

SUNDAY, NOV. 14, 2021

CELEBRATING 125 YEARS: 1896-2021

St. Mary of Mount Carmel Blessed Sacrament Parish

ABOUT THE PARISH

Address: 648 Jay St., Utica, NY 13501.

Telephone: 315-735-1482; fax: 315-735-9806.

Office hours: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Thursday. Closed on Friday and national holidays.

Faith Formation and Scalabrini Center: 315-724-3950.

Email: stmaryutica@syrdio.org

Hearing impaired: Listening devices available in the sacristy.

MASS SCHEDULES

Weekend

Saturday: 4:30 p.m. (livestream on parish YouTube)

Sunday: 8 and 10:30 a.m.

Weekday

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday: 8:30 a.m.

Rosary for the Unborn and Divine Mercy Chaplet: Thursday after Mass.

Holy Days

Consult the bulletin and website.

RECONCILIATION

Saturday: 3:45 p.m.

MARRIAGE

Make arrangements six months in advance.

BAPTISM

Call the parish office to arrange. New parents are encouraged to attend the parent class before the birth of your child.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

Adults or children, 7 or older who have never been baptized or confirmed or received the Eucharist, are invited to call the parish office for information.

NEW PARISHIONERS

Welcome to our parish family. We invite you to become an active participant of our parish community. Please be sure to register by calling the parish office.

PARISH STAFF

Pastor: Rev. Jim Cesta

In Residence: Rev. Luis Olguin

Trustees: Rocco Arcuri and Bill Thibault

Faith Formation K-6: Terri Piazza-Panuccio

Faith Formation 7-10: Anne Carlone-Elacqua

Music director: Peter Elacqua

Buildings and grounds: Fran D'Ambrosio

Website manager, bulletin, publicity: Fran Perritano



Phil Cornacchia's 100th birthday bash in February 2016.



Pizza party for the altar servers in 2015.



Jackie Thibault and her mother at the 2015 Christmas Gala.

FATHER JIM'S WISE & OTHERWISE

It's time to examine, change our perspective

A 70-year-old priest made a retreat. In the course of it, he was struck deeply by three things he'd always been aware of but had never really taken to heart.

First, there are millions of people in the world who are hungry and homeless. Second, he had spent his entire priestly life living in a comfortable rectory and preaching comfortable homilies to comfortable people. Third, he had bent over backward to avoid disturbing or alienating his parishioners. He'd been more worried about rocking the boat than about challenging his parishioners to look into their hearts to see if they were satisfied with what they saw there.

As he read the gospel, these words of Jesus leaped off the page: "These people honor me with their words but their heart is really far away from me."

Right then, the old priest resolved that he was

going to share his soul-searching with his parishioners. So, he began his homily by saying:

"My homily this morning will be exactly 30 seconds long. That's the shortest homily that I've preached in my life. But it is also the most important homily I've ever preached.

"I want to make just three points: First, millions of people in the world are hungry and homeless. Second, most people in the world don't give a damn about that. Third, many of you are more disturbed by the fact that I said 'damn' in the pulpit than by the fact that I said there are millions of hungry and homeless people in the world."



With that, the old priest made the sign of the cross and sat down.

And the otherwise ...

Ever wonder about the abbreviation ASAP?

Generally, we think of it in terms of even more hurry and stress in our lives.

Maybe if we think of ASAP (as soon as possible) in a different manner, we will begin to find a new way to deal with those rough days along the way. There's work to do, deadlines to meet, you have no time to spare — but as you hurry and scurry — ASAP-ALWAYS SAY A PRAYER. In the midst of family chaos, "quality time" is rare. Do your best; let God do the rest — ASAP-ALWAYS SAY A PRAYER

It may seem like your worries are more than you can bear. Slow down and take a breather — ASAP-ALWAYS SAY A PRAYER.

UPCOMING IN OUR PARISH

Sunday, Nov. 14

- **K-6 Faith Formation:** 9:15 to 10:15 a.m.
- **Junior-Senior High School Faith Formation:** 6:30 to 7:45 p.m.

