

SUNDAY, JAN. 2, 2022



St. Mary of Mount Carmel Blessed Sacrament Parish

www.mountcarmelblessedsacrament.com and 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
Hearing impaired: Listening devices available in the sacristy.

MASS SCHEDULES

Weekend

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

Couples must 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

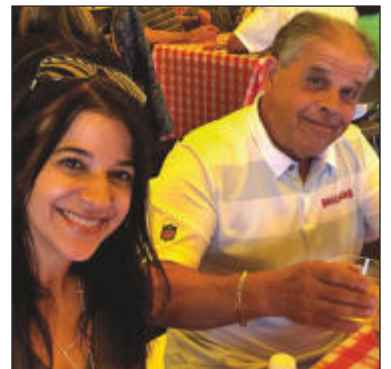
Adults or children, 7 or older who have never been baptized or confirmed or received the Eucharist, are invited to call the parish office for information about this process.

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 Sr. and Bill Thibault
Faith Formation K-6: Terri Piazza-Panuuccio
Faith Formation 7-10: Anne Carlone-Elacqua
Buildings and grounds: Fran D'Ambrosio
Music director: Peter Elacqua
Website manager, bulletin, publicity: Fran Perritano



FATHER JIM'S WISE & OTHERWISE

Guidelines for sane living in the New Year

• Strike a balance between work and play — between seriousness and laughter. Go to church regularly, and also to a sporting event.

• Stick with the truth, even if it makes you look or feel bad. Falsehoods are like wandering ghosts.

• Forgive your enemies as part of the price you pay for the privilege of being forgiven. Realize you are sometimes a pain in the neck yourself.

• Walk. Get lots of air and sunshine, and occasionally rain or snow in your face, some dirt on your hands.

• Talk through your troubles and mistakes with someone you trust — and your dreams, too. Don't underestimate the ability of God to straighten out a situation even when you can't — and give God a little time.

• Discriminate among your fears. Learn to tell which ones are useful and which ones are destructive. Remember that the ultimate death rate still is 100 percent. You would be getting short-changed if everyone

got to die and you didn't.

• When you can't sleep, say, "Aha! Here's a chance for a little privacy and creative thinking. All day I've been too busy to pray, and now I can get around to thanking God."

• Fall in love with life, with children, older people, middle-agers, sports cars, the theater, music, books, cities, hills, the sea, the Bible — with everything except money.

Thank you very much

Thank you to those who helped make our Christmas celebration a wonderful and meaningful experience. Many thanks to the music and liturgy ministries, lecturers, ministers, altar servers, ushers and those who decorated the church. I also would like to thank the many people who gave me birthday and Christmas gifts. Your generosity is overwhelming.



UPCOMING IN OUR PARISH

Sunday, Jan. 9

Junior High Formation: 6:30 to 7:45 p.m.

Monday, Jan. 10

• **First Reconciliation:** 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. children's class and parents meeting.

Sunday, Jan. 16

• **Junior High Formation:** 6:30 to 7:45 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 22

• **First Reconciliation:** 10 a.m. in church; luncheon follows.

Sunday, Jan. 23

• **K-6 Faith Formation:** 9:15 to 10:15 a.m.

• **Junior High Formation:** 6:30 to 7:45 p.m.

Sunday, Jan. 30

• **K-6 Faith Formation:** 9:15 to 10:15 a.m.

• **Junior High Formation:** 6:30 to 7:45 p.m.

Sunday, Feb. 6

• **K-6 Faith Formation:** 9:15 to 10:15 a.m.

• **First Communion enrollment Mass:** 10:30 a.m.

Sunday, Feb. 13

• **K-6 Faith Formation:** 9:15 to 10:15 a.m.

Sunday, Feb. 20

• **K-6 Faith Formation:** 9:15 to 10:15 a.m.

