



SAINT JOSEPH CHURCH

A PRAYER TO SAINT JOSEPH

Oh Saint Joseph, whose protection is so great, so strong, so prompt before the throne of God, I place in you all my interests and desires. O Saint Joseph, do assist me by your powerful intercession and obtain for me from your divine son all spiritual blessings through Jesus Christ, our Lord; so that having engaged here below your heavenly power, I may offer my thanksgiving and homage to the most loving of Fathers. Oh Saint Joseph, I never weary contemplating you and Jesus asleep in your arms. I dare not approach while he reposes near your heart. Press Him in my name and kiss his fine head for me, and ask him to return the kiss when I draw my dying breath. Saint Joseph, patron of departing souls, pray for us. Amen.

WELCOME—We hope you will favor our parish with prayer, presence and talents. In good stewardship please pick up a Household Data Form (located in the Vestibule) and use our Offertory Envelope System. Our Church is handicapped accessible .

LITURGY

Sunday 9:00 a.m.

CONFESSION

At 3:00pm on Saturday at
Our Lady of Mount Carmel
785 Highland Avenue
Waterbury, CT

SACRAMENTS— please contact the Rectory Office of Our Lady of Mount Carmel at 203-756-8981 to arrange for the Sacraments of Baptism or Matrimony.

PRO-LIFE ROSARY—is held on the 1st Sunday of each month at 8:30 a.m. Facilitator, Mark Greene

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS has joined with Our Lady of Mount Carmel Council #36. Meetings are on the third Thursday of the month at 7:00pm at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church hall.

PASTORAL CARE—please contact the Rectory Office of Our Lady of Mount Carmel at 203-756-8981 if someone is homebound, in the hospital or in a nursing home and is need of a pastoral visit or an anointing of the sick.



PARISH STAFF

Reverend Frederick M. Aniello, Pastor
Deacon Mark Stevens
Joe Faryniarz, Organist
Mary Armour, Parish Secretary

PARISH OFFICE HOURS 8:00am to 2:00pm

Please contact the Rectory Office of
Our Lady of Mount Carmel at 203-756-8981

TRUSTEES

John Ambrozaitis
Mark Greene

PARISH COUNCIL

Deacon Mark Stevens
John Ambrozaitis, Trustee
Lillian Benesevich
Mary Ann Daukas
Joseph Faryniarz
Frank Melvin
Ann Paliulis

FINANCE COUNCIL

John Ambrozaitis
Jerry Covino
Mark Greene
Robert Orintas

BINGO—On Thursdays at 7:00pm at OLMC School hall. Doors open 5:30pm.

Church Location: 46 Congress Avenue
Waterbury, CT 06708

Mailing Address: 785 Highland Avenue
Waterbury, CT 06708

All Calls Received at OLMC Rectory:
203•756•8981 Facsimile: 203•756•2074



Mass Intentions for the Week

SUNDAY, AUGUST 14TH TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

9:00 AM Elizabeth Maglio
By Frances Maisto

SUNDAY, AUGUST 21ST TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

9:00 AM Ed Paige
By Living Witnesses



The Tabernacle Lamp will burn this week in loving memory of the Deceased Parishioners of St. Joseph Parish.

Fire often represents God. We see the Holy Spirit as tongues of fire. In the Old Testament, we see God in a pillar of fire and in the burning bush. Even in our liturgical worship today, fire plays an important role. We have the Easter candle and baptismal candles, representing the light of Christ.

Fire has the power to transform. It can melt wax or purify metals. It can protect, for example by cooking bacteria out of food. But it can also destroy, especially when it is not treated with respect. And it can disrupt. But fire can also be peaceful. Think of being mesmerized by a campfire blazing in front of you. It provides warmth and light. In this case, a blazing fire is comforting.

This is the call of the Christian. We must get caught up in beauty of the fire of our Lord. This will transform us, possibly in ways which we do not expect. It will disrupt our current ways of thinking and doing things. But some disruption can be good, and can help us see what needs to change in our lives.

Young Catholics

Healing Prayer Requests

Jim Danauskas, Anna Pakalnis, Karen Maestas, James Vaicaitis, Kristina Solmita, Megan Heath, Lee Wyma, Charlotte Sepe, Sue Fitzgerald, Sandra Cox, Douglas White, Annamay & Sam Sperazza, Elizabeth Brazis, Bob Benson, Mary Helie, Ada Solomita & Family, Judge McKenna, Georgette Adomaitis, Danute Kuras, Cynthia Solomita and Janice Rosselot, Baby Sawyer, Dolores Harris, Dolores Darin, Denise Boucher, Armand Solomita, Daniel Pierelli, Bob Steponaitis

If there is a family member or friend that you would like to offer a healing prayer, please contact OLMC Rectory at 203-756-8981 or email the secretary at: officeolmcwbtby@aol.com.

Church News

PRO-LIFE ROSARY—join us as we pray the Rosary on the first Sunday of each month at 8:30 prior to our 9:00 a.m. Mass. All are welcome!

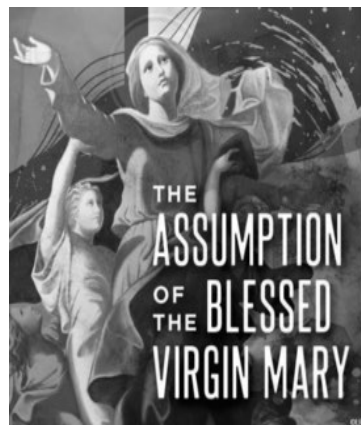
CHURCH OFFERTORY

The sacrificial offering you provide to our Parish is your expression of loyalty, love and support.

