

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 4, 2021

CELEBRATING 125 YEARS: 1896-2021

St. Mary of Mount Carmel Blessed Sacrament Parish



www.mountcarmelblessedsacrament.com and www.facebook.com/mountcarmelblessedsacrament

FATHER JIM'S WISE & OTHERWISE

Sign of cross makes it easier to follow Risen Lord



As we enjoy the spirit and melody of this Eastertime and the sound of Alleluia, we also know it is not easy to follow the Risen Lord in our daily lives.

Even though we journey in faith under the banner of the cross and the victory of Resurrection, it isn't easy — is it?

A young man is unwilling to forgive his father for years of neglect and bitter feelings.

A widow cannot forgive herself for the torment she caused to her daughter.

A middle-aged man blames God for the loss of his business and the break-up of his family, though he knows in

his heart the true cause of it all.

Despite setbacks and things that frustrate us in life, we still sign our bodies with the mark of salvation — the sign of the cross — over and over again.

Even when we are walking in the pastures of anger or the meadows of jealousy, the sign of the cross is a sign of the hope that tells us we live within the embrace of the Blessed Trinity, with a hope for the Risen Life, and our bodies and lives are part of the larger body of Christ the Church on Earth, the assembly of the baptized.

Make the sign of the cross over your very body, your life.

NEXT WEEKEND'S SCHEDULES

Lectors

SATURDAY, APRIL 10

4:30 p.m. Mass

Mary Martin and Karen McBride (POF)

SUNDAY, APRIL 11

8 a.m. Mass

Leigh D'Agostino and Terry Reale (POF)

10:30 a.m. Mass

Scott Bolen and Susan Martelotto (POF)

Eucharistic ministers

SATURDAY APRIL 10

4:30 p.m. Mass

Vicki Perritano, Bonnie Gardiner and Vito Valenzi

SUNDAY, APRIL 11

8 a.m. Mass

John Reale Sr., Bob Cimbalo and David Inserra

10:30 a.m.

John Reale Jr., Ta Eh and La Aung

PARISH WEBSITE

Visit www.mountcarmelblessedsacrament.com for the latest parish news and announcements. There's even a mobile version for your smart phone. Here's some of what you'll find on the site:

- Wedding Planning Guide.
- Funeral Service Planning Guide.
- Weekly prayers, reflections, photos, videos and more to enrich your faith.
- Photo galleries
- Bulletin
- Father Jim's "Wise and Otherwise"
- History of the parish
- Lector, minister schedules
- Mass schedules
- Parish news
- Ministries
- Event calendar
- Weekly reflection on Sunday's readings
- "More Good News" magazine
- Links to our social media sites such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and YouTube.

SEND US YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS

Mount Carmel / Blessed Sacrament Parish has compiled a database of email addresses that is being used to contact parishioners in case of emergencies, important schedule changes or other pertinent information. We ask all parishioners to submit their email address to Fran Perritano at fperritano@syrdio.org using the subject line PARISH EMAIL. You also can include a phone number, if you wish.

YOUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Collection for March 27-28 \$7,726

If you're unable to attend Mass, you still can make your donation by mailing it to: Mount Carmel / Blessed Sacrament Parish, 648 Jay St., Utica, NY 13502. You also can contribute online on our website. Look for the DONATE button in the right column.

MAKE YOUR DONATION

Donate



UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

The Roman Catholic Diocese of Syracuse, New York
Case No. 20-30653

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT on June 29, 2020, The Roman Catholic Diocese of Syracuse, New York, ("Diocese") filed for protection under chapter 11 of title 11 of the United States Code (the "Bankruptcy Code").

The Bankruptcy Court has established April 15, 2021 at 11:59 p.m. (previously Eastern time) as the deadline to file proofs of claim against the Diocese (the "Bar Date").

If you have a claim against the Diocese including, without limitation, a claim related to sexual abuse committed by any person connected with the Diocese, you must file a claim on or before the Bar Date with Sireto, the appointed Claims Agent.

Please visit clm.case.strelko.com/diocesesofsyracuse or call (833) 329-4244 for more information on how to file your proof of claim.

IF YOU DO NOT TIMELY FILE A PROOF OF CLAIM, YOU MAY FORFEIT YOUR RIGHT TO VOTE ON ANY PLAN OF REORGANIZATION AND TO SHARE IN ANY FUTURE DISTRIBUTIONS TO CREDITORS IN CONNECTION WITH THE DIOCESE'S CHAPTER 11 CASE.

