

NOV. 28, 2021: FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

# St. Mary of Mount Carmel Blessed Sacrament Parish

[www.mountcarmelblessedsacrament.com](http://www.mountcarmelblessedsacrament.com) and [www.facebook.com/mountcarmelblessedsacrament](https://www.facebook.com/mountcarmelblessedsacrament)

## 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](mailto: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

**Faith Formation K-6:** Terri Piazza-Panuccio

**Faith Formation 7-10:** Anne Carlone-Elacqua

**Music director:** Peter Elacqua

## FATHER JIM'S WISE & OTHERWISE

# Advent a fresh start to focus on needs of others

Advent is our time to ponder the promises and prophecies God has made to us in Jesus.

Our own image of God also will evolve as life experience and our own needs show us that most people need mercy more than judgment, hope more than fear of punishment.

Advent marks a chance to start fresh, to renew our cooperation with God and our attention to the needs of others as the best preparation for welcoming God.

An old children's song, "Waiting by the Window," captures the season:

*Waiting by the window  
watching all the time go.  
Hope that he will come now.  
Waiting by the window*

*just like the people so long ago.*

*Waiting here for Jesus.*

*Hope that he will come now.*

*Hope that he will see me.*

*Waiting by the window*

*just like the people so long ago.*

Week by week, we light candles to guide the promised visitor to our house. As only children know, our anticipation grows because of the special guest.

### And the otherwise ...

A cartoon showed a tall, robed and bearded man carrying a sign that read: "The End is Near." The next frame showed a short, robed and bearded man walking behind him carrying a sign that read: "The End."



## UPCOMING IN OUR PARISH

### Sunday, Dec. 5

- **K-6 Faith Formation:** 9:15 to 10: 15 a.m.
- **Pancake Breakfast with Santa:** 11:30 a.m. in the gym.

### Thursday, Dec. 9

- **"Bending Toward the Light: A Jazz Nativity:"** 7 p.m. in church.

### Saturday, Dec. 11

- **"Italian Christmas Gathering:"** 6:15 p.m. , Delta Hotels by Marriott Utica. Doors open at 5 p.m.

### Sunday, Dec. 12

- **K-6 Faith Formation:** 9:15 to 10: 15 a.m.
- **St. Rosalia Society Communion Breakfast:** Noon, Club Monarch. Guest speaker is historian Frank Tomaino. Tickets are \$20 per person and may be purchased by calling Lou Parrotta at 315-733-9118.

### Monday, Dec. 13

- **First Reconciliation class:** 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

## NEXT WEEKEND'S SCHEDULES

### Lectors

**SATURDAY, DEC. 4**

**4:30 p.m. Mass**

TBD and Carol Trinco (POF)

**SUNDAY, DEC. 5**

**8 a.m. Mass**

Terry and Reale and Leigh D'Agostino (POF)

**10:30 a.m. Mass**

Jackie Thibault and Scott Bolen (POF)

### Eucharistic ministers

**SATURDAY DEC. 4**

**4:30 p.m. Mass**

Roger Rebisz, Anthony Felitto and Mary Lynn Rebisz

**SUNDAY, DEC. 5**

**8 a.m. Mass**

Marie Bova, Larry Bova and Mar Ko

**10:30 a.m.**

Joanne Gerace, Mary Teti and Ta Eh

## PARISH WEBSITE

Visit [www.mountcarmelblessedsacrament.com](http://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](mailto:fperritano@syrdio.org) using the subject line PARISH EMAIL. You also can include a phone number, if you wish.

## YOUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT

- **Nov. 20-21:** Not available
- **Hope Appeal:** \$17,370 (Goal: \$34,220)
- **125th Anniversary:** \$41,870

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

### Don't miss this year's performance of 'A Jazz Nativity' Dec. 9 in church

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.



### Bring in your 'Giving Tree' gifts by next weekend

Our annual "Giving Tree" has 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@syrdio.org](mailto:aelacqua@syrdio.org).

### One more week to buy tickets for Christmas gala

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.

### Don't forget to get tickets for Breakfast with Santa

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.