NEXT WEEKEND'S SCHEDULES

Lectors

SATURDAY, JAN. 8
4:30 p.m. Mass

Salvie Perritano and Dolores Chainey (POF)

SUNDAY, JAN. 9
8 a.m. Mass

Melissa Leone and Barbara Inserra (POF)

10:30 a.m. Mass

Scott Bolen and Jackie Thibault (POF)

Eucharistic ministers

SATURDAY JAN. 8
4:30 p.m. Mass

Bonnie Gardiner, Vicki Perritano and Vito Valenzi

SUNDAY, JAN. 9
8 a.m. Mass

Edey Trino, David Inserra and Michael Zasa

10:30 a.m.

Mary Teti, Ta Eh and Joanne Gerace

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@syrдио.org using the subject line PARISH EMAIL. You also can include a phone number, if you wish.

YOUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT

- **Dec. 18-19:** \$6,890
- **Dec. 24-25:** Not available
- **Dec. 26:** Not available

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

Livestreaming available for weekend Mass, plus weddings and funerals

We always encourage people to attend Mass on the weekend.

There are some occasions, however, where you might not be able to participate in person because of one reason or another, such as illness, being homebound or inclement weather for the elderly.

You still can join us in spirit by watching our livestream Mass.

We livestream the 4:30 p.m. Saturday Mass. You can watch it then or anytime after that. All you need to do is go to our parish website at www.mountcarmelblessedsacrament.com and click on the photo under "Livestream Mass" in the right column or on "YouTube" in the top navigation bar. Or, you can visit our YouTube channel at www.youtube.com/StMaryofMount



CarmelBlessedSacrament and watch it.

Also, on our YouTube channel, you will find past Masses, Father Jim's homilies, our parish history video series and much more.

In addition, we also can livestream wedding and funeral services for those friends and family who can't attend in person. If you're interested in taking advantage of this service, contact Anne Elacqua for details at 315-941-7447.

Baptism information session a must for parents

Baptism is the first sacrament of initiation. It is a beautiful ceremony that welcomes the baby (or adult) into the Catholic faith and to free them from the original sin that we were all born with. It links you to the grace and love of God. Symbols of water, light and oil are used.

We have begun a new program for families who will be baptizing their child in our church. All parents who would like their child to receive the Sacrament of Baptism must attend a preparation session before their child is baptized. The session occurs from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month in the Salerno Room.

The first baptism prep hour will be Tuesday, Feb. 1. When you contact the rectory (315-735-1482) to set up your child's baptism, you



also will set up the baptism prep session as well. The baptism session explains the sacrament, its symbols and meaning and much more.

We look forward to meeting you and your family. If you need further information, contact Anne Elacqua at 315-941-7447 or aelacqua@syrdio.org.

Website source of scripture reflection, explanation

Do the weekend scriptures sometimes baffle you? Is it hard to determine what they're trying to teach us?

If that's the case, our "Liturgy in Focus" carousel on the parish website (www.mountcarmelblessedsacrament.com) is an excellent source of information.

Every week beginning on Saturday afternoons, material is posted that gives insights on that weekend's scriptures through prayers, reflections and video presentations.

"Liturgy in Focus" is broken into five categories that slowly rotate at the top of the homepage:

- **"Call to Worship & Centering Prayers:"** This area provides you with a brief explanation of the scriptures, prayers to ponder and music videos that tie in with those scriptures.

- **"The Word of God This Week:"** You can read the weekend scriptures and listen to the responsorial psalm.

- **"Breaking Open God's Word:"** Video



presentations and explanations of those scriptures you just read.

- **"For Children & Teens:"** Video presentations produced especially for children and teenagers that are engaging and instructive.

- **"Preparing for Next Week:"** The scripture readings for the following weekend with an explanatory reflection so that you are ready for that weekend's Mass.

You can access the website on your computer, tablet and smartphone. The material remains there all week, so you can check it out at your leisure.



Bishop Lucia to host listening session Tuesday at St. Anthony

Pope Francis has called for a synod to take place in every diocese of the world over the next few months.

In response to this call, and in conjunction with preparation for that World Synod of Bishops, the Diocese of Syracuse will conduct a Diocesan Synod in the spring of 2024.

In preparation for this synod, Bishop Douglas Lucia is conducting listening sessions throughout the diocese. They begin at 6:30 p.m. Here are those in our area:

- **Tuesday, Jan. 4:** St. Anthony & St. Agnes Church, 422 Tilden Ave., Utica.
- **Tuesday, Jan. 25:** St. Paul's Church, Rome.
- **Thursday, Feb. 3:** St. John the Evangelist Church, New
- **Wednesday, Feb. 9:** Holy Trinity Church, Utica, in the gym.

Are synod meetings just gripe sessions to air complaints?

It is true that some people always will complain and find the negative. But God's Spirit always works through that.

People who attend synod meetings believe in being constructive; they believe in the process and that God's Spirit is at work within us, especially when we walk as companions together.

Believe in God and in the power of this process. This is an exciting moment in time — not only because we are living now, but also because our pope and church leaders really want to hear from our hearts.

Synod meetings are a time to listen to others, also. Attending a synod meeting will help you understand more about the Church that has done so much to sustain your faith and to help so many in our world.

ALSO OF INTEREST

Winter morning Mass cancellation policy

During the winter months, the morning Mass will not be offered if Utica schools are closed. So, check the news in the morning.

THIS WEEK'S PRAYER REMEMBRANCES

LIVING

- Betty and Joe—The Chainey's
- David—The Chainey's
- Finita—The Chainey's
- Johnny and Kim—The Chainey's
- John and Ro—Rick, Dee and Maryellen
- The Granza Family—The Chainey's
- The Hensel Family—The Chainey's
- The Hudson Family—The Chainey's
- The Silecchios—The Chainey's
- Children and Grandchildren—mom

DECEASED

- Marie Pugliese Capra—the parish
- Carlesimo—Berardino Families—will
- Michael Castelli—Rocco and Lisa Grande
- Joseph Costanza—Rosanne George
- Ursula DelMonte—family
- Sam and Josephine DeSimone—Joe, JoAnn and family
- David Dorsagno—the parish
- Felma and Philip Ducato—Sheila and Philip Durante
- Rose and Joseph Durante—Philip and Sheila Durante
- Josephine Fanelli—Fran and Don Leo
- Carmen B. Filletti—Geraldine Bello, Jim and Denise Giruzzi, Joseph and Mary Giruzzi, Rocco and Lisa Grande, Jim and Joann Riccardi, Carol Roefaro, Mr. and Mrs. Newton, the parish
- Michael Fox—Joe, Patricia and Joseph Leach Rizzo
- Carmella Graziadei Grande—Rocco and Lisa Grande
- Pasquale and Roma Inserra—Joe and Barbara Inserra
- Elizabeth Lee—Francis and Marianne Lee
- Ida and Josephine Manze—David Struz
- Ida M. and Josephine D. Manze—will
- Manze and Motto families—will
- Fanny J. Panetta—will
- Augustine (A.J.) Pedone—father, brothers and sister
- Yolanda Gigante Pedone—hon and children
- Pedone Family—Andy and family
- James (Jimmy) Peters—Carmelita and Rocco Verdura
- Jimmy Peters—Leo and Maria Callari



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.

- Jimmy Peters—Bee Esposito
- Janet Raymer—Julia and Anthony Elacqua
- Janet Raymer—Michael and Debbie Grassi
- Janet Raymer—the parish
- Anthony "Red" Ricco—Phyllis
- Elizabeth Scalise—John and Roberta McCann
- Liz Scalise—Tony and Palma Meola
- Bella Sfinas—Gloria and Betty Jane Rossi
- Alberto Stucchi—Nancy Graniti
- Thomas Trinco—wife, children and grandchildren
- Anthony R. and Erminia M. Trino—daughter Edye
- Maria Sorce Vullo—Rocco and Lisa



Memorials

- The altar bread for January was donated in memory of **Rocco Commisso** by wife Carmela, children and grandchildren.
- The altar wine for January was donated in memory of **Tom DeCrescenzo Sr.** by family.
- The sanctuary lamps are lit in memory of **Phyllis Piccola** by sister-in-law Eleanor.
- The gospel light is lit in memory of Mary and **Concetta Caruso** by Ricky.
- The St. Marianne Cope candle is lit in memory of **Salvatore and Grace Villelo** by daughters.

Baptism

- Carmelo Christopher Scharf

Funeral

- Rose Mary Paciello

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.

Grande

- William, Chancy and Michael C. Wicks—Mary, John, Sara and John Michael Russo
- Robert Willson—Fran and Donald Leo
- Karen Wnuk—Debbie Hayes

Remember that special person with a memorial gift and plaque

A gift in the name of a loved one, a friend or colleague is a fitting expression of love and charity, a way to remember someone special while at the same time honoring their faith and benefitting the mission of St. Mary of Mount Carmel / Blessed Sacrament Parish.

A memorial gift will help sustain the parish as the center of our faith community and support the parish's many programs, worship and structures.



Upon the death of a loved one, when planning an obituary, please invite family and friends to contribute to the St. Mary of Mount Carmel / Blessed Sacrament Memorial Fund in memory of the deceased.

There are Memorial Plaques at the Catherine Street side of the church. Space is available for brass memorial plaques in honor of loved ones. The categories are as follows:

Friend: \$150. **Donor:** \$250. **Patron:** \$500. **Benefactor:** \$1,000. **Special Giver:** \$2,500. **Heritage Sustainer:** \$5,000.

Please call the parish office at 315-735-1482 to reserve your plaque or if you have any questions.

THIS WEEK'S MEDITATION, INTENTIONS

Epiphany Prayer

In January darkness, we place our hopes and dreams in you. May this new year find all nations walking in your light —

Kings, queens, presidents, government officials and all people young and old, powerful and powerless bearing gifts of peace, extending hearts in compassion offering themselves to heal our broken world, opening minds to new visions and dreams, discovering resources that will bring dignity and majesty to every creature, to every person.

May I discover you, O Lord.

O Lord, may I see the bright star of your glory shining in the simple places of my life, in ordinary moments, in normal encounters.

May I find you in all things, at every moment, in every person. Help me to chart the journey of my life by your guiding star.

Amen.

Prayer of the Faithful

Response: Receive our prayer, O God.

- Bless the Church with wisdom and understanding. Give us a mature faith that is open.



"Adoration of the Magi" (Andrea Mantegna, 1500)

May we heal those who have been hurt, angry and abused. Welcome those who have felt inferior or afraid. Understand and alleviate the spiritual hungers of our young people.

We ask: Receive our prayer, O God.

- Bless our world and its leaders with honesty and compassion that we may stop the hateful violence caused by prejudice. We pray for an end to racial intolerance and anti-Semitism. May we embrace that truth that all people are God's children.

We ask: Receive our prayer, O God.

- May this be a year of blessing and grace for the needy. May the poor find dignity, the hungry be fed, the hurting be strengthened, the angry find forgiveness. May migrants and refugees be welcomed, respected and allowed to establish new lives for their families. May medical research and the cooperation of all people bring this pandemic to a swift end.

We ask: Receive our prayer, O God.

- Bless Father Jim and our parish family. May this be a year of grace and growth for us. May our faith deepen and shape our experience. May we journey together directed by our dreams. We pray for blessings upon the Burmese members of our parish and on all who come to worship here from other faiths or cultures.

We ask: Receive our prayer, O God.

- Sustain all who are in need — the sick and dying; those experiencing grief, depression, unemployment and addiction; for those who suffer from COVID or its effects. And for all who need our prayer ...

We ask: Receive our prayer, O God.

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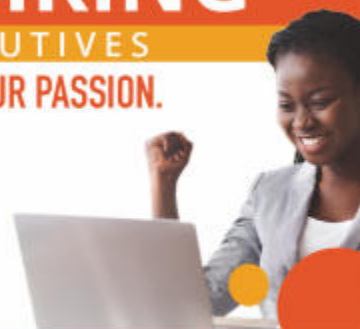


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