

"You are  
the  
Light  
of the  
WORLD"

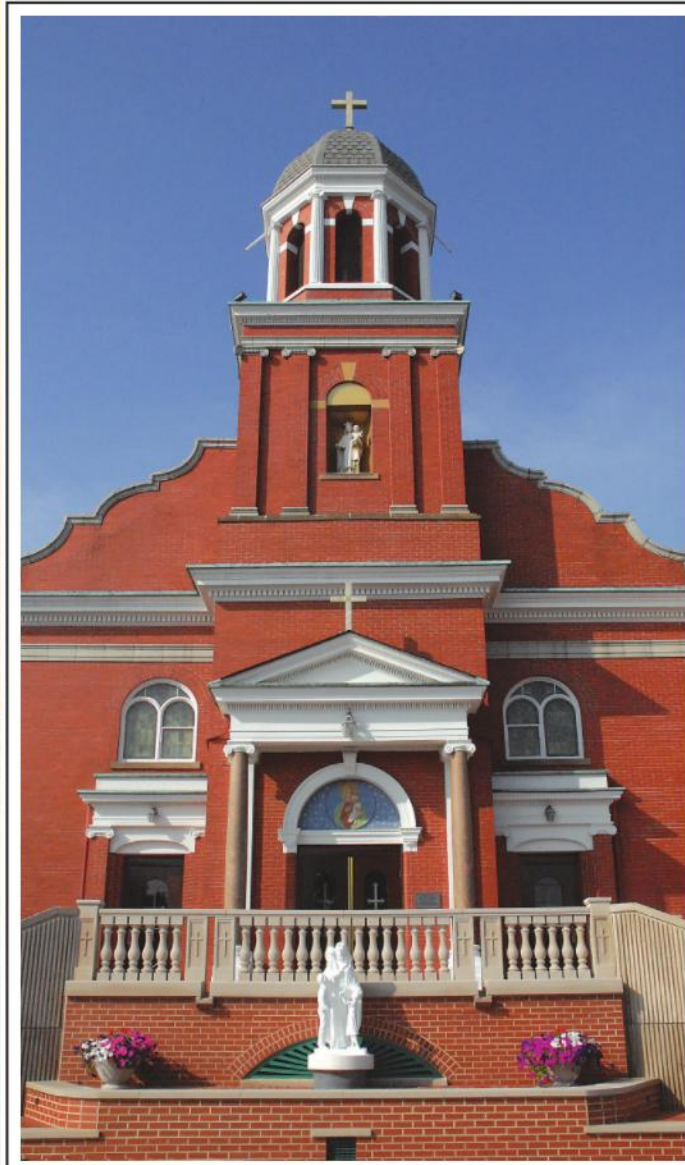
OUR  
LADY OF  
MOUNT  
CARMEL BASILICA



Our Lady of Mt. Carmel - St. Anthony of Padua Parish  
343 Via Mt. Carmel • Youngstown, Ohio 44505

Matthew 5:14

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time



**Pastor:**

Rev. Msgr. Michael Cariglio.....Ext. 103

**Church Phones:**

Office & Rectory.....(330) 743-4144  
Religious Education .....743-3508  
Church Hall .....743-7740  
Lower Church Hall.....Ext. 114  
Fax .....743-1035

**Church Secretaries:**.....743-4144

Office .....Ext. 100  
Mrs. Marie Ronyak.....Ext. 101  
Ms. Barbara McOwen.....Ext. 141  
Mrs. Cathy Zack .....Ext. 100

**Office Hours:** Mon. thru Fri. . 8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

**Permanent Deacons:**.....743-4144

Mr. Anthony Palasca, Jr .....Ext. 142  
Mr. Mark Izzo.....330-533-1857

**Director of Music:**.....743-4144

Mr. Craig Ziobert.....(330) 770-6504

**Director of Religious Education:**

Mrs. Therese Ivanisin.....Ext. 121  
olmcTherese@gmail.com or 330-743-3508  
Youth Ministry Coordinator, Melissa Varso. Ext. 122  
olmcMelissa@gmail.com