Monday, Nov. 15

- **Ninth- and 10th-grade Faith Formation:** 6:30 to 7:45 p.m.

Sunday, Nov. 21

- **K-6 Faith Formation:** 9:15 to 10:15 a.m.
- **Junior-Senior High School Faith Formation:** 6:30 to 7:45 p.m.

Monday, Nov. 22

- **Ninth- and 10th-grade Faith Formation:** 6:30 to 7:45 p.m.

Thursday, Nov. 25

- **Thanksgiving Mass:** 9 a.m.

Sunday, Dec. 5

- **Pancake Breakfast with Santa,** 11:30 a.m. in the gym.

NEXT WEEKEND'S SCHEDULES

Lectors

SATURDAY, NOV. 13
4:30 p.m. Mass

Joe Martin and Connie Watkins
(POF)

SUNDAY, NOV. 14
8 a.m. Mass

Melissa Leone and Barbara
Inserra (POF)

10:30 a.m. Mass

Fred Valentini and Mary
Siniscarco (POF)

Eucharistic ministers

SATURDAY NOV. 13
4:30 p.m. Mass

Leo Callari, Maria Callari
and Jean Masercola

SUNDAY, NOV. 14
8 a.m. Mass

Edey Trino, David Inserra
and Michael Zasa

10:30 a.m.

Maria Centolella, Theresa Ianno
and Ta Pi

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

- **Nov. 6-7:** \$6,855
- **Hope Appeal:** \$15,495 (Goal: \$34,220)
- **125th Anniversary:** \$41,745

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.

PARISH NEWS

You can make Christmas very merry for children with ‘Giving Tree’ gifts

Beginning next weekend, we will have our annual “Giving Tree” set up. On it will be ornaments with the names of children in the various programs of the Thea Bowman House. There might be a few other requests as well from other organizations.

We hope that you will take an ornament (or several) and purchase the item that the child is wishing for this Christmas. Please bring the gift with the ornament attached to it — UNWRAPPED — and place it in the Scalabrini niche by Sunday, Dec. 5. This is the last day to bring the gifts in. The children receive the gifts the following week, and if the gifts are not brought in in time, they won’t receive them.



Please help to make these children have a Merry Christmas. If you have any questions, contact Anne Elacqua at 315-941-7447 or email aelacqua@syrдио.org.

Tickets on sale for ‘Italian Christmas Gathering’

Our “Italian Christmas Gathering” is planned for Saturday, Dec. 11, at Delta Hotels by Marriott Utica in downtown.

The gala begins at 6:15 p.m. Doors open at 5 p.m.

The event is sponsored by the Mount Carmel Social Committee and the Italian Heritage Club. Entertainment will be provided by Anthony LaBarbera.

The cost is \$35 per person, and there will be a cash bar available. Tickets are available after all Masses, at the parish office or from the Italian Heritage Club.

Reservations for tables of eight or 10 also



will be available.

The last date to purchase tickets is Sunday, Dec. 5.

Holiday highlight: ‘A Jazz Nativity’ returns Dec. 9

Don’t miss a special performance of “Bending Toward the Light ... A Jazz Nativity” presented by Chelsea Opera and Kindred Spirits from New York City along with Central New York’s most acclaimed jazz instrumentalists at 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 9.

There is no admission charge. In order to help to defray the cost of this huge event, however, anyone interested in becoming a sponsor is welcome to do so. You can make a donation at <https://web.ovationtix.com/trs/store/461/all-donations/32311>.

You also can send a check to the rectory or place it in the collection basket. Please make checks payable to CHELSEA OPERA. Names will be included in the program.



\$15,495 of \$34,220 pledged so far for Hope Appeal

Our parish’s Hope Appeal donations have reached \$15,495. Our assessment is \$34,220.

The diocesan goal is \$4.15 million, and each parish has an assessment to reach. Please pledge as much as you can. We would like to hit our parish goal as soon as possible.

In the past, the Hope Appeal was launched in spring. Last year, due to COVID, it was

initiated in fall, and because of the success and feedback received by the diocese, Bishop Douglas Lucia decided to move the appeal to fall permanently.