Father Joe provides youthful leadership, excitement

Tenth in a weekly series on the beginning and growth of our parish.

And so it came to pass that the grandson of an immigrant family and a novice who studied with the Scalabrinians for 13 years returned to his home parish as the 10th pastor of Mount Carmel — the Rev. Joseph Salerno.

As a youngster, Father Joe was a communicant of Mount Carmel, active in its youth societies and in later years with the parish education program.

He was Mount Carmel's first pastor to be assigned, with no assistants, to serve Mount Carmel. From the inception of his pastorate, Father Joe's charismatic personality and youth was instrumental in the growth of the parish. He set forth a vision of collaborative

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OUR HISTORY

ministry among neighboring parishes and did much to bring about a spirit of ecumenism throughout the parish.

Another challenge faced Father Joe's new assignment. The parish soon would be celebrating its 100th anniversary, and such an event would require much work and planning.

Father Joe sought a long-range plan for much-needed renovations that included a remodeled choir loft, a more suitable worship space in the sanctuary, air conditioning, new electrical wiring and new front steps.

He also was actively seeking construction of apartments for the elderly on church property on Catherine Street. His efforts were rewarded, and on May 15, 1995, the Mount Carmel Apartment Complex was blessed and dedicated by Bishop Joseph O'Keefe.

In December 1995, Father Joe announced that Mount Carmel's 100th anniversary year would be celebrated beginning with the Feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel on July 16, 1996, and would culminate on Our Lady's feast day in 1997.

In September 2002, Father Joe left Mount Carmel to become pastor of the Church of Our Lady of Lourdes in Utica.

Next week: Final part of this series

PARISH NEWS



Father Jim presents Joe and Laurie Siniscaro with the 2020 Immaculata Award.

2020 Immaculata Award presented to Laurie and Joe Siniscarco for their service to the parish

Laurie and Joe Siniscarco received the 2020 Diocese of Syracuse Immaculata Award during the 10:30 a.m. Mass on Sunday, March 21.

It was presented to them by Father Jim. The award usually is given out at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Syracuse, but the event did not take place last year due to COVID.

Laurie and Joe have been parishioners all their lives, even attending Mount Carmel School. They volunteer in many activities in the parish, including the Parish Festival and other events.

The Immaculata was established by Bishop Emeritus Robert J. Cunningham to honor lay men and women throughout the diocese for their faithful service to Christ and his church, particularly to our parish community.

The men and women who receive this award believe all that God has revealed to us in scripture and tradition. They celebrate God's love and salvation in the sacraments. They live the teachings of Christ and his church, and they ground the relationship with the Lord in prayer. All of this is what leads the to serve charitably in the name of Jesus.

'The Great Secret of Happily Married Couples'

The Third Option presents "The Great Secret of Happily Married Couples," a new series on marriage.

The meeting will take place online from 7:15 to 9 p.m. Sunday, April 11. It is sponsored

by The Third Option, a program to build better marriages. Contact Stephanie Stewart for information or to join the meeting at ssewart@syrdio.org or (315) 472-6728. This is a Hope Appeal-funded program.



Memorials

- The altar candles for are lit in memory of **Rocco and Alice Gerace** by daughter Joanne; **Rose Antonelli Tomaino** by god-daughter Dolores.

- The altar bread for April has been donated in memory of **Rocco Commisso** by wife Carmela, children and grandchildren.

- The sanctuary lamps for this week are lit in memory of **Michael Bello** by Geraldine and family; **Lofaro and Bello** families by Geraldine and family; **Joseph Teti** by wife Mary and family.

- The gospel light for this week has been lit in memory of **Mary Caruso** by brother Ricky.

- The St. Marianne Cope candle is lit in memory of **Nicola and Gaetana (Corio) Coria** by family.

- The St. Joseph candle is lit in memory of Joseph and **Magdalen Suppa** by Rosemarie.

- The paschal candle has been donated in memory of the **Trinco, Beasman and Basile** families.

Funerals

- **Joseph Catera and John B. Nicotera.**

Saint Mary of Mount Carmel/Blessed Sacrament Parish

A Catholic Faith Community serving the Greater Utica Area

March 2021

Dear Parishioners and Friends of Mt. Carmel/Blessed Sacrament,

Welcome to the celebration of our parish's 125th Year! This is a milestone anniversary of the place this church has had in the faith-filled lives of so many families and individuals. It is a time for us to be reminded of all our accomplishments and be grateful for the past, while looking to the future.

