

Second Sunday of Lent

March 12, 2017

First Reading: Genesis 12:1-4a; Responsorial Psalm 33:4-5, 18-19, 20-22

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 1:8b-10; Gospel: Matthew 17:1-9



“This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.”

“RISE, AND DO NOT BE AFRAID.”

As we enter the second full week of Lent, the gospel of the Transfiguration gives us a glimpse of where we are heading. And it offers some directions about what we are to do along the way. We, along with Peter, James, and John, have a vision of resurrection glory. They are amazed and they wish to remain in the holy place. But Jesus brings them down from the mountain. Neither his work, nor theirs, is complete. And so it is with us. We are asked to listen—to listen to the beloved Son of the Father, through whom we will come to eternal life. We hope and believe in the resurrection: now it is time to *rise* and come down from the mountaintop, unafraid and ready for the journey of discipleship that awaits us.

Dear Parishioners of Our Lady of Mount Carmel,

March 12, 2017

I wish to express my gratitude to the 57 parishioners who participated in the January survey regarding the possible updating of our present church building and/or the possible construction of new buildings to meet the worship and/or pastoral needs of our community. Your input is extremely valuable and a sign of the love and commitment of our parishioners to our parish.

The large majority of respondents recommend that our worship space remain as it is or be remodeled as required. Very few parishioners expressed the opinion that a new church be built. The reasons given include the strong desire to maintain the warm feeling found in our small church; the opinion that our current Mass attendance, as well as an unlikely change in Carmel Valley population trends, do not show a need for additional worship space; and finally the very strong feeling that the parish should not take on another debt.

The survey responses show a much greater concern and interest in having sufficient space for present and future ministries, new ADA compliant restrooms, a larger kitchen, and additional hall or multi-purpose space. There are diverse opinions, but many parishioners seem to believe that a building to meet ministry needs would be the best use of the parish-owned land between the parking lot and El Caminito Rd. Very few parishioners have expressed a desire for a new church to be built on this parcel. A master plan has been suggested by some parishioners to carry out any building improvements or construction in phases.

The next step will be for the Site Committee to have meetings with survey respondents, and other parishioners, individually or in small focus groups. We hope that all of our parishioners will offer your recommendations. It is not too late to participate in the survey process. The questionnaire will again be available on our website for those of you who would like to offer your thoughts and opinions.

May the love and peace of Christ be with our families and parish during these holy days of Lent.

Very sincerely yours in Christ,

Fr. Dennis Gallo

Lenten Dinners

Our next Lenten Dinner will take place this Friday, March 17, following our 5 pm Way of the Cross, at 6 pm in the Parish Hall. Tickets are \$15 per person. Children's tickets are \$5. The main course this week will be Grilled Salmon with Rice Pilaf. Ticket sales begin at 4 pm.

2017 Annual Ministries Appeal (AMA) Update

Our Diocesan AMA Appeal "One Faith, One Family" continues this weekend. We are very grateful for all of you who have returned your envelopes with a commitment. Presently, our commitments total is **\$37,667**. As this is more than our obligation to our Diocesan Ministries, all donations now remain at OLMC.

Our participation level stands at 84 individuals and families, or 49% of our goal.

Lenten Blessing Bags

Our Confirmation Candidates are asking our help with their Lenten Service Project—Blessing Bags for the homeless. The bags will be filled with items that we can hand out to those in need. Items might include: toothbrushes, toiletries, first aid kits, socks, granola bars, etc.

Please "Like" Us!

If you are on Facebook, please "Like" our Parish Facebook page:

www.facebook.com/ourladycarmelvalley/

We are revamping the page and plan to use it as a source of communication for sharing events here at OLMC. If you have photos of the Church, events, and parishioners you would like to share please post them to the page or email them to: janet.reilly@sothebyshomes.com. Thank you!

2nd Collection Next Sunday—March 19, 2017

Second Collection to support the Hope's Pantry and Social Outreach ministry of the Parish.

Offertory Report 3/5/2017

Plate collection: \$4,036; Building Fund: \$895; Hope's Pantry \$120; Catholic Relief Services \$710; other: \$279; total deposit: \$6,040. Thank you!

Mass Intentions March 11-17, 2017

Sat., 4:30 pm	+Joan Irwin
Sun., 9:00 am	+Noel Devine
Sun., 11:15 am	+Lorena Merino +Maria Cunha
Sun., 5:00 pm	+Las Familias de la Parroquia
Wed., 7:00 am	+Maria Cunha
Thurs., 7:00 am	+Bob Walter
Fri., 7:00 am	Doris Desmond - Healing



NOTICIAS ESPECIALES

Misa en Español - Cada domingo a las 5:00 pm.

Confesiones - Cada miércoles de 4:00 pm a 5:00 pm, cada sábado de 3:30 - 4:00 pm, y por cita.

Vía Crucis - Cada viernes de la Cuaresma a las 5:00 de la tarde. ¡Acompáñenos!

Santísimo Sacramento - Expuesto en la Iglesia cada jueves de 7:30 am hasta 5:30 pm

2017 Campaña Anual de Ministerios (AMA) - Nuestra Campaña Diocesana continua esta semana. Estamos muy agradecidos a todos ustedes que han regresado sus sobres con un compromiso. Actualmente, el total de nuestros compromisos es **\$37,667**. La Campaña ayuda a los muchos ministerios y servicios Diocesanos. Sobres de Compromiso están en las bancas.



"May the works of mercy also include care for our common home." — Pope Francis

Please see our parish website for a link to the **#Mercy2Earth** project and the letter from Pope Francis, "Show Mercy to our Common Home".

Youth Corner

Have you ever had a really great experience that you didn't want to end? Here, the Apostles have an experience like that: Jesus is transfigured before them, giving them a glimpse of his coming Resurrection. They don't want this experience to end, but they can't pitch tents and stay on the mountaintop forever. While all good experiences in this life are fleeting, they are meant to point us to the one experience that will last forever—heaven! Nothing on earth is as good as what is yet to come!