

# 125th Anniversary of the Feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish & Shrine



**ONE HUNDRED TWENTY FIVE YEARS  
OF UNBROKEN TRADITION**  
*Faith, Family, and Friends*



**THE SCALABRINIAN MISSIONARIES  
AT MOUNT CARMEL SINCE 1905**



Our Lady of Mt Carmel, is served by the Congregation of the Missionaries of St. Charles – Scalabrinians – . We are an community of Catholic religious serving migrants and refugees of different cultures, religions and ethnicities in 32 countries. The Congregation was founded in Italy on November 28, 1887, by Blessed John Baptist Scalabrini (1839-1905), bishop of Piacenza (Italy). Our missionary focus is to be migrants with the migrants and to be in mission with people on the move, with a special priority for the poorest And neediest migrants.

**OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL —MISSION STATEMENT**

We are a faith community bound by the Grace of God the Father who adopted us all as beloved children through Baptism. We journey as brothers and sisters inspired in the Gospel of Jesus Christ, nourished with the Eucharist and strengthened by the love of the Holy Spirit. Encouraged in the practice of our Catholic Tradition, we experience and honor the maternal protection of Our Lady of Mount Carmel while joyfully celebrating the religious practices of our ancestors in Faith. Heartened by the zealous ministry of the Missionaries of St. Charles (Scalabrinians), we strive to create a welcoming space were justice for all and the wellbeing of God’s people become the inspiration in our efforts to build God’s Kingdom.

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**NUESTRA SEÑORA DEL MONTE CARMELO — VISIÓN**

Somos una comunidad de fe vinculada por la Gracia de Dios Padre, que nos ha adoptado como hijos amados por el Bautismo. Caminamos como hermanos y hermanas inspirados en el Evangelio de Jesucristo, nutridos con la Eucaristía y fortalecidos por el amor del Espíritu Santo. Alentados en la práctica de nuestra Tradición Católica, experimentamos y honramos a la protección materna de Nuestra Señora del Monte Carmelo, celebrando alegremente las prácticas religiosas de nuestros ancestros en la Fe. Animados por el celo ministerial de los Misioneros de San Carlos (Scalabrinianos), nos esforzamos por crear un espacio de bienvenida donde la justicia para todos y el bienestar del pueblo de Dios nos inspiran en nuestros esfuerzos para construir el Reino de Dios.

### Church Services

We encourage all to register  
at the Parish-Shrine.

+++  
*Les invitamos a registrarse  
en el Santuario Parroquial.*

*Support Staff*

Business Manager  
Alexander Sanchez 708.345.3632

Religious Education  
Modesta Martinez 708.344.4140

Music Coordinator  
Ann Marie Nabor 708.579.5373

Community Center Site Director  
Pablo Cruz 708.345.3632

#### *Sacramental Life*

Confessions *Confesiones*  
Saturdays—*Sábados*  
4:00pm—5:00pm or by appointment/ *o con cita.*

Baptisms *Bautizos*  
Come to the parish office.  
*Pase a la oficina parroquial.*

Weddings *Bodas*  
Contact the priest at least six months in advance.  
*Contactar al sacerdote seis meses antes de la ceremonia*

Quinceañera  
*Contactar a la secretaria cuatro meses antes de la ceremonia.*

*Presentaciones*  
*Contactar la Secretaria al menos dos semanas antes*

#### *Religious Services*

Recitation of the Holy Rosary  
Mon—Sat at 7:00am

Adoration *Adoración al Stmo. Sacramento*  
Wednesdays 6:00pm—8:00pm

Novena & Benediction  
Wednesday/Miércoles 7:30pm

Grupo de Oración Carismática  
Martes a las 7:00pm

#### *Other Services*

Gift Shop Hours *Venta de Artículos Religiosos*  
During the regular office hours.  
*Durante las horas de oficina*

Community Center *Centro Comunitario*  
Social outreach *Servicios a la comunidad* (708) 345 - 3632

