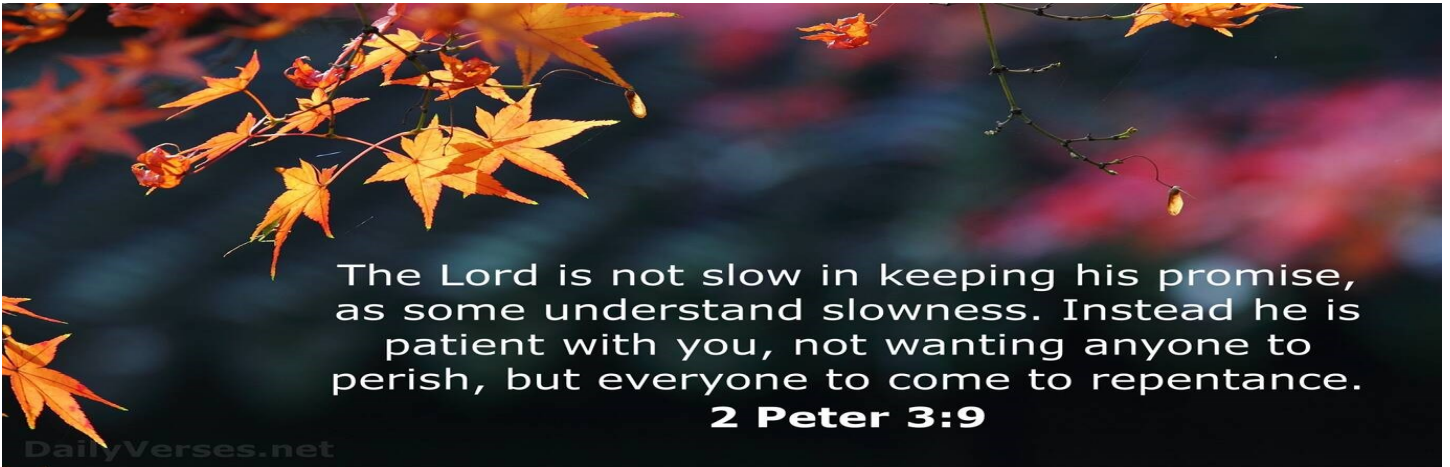


# OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL CATHOLIC CHURCH

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**SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT – DEC. 10TH, 2023**  
**“PREPARE THE WAY OF THE LORD, MAKE STRAIGHT HIS PATHS.”**



Today's Gospel is taken from the beginning of Mark. Unlike Luke and Matthew, Mark does not include any details of Jesus' birth. Instead Mark begins with the appearance of John the Baptist in the desert. On this the Second Sunday of Advent, we are invited to reflect upon the role of John the Baptist, who prepared the way for Jesus and the salvation that he would bring to us.

Many scholars believe that the Gospels reflect the tension that likely existed between followers of John the Baptist and disciples of Jesus. Each of the four Evangelists report on John's preaching and baptizing, and they each emphasize the importance of Jesus' baptism by John. The four Gospels also explain that John was sent to preach in preparation for another. In the Gospel of Luke, the question is raised as to whether John the Baptist was himself the Messiah. Just as in today's Gospel, however, John speaks quite explicitly that the Messiah was to come after him.

In today's Gospel we hear John the Baptist contrast his baptism of repentance with the baptism that Jesus will inaugurate. John says that he has baptized with water, but that the one who is to come will baptize with the Holy Spirit. John's baptism was not yet a Christian baptism, but a preparation for the Sacrament of Baptism through which sins are forgiven and the gift of the Holy Spirit is received.

John the Baptist is presented to us as a model during Advent. We, too, are called upon to prepare a way for the Lord. Like John the Baptist, we are messengers in service to one who is greater than we are. Our Baptism commissions us to call others to life as disciples of Jesus.

## II DOMINGO DE ADVIENTO – DICIEMBRE 10TH, 2023

### *“PREPAREN EL CAMINO DEL SEÑOR, ENDERECEN SUS SENDEROS”.*

El evangelio de hoy está tomado del comienzo de Marcos. A diferencia de Lucas y Mateo, Marcos no incluye ningún detalle del nacimiento de Jesús. En cambio, Marcos comienza con la aparición de Juan el Bautista en el desierto. En este Segundo Domingo de Adviento, estamos invitados a reflexionar sobre el papel de Juan el Bautista, quien preparó el camino para Jesús y la salvación que él nos traería.

Muchos estudiosos creen que los Evangelios reflejan la tensión que probablemente existió entre los seguidores de Juan el Bautista y los discípulos de Jesús. Cada uno de los cuatro evangelistas informa sobre la predicación y el bautismo de Juan, y cada uno enfatiza la importancia del bautismo de Jesús por Juan. Los cuatro evangelios también explican que Juan fue enviado a predicar en preparación para otro. En el Evangelio de Lucas se plantea la cuestión de si Juan el Bautista era él mismo el Mesías. Sin embargo, al igual que en el Evangelio de hoy, Juan habla de manera bastante explícita de que el Mesías vendría después de él.

En el Evangelio de hoy escuchamos a Juan Bautista contrastar su bautismo de arrepentimiento con el bautismo que Jesús inauguraré. Juan dice que él ha bautizado con agua, pero que el que ha de venir bautizará con el Espíritu Santo. El bautismo de Juan aún no era un bautismo cristiano, sino una preparación para el sacramento del bautismo mediante el cual se perdonan los pecados y se recibe el don del Espíritu Santo.

Juan Bautista se nos presenta como modelo durante el Adviento. Nosotros también estamos llamados a preparar un camino para el Señor. Como Juan el Bautista, somos mensajeros al servicio de alguien que es mayor que nosotros. Nuestro Bautismo nos encarga llamar a otros a la vida como discípulos de Jesús.

## POPE ASKS MARY TO WATCH OVER UKRAINIANS, PALESTINIANS, ISRAELIS



ROME (CNS) -- Mary's conception, free from original sin, shows that the destiny of humanity lies in life, brotherhood, harmony and peace rather than death, hate, conflict and war, Pope Francis said on the feast of the Immaculate Conception.

"Your person, the fact that you exist, reminds us that evil does not have the first nor the last word," the pope said to Mary during a prayer ceremony Dec. 8 while seated in front of a Marian statue in central Rome.

After a canceled trip to Dubai in the United Arab Emirates and having an aide read his speeches for the past weeks due to a bronchial infection, Pope

Francis went into the center of Rome to continue the tradition of praying before the elevated statue of Mary next to the Spanish Steps.

That morning, Rome firefighters climbed nearly 90 feet using a truck and ladder to place a ring of white roses on Mary's outstretched arm, continuing a Roman tradition that began in 1949.

Reciting his prayer while seated, the pope asked Mary to "turn your merciful eyes on all people oppressed by injustice and poverty, tried by war." "Look at the martyred Ukrainian people, at the Palestinian people, at the Israeli people, plunged back into the spiral of violence," he said.

The pope entrusted to Mary's care the "many mothers who, as happened to you, are grieving. Mothers who mourn their children killed by war and terrorism."

U.S Catholic Bishops



## EVENT CALENDAR

**Tue. Dec. 12th Santa Maria de Guadalupe**

**Manana:**

6:00 Mananitas; 6:30 am Rosario

**Tarde:**

6:00 Danza; 6:30 Misa con Marichis

7:30 Convivio

**Fri. Dec. 15th @ 6:30pm.**

First Day of the **Posadas** in the Church.

Sat. Dec. 23th **Fourth Sunday of Advent @ 4:30pm Vigil Mass**

6:00 pm Ultima Posada, Cachagua  
6:30 pm Misa de Navidad en Cachagua.

Sun. Dec. 24th 4:30 pm **Christmas Eve Solemn Mass.**

Mon. Dec. 25th **Christmas Day**  
9:00 am & 11:15 am Christmas Day Solemn Masses.

**Sat. Dec. 30th & Sun. Dec. 31st 2023** Feast of the Holy Family, Regular Weekend Mass Schedule.

Mon. Jan. 1st 2024. **Mary Mother of God** (Not a Holy Day of Obligation in the USA). 12 Noon Mass in English

# SCHEDULE

## Weekday Mass

Wednesday — Friday, 12 noon

## Weekend Mass

Saturday Vigil at 4:30 PM

Sunday at 9:00 and 11:15 AM in English,  
Spanish Mass: 2nd Sunday of the Month at  
5:00 pm in the Church. 4th Saturday of the  
month at 7:00pm in Cachagua.

## Reconciliation

Saturday at 3:30 PM and by appointment

## Office Hours

Wednesday — Friday:  
10 AM - 12 PM; 2 - 4 PM

The church is open Wednesday — Sunday  
from 10 AM to 4 PM for personal prayer.

# PARISH STAFF

## Fr. Jhonnatan Flórez Carmona

Parish Priest:  
frjcarmona@ourladycarmelvalley.org

## Gail Quinnan

Assistant to the Pastor (Volunteer)  
olmc@ourladycarmelvalley.org

## Rebecca Bayless

Bookkeeper  
accounting@ourladycarmelvalley.org

## Music Ministry

4:30 pm Sat. Mass: Kim Hartford—Kathy Nathan

9:00 am Sun. Mass: Stefania Ortiz

11:15 am Sun. Mass Parish Choir

## Angelica Lozano

Custodian

# MASS INTENTIONS

Mass Intentions Decembre 10<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup> 2023

Sunday Dec. 10<sup>th</sup> 9:00: + **Kim Cook**

11:15: - **People of the Parish**

5:00 pm Misa en Espanol:

+ **Emma Solano**, + **Jose Guadalupe Cabrera** Tues.

Tue. Dec. 12<sup>th</sup> 6:30pm: Our Lady of Guadalupe:

- People of Cachagua.

Wed. Dec 13th 12:00: + **Joseph Galluzzo**

Thurs. Dec 14th 12:00: + **Susan Villareal**

Fri. Dec 15th 12:00: + **Juan Lopez**

Sat. Vigil Dec 16th 4:30: + **People of the Parish**

Sunday Dec 17th 9:00: + **Kim Cook**

11:15: + **Clayton Neil, Jr.**

*MAY THE SOULS OF ALL THE FAITHFUL  
DEPARTED, THROUGH THE MERCY OF GOD,  
REST IN PEACE. AMEN.*

# WEEKLY COLLECTION

**Nov. 25 & 26: \$**  
**Human Trafficking 2nd C.: \$**

*THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY  
TO OUR PARISH COMMUNITY*

# PARISH VOLUNTEER MINISTRIES

## Pastoral Council

- Dede Woodhead (chair), Alondra Klemek (vice chair), Jeff Hawkins (secretary), Daryl Lyon, Sean Devine, Trini Resendiz

## Finance Council

- Alex Gray (chair), Jim Rice (secretary), A.B. Introcaso, Jack McAleer, Ed Quinnan

## Faith Formation

- **First Communion:** Susan Franks (1st year) Jennifer Bodner (2nd year). Supply teacher: Brisa Cabrera (1st year)
- **Confirmation:** Tess Arthur (2nd year). Supply teacher: Alondra Klemek.
- **RCIA / Adult Faith Formation:** John Condon—Derwin Borling

## Bereavement Ministry:

Trudy Dowd

## Manna Ministry:

Janice Hawkins

## Human Trafficking

Brendan Cook

## Parish Hall & Kitchen Rental:

A.B. Introcaso

## Social Media:

Lorraine Yglesias

## Website:

John Finn

## Lectors:

Dede Woodhead

## Ministers of the Eucharist:

Lorraine Ring

## Coffee Hospitality Ministry:

Rosemary Ellis

## Sacristans:

Richard Ring

## Ushers:

John & Sherie

Dodsworth.-Vicky Young





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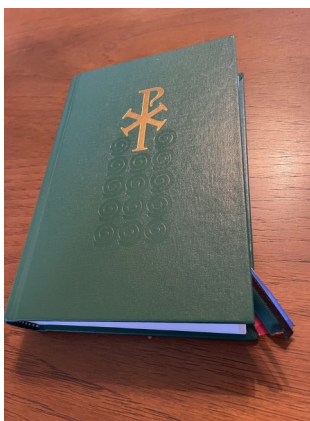
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**Starting this weekend, on the first Sunday of Advent, we will be using our beautiful new liturgical hymn books "JOURNEYSONGS".**

Fr. Jhonnatan and the Pastoral Council have approved these new hard cover Hymn Books which contain the Sundays' and Holy Days' readings for the three Liturgical Cycles in the church year. They include colored bookmarks to select the weekly readings and hymns. Because we will not be throwing away a hymn book every year, we will now be taking better care of the environment.



**Your weekend readings are number: 862**  
**Second Sunday of Advent B**

**SAINT OF THE WEEK:**  
**DEC. 13TH**  
**SAINT LUCY.**



The mother of SAINT LUCY suffered four years from an issue of blood, and the human help failed. Saint Lucy reminded her mother that a woman in the Gospel had been healed of the same disorder. "Saint Agatha," she said, "stands ever in the sight of him for whom she died. Only touch her sepulcher with faith, and you will be healed." They spent the night praying by the tomb, until, overcome by weariness, both fell asleep. Saint Agatha appeared in vision to Saint Lucy, and calling her sister, foretold her mother's recovery and her own martyrdom. That instant the cure was affected; and in her gratitude the mother allowed her daughter to distribute her wealth among the poor, and consecrate her virginity to Christ. A young man to whom she had been promised in marriage accused her as a Christian to the heathen; but our Lord, by a special miracle, saved from outrage this virgin whom he had chosen for his own. The fire kindled around her did her no hurt. Then the sword was plunged into her heart, and the promise made at the tomb of Saint Agatha was fulfilled. I-Breviary



**Santa Maria de Guadalupe**

**Tue. Dec. 12th**

**Manana:**

6:00 am Mananitas - 6:30 am Rosario

**Tarde:**

6:00 pm Danza - 6:30 pm Misa con Mariachis  
7:30 pm Coniujuo



**Manna Ministry**

**Please Help!**

**In order to be able to provide**  
**New Year's Dinners**  
**The Mana Ministry needs**  
**needs cooked Hams (4-7 lbs**

**Please Drop off Donation at Church**  
**Sat. Dec 23rd - Sun. Dec. 24th**  
**Thank you.**