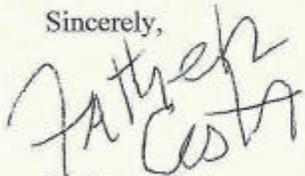
Over so many years, Mt. Carmel/Blessed Sacrament, your parish, has been cherished as a jewel in East Utica. It is a jewel with needs to be addressed as it continues moving into the years ahead.

As with any Catholic parish, there are programs, upkeep of buildings, and many other expenses that all need attention. As a part of this 125th Anniversary, we ask that you might consider a supporting donation of \$125.00. Of course, an "anniversary donation" of any amount would be appreciated, and if a greater one is within your reach, God Bless! Please pray over and consider this opportunity to celebrate a wonderful and blessed parish church and community with a long history and a bright future.

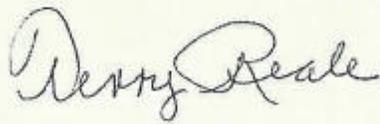
You may return the bottom portion of this letter with the anniversary supporting donation, or with a pledge amount. Please return it either in the collection basket or by mailing it to the parish office.

Your faithful stewardship of the parish is greatly appreciated.

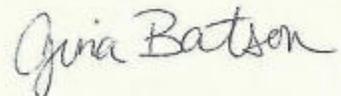
Sincerely,



Fr. James Cesta
Pastor



Terry Reale



Gina Batson

125th Anniversary Co-chairs

My contribution of \$ _____ is enclosed or pledged to support the 125th Anniversary.

Name: _____

Address: _____

THIS WEEK'S MEDITATION, INTENTIONS

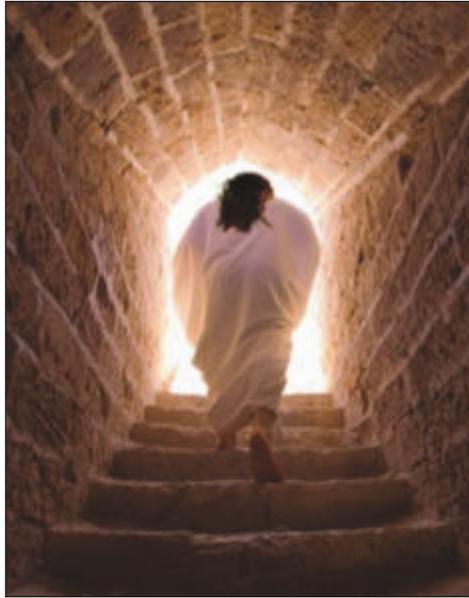
Easter Resurrection Prayer

*As night surrenders to day,
and winter to spring,
as the boulders of pandemic
seem to roll slowly away,
as hope is rekindled in Easter fire,
as I am refreshed in waters of faith,
as new life appears through frozen ground,
as daylight lengthens and birds come home,
as warmth welcomes me
back to the gentle breeze,
I emerge slowly from so many
empty tombs.*

*Fill me, O Lord, with the joy of Easter,
the embrace of new life,
the promise of resurrection.*

*Help me to run again as quickly as I can
to proclaim you with steadfast faith
like the women of early Easter morning
who never lost hope
in your continual presence.*

Amen.



"The Resurrection" (Matthias Grunewald, 1512)

- For renewed vision of who we are within the church and within the world. May this pandemic unite us and help us to understand humanity in deeper, more gentle ways. May we respond more fully to the needs of those who live in despair and without hope — the poor, the hungry, the displaced, the abused and the forgotten.

We ask: Risen Lord, receive our prayer.

- For an end to prejudice, war and violence. May this pandemic teach us to respect the value of all human life. May we may grow in reverence for every person of every race and culture.

We ask: Risen Lord, receive our prayer.

- May this Easter call us to begin a new era in our world where Truth can show us the way to peace.

We ask: Risen Lord, receive our prayer.

- For the needs we hold in our hearts — for our beloved sick, dying and grieving. For those who have died whose memories we cherish. For loved ones who we are separated from today. For the needs we hold in our hearts and the needs of our families and friends ...

We ask: Risen Lord, receive our prayer.

Prayer of the Faithful

Response: Risen Lord, receive our prayer.

- We pray for the church. May we be radiant with the light of Christ, confident in our

faith and filled with resurrection hope and joy.

We ask: Risen Lord, receive our prayer.

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