### Holiday season Mass schedules

#### Christmas Eve

- **Friday, Dec. 24:** 4 p.m. family Mass
- 11:30 p.m. Christmas Carols followed by Midnight Mass of the Nativity.

#### Christmas Day

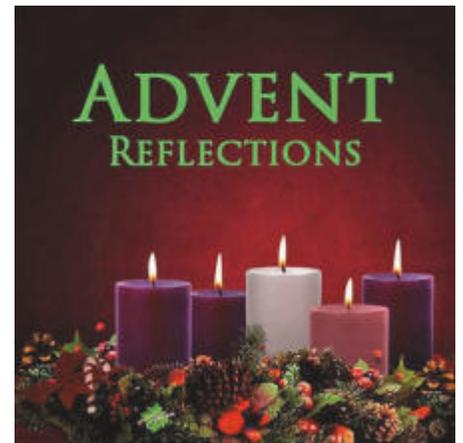
- **Saturday, Dec. 25:** 8 and 10:30 a.m.

#### New Year's Eve

- **Friday, Dec. 31:** 4:30 p.m.

#### New Year's Day

- **Saturday, Jan. 1:** 9 a.m.



### Sign up to get Advent daily reflections

Advent is a season of going together. Like Mary and Joseph traveling among the crowds to Bethlehem, we, too, are eagerly anticipating the coming of Christ.

Journey together with other Catholic Christians throughout the diocese as "We Wait in Joyful Hope" by receiving a daily inspirational message into your inbox. Hear the voices of many people who have experienced peace and strength, even when the waiting was long or difficult. Be encouraged by the stories of those who look to the future with joyful hope.

To register, visit [OurCatholicFaith.com](http://OurCatholicFaith.com).

### 'Best Advent Ever' reflection email series offered again

Dynamic Catholic is running its "Best Advent Ever" daily email series again.

It is a wonderful short reflection each day during the Advent season to help you prepare for the birth of Jesus.

To sign up for it visit [dynamiccatholic.com](http://dynamiccatholic.com) and click on sign up for the series. It is a great way to help set the true mood for the holiday season.

## THIS WEEK'S PRAYER REMEMBRANCES

### LIVING

- Mary Ellen—Anthony and Julia
- For Jesus' faithfulness and continued healing—Rosemary
- Children and Grandchildren—mom

### DECEASED

- Donna Attila—Ted Comesano
- Joe and Joanne Barbero—Flo and Amanda DeSimone
- Joseph Cardarelli—Sheila and Carl Famolaro
- Anna Carzo—daughter Mary Ann and family
- Nancy Cerminaro—Bee Esposito
- Bob Ciancaglini—Fay and family
- Joseph and Catherine Cimino—Tony, Marilyn and family
- Stephen Cimino—Carmela Commisso and family
- Ann Cimino Cucinotta—daughter Mary Teresa, Francis, Kelly and Frankie
- Palma DiGiorgio—family
- Dominick and Alba Esposito—daughter-in-law Bee
- Norton Esposito—Bee
- Tony Ferrucci—Pasquale Chicircosta
- Salvatore Fontaine Sr.—children and grandchildren
- Alice Bottoni Geraci—Camille Barrett
- Carmella Graziadei Grande—Rocco and Lisa Grande and Family
- Roma and Pasquale Inserra—Joe and Barbara Inserra
- Catherine LaPaglia—daughter and son-in-law Carol and Phil
- Ida and Josephine Manze—David Struz
- Ida M. and Josephine D. Manze and family—will
- Manze and Motto Families—will
- Father Gino Marzola CS—Godson Francis A. Mercurio
- Mario Massa Jr.—Anna Marie Holman
- Mario Massa Jr.—Frank and Mary Lou Mazza



### 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. A minimum donation of \$5 per intention is requested. 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. If you have a prayer intention that you would like parishioners to pray for, please call Pattie Franco at 733-4210. She, along with members of our prayer line, will be glad to pray for you.

- Mario Massa—Bob and John Nole
- Frank Mazza—wife Josephine
- Roy Oyangen, DMD—Lori Caruso, MD
- Gloria Ann Peterpaul—sister Jean and family
- Joseph Plado—Mena Pedulla
- Marco and Palma Piccolino—children and grandchildren
- Mary Stewart Stiles—Joe and Barbara Inserra



### Memorials

- The St. Marianne Cope candle is lit in memory of the **Rev. Anthony LaFache** by family.
- The St. Joseph candle is lit in memory of **Carmen Tripolone** by wife and family.
- The sanctuary lamps are lit in memory of **Robb Willson and Annette LaPaglia** by Maria and Matt Kozak.

### Funeral

- **Elizabeth Ann Scalise**

### Memorial offerings

- 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.
  - Stan and Mary Struz—family
  - Donna Tasior—Carol and Phil Scampone
  - Thomas Trinco—Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Bianco
  - Anthony R. and Erminia M. Trino—daughter Edye
  - Maria Sorce Vullo—Rocco and Lisa Grande

### RCIA program for those inquiring about faith

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is the process whereby an adult who has not been baptized or one who has been baptized but not received any other sacraments can learn and deepen their faith and become fully initiated into the Catholic Church.



What is involved are several informal gatherings with Father Jim to share and teach many things about the Catholic way of being Christian. It also involves some reading at home on which to base discussions.

If you are interested in learning about this rite, contact Father Jim at the parish office at 735-1482.

### How to submit bulletin items

Do you have an announcement or item you want published in the bulletin? If so, please submit the item via email to [fperritano@syr-dio.org](mailto:fperritano@syr-dio.org) two weeks before publication. Include your name, phone number and dates of publication.

### Please respect parking rules

Please be aware of the following parish parking regulations:

- There is **NO PARKING** in the driveway in front of the garage near the Scalabrini Center on Jay Street.

- There is **NO PARKING** in the fire lane at the side of the gymnasium.

- Do not park in the spaces labeled "MA" in the Scalabrini lot. Those are reserved for Mount Carmel Apartments.

- There is **NO PARKING** in the emergency lane in front of the church on Catherine Street where the curb is painted yellow.

- There are handicapped parking spots on Jay Street and in the shrine parking lot. Remember, these are reserved for those with handicapped placards or plates.



# THIS WEEK'S MEDITATION, INTENTIONS

## Advent Candle Prayer

*(Light the first candle on your home Advent wreath or light a single candle perhaps near a spring of evergreen. Say this prayer daily or at least once during this first week of Advent)*

Lord of Advent,  
 You awaken me from my sleep  
 and my anxiety,  
 You call me again to be open  
 to living more fully, more consciously,  
 with vision, and with hope.  
 Help me during this busy season  
 to find my inner holiness,  
 to nurture times of silence,  
 to behold the great gift of your glory.  
 May this wreath and its candles  
 be a symbol of my longing.  
 May it remind me that I must always  
 wait with hope. Amen.

## Prayer of the Faithful

**Response: Lord, hear your people's prayer.**  
 • For the Church. Guide our actions and



"The Storm Shipwreck" (JMW Turner, 1823)

decisions. May we be a beacon of hope for all people. May this time of synod dialogue and listening reap great blessings for the entire world.

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

• For our world and for every nation. Guide us through these dark times of fear and anxiety. Strengthen our faith and inspire our leaders that we may come together to ad-

dress those who are in need and work together for the common good.

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

• For a deeper openness to the gifts of Your Spirit. May our lives abound in love and with holiness. May we be open to the wondrous joys of this season.

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

• For those who find it difficult to celebrate at this time. For those wrapped in addiction, grief or loneliness. For people who suffer abuse, illness or disease. For those who face imminent death. Give them strength, courage and hope.

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

• For all who wait. For expectant parents, the unemployed, those facing challenges or difficult decisions. For prisoners and patients, immigrants and refugees. May their lives be blessed with a strong sense of hope and optimism.

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

• For the prayers we offer in our silence ...

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

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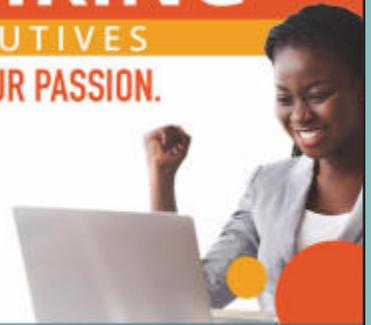


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