLMC
	11:00 AM	Florence Garbush <i>by Son, Robert</i>

Stewardship Report

Weekly Budget	\$2,787.51
Week Dec 31	\$3,176.00
To Date Budget	\$103,430.64
To Date Donations	\$92,308.48
Total Surplus/(Deficit)	(\$11,122.16)

Scan to donate
or visit
annualappeal.org

Bishop's Annual Appeal

Parish Goal	\$19,000.00
Total Raised	\$13,052.00
Surplus / (Deficit)	(\$5,948.00)
Participating Members	24.53%

Stewardship

All things are possible with God

Devote Time

Share Talent

Give Treasure

A way of life

2023 Contribution Statements

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to the success of our parish in 2023. Your time, talent and treasure has made it possible to worship the Lord, serve our neighbors and build our community. If anyone would like to request an end of year contribution statement, please contact the parish office.

570-477-5040 or email at olmchc@gmail.com

Welcome to the Team!



We would like to welcome Ellie Scovish to our office team at Our Lady of Mount Carmel. She is a familiar face to our parish, along with her family. She will be working with Ann

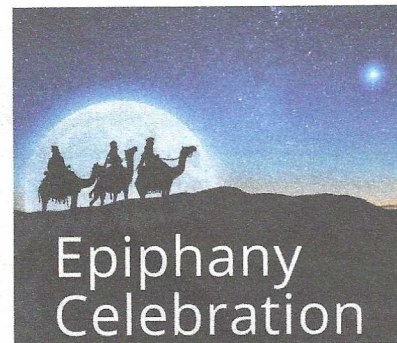
Rish along with our volunteers to continue the work of Karen Wnuk. She just graduated from Susquehanna University and will be working with us part-time. Please call the office or stop by on Monday and Wednesday to visit!

Parish Festival Meeting
Thursday, January 11 @ 6pm
Fr. Barlick Room



It is that time of year again to look forward to the parish festival. We will be reviewing last year's success and look forward to this year. We are anticipating some changes based on volunteer feedback.

Rectory Open House



Fr. Brian and Fr. Richard would like to invite the parish to an open house at the rectory.

Sunday, January 7th
2pm - 6pm
38 West Church St.
Nanticoke, PA

We will provide the food and come provide the fellowship.
 It is our little gift to the parish to say
THANK YOU and welcome the New Year!

Prayer Request and Requests



Fr. Brian will be attending his annual priestly retreat beginning January 15th. Please pray for him and, if you have any intentions, pass them along to him to keep in prayer.

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

Altar Flowers

The Blessing of the Homes is a tradition for the Feast of Epiphany. The following prayer of blessing may be used. If you are interested in having a priest or deacon come to bless your home please feel free to contact the Office.

Leader: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen

Leader: Let us praise God, who fills our hearts and homes with peace. Blessed be God for ever.

All: Blessed be God for ever.

Leader: The Word became flesh and made His dwelling place among us. It is Christ who enlightens our hearts and homes with his love. It is Christ, risen from the dead, who is our source of hope, joy, and comfort. May all who enter this home find Christ's light and love.

Reader: Luke 19:1-9

Leader: The Son of God made His home among us. With thanks and praise let us call upon him.

Reader: Our response is "Stay with us, Lord" Lord, Jesus Christ, with Mary and Joseph you formed the Holy Family: remain in our home, that we may know you as our guest and honor you as our head. We pray:

Lord, Jesus Christ, you taught your followers to build their houses upon solid rock: grant that the members of this family may live their lives in firm allegiance to your teachings. We pray:

Reader: Lord, Jesus Christ, through you every dwelling is a temple of holiness: build those who live in this house into the dwelling place of God in the Holy Spirit. We pray:

Lord Jesus Christ, the three kings presented their gifts to you in praise and adoration: grant that those living in this house may use their talents and abilities to your greater glory. We pray:

Leader: As children of God we confidently pray:

All: Our Father...

Leader: Lord God of heaven and earth, you revealed your only-begotten Son to every nation by the guidance of a star.

Bless this house and all who inhabit it. Fill them with the light of Christ, that their concern for others may reflect your love. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen

At this time the Leader sprinkles the house and all present with Holy Water. The family then places, in chalk, above the main door of the house the inscription:

20 + C + M + B + 24

All then bless themselves with the Sign of the Cross.

NOTICE

TEMPORARY CHANGE OF OFFICE HOURS

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.



Faith Formation Classes resume this week (Jan 7) Sundays at 9:30 AM

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



Women's Retreat

Bold and Beloved

Inspired by the teaching of St. Thérèse of Lisieux

January 26-28, 2024

Holy Transfiguration Retreat Center
1000 Seminary Rd, Dalton, PA 18414



Kara Kardell

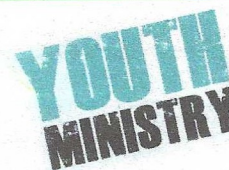
Sinner striving for sainthood. Wife and mother of 3.



Fred Shellabarger

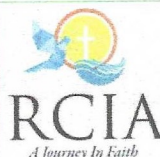
Husband, Father, Spiritual Arsonist. Big Kid Who Loves Jesus.

Youth Ministry Social Sunday
January 7 4:30-6pm
At St. Faustina Youth Center
38 W Church St



Dinner will be provided. Bring a friend! RSVP to Amanda at youthmin@sfkparish.com

Open to Grades 7-12



Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (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!