WEEKLY 8/7/22—\$1,018

Thank you for your generosity. *Fr. Aniello*

FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION AUGUST 15TH



Father in heaven, all creation rightly gives you praise, for all life and all holiness come from you. In the plan of your wisdom she who bore the Christ in her womb was raised body and soul in glory to be with him in heaven.

May we follow her example in reflecting your holiness

and join in her hymn of endless love and praise. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

First reading by Jeremiah

Who is Ebedmelech?

Jeremiah had prophesied the fall of King Zedekiah who refused to surrender to the Babylonians. His reason? He fears abuse from the Judeans who have gone over to the Babylonians. Jeremiah's words upset the nobles who decided to kill the prophet.

Ebedmelech is a Cushite, people that lived in Nubia (southern boarder of Egypt and Africa). He is some court official of King Zedekiah, one enjoying access to power and well known throughout the city. He has the king's ear, eye, and trust. Ebedmelech declares the nobles have "acted wickedly" against the prophet Jeremiah by putting into the cistern to die of hunger. No doubt because of this action, Ebed-Melech made enemies among the Jewish officials, who probably schemed to have him killed as well. After being rescued, Jeremiah, speaking in the name of "the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel," assures Ebedmelech that he "shall not be handed over" to those whom he fears. Neither will he "fall by the sword." God twice assures Ebedmelech that "I will save you." The prophetic word also commends him. The Lord says through the prophet Jeremiah that Ebedmelech shall have his life "as a prize of war, because you have trusted in me." Moreover, because Ebed-Melech had trusted God, he would be kept safe even as Jerusalem was later sacked.

Jeremiah (Chapter 39) tells the sad tale of the fall of Jerusalem. What the Lord had promised for so long finally came true, as the Babylonians broke through the city gates, tore down the walls, burned the buildings, and exiled those who were not killed in battle. The wickedness of Judah finally received its due.

—Robin Gallaher Branch and Kevin Burell

Gospel Reading

Having reminded the apostles and the crowd that facing the coming judgment takes patience, Jesus now goes on to speak of how difficult it will be to wait. He tells them that he has come to set the earth on fire. Recall that in chapter 3 of Luke's Gospel, John the Baptist tells the crowd that he is baptizing with water, but someone mightier is coming who will baptize with the Holy Spirit and fire. The fire Jesus speaks of here is the distress caused by the coming judgment. It is also the fire of the Spirit that Luke, in the Acts of the Apostles, will describe descending on the disciples on Pentecost. That fire will strengthen them to go out to the whole world to preach the good news of Jesus' Resurrection.

Peace is the ultimate end of the Kingdom of God, but peace has a price. Jesus is warning the crowd that wherever the Word of God is heard and acted upon, division occurs. Fathers will be divided against sons and mothers against daughters.

The coming judgment forces us to look at the implications of our commitments. As Jesus warned in last Sunday's Gospel, a commitment of faith requires us to change our attitude toward material possessions and to take even more seriously our moral responsibilities. Here he reminds the crowd that those who commit to him will find it affects the way they relate to friends and family members.

We don't expect to hear such difficult words from Jesus in the Gospel. But it is good to be reminded once in a while that the decision to do the right thing, the good thing, is not always easy and without conflict. Jesus himself did not make easy decisions and avoid conflict. In today's reading, he reminds his followers to be prepared for difficult decisions and conflict as well.

Loyola Press

St. Thomas Aquinas says, "Love is willing the good of the other." Wow, now there's something I better keep in mind for my own relationships. Love is willing the good of the other. When it comes to the Bible and our perception of God there is a flip side to this "love of God" coin. If love is willing the good of the other, then God's love for us must of necessity generate God's own opposition to what works evil in us. And hence we have today's Gospel. When Jesus says; "I have come to set the earth on fire, and how I wish it were already blazing!" He is telling us all He wants to burn away in us all that is opposed to God's loving desire for us, all that dims God's love. He wants to burn up those shades we have pulled over the windows of our hearts blocking out the sun and distorting our perception of God's love! Jesus came to shake things up and that's why this reading can sound a little scary and can cause confusion. The bottom line really, really is; God is love.

Bishop Robert Barron kind of summarized why we tend to be divided, sadly sometimes even in our own household of Christianity. He said this; "The entire point of religion is to make us humble before God and to open us to the path of love. Everything else is more or less a footnote. Liturgy, prayer, the precepts of the Church, the commandments, sacraments, sacramentals – all of it – are finally meant to conform us to the way of love. When they instead turn us away from that path, they have been undermined." Friends, if you believe anything in the Bible says God doesn't love you, you're misinterpreting the Bible and if anything in your own faith life is pulling you away from love of others open up those shades to your heart and let the sun shine in.

Fr. Tim Pfander, Good Shepherd Catholic Church, Huntsville, AL

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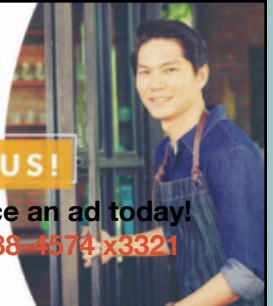
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