**Church Caterer:**.....743-7740

Mr. Louis Fusillo.....Ext. 131  
or 759-4010 (H)

**Parish Council Chairperson:**.....743-4144

Mr. Louis Fusillo.....Ext. 143

**Business Manager/Accountant:**

Mr. John Didek, Jr.....Ext. 100

**Sunday Masses:**

Saturday Evening.....5:00 p.m.  
Sunday.....9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m.

**Weekday Mass:** .....Daily at 12:00 noon

**Baptisms:** Saturday after the 5:00 p.m. Mass  
and Sunday after the 11:00 a.m. Mass.

**Sacrament of Penance:** Saturday 11:00 - 11:30 a.m.  
or by personal request.

**Weddings:** Please schedule marriage at least 6 months  
in advance.

**E-mail:** olmc343@aol.com

**Website:** www.ladymtcarmel.com

**MASSES FOR THE WEEK**

**Sat., Feb. 8:** *St. Jerome Emiliani, St. Josephine Bakhita, Blessed Virgin Mary*  
 12:00 p.m. Francis & Lucille DeLuco by Diane  
 5:00 p.m. Adam Fiore Family by Norma & Mike

**Sun., Feb. 9:** *Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time*  
 9:00 a.m. James Pilolli by Vince Pilolli & Family  
 11:00 a.m. Antoinette Calcagni by Husband, Gene

**Mon. Feb. 10:** *Saint Scholastica, Virgin*  
 12:00 noon Bill Longley by Christine Novicky

**Tues., Feb. 11:** *Our Lady of Lodes*  
 12:00 noon Jane McCarthy (Living) by Barbara Sarko

**Weds., Feb. 12:**  
 12:00 noon Alfred Panozzo by Wife, Maria

**Thurs. Feb. 13:**  
 12:00 noon Joseph Sandullo (A) by Wife, Terry

**Fri., Feb. 14:** *Saints Cyril & Methodius*  
 12:00 noon Al Wall (WA) by Mr. and Mrs. Michael Roseman II


**Sat., Feb. 15:**  
 12:00 p.m. Deceased Families of Cardiero/Hartwig by Mary Ann & Tony Cardiero  
 5:00 p.m. Sam G. DiBacco (A) by Ron and Edie

**Sun., Feb. 16:** *Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time*  
 9:00 a.m. Bebe Marsco by Dorina Canacci  
 11:00 a.m. Maltilda Pecchio (B) by Family


**WEEKEND ASSIGNMENTS (February 15/16)**

**Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist**

5:00 p.m. Dave Bisignani, Rose Bisignani, Deacon Anthony Falasca, Jr.  
 9:00 a.m. Robert Giampetro, James DeToro, Tom DeToro  
 11:00 a.m. Deacon Mark Izzo, Patty Dawson, Elizabeth Medovich, James Harrison

 **Lectors**

5:00 p.m. Steve Stack  
 9:00 a.m. Matthew Shaw, Danielle Shaw  
 11:00 a.m. Atianna Caggiano

 **Altar Servers**

5:00 p.m. Dominic Mordocco, Gianna Mordocco, Lauren Klanica, Gregory Carbon  
 9:00 a.m. Alex Carano, Adrianna Marsco, Luciano Marsco  
 11:00 a.m. Scott Cross, Gabriella Weese, Thomas Amon, Nicholas Amon

