

OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL CATHOLIC CHURCH

9 El Caminito Road, Carmel Valley Village, CA 93924
phone: 831-659-2224 • email: olmc@ourladycarmelvalley.org
www.ourladycarmelvalley.org



FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY—DEC. 29TH, 2024 **YOUR FATHER AND I HAVE BEEN LOOKING FOR YOU WITH**

Today we celebrate the feast of the Holy Family. This feast is part of the Christmas season. Mary, Joseph, and Jesus are presented in this Gospel as a faithful Jewish family. They are participating in the annual pilgrimage to Jerusalem for the feast of Passover, an event shared each year with family and friends. When Jesus is found, Luke describes him as seated in the Temple in the midst of the Jewish teachers. Although he is young, Jesus seems not to need teaching about his Jewish tradition. In his dialogue with these learned teachers, Jesus astounds them with his insight and understanding. Jesus is a child of Israel. His Father is God.

The dialogue between Mary and Jesus contains many references to family relationships. In fact, in this Gospel reading Mary and Joseph are never identified by name. Instead they are referred to by their relationship to Jesus. Ultimately, this emphasizes Luke's point about the identity of Jesus. When Mary and Joseph find Jesus in the Temple, they question Jesus and express their anxiety. Jesus replies in words that many have thought to be disrespectful. Jesus says that he was never lost; he was at home. Jesus is God's Son, and he is in his Father's house. Luke will continue to suggest that faith in Jesus establishes new family relationships as he describes Jesus' public ministry.



In Luke's Gospel, Mary's importance is even greater than her role as Jesus' mother. Mary is the first disciple and will be present with Jesus' disciples after his Resurrection at Pentecost. Loyola Press

MASS INTENTIONS

Dec. 28th 2024- Jan. 5th 2025

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

Sun. Dec. 29th 9:00: + **Brenda Shakal (1st Anniv)**

11:00: - **People of the Parish.**

Mary Mother of God (Holy Day of Obligation)

Wed. Jan. 1st 12:00: + **Joe & Mary Dowd**

Thu. Jan. 2nd 12:00: + **Rev. Harmon Skillin**

Fri. Jan. 3rd 12:00: + **Mandy Reyes**

Sat. Jan. 4th 4:30: + **Genesis Espiritu**

Sun. Jan. 5th 9:00: + **Gladys & Alphonse Scarpitto**

11:00: + **Warren Kaufman**

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

WEEKLY COLLECTION
DECEMBER 21ST & 22ND \$
CHRISTMAS: \$

A CHRISTMAS MESSAGE, FROM THE PARISH PRIEST DESK:

Dear Parishioners and Friends of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish!

The angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you who is Christ and Lord."

The first message of Christmas was carried out by an angel. The word angel literally means "messenger". Let us be messengers of this great news to all. The celebration of Christmas is so great a mystery, the Church celebrates it with an Octave and the liturgical season of Christmas. But we must celebrate always, every day, all the time, especially when we pray the Angelus, meditating in this great mystery that God has become one of us.

As we contemplate the manger, and we gaze upon it and see God's tender love in the face of the Child Jesus, let us ask ourselves: "Are our hearts full of expectation? Does this hope find a place there? ... As we contemplate the loving kindness of God who overcomes our doubts and fears, let us also contemplate the grandeur of the hope that awaits us. ... May this vision of hope illuminate our path each day" (c.m. martini, *Christmas Homily*, 1980).

I would like to share a message that I found on the Web: *Santa Claus shall not be remembered more than Jesus. What an incoherent scale, where a bag of gifts weighs more than a Cross! Giving gifts is good, but the best thing is to be a present: to be a friend, to be a companion, to give a warmer hug, to allow our eyes to see not only ourselves, but the others, especially those less fortunate than us. Feed a hungry person who lives in the middle of the street, shelter a homeless person; your part is to help, and the world can change, each one doing their part. Forgive those who hurt you, strive to lift a friend who fell, and try to give hope to someone who gave up; Convince those who are sad that it is worth smiling; advise those who are devout that there is still a way to go, and for those who are wrong, there is time to correct them. Do good for anyone without asking why. It seems old-fashioned, but when you help someone, the beneficiary is you. May you live in Christmas, all year, all the time, always!*

On Christmas Eve, the Holy Father Pope Francis has opened the Holy Doors to celebrate a Jubilee Year of Hope and prepare to open the Year of Grace 2025. I pray that the love and mercy of Baby Jesus may be felt and experienced by you. Please be assured of my prayers and love for you and those who are dear to you. Please know that I carry you in my priestly heart and in my prayers, especially in the celebration of Eucharist! Merry Christmas and a Happy Blessed New Year 2025!

Most sincere wishes from Fr. Jhonnatan F. Carmona, your servant.



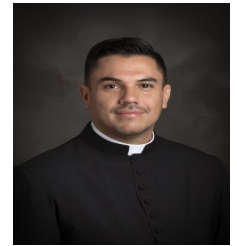
EVENT CALENDAR

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

Fr. Roy Shelly will be here and staying in the rectory during Fr. Jhonnatan's Christmas vacation. He is well known to our parish so please offer him any assistance he may need during this time.

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

FROM THE PARISH PRIEST'S DESK...



Dear Parishioner and Friends of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish.

Merry Christmas! It has been a joy to celebrate with you Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. May the presence of Baby Jesus in our midst transform our lives.

I thanked and welcome Fr. Roy Shelly to our Parish Community again. Greetings from Colombia!

Shalom! Fr. Jhonnatan F. Carmona.



SPAIN PILGRIMAGE
11 DAYS: SEPTEMBER 15-25, 2025

FOLLOWING THE FOOTSTEPS OF ST. TERESA AND ST. JUNIPERO
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FR. JHONNATAN F CARMONA

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For More Information, Please Contact:
Fr. Jhonnatan Carmona
Tel: (831) 659-2224
Email: frjcarmona@ourladycarmelvalley.org

DON'T MISS OUT! SIGN UP TODAY!

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY—DEC. 29TH, 2024 TU PADRE Y YO TE HEMOS ESTADO BUSCANDO

Hoy celebramos la fiesta de la Sagrada Familia. Esta fiesta es parte de la temporada navideña. María, José y Jesús son presentados en este Evangelio como una fiel familia judía. Participan en la peregrinación anual a Jerusalén para la fiesta de la Pascua, un evento que comparten cada año con familiares y amigos. Cuando encuentran a Jesús, Lucas lo describe sentado en el templo en medio de los maestros judíos. Aunque es joven, Jesús parece no necesitar que le enseñen su tradición judía. En su diálogo con estos eruditos maestros, Jesús los sorprende con su perspicacia y comprensión. Jesús es un hijo de Israel. Su Padre es Dios.

El diálogo entre María y Jesús contiene muchas referencias a las relaciones familiares. De hecho, en esta lectura del Evangelio María y José nunca son identificados por su nombre. Más bien, se hace referencia a ellos por su relación con Jesús. En última instancia, esto enfatiza el punto de Lucas sobre la identidad de Jesús. Cuando María y José encuentran a Jesús en el templo, lo interrogan y expresan su ansiedad. Jesús responde con palabras que muchos han considerado irrespetuosas. Jesús dice que nunca estuvo perdido; él estaba en casa. Jesús es el Hijo de Dios y está en la casa de su Padre. Lucas seguirá sugiriendo que la fe en Jesús establece nuevas relaciones familiares mientras describe el ministerio público de Jesús.

En el Evangelio de Lucas, la importancia de María es incluso mayor que su papel como madre de Jesús. María es la primera discípula y estará presente con los discípulos de Jesús después de su Resurrección en Pentecostés.



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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

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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

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

Angelica Lozano

Custodian

Bulletin Editor:

bulletin@ourladycarmelvalley.org