Food Pantry *Despensa de comida*  
Wednesdays 4:00pm—6:00pm

#### Religious Education—*Catecismo*

Saturday - *Sábados* 3:30pm — 6:30pm

Sunday - *Domingos* 10:00am—1:00pm

- *Mass Included—Incluye la Misa*

## MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

### SATURDAY, JULY 14

7:30 am † John Babowice  
† Eda Falco for her Birthday  
Remembrance by Her children and their Families  
For the Gervacio Family by Gervasio Family  
For the Nicodemo Family

12:00 pm  
5:30 pm For our Families

### SUNDAY, JULY 15

7:00 am For the Parishioners  
9:00 am For the Parishioners  
12:00 pm For the Parishioners

### MONDAY, JULY 16 (OUR LADY OF MT. CARMEL)

7:30 am † Rose and Nick Ciffone by Daughter for good Health  
Thanksgiving to Jesus by Ciffone Family  
Thanksgiving to Our Lady of Mt. Carmel by Ciffone Family

7:30 pm MASS IN HONOR OF OLMC

### TUESDAY, JULY 17

7:30 am † Michael and Lucia DeVito by Doyle Grandchildren  
Thanksgiving to Our Lady of Mt. Carmel  
6:30 pm †

### WEDNESDAY, JULY 18

7:30 am † Eda Falco by Her Children and their Families  
6:00 pm ADORATION

### THURSDAY, JULY 19

7:30 am † Rosean Morroco by Husband  
† Francesco Polizzotto by Anna, Jennie, and Dominick  
† Edo Marocchi by Wife Mary Marocchi

### FRIDAY, JULY 20

7:30 pm †

### SATURDAY, JULY 21

7:30 am † Ann Vovola by Family  
5:30 pm †

### SUNDAY, JULY 22

7:45 am †  
9:00 am †  
10:30 am †  
12:00 pm †  
1:30 pm †  
5:00 pm †



## Mary said: “Do whatever he told you to do”

### HAPPY FEAST AND CELEBRATION FOR THE 125<sup>TH</sup> JUBILEE ANNIVERSARY OF OUR LADY OF MOUNT CAMEL.

Dear devotees, parishioners and God’s people who have been venerating in this land for 125 years the image of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Mount Carmel, La Madonna del Carmine. It is my heartfelt joy to welcome and greet all of you on this jubilee celebration. After long longing and preparation, we have arrived at the great moment and we joyfully are ready to celebrate, enjoy God’s blessings and share with you this 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary honoring and venerating the Mother of God and Our Mother La Madonna del Carmine. We had a very nourishing and spiritual novena preached by Fr. Brian Guadalupe Walker, O.P. We thanked all those who attended. What a nurture moment for our community.

Many banners expression of many committed and devoted people were brought to the altar. They are sign of the devotion and spirituality of the Saints and Blessed Virgin Mary that join in our celebration and procession on the feast day. This is a great theological expression of the richness of our ecclesial communion as the pilgrim Church, coming together in a spirit of unity within diversity praising God as one Church with the singularity of our particular patron Saints and Blessed Virgin Marys. We are very grateful to all the members of the many Candle Houses that will participate in the procession, they are sign of our multicultural Parish, The Lady of Mount Carmel, that is committed to journey together in unity to build up God’s Kingdom as a lively community of faith. As Jesus prayed: “Father that they all may be one as you and I are one”.

We are the special and treasured children of Our Lady. We know the Lady loves us and we the devotees, with our families and friends continue paying tribute with our tremendous dedication, support, generosity, faith and prayers. What a remarkable faith tradition we are cherishing and devotion to the Madonna del Carmine. I pray God continues pouring through the intercession of La Madonna del Carmine abundant blessings to all of us for our faithfulness.