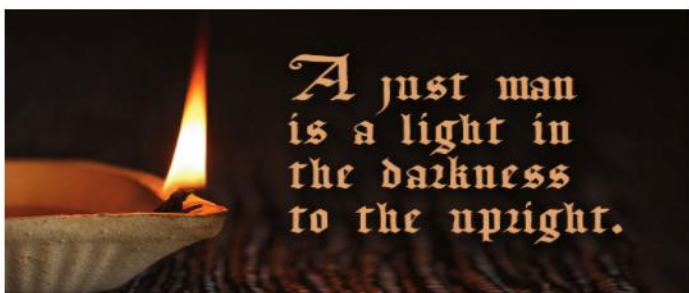


**Sunday, February 2 ( 318 envelopes) \$9,943.00**  
**St. Anthony Shrine/Novena \$ 247.00**



**ASH WEDNESDAY- FEBRUARY 26, 2020**

7:00 a.m.—Mass and Distribution of Ashes  
 12:00 noon—Mass and Distribution of Ashes  
 7:00 p.m.—Mass and Distribution of Ashes



**AN INVITATION**

Yes, I will spend ONE HOUR WEEKLY with *Jesus*, present in **THE MOST BLESSED SACRAMENT.**

Please check the time you prefer:

\_\_\_ MORNING (6:00 a.m. to noon)  
 \_\_\_ AFTERNOON (12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.)  
 \_\_\_ EVENING (6:00 p.m. to Midnight)  
 \_\_\_ NIGHT (midnight to 6:00 a.m.)



NAME \_\_\_\_\_

NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

Yes, I would like to *promote* this most important prayer Apostolate

**Cut & drop in collection basket or mail to Our Lady of Mount Carmel Basilica.**

Call Maria Panozzo at 330-372-5141 or Jean at 330-758-3335 to schedule your time to be with Jesus.  
 Come! Spend one hour per week with Jesus in Adoration, Praise and Thanksgiving for his many graces.

**Hours needed:**

Sat. 8:00 p.m. – 10 p.m.  
 Mon. 9 a.m. – 10 a.m.  
 Tues. 9 p.m. – 10 p.m.  
 Sun. 2 p.m. – 3 p.m., 3 a.m. – 4 a.m., & 4 a.m. – 5 a.m.  
 Thurs. 7 p.m. – 8 p.m. Friday – 3 p.m.-4 p.m.  
 Sat. 8 p.m. – 10p.m., 9 p.m. – 10 p.m.

**PRAY FOR THE SICK**

The families of the following parishioners have requested that we remember them in prayer: Martha Aliberti, Regina Altiero, Melinda Amon, Genevieve Angelides, Peter Angelides, Sandy Battaglia, Madelyn Brudis, Tina Bury, Zayne Bryce, Eugene Calcagni, Isabelle Corradi, Jeanni Pesa, Carmen, Kim Bowser, Marko Calko, Dominic Calko, Lori Capone, Michael (Cal) Calipare, Carl J. Carbon, Roseann Cencia, Joseph Cencia, Bethany Maytas, Anthony, Cathy Chimento, Joseph Chimento, Stephanie Chimento, Christopher Centofanti, Damian Chordas, Joseph R.Cioffi, Mary Rose Colucci, Johnny D., Ed Derek, Joanne Desko, Michelina DiVito, Greg Diorio, Grace Ducay, Angela Elmo, JoAnn Elmo, Roberta Elmo, Dolores Elston, Deacon Anthony Falasca, Jason, Monroe, Mara Frease, Ilona Gerson, Sebastian Green, Margie, Joseph Haus, Baby Henry, John, Reese, Lisa, Joshua, David, Carl Jr., Louise Faustino, Kaylee, JoAnn George, Emily Gerome, Rose Giampetro, Donald "Duke" Girardi, Dominic Greco, Josie Greco, Jennifer Greco, Michael & Carol Gromada, Carmella Guy, Claudia Hernandez, Sean Holden, Gail Hubbert, George Iati, Loretta Julian, Mark Julian, Peter Julian, Kerri, Glory & Family, Jeff Knorr, Dennis Kopnisky, Jackie Golden, Gerard Kopnisky, Hillary, William & Melinda Kopnisky, Agnes Kowis, Rocco Kovacs, Francine Kraiosky, John Kuzman, Jr., Leann P., Lenny & Cheryl, Lavonne, Lucille, Linda Maiorana, Baby Dominic Malachi, Bill Marcavish, Missy Marrie, John Mascardine, Eileen Mattiussi, Jennifer McCon, Paul and Greg Medina, Jean Medina, Livia Marinelli, Ellen Monroe, Francisco Rivera-Ocasio, George Panno, Beverly Poidmore Pariza, Mary Pesa, Ronald Pesa, Phil Pillin, Sr. Brielle, Vincent, Paul III, Giovanna Pace, Isabel Pupino, Joseph Pizzola, Nicholas Poccia, Barbara Poghen, Charles Richards, Joseph Richards, Joseph Ridel, Chris Ritter, Rose Ruggieri, Marti Runyan, Mark Roberts, Ben Russo, Millie Santangelo, Patty Schuley, Carmel Scocca, Ellie Sullenberger, Chris Sultan, Helen Trimboli, Betty & Dennis VanSuch, Greg VanSuch, Rita Varacali, Jodi Walters, Kathleen Wienand, Anna Mae Williams, Lilah Dovie, Todd Zamary, Skevos Zimbillas, **Mary, help of the sick, pray for us!—Please let us know when person is well.**

**Prayer Petitions**

It is in spirit of love, care, and support for one another that we invite you to place your prayer petitions into the Petition Box. The box and blank petition slips are available to you in the vestibule before each weekend Mass. The petitions are remembered during the Prayer of the Faithful and are brought forward during the Offertory Procession and placed at the foot of the Cross. At the conclusion of the Sunday Masses, the petitions are brought to the Little Flower Eucharistic Chapel where, throughout the week, members of the Apostolate for Perpetual Adoration unite their prayers with yours in the presence to our Eucharistic Lord. Let us unite our prayers with one another as we follow St. Paul's instruction to "pray without ceasing" and support one another through mutual prayer, solidarity, and love.

**REGISTRATION:** Members of the parish must be formally registered. If you are not receiving Our Lady of Mount Carmel envelopes, this means you are not registered. Call the rectory at 330-743-4144, Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.—3 p.m. And we will send you a registration form. **Families who have members of our church staying with them who are shut-ins or who are in nursing homes should include them as members of their household. For a change of address or telephone number, please call the rectory as soon as possible. Thank you.**



**The Week Ahead**

**Monday, February 10:**  
12:30 p.m. Our Lady of Sorrows Senior Meeting/SJH

**Wednesday, February 12:**  
7:00 p.m. Vestibule Club Meeting/SJH

**Thursday, February 13:**  
10:00 a.m. Legion of Mary/St. JP II Ctr.  
7:00 p.m. Ultreya/SJH

**Sunday, February 16:**  
12:30 p.m. St. Monica Meeting/SJH

**ST. ANTHONY LIGHT: February 9-15:**  
In memory of TONY YORK by Bones & Nickie

**BLESSED SACRAMENT LIGHTS: February 9-15**  
In memory of PETER CHILA by Phil & Marie Pillin

**SACRED HEART LIGHT: February 9-15**  
In memory of SAM A. & ROSE M. DIBACCO by Family

**GUARDIAN ANGEL LIGHT February 9-15**  
In memory of CLARA DUCAY by Nicholas & Marlene Bellino

**HOLY CROSS LIGHTS: Saturday, February 15**  
In memory of JOHN BLEACHER by Wife, Nickie

**ETERNAL FLAME: Sunday, February 9:**  
In memory of LINDA M. HENIK by Msgr. Michael J. Cariglio, Jr.

**ETERNAL FLAME: Monday, February 10:**  
In memory of the Rev. Msgr. John P. Ashton by Rev. Msgr. Michael J. Cariglio, Jr.

**Ursuline High School To Give Placement and Scholarship Test On February 22, 2020**

Ursuline High School will administer its placement and scholarship test on Saturday, February 22nd from 8:45 a.m. until noon in the Cafeteria. All students enrolled in a Catholic school will take the placement test at their respective elementary school. Schools will forward the results to Ursuline High School. There is no charge for the test. Students should bring two #2 pencils, a calculator and a bottle of water. To register for the test, call the school office at 330-744-4563.





### Birthdays for the week of Feb. 9-15

Aubree Kephart, Alex Lazazzera, Charles Colucci, Shawn Larson, Renee LoCicero, Mary Rose, Janet Slovasky, Beverly Bonace, Emma Howley, Stephanie Howley, Kevin Jones, Richard Jones, Rocco Kovacs, William Petruzzi, Gina Santore, Monica Scarsella, James Soltis, Kathleen Valentini, John Beene, Ava Bushling, Nicholas Julian, Christopher Marchionda, Daniel Mikus, Angeline Prato, Terri Sandullo, Eugene Calcagni, Lina Pelly, Susan Valenzisi, Constance D'Alesio, Aryanna Goist, Aurora Sebastiani, Theresa Smith, Brittany Alexis Wellman, Anthony Esposito, Cynthia Jones.



### YSU Center for Italian American Studies cordially invites you to our Inaugural **Carnevale di Venezia**

**Saturday, February 22, 2020 at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Basilica, Youngstown, Ohio. Cocktail Attire, Masks to be provided. Cost: \$50.00 pp. Gondola Sponsor includes 2 reservations, \$250, Murano sponsor Level includes 4 reservations \$500, San Marco Basilica Sponsor Level \$1,000 includes 6 reservations. Reservations due by February 10th.** Entertainment will include John Reese Project, strolling entertainment—jugglers, magicians, and accordion player. Venetian style Carnevale/Mardi Gras with traditional Italian menu, and guests will be provided masks or can make/bring their own. All proceeds benefit YSU Center for Italian American Studies.

**Ursuline High School** will host two registration nights for incoming Freshman (currently enrolled in a Catholic elementary School) on Thursday, February 27th beginning at 6 p.m. and on Saturday, March 14th beginning at 10:00 a.m. in the Library Learning Center (2nd floor, "old" building). Students must bring their completed application. The Ursuline Administration will give an informative presentation on the registration process. Students will then individually schedule with an Administrator. No appointments are necessary. Please visit [www.ursuline.com/calendar](http://www.ursuline.com/calendar) and select February 27 or March 14 to reserve your spot for registration. If a Catholic School student is unable to attend on either of these dates, please contact Maggie Matune, Assistant Principal, at 330-744-4563 or [mmatune@youngstowndiocese.org](mailto:mmatune@youngstowndiocese.org). Students enrolled in public schools or other private schools should submit their completed application to the Ursuline Main Office. Applications will be reviewed by the Administration. Families will be called to schedule a follow-up appointment at Ursuline following the application review. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis.

### St. Anthony Shrine and Novena

#### **\$50.00 GIFT**

In memory of DECEASED IATI FAMILY  
by George A. Iati  
Mr. and Mrs. Anthony J. Napoli

#### **\$25.00 GIFT**

In memory of VITTORIO & VICTOR M. DIVITO  
By Mr. and Mrs. John Kuzman, Jr.

#### **\$20.00 GIFT**

In memory of AL BACA, ROSEANN BACA & ROSE  
MARIE FIORE by Michael Baca  
In loving memory of MARY ANN PELLEGRIN by Cleto  
In memory of ARMOND ROSSI by Wife, Alice

Mr. Robert V. DiFabio

#### **\$10.00 GIFT**

Mr. Edward Drennen  
Mr. Robert S. Gibbs, Sr.  
Mr. Alexander Palombo, Jr.

ACTION is sponsoring a community forum on Racial Justice at St. Patrick Parish (1420 Oak Hill Avenue, 44507) on Sunday, February 16 from 3 p.m.—5:15 p.m. In their November 2018 Pastoral Letter, "Open Wide Our Hearts: The Enduring Call to Love," the American Bishops challenge us to address racism as "one particularly destructive and persistent form of evil." What is needed, and what we are calling for, is a genuine conversion of heart, a conversion that will compel change, and the reform of our institutions and society." It is through prayerful conversations like the one that ACTION is hosting, that we can learn to facilitate conversion. For more information visit [www.actionoh.org](http://www.actionoh.org) or call St. Patrick Parish at 330-743-1109.

### **STEWARDSHIP THOUGHTS:**

*"Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven."* MATTHEW 5:16

The generosity of being a good steward of your gifts has a positive effect on people and it is contagious! Good works encourages more good works. Let your light shine! Be careful to recognize that God is working through you and don't put yourself above the people you have been called to help.

### **Sunday**

### **Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Is 58:7-10; Ps 112:4-5, 6-7, 8-9; 1 Cor 2:1-5;  
Mt 5:13-16

Through the power of God, we can be a light to the world by our loving concern for others, especially the poor and the oppressed.





**CRAIG'S CORNER**  
A Note  
from our Music Director

As I have eluded to in the past, this weekend we also foster our roots in the Tradition of the Catholic Church in the singing of our Latin Gloria, Sanctus, and Agnus Dei. As our bishops state to us in a recent document, Sing to The Lord:

*“The Second Vatican Council directed that the faithful be able to sing parts of the Ordinary of the Mass together in Latin. Each worshipping community in the United States, including all age groups and all ethnic groups, should, at a minimum, learn Kyrie XVI, Sanctus XVIII, and Agnus Dei XVIII, all of which are typically included in congregational worship aids. More difficult chants, such as Gloria VIII and settings of the Credo (Creed) and Pater Noster (Our Father), might be learned after the easier chants have been mastered.”*

This weekend’s readings are sort of a prelude to the next two Sundays ahead. Jesus is about to begin to review part of the Ten Commandments, to make the old laws fulfilled to his new followers and begin to outlay the purpose for His ministry. This will aggravate some of the Jewish leaders but this is one of the reasons Christ came to us: to preach and teach the fulfillment of the law. It is all part of the larger “Sermon on the Mount” in Matthew’s Gospel.

The laws He preaches can be summed up in one word: love. This weekend He tells the disciples that they are the salt of the earth and, going back to Isaiah, the light of the world. We must shine before others, He tells us.

The words of both the first reading and Gospel this weekend are directly stated out in the entire text of our offertory hymn, “You are the Light of the World.” Our opening hymn, “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling” reminds us, also, that as we come to the altar to receive Christ and His teachings each week, that the laws are summed up in our love for each other. If we are true followers of Christ, we will, as the final verse states, become a new creation: pure and spotless. Saint Francis’ popular words in his text of peace also sum up this theme “where there is hatred, let me bring your love.” If we bring love where we go, rather than division or hatred, then we truly are the light of the world – shining before others in which we glorify our heavenly Father.

**Instrumental Music Selections for February 8-9: Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Prelude: Partita on *Hyfrydol* – Charles Callahan  
Postlude: Toccata on *Hyfrydol* – Edward Good

We are called to be salt and light for the world. Is God inviting you to let your light shine as a priest, deacon, sister or brother. To find out more, contact Fr. Christopher Luoni @ 330-744-8451, or by e-mail at: [cluoni@youngstowndiocese.org](mailto:cluoni@youngstowndiocese.org).

**INTERCESSION FOR VOCATIONS:**

For all men and women called by Jesus to teach the gospel as priests, deacons, sisters and brothers, that the joy of the Lord will remain their strength during their discernment, formation and mission, **We pray to the Lord. Lord hear our prayer.**

**DAILY MORNING OFFERING PRAYER**

Jesus, through the Immaculate Heart of Mary. I offer you my prayers, works, joys, and sufferings of this day in union with the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass throughout the world. I offer them for all the intentions of your Sacred Heart: the salvation of souls, reparation for sin, and the reunion of all Christians. I offer them for the intentions of our bishops and of all Apostles of Prayer, and in particular for those recommended by our Holy Father this month.

**Prayer Intentions for February.**

**Listen to the Migrants’ Cries.** We pray that the cries of our migrant brothers and sisters, victims of criminal trafficking, may be heard and considered.

**LENT**

**Stations of the Cross**

11:30 a.m. Every Wednesday of Lent

7:00 p.m. Every Friday of Lent

**Fasting and Abstinence**

Fasting means eating a lesser amount of food. Catholics 18 and not 60 years of age must fast. The days on which we must fast are Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. Days of abstinence are days on which we do not eat any meal at all. Dairy products, fish and seafood are allowed. All Catholics over the age of 14 must abstain. The days of obligatory abstinence are Ash Wednesday and all Fridays of Lent. On Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, both the laws of fasting and abstinence apply and no meat may be eaten.



**Please join us, Today, Sunday February 9, 2020**  
**Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Basilica Spaghetti Dinner**  
11:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m. in the Social Hall. **(St. Monica is sponsoring a Pie Sale during the Spaghetti Dinner Hours.)** Menu: spaghetti, meatballs, salad, rolls, butter, cake and coffee (beverages available for purchase)  
Adults: \$7.50, Children (ages 6-10) \$5.00, Children 5 and under—free, Take out containers available for purchase.

**REMEMBER US LAST:**

When you are preparing your will and estate plan remember those closest to you...spouse, family members and loved ones. Then remember Our Lady of Mount Carmel Basilica with a residual gift that defines your Legacy of Faith as a member of our parish community. Please call 330-744-8451, ext. 325 for information.

**Sponsor of the week:**

**Santisi Wholesale Foods**  
832 Mahoning Ave.  
Mon. - Fri. 9-5 • Sat. 9-2 • Sun. Closed  
**Italian Cheese & Meats**

**First Reconciliation**

Reconciliation will be celebrated Sunday, February 9th following the 11am Mass. Please keep the youth and their families in prayer as the experience the mercy of God.



**Narrative Stations April 3, 2020**

7th & 8th grade students of OLMC~STA, public and Catholic Schools students are invited to participate in the Narrative Stations. Come and be a part of a moving event, that reminds us through the Stations of the Cross, all of what Christ has endured for us.

**Practice:** February 23rd and March 1st during *The Light of Faith and Family*.

**March 8th & 15th** in classroom from 10:15am—11:45am.

**March 29th** Final practice 10:15am –11:45am classroom. Lunch 12—12:30pm. Practice in church 12:30pm—2:30pm

**April 3rd:** 4:30pm—6:00pm.

**Parish Communal Penance Service**

**Friday, April 3rd at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel**

**The LIGHT of FAITH and FAMILY**

**Sunday, February 23, 2020**



9th—12th grade will be our Lectors & Gift bearers for the 9am Mass

**Topic** Conversion      **Speaker** Father Veltri

Families continue to work with your Gospelweeklies. Resources and teaching guides are located on the following website: [www.pflaumweeklies.com](http://www.pflaumweeklies.com) tab parents and catechist.

**Future dates:**

March 1st, March 22nd, April 3rd Communal Penance Service.

April 5th begins Holy Week.

**Contact Information for Faith Formation**

330-743-3508 [www.olmcsta.com](http://www.olmcsta.com) FAX: 330-743-1035  
(Out of the office on Monday)

**Director: Therese M. Ivanisin / Mrs. I**  
[OLMCTherese@gmail.com](mailto:OLMCTherese@gmail.com) ext 121

**Coordinator of Youth Ministry: Melissa Varso**  
[OLMCMelissa@gmail.com](mailto:OLMCMelissa@gmail.com) ext 122

**Youth Ministry Team:**  
Nick Capone & Bobby Mangiarelli



God bless everyone who gave to help St. Vincent DePaul Pantry.

**Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Basilica ~  
St. Anthony of Padua Parish**

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**106 Cans of Soup**



**Monetary Donations**

San Francisco 49ers

**\$252.00**

Kansas City Chiefs

**\$139.52**

**Donation no team designated**

**\$71.79**



**Combined Winning Total**

**\*\*\*\*\* \$ 464.22 \*\*\*\*\***

**Thank you for your support!**

Go to [www.souperbowl.org](http://www.souperbowl.org) to see stories and details of all the activities throughout the country.

# Good News

INSPIRATION FOR DAILY LIFE

## 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time

Isaiah 58:7-10

Ps 112:4-9

1 Corinthians 2:1-5

Matthew 5:13-16

**Monday February 10**

**St. Scholastica**

1 Kings 8:1-7, 9-13

Ps 132:6-7, 8-10

Mark 6:53-56

**Tuesday February 11**

**Our Lady of Lourdes**

1 Kings 8:22-23,27-30

Ps 84:3-5,10,11

Mark 7:1-13

**Wednesday February 12**

1 Kings 10:1-10

Ps 37:30-31,39-40

Mark 7:14-23

**Thursday February 13**

1 Kings 11:4-13

Ps 106:3-4,35-37,40

Mark 7:24-30

**Friday February 14**

**Sts. Cyril and Methodius**

1 Kings 11:29-32;12:19

Ps 81:10-15

Mark 7:31-37

**Saturday February 15**

1 Kings 12:26-32;13:33-34

Ps 106:6-7,19-22

Mark 8:1-10

and his peace in how we treat them, and his joy in the way we live our lives. They need to discover that Jesus loves them just the way they are, that he is gentle but sincere when inviting them to grow spiritually, and that he can help them turn hardships and troubles into blessings and joys.

Jesus also tells us to be a light that others cannot help but notice – but not a light that blinds. To flavor the lives of others with the presence of Jesus, we have to let his

Jesus tells us: "You are the salt of the earth." What does it mean to be salt? Think about what salt does. It adds flavor to foods that lack sufficient taste.

Jesus also raises the point that if we lose our flavor, how can it be restored? The answer is: Only by letting God renew us.

In your baptism, you were made flavorful – alive with God's love, peace, joy, etc. Fruitful Christians are those who evangelize by adding the seasoning of God's life – God's love, peace, joy, etc. – to the lives of the people around them.

But beware of trying too hard! What happens when food is over-salted? It tastes horrible. No matter how good our intentions might be, if we come on too strong, we do more harm than good.

People are much more likely to turn to Jesus if they first experience his love from us,

light shine in us. We have to be so lit up by Christ that others cannot help but notice.



Additionally, Jesus says that we have to be a city. We cannot evangelize alone. A "city" is a group of Christians: a parish, a family, a church organization. Being Christian means being in community. When our light is

joined to the light of others, our collective glow is much more effective in revealing Christ to the world. Why? Because non-believers learn that the love of Christ is real when they see us living in love with each other: unconditionally, generously, with a servant's heart (see Acts 2:42-47).

We are the light of Christ for each other. We are seasoning for each other. Without each other, our light dims, our flavor fades, and we become useless to God's kingdom.

### Reflect & Discuss:

1. In what ways have you over-salted someone by trying too hard or too often to evangelize? What were the results? What will you do to rectify this?
2. What obstructs the light of Christ within you? What in you needs to change so that the people around you can see him better?
3. What clues help us identify people whose lives are lacking the full flavor of Jesus' love? How could their lives be seasoned with the love of Jesus that is in you? And in your parish?

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