



OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL CATHOLIC CHURCH

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www.ourladycarmelvalley.org



TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – AUGUST 17, 2025 *"I HAVE COME TO SET THE EARTH ON FIRE"*

Jesus tells that he has come to set the earth on fire. Recall that in chapter 3 of Luke's Gospel, John the Baptist tells the crowd that he is baptizing with water, but someone mightier is coming who will baptize with the Holy Spirit and fire. The fire Jesus speaks of here is the distress caused by the coming judgment. It is also the fire of the Spirit that Luke, in the Acts of the Apostles, will describe descending on the disciples on Pentecost. That fire will strengthen them to go out to the whole world to preach the good news of Jesus' Resurrection.

Jesus will be the first to experience the distress of the coming judgment. His baptism will be the conflict into which he will be immersed as he approaches Jerusalem and his death on the cross. His followers will not be spared that distress. The angels at Jesus' birth proclaimed peace on earth, and Simeon, holding the baby Jesus in the Temple, said to God: "Master, now you may let your servant go in peace." Here Jesus tells the crowd not to think he has come to bring peace; he has come to bring division. Simeon said as much when he turned to Mary and said that the child was destined for the rise and fall of many and to be a sign that will be contradicted. Peace is the ultimate end of the Kingdom of God, but peace has a price. Jesus is warning the crowd that wherever the Word of God is heard and acted upon, division occurs. Fathers will be divided against sons and mothers against daughters.

We don't expect to hear such difficult words from Jesus in the Gospel. But it is good to be reminded once in a while that the decision to do the right thing, the good thing, is not always easy and without conflict. Jesus himself did not make easy decisions and avoid conflict. In today's reading, he reminds his followers to be prepared for difficult decisions and conflict as well. **Loyola Press**



"HE VENIDO A TRAER FUEGO A LA TIERRA"

Jesús dice que ha venido a prender fuego a la tierra. Recuerde que en el capítulo 3 del Evangelio de Lucas, Juan el Bautista le dice a la multitud que está bautizando con agua, pero que viene alguien más poderoso que bautizará con Espíritu Santo y fuego. El fuego del que Jesús habla aquí es la angustia causada por el juicio venidero. Es también el fuego del Espíritu que Lucas, en los Hechos de los Apóstoles, describirá descendiendo sobre los discípulos en Pentecostés. Ese fuego los fortalecerá para salir por todo el mundo a predicar la buena nueva de la Resurrección de Jesús.

Jesús será el primero en experimentar la angustia del juicio venidero. Su bautismo será el conflicto en el que se verá inmerso al acercarse a Jerusalén ya su muerte en la cruz. Sus seguidores no se librarán de esa angustia. Los ángeles al nacer Jesús proclamaron la paz en la tierra, y Simeón, sosteniendo al niño Jesús en el Templo, le dijo a Dios: "Maestro, ahora puedes dejar ir en paz a tu siervo". Aquí Jesús le dice a la multitud que no piense que ha venido a traer la paz; ha venido a traer división. Simeón dijo tanto cuando se volvió hacia María y dijo que el niño estaba destinado a la subida y caída de muchos y a ser una señal que será contradicha. La paz es el fin último del Reino de Dios, pero la paz tiene un precio. Jesús está advirtiéndole a la multitud que dondequiera que se escuche y se actúe sobre la Palabra de Dios, se producirá división. Los padres estarán divididos contra los hijos y las madres contra las hijas.

No esperamos escuchar palabras tan difíciles de Jesús en el Evangelio. Pero es bueno recordar de vez en cuando que la decisión de hacer lo correcto, lo bueno, no siempre es fácil y sin conflictos. Jesús mismo no tomó decisiones fáciles ni evitó los conflictos. En la lectura de hoy, les recuerda a sus seguidores que también estén preparados para decisiones difíciles y conflictos.

THE ROLE OF MUSIC IN CHURCH

Written by Tamara Sommerville

“Come, let us sing for joy to the Lord; let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation.” Psalm 95

Music connects believers to God.

Have you ever heard a song that spoke to you? A song that calmed you? Maybe a chant or fight song that got your blood moving or encouraged you to root for your favorite team or shouting for your favorite rock band? Music affects our emotions and our senses. It provides background sounds when we work, play, and sleep. Music creates emotional bonds of shared expression whether we are at the Symphony or at a backyard BBQ. Our hands clap and our feet tap when the rhythm gets a hold.



Music soothes and speaks to us in our grief.

Research has shown music stimulates the Neurotransmitters associated with pleasure and reward. The Limbic System engages our emotions, memory and builds bonds between songs and personal experiences. It seems like we're wired for music. Have you heard the line by William Congreve that, “Music has charms to soothe the savage breast, to soften rocks or bend the knotted oak?” Some have said that music is what humanizes us.



It's also said that music brings us into closer relationship with God. The Holy Spirit uses soft notes of a piano or voice when we have communion that can help us commune with God. Hymns can be prayed—to worship our Lord but also to build a bond between the worshipper and the worshiped, again by the help of the Holy Spirit.

All these experiences also work when choirs sing. Hearing others sing speaks to your heart and helps you to engage with God in your worship. Singing along with the hymns creates an emotional bond between you, the choir and God. St. Augustine said, “When we sing, we pray twice.” This signifies that worship with singing can be a powerful form of prayer.

I tell the choir that we are here to help the congregation find a place within themselves to worship our God. To soften hearts. To open closed minds. To bring understanding of God to our daily lives. Let us sing to God, the Father; Jesus, his son; and the Holy Spirit.

If you'd like to be part of the choir, come talk to me or one of the choir members after Mass.



MASS INTENTIONS

AUGUST 16TH -24TH

*Sat. August 16th 4:30 Vigil: **Birthday Intentions of Fr. Jhonnatan***

*Sun. Aug 17th 9:00: + **Fr. Jerry McCormick***

*11:00: + **Barbara Riedel***

*Wed, Aug 20th 12:00: + **Fr. Jerry McCormick***

*Thurs. Aug 21st 12:00: **Healing of Abundio Uy***

*Fri. Aug 22nd 12:00: + **Sue McFadden***

*Sat. August 23rd 4:30 Vigil: + **Art Taylor***

*Sab. Aug. 23rd 7:00PM: **Misa en Cachagua:**
Familia Salinas-Solano. 37200 Nason Rd. Spc #
9, Carmel Valley, CA 93924. + **Ofelia Gonzalez**
(37th Aniversario)*

*Sun. Aug 24th 9:00: **People of the Parish***

*11:00: + **Fr. Donald Higgins***

*May the souls of all the faithful departed,
through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen*

WEEKLY COLLECTION

AUGUST 9 & 10-: \$3,191

MISSION APPEAL - \$6,338

*Thank you for your generosity to our parish
community.*

The Missionary Society of St. Paul (MSP) and Father Robert are forever grateful for your prayers and financial support. The Mission Appeal collected \$6,338. Thank you, our Parish, for your unending generosity.



FROM THE PARISH PRIEST'S DESK...



We can consider that Jesus' message on this weekend's Gospel is hard to hear. How can Jesus our Prince of Peace say that He is not bringing peace, but division. This message is hard to hear, because the division is going to affect our families. Well, our families are supposed to be the core of society; but a family needs to be created first, in fulfilling the first command: "to love God with all your heart, soul, and mind."

Shalom! Father Jhonnatan

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Happy Birthday!
¡Feliz Cumpleaños!
Father Jhonnatan! (8/16)



- Registration is open for **First Year Holy Communion** and Order of Christian Initiation. Please visit our website under the Sacraments header.
- You have probably noticed the online donation cards in all the pews. This is a central part of our Flocknote conversation. Give it a try! The QR code will open the portal for a one time or a recurring donation.



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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 7:00 PM 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

Human Trafficking

Music Ministry

Parish Hall & Kitchen Rental

Social Media

Website

Eucharistic Ministers

Coffee Hospitality

Sacristans

Lectors

Ushers

**For more information about our ministries,
follow the link in this QR code:**



PARISH STAFF

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