



OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL CATHOLIC CHURCH

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FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT—DEC. 22ND, 2024

"BLESSED ARE YOU AMONG WOMEN, AND BLESSED IS THE FRUIT OF YOUR WOMB"



Our Gospel reading recalls Mary's actions after the announcement of Jesus' birth by the angel Gabriel. Mary goes to visit Elizabeth, her cousin, who is also with child. Elizabeth greets Mary with full recognition of the roles that they and their unborn children will play in God's plan for salvation. If we were to continue to read the verses that follow in Luke's Gospel, we would hear Mary respond to Elizabeth's greeting with her song of praise, the Magnificat. Both women recall and echo God's history of showing favor upon the people of Israel.

In Luke's Gospel the Holy Spirit helps reveal Jesus' identity as God to those who believe. Elizabeth is filled with the Holy Spirit and sings Mary's praise because she bears the Lord. We sing these words of

praise to Mary in the Hail Mary. Even John the Baptist, the unborn child in Elizabeth's womb, is said to recognize the presence of the Lord and leaps for joy.

It is appropriate in this season of Advent that we consider the role of Mary in God's plan of salvation. Elizabeth describes Mary as the first disciple, as the one who believed that God's word to her would be fulfilled. Mary's faith enabled her to recognize the work of God in her people's history and in her own life. Her openness to God allowed God to work through her so that salvation might come to everyone. Because of this, Mary is a model and symbol of the Church. May we be like Mary, open and cooperative in God's plan for salvation.

Loyola Press

MASS INTENTIONS

December 21st - 22nd 2024

Sat. Dec. 21st 4:30: + Jo Ellen Lee

Sun. Dec. 22th 9:00: - Int. Jim Rice (Birthday)
11:00: + Rosa Palma Morales

CHRISTMAS EVE

Tue. Dec. 24th 4:30 pm: - People of the Parish

CHRISTMAS DAY

Wed. Dec. 25th 10:00 am: Fr. Jhonnatan's
Baptismal Birthday.

Thu. Dec. 26th 12:00: + Rev. Mark Stetz

Fri. Dec. 27th 12:00: + Norma Wend

Sat. Vigil Dec. 28th 4:30: + Mandy Reyes

Sun. Dec. 29th 9:00: + Brenda Shakal (1st Anniv)
11:00: - People of the Parish.

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

WEEKLY COLLECTION

DECEMBER 14TH & 15TH \$ 8,653.80

PRAYERFUL AZTEC DANCE

Parishioner Trinidad (Trini) Reséndiz learned the beautiful, historic dance of the Aztecs as a child in Mexico. When she moved to this country, married and started raising her children, she stopped dancing for a while. However, in 2012, she had a conversation with Father Emil, our pastor at the time. She told him that every year in her town in Mexico she danced to the Our Lady of Guadalupe and the Santa Catarina, virgin and martyr. She asked Father Emil (our former pastor) if she could gather a group to dance to the Virgin on December 12th, her feast day. He agreed, and that same year a group from Cachagua danced for the first time at 5AM in front of our Church. But the sound of the drum and the shells was so loud that some neighbors were awakened and complained. For that reason, they did not dance again for a few years, until Trini proposed it once again to Father Jhonnatan when he arrived. He liked the idea of dancing to Our Lady of Guadalupe, and once again the group reconvened. Since then, they have been dancing to The Blessed Mother every year on her day. Each dance has a name and a meaning. The dances offered are the prayers of the dancers and the whole community and are offered to Our Lady of Guadalupe and to Our Lord.

At first, the group did not have a name, but two years later they decided to call it *Tonantzin*, because the dance is dedicated to Our Lady of Guadalupe. *Tonantzin* means Our Mother, as she was referred to by natives in Mexico.

In addition to offering prayers, these dances have also served as relief and therapy for the dancers. During Covid, with the loneliness of the time, there was a lot of depression. The act of dancing and the prayers offered served as a type of healing, not only for the dancers, but for the community that observes this rich tradition of faith and culture. Dictated by Trini Resendiz

DANZA AZTECA DE ORACION

Nuestra parroquiana Trinidad (Trini) Reséndiz aprendió la hermosa e histórica danza de los Aztecas cuando era niña en México. Cuando se mudó a este país, se casó y empezó a criar a sus hijos, dejó de bailar por un tiempo. Sin embargo, en 2012 tuvo una conversación con el padre Emil, (nuestro párroco en ese tiempo). Ella le contó que todos los años en su pueblo de México le danzaban a la Virgen de Guadalupe y a Santa Catarina, virgen y mártir. Trini le preguntó al padre Emil si podía reunir un grupo para danzarle a la Virgen el 12 de diciembre en su Fiesta. Él estuvo de acuerdo, y ese mismo año un grupo de miembros de Cachagua danzaron por primera vez a las 5:00 am frente de nuestra parroquia. Pero el sonido del tambor y de los caracoles fue tan fuerte que algunos vecinos se despertaron y se quejaron. Por eso no volvieron a danzar durante algunos años, hasta que Trini se lo volvió a proponer al padre Jhonnatan cuando llegó, al cual le gustó la idea de danzarle a la Virgen de Guadalupe, y una vez más el grupo se volvió a reunir. Desde entonces, cada año se danza a La Virgen en su día. Cada baile tiene un nombre y un significado. Los bailes que se ofrecen son las oraciones de los danzantes y de toda la comunidad, y son ofrecidos a la Virgen de Guadalupe y a Nuestro Señor.



Al principio el grupo no tenía nombre, pero dos años después decidieron llamarlo *Tonantzin*, porque el baile está dedicado a la Virgen de Guadalupe. *Tonantzin* significa Nuestra Madre, como la llamaban los nativos de México.

Además de ofrecer oraciones, estos bailes también han servido de alivio y terapia para los danzantes. Durante el Covid, con la depresión de la época. El acto de bailar y las oraciones ofrecidas sirvieron como una especie de curación, no sólo para los danzantes, sino para la comunidad que observa esta rica tradición de fe y cultura. Dictado por Trini Reséndiz

EVENT CALENDAR

Poinsettias Donations Dec: 15th-22nd.

Sun. Dec. 22nd 12 noon Altar decorations for Christmas.

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE:

Mon. Dec. 23rd:

6:30pm **Misa de Navidad en Cachagua.**

Tue. Dec. 24th:

4:30pm **Christmas Eve Children Mass.**

Wed. Dec. 25th: 10am: **Christmas Day Mass**

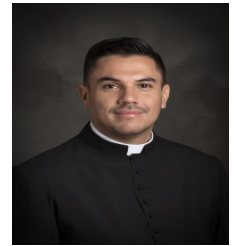
Office Closed: Dec. 25th 2024—Jan. 5th 2025.

Wed. Jan. 1st 2024. **Mary Mother of God (Holy Day of Obligation).**

12 Noon English Mass

Sun. Jan. 5th 2025. **Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord.**

FROM THE PARISH PRIEST'S DESK...




Dear Parishioner and Friends of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish. We celebrate! I have been delighted to be with our Hispanic Community praying the Posadas for nine days before Christmas, As a child, we prayed the Novena to Baby Jesus. Advent, Posadas and our willingness for change is a spiritual preparation for one of the greater feast in the liturgical calendar: Christmas.

I pray for all of you and hope that the spirit of Advent and Christmas might be everlasting and that we should be a gift for each other. For those of you who are traveling visiting families and friends, may the lord be your companion. Shalom!
Fr. Jhonnatan F. Carmona.


SPAIN PILGRIMAGE
11 DAYS: SEPTEMBER 15-25, 2025

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Fr. Jhonnatan Carmona
Tel: (831) 659-2224
Email: frjcarmona@ourladycarmelvalley.org

DON'T MISS OUT! SIGN UP TODAY!



IV DOMINGO DE ADVIENTO—DEC. 22ND, 2024

¡BENDITA TÚ ENTRE LAS MUJERES Y BENDITO EL FRUTO DE TU VIENTRE!

Nuestra lectura del Evangelio recuerda las acciones de María después del anuncio del nacimiento de Jesús por parte del ángel Gabriel. María va a visitar a Isabel, su prima, que también está embarazada. Isabel saluda a María con pleno reconocimiento del papel que ellas y sus hijos no nacidos desempeñarán en el plan de salvación de Dios. Si continuáramos leyendo los versículos que siguen en el Evangelio de Lucas, escucharíamos a María responder al saludo de Isabel con su canto de alabanza, el Magnificat. Ambas mujeres recuerdan y se hacen eco de la historia de Dios al mostrar favor al pueblo de Israel.

En el Evangelio de Lucas, el Espíritu Santo ayuda a revelar la identidad de Jesús como Dios a quienes creen. Isabel se llena del Espíritu Santo y canta alabanzas a María porque ella lleva al Señor. Cantamos estas palabras de alabanza a María en el Ave María. Incluso se dice que Juan el Bautista, el niño no nacido en el vientre de Isabel, reconoce la presencia del Señor y salta de alegría.

Es apropiado en este tiempo de Adviento que consideremos el papel de María en el plan de salvación de Dios. Isabel describe a María como la primera discípula, como la que creyó que la palabra de Dios para ella se cumpliría. La fe de María le permitió reconocer la obra de Dios en la historia de su pueblo y en su propia vida. Su apertura a Dios permitió que Dios obrara a través de ella para que la salvación llegara a todos. Por eso María es modelo y símbolo de la Iglesia. Que seamos como María, abiertos y cooperativos en el plan de salvación de Dios.





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SCHEDULE

Weekday Mass

Wednesday — Friday, 12 noon

Weekend Mass

Saturday Vigil at 4:30 PM

Sunday at 9:00 and 11:00 AM in English,

Spanish Mass: 2nd Sunday of the Month

1:00 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:

1:00 pm—3:00 pm.

Sundays: 10:00 am—11:00 am.

“At the heart of silence is prayer. At the heart of prayer is faith. At the heart of faith is life. At the heart of life is service.” St. Teresa of Avila

PARISH MINISTRIES

Pastoral Council

Finance Council

Faith Formation

Bereavement Ministry

Manna Ministry

Human Trafficking

Music Ministry

Parish Hall & Kitchen Rental

Social Media

Website

Eucharistic Ministers

Coffee Hospitality

Sacristans

Lectors

Ushers

PARISH STAFF

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Custodian

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