Parishioners have received a mailing from the diocese. If you didn’t get one, donation material is available in church and in the parish office.



Breakfast with Santa returns Sunday, Dec. 5

The Social Committee will sponsor a Pancake Breakfast with Santa on Sunday, Dec. 5, after the 10:30 a.m. Mass in the gymnasium.

The cost is \$4 for adults and free for children younger than 10. Tickets will be sold after all Masses and at the parish office. No tickets will be sold at the door.

Ornaments, cookbooks available for Christmas

Our 125th Anniversary Christmas ornament and cookbook would make a great Christmas gift for your family and friends and are only \$10 each. The set of cookbooks are \$15. They are available at the parish office from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Thursday.

ALSO OF INTEREST

Watch out for email scams warns parishioner, diocese

A parishioner recently reported an email scam. This person said an email purportedly from Father Jim asked for contributions of gift cards to give to the staff. It was not an email from Father Jim. The Syracuse diocese warns everyone that the diocese nor its parishes solicit in this manner. So, please be wary.

Mount Carmel Apartments reserved parking spaces

Please do not park in the spaces labeled “MA” in the Scalabrini Center parking lot. These spaces are reserved for Mount Carmel Apartments on Catherine Street.

THIS WEEK'S PRAYER REMEMBRANCES

LIVING

- Frank Cannistra—Brad and Joann Campbell
- Janice Felitto—Terri Panuccio
- Carmella Inserra—Joe and Barbara Inserra
- Children and Grandchildren—mom

DECEASED

- Frank Aceto—V. Rocci
- Donna Attili—Joe and Madeline Briggs
- Donna Attili—Joe and Candace Gazzal
- Louise Carparelli—Sheila and Phil Durante
- Tre (Terrance) C. Colman III—Carol Talerico
- Sam DeMichele—the parish
- Tom DeCrescenzo Sr.—Kristen and Theresa Custadero
- Tom DeSimone—Flo and Amanda
- Tom DeCrescenzo Sr.—family
- Victoria Duesler—Bill True
- Norton Esposito—Bee
- Anthony Ferucci—a friend
- Buddy Gigliotti—wife Patti
- Polly Gossin—Ron and family
- Carmella Graziadei Grande—Rocco and Lisa Grande and Family
- Richard Hayes—Joe and Madeline Briggs
- Richard Hayes—Fred and Anne Bruzzese
- Richard Hayes—Cindy Carzo
- Richard Hayes—Beverly Franz
- George and Mary Inserra—daughter Bee
- Pasquale and Roma Inserra—Joe and Barbara Inserra
- Marybeth LaNeve—Rosemarie Chiffy
- Lois M. Manley—Rosanne George
- Ida and Josephine Manze—David Struz
- Ida M. and Josephine D. Manze and family—will
- Manze and Motto Families—will
- Frank Mazza—wife Josephine
- Agnes McBride—family
- Rev. Richard O'Neill—Fiorinda Grandi-



Prayer Remembrance policy

- Prayer Remembrances must be submitted two weeks in advance of the desired publication date. Those received this weekend will reach the parish office in time to be placed in the bulletin two weeks from now.
- You must use ONE envelope for each Mass intention. To ensure that all your intentions are listed as requested, please do not write multiple intentions on one envelope as oftentimes names are inadvertently omitted.
- A \$5 minimum donation is requested for each intention, please.
- If you have a prayer intention that you would like parishioners to pray for, please call Pattie Franco at 733-4210. She and members of our prayer line will be glad to pray for you.

netta Wilson

- Eh Thi Paw—Saw S. Moe
- Angela Petronella—the parish
- Marco and Palma Piccolino—children and grandchildren
- Dominick Plado—the parish
- Antoinette Prato—the parish
- Lisa Spiridigliozzi—the parish
- Stan and Mary Struz—family
- Enrico Stucchi—wife Assunta
- Marie Suppa—Fran and Kathy Perritano
- Rose Ta—Saw S. Moe
- Linda Taurisano—the parish



Memorials

- The gospel light is lit in memory of **Angie Piazza** by Terri, Nick, Nicole, Maria and Vinny
- The St. Joseph candle is lit in memory of **Tom DeCrescenzo Jr.** by family

Baptism

- **Luis Arzola**

Funeral

- **Sandra J. Zito**

Memorial offerings

We will begin to accept Memorials for 2022 on Monday, Dec. 6. Please call the parish office at 315-735-1482 to schedule your intentions.

- Monthly donations toward altar bread and altar wine are \$75 each.
- Altar candles (two available each month) are \$15 each.
- The weekly sanctuary lamps (three available each week) gospel light, St. Joseph and St. Marianne Cope candles are all \$10 per week.

- Fred Testa—family
- Anthony R. and Erminia M. Trino—daughter Edye
- Maria Sorce Vullo—Rocco and Lisa Grande
- Michael Wicks—sister Mary and John Russo and family
- Jan Winters—DeGironimo Family
- Sandra Zito—Joe and Madeline Briggs

Updated funeral service and wedding planning guides now on parish website

To help families who are grieving the loss of a loved one, or to guide couples who are planning weddings, our parish website at www.mountcarmelblessedsacrament.com offers newly updated funeral and wedding planning guides.

Funerals

In an effort to ease the burden of grieving families, the selection of scripture readings, readers, people who place the pall (burial

cloth), eulogy directions and choice of eulogists also will be coordinated directly with the church through Peter Elacqua (315-542-9185) or Anne Elacqua (315-941-7447).

A guide for music selections and a guide for funeral reading selections can be found on the parish website under **FUNERAL SERVICE PLANNING**

Weddings

Wedding music can be selected with the help

of our wedding planning guide found on the parish website under **WEDDING PLANNING**.

Brides and grooms should contact Anne Elacqua (315-941-7447) to coordinate and plan music for their weddings. Questions about readings, readers, candle ceremony and the organization of the opening processions or any other matters dealing with the wedding ceremony will be coordinated through our marriage team headed by Mario and Carmelann Scalzo (315-381-3132)..

THIS WEEK'S MEDITATION, INTENTIONS

Prayer for Hope

Lord, fill my life's journey with hope.
 Hope that nourishes my heart and mind.
 Hope at every turn and crossroad I face.
 Give me the grace to dismiss all hate speech
 from my thoughts and vocabulary,
 to stop harboring and expressing judgmental
 opinions and gossip;
 to silence my arrogant pronouncements;
 to shun every temptation to increase
 polarity with divisive politics, militant
 prayer or uncompromising religion;
 to abandon my selfish desires
 while I remain blind to the struggles
 of the oppressed and neglect those who are
 in deepest need. Help me not succumb to
 the traps of fear that are planted all around
 me — fear that causes alienation
 and self-righteousness, fear that incites
 violence and depression
 fear that isolates me in my stubbornness.
 O Lord, humble me. Bring me to my knees
 in prayer. Give me the grace, Lord,
 to become a pure, vibrant channel of your
 love, an advocate of healing for our planet,



"The Fig Tree" (Joaquin Sorolla, 1910)

a seeker of wisdom,
 a source of welcome and hope. Amen.

Prayer of the Faithful

Response: Lord, hear your people's prayer.
 • For the Church. Be light for us as we begin this process of the synod. May we be open to listening to each other that we may

reconcile with those who feel alienated and welcome back those who have strayed.

We ask: Lord, hear your people's prayer.

For our world. Ease the pain of so many who suffer through depression, persecution, hunger, violence or injustice.

We ask: Lord, hear your people's prayer.

• For all who are making commitments, Guide and sustain the hope of those who are engaged, becoming parents, making religious profession, preparing to receive sacraments or embracing new directions for their lives.

We ask: Lord, hear your people's prayer.

• For all who lack hope. Inspire them with optimism and ambition. Help all people to abandon their fears and to live with courage and faith.

We ask: Lord, hear your people's prayer.

• In thanksgiving for friends and family members who have died. May the memories we cherish comfort and teach us. Bring healing to our beloved sick, addicted and grieving. And hear the prayers we hold in our silence ...

We ask: Lord, hear your people's prayer.

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