While we thank God for the countless blessings we have received through the years, we look ahead with confidence and hope in a future that we still believe has very much to unfold and offer us as we value our traditions, faith, popular religiosity and deep devotion to our Lady of Mount Carmel. We know that Blessed Virgin Mary delights to be our Mother and we embrace with gratitude Pope Francis’ decision to establish a new Marian Feast on the Monday following the Feast of Pentecost calling us to Venerate Mary as Mother of the Church. We believe that with Mary we move ahead with confidence and with her example we continue praising, serving and loving God together by embracing one another with a sense of hospitality and dreaming together to be the one family of God. In closing, grazie – thanks for being a part of our continuous tradition. Entrusting our gratitude, needs and prayers to our beloved Mother, Our Lady of Mount Carmel, we pray that her Son Jesus, our Savior, continues pouring abundant blessings upon your family, our parish and all of us.

**Happy 125 Anniversary. Blessings to all.  
P. Giovanni Bizzotto, c.s.**

### Remember OLMC Church in your will.

To help us continue and preserve the tradition of devotion to our Blessed Mother, we ask you, particularly when you are **writing your LIVING TRUST**, to **remember Our Parish of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church** of Melrose Park, IL (our legal name) **in your Will**. Remember: in Illinois a Will may be handwritten, but the signing of any Will must be witnessed by two attesting witnesses to be valid.

You can always change the contents of a Will, since a Will with a more recent date voids and supersedes a Will written earlier. Please consult with your attorney for legal advice.

Following is an example for making an outright bequest to the Church:

*"I give, devise or bequeath to Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish 1101 N. 23rd Ave., Melrose Park Illinois, 60160, the sum of (\$) to be used for the evangelization programs, maintenance, repair, and improvement of the Church and its grounds."* Or you can direct your bequest to a specific purpose;

please discuss your wishes with the Pastor.

**If you do decide to remember OLMC Church in your Will**, please send us a letter advising us of this fact. Also, please leave instructions in the Will that OLMC Church be contacted at the time that the Will is registered with the courts, so that we may learn of your intentions. **Thank you for your generosity and support** towards our Parish Community assuring you with our prayers.

May Our Lady of Mount Carmel look after you and be forever by your side.



### Ricordate la Parrocchia di Monte Carmelo nel vostro Testamento.

Aiutateci a continuare e a mantenere viva la tradizione alla Madonna del Carmine, con strutture e programmi adeguati, per rispondere alle esigenze del popolo di Dio. Vi invitiamo a ricordandovi nel **VOSTRO TESTAMENTO** (Living Trust) della Parrocchia della Madonna del Carmine, di Melrose Park,

Il. Sapete che il Testamento nello Stato di Illinois può essere scritto a mano, ma ha bisogno della firma di due testimoni per essere valido. Il Testamento può sempre essere riscritto, sapendo che il più recente annulla il precedente Testamento. Potete sempre consultare il parere di un avvocato.

Se avete intenzione di lasciare un lascito alla Chiesa di Monte Carmelo, mettetevi in contatto con il parroco, Padre Giovanni Bizzotto.

Lasciate istruzioni nel Testamento sicchè la Corte si metta in contatto con la Chiesa di Monte Carmelo, riguardo le vostre decisioni.

**Ringraziandovi della vostra preferenza e generosità verso la parrocchia OLMC.**

*Assicurandovi le nostre preghiere, supplichiamo la Madonna vi protegga e accompagni sempre sul vostro cammino.*

## History of O.L.M.C Parish

On the occasion of the 125<sup>th</sup> Jubilee Anniversary of the Feast and Veneration of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, we would like to represent a brief history of OLMC as it appears in some of our history books and recently in the ROSE.

In 1894, exactly 125 years ago, a seedling was planted that would blossom into a vibrant tradition of Veneration to Our Lady of Mount Carmel. The seedling consisted of the beautiful statue of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, sculptured in Naples in 1894. A devotee Italian migrant Emanuella De Dtefano, who in her town honor the Blessed Madonna del Carmine promised that if her sick husband would recover from a serious illness, she would promote a feast in her honor of the Madonna. Miracle did happen and Emanuella solicited funds to produce the statue. The sculpture still resides in the Church's interior and serves as the centerpiece of the Feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel.

Around 1880 Chicago's rapidly growing population saw Italian migrant families settle in the new village of Melrose Park. In 1895, the aforementioned Emanuella De Stefano and others gave thought to building a chapel. The difficulties in erecting a new chapel were formidable because a Catholic Church Sacred Heart was already serving the village and the Bishop did not wish to grant permission establishing other churches, just a few blocks away, in Melrose Park.

Ignoring the Bishop, Emanuella proceeded with the construction of a small frame Church on two lots she owned on 24th Avenue near Lake Street. For several years, this Chapel did not have regular liturgies and services – a few times a year the Servite Fathers came to celebrate the Divine Mysteries at the request of a Society organized to commemorate the Feast of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel. In 1901, the Bishop ordered the local Feast Society to cede title of the Chapel to the Archdiocese of Chicago. In this crisis, it appeared that the Blessed Mother herself made the decision to stay in this rural village as demonstrated by the following occurrence.

After the Bishop's request, Emanuella De Stefano decided to have a getaway car remove the image of the Madonna. The village's Italian population decided to oppose the Bishop's request. When Emanuella entered the Church with the intention to remove and to take away the statue; the Church bell sounded the alarm. In an instant, men, women, and even children were shouting and threatening whoever would dare to touch the Madonna. It might have been a night of bloodshed, if the Virgin Mary herself had not intervened by turning a clear night into a fearful storm that dispersed the furious crowd, thus preventing a riot and removal of her Image.

After this occurrence, the Church title eventually passed on to the Catholic Bishop and continued to be administered from the time to time by the Servite Fathers. Only after Archbishop James Edward Quigley was appointed to the Archdiocese of Chicago in 1903, was a full time priest, Reverend Antonio Pettillo, sent to the Church. He remained until July of 1905. It was at this time that Father Benjamin Franch, a Scalabrinian missionary Italian priest; requested permission to come on Sundays to celebrate Mass. Father Franch would remain associated with Mount Carmel for nearly a half a century, most of it as the pastor.

Within two years of Father Franch's arrival (1907) the Church building was moved from the small lot to the spacious property where the present Church stands. Serious difficulties had to be overcome in the relocation of the Church because the neighbors wanted, at all costs and by all means, to keep it in its original location. Having relocated the Church, he built a rectory, which cost \$4,000 and was only completed because the priest ceded all he possessed to pay interest on the indebtedness.

After 1908, the inadequacy of the Chapel became apparent and even though there was no money and little encouragement from the people, it was decided with the consent of the Bishop, to build a new Church at a cost of \$12,000.00. The first Sunday Mass was attended by twelve people and the offertory collection amounted to 75 cents and they still were able to fulfilled their dream to have a larger Church.

By 1913, a parochial school had been added and by 1914 a convent for the sisters and a parish auditorium. Throughout the construction, the fine masonry work bore the evidence of the rigid supervision of Father Franch, who was a stone mason before entering the seminary. Growth of the Village resulted in a demand for more parochial facilities and in 1950 permission was granted to construct four new classrooms and a gymnasium. In 1952, the convent was renovated and enlarged to accommodate 14 nuns. Father Benjamin Franch was called to his reward on May 27, 1954, leaving a remarkable inheritance for all of us to follow. We are proud to be here today valuing that Fr. Frank and all his scalabrinian successors have accomplished. When Fr. Salvatore De Vita came, who had been serving as Pastor of Our Lady of Pompei Church in Chicago. Father De Vita began a program of repairs and renovation. Properties were acquired for parking facilities and future expansion.

The school built in 1913, although well maintained, had become obsolete and no longer conformed with safety regulations. It had also become quite apparent that a new Church would be needed. Rather than undertake a program of repair and remodeling, which was prohibitive in cost, a long range program of complete renewal was adopted. In 1961, a new fire resistive 12-class room school was constructed on the corner of 22nd Avenue and Augusta. The Parish responded generously and within a few years the debt incurred to construct the new school was retired. Unfortunately, the grammar school closed in 2002 due to financial reasons and declining enrollment.

Fr. Salvatore De Vita's term as pastor expired and Fr. Adam Torresan was appointed as pastor to succeed him in 1964. Father Adam announced shortly after he arrived that the Parish should immediately undertake the construction of a new Church. The Chancery Office, however, had adopted a program of curtailing new construction and permission was withheld until such a time as substantial portion of the cost of a new Church was actually collected. Finally in 1965, permission was granted and date was set for razing of the Old Church. Amid nostalgic sighs, parishioners came by invitation to take home statuary, bits of the altar and other souvenirs of the Old Church. It was the last vestige of an old, sometimes hectic era marked by faith, zeal and heroism.

Ground for the New Church was broken on Feb. 26, 1967. The cornerstone was laid on Sept. 24 1967. The beautiful modern style Church seating 850 was completed and consecrated on June 9, 1968. Just a month ago, we had the opportunity to thank God for the beautiful spiritual place of worship we enjoyed in the last 50 years. Over the years the Parish has been a source of refuge and hope for immigrants of all backgrounds and their descendants. I keep hearing the remarkable gratitude of many parishioners and graduated, professionals, business people and the Mayor Ron Serpico, who are very grateful to Our Lady of Mount Carmel Grade School and to the Parish for being not only an important part of their lives, but for being an integral part of what also makes Melrose Park a great place to live, work, play, worship and witness our Scalabrini missionary lives.



**HAPPY 125<sup>TH</sup> JUBILEE ANNIVERSARY  
HAPPY FEAST – GRAZIE A TUTTI!**

## THANKS TO ALL

I would like to express my heart felt gratitude to all those who made this 125th Jubilee Anniversary a reality with their vision, commitment, dedication, faith, devotion and hard work. I can not list individually who have contributed, but certainly I want to start thanking all those who attended the novena, particularly Father Brian Walker the preacher for his nurturing, motivating, and inspiring words. Thank you to all those who prepared the liturgies, decorated the Church. All the members of the Candle Houses, the bands that accompanied the processions.

All those who were part of the Festival: starting with the sponsors and benefactors, those who provided food, entertainment, refreshment, games and rides. My thanks goes to the Melrose Park Village authorities for their undivided support in guaranteeing full security. To all of you who with your presence honors us and makes our hard work meaningful and successful blessings to you all. Thanks for joining us!

Least but not least every single member of the committee who have worked for months in preparing, organizing, setting up and overseeing that everything functions well. To you goes my appreciation, gratitude and GRAZIE.

To Archbishop Cardinal Blase Cupich for honoring us with his presence goes the entire parish gratitude for coming and shepherding us with his guidance and wisdom.

With admiration and love for all of you.

Frs. Giovanni, Yosef and Augusto and the Committee



### Recuerda la Iglesia OLMC en tu Testamento.

Los invitamos a continuar a apoyarnos para preservar la tradición de la devoción a nuestra Santísima Madre, le pedimos, especialmente cuando escriba su "LIVING TRUST", que recuerde nuestra Iglesia parroquial de Nuestra Señora del Monte Carmelo de Melrose Park, IL (nuestro nombre legal) en tu Testamento. Recuerde: en Illinois se puede escribir a mano un Testamento, pero la firma de cualquier Testamento debe ser atestiguada por dos testigos que certifiquen que es válido.

Siempre puede reescribir el contenido de un Testamento, ya que un testamento con una fecha más reciente anula el precedente.

Por favor, consulte con su abogado para obtener asesoramiento legal. A continuación, se muestra un ejemplo para hacer un legado directo a la Iglesia: *"Dono y otorgo a la Parroquia de Nuestra Señora del Monte Carmelo 1101 N. 23rd Ave., Melrose Park Illinois, 60160, la suma de (\$) que se utilizará para los programas de evangelización, mantenimiento, reparación y mejora de la Iglesia y sus estructuras. "O puede dirigir su donación a un propósito específico; por favor discuta sus deseos con el Párroco. Si decide recordar la Iglesia OLMC en su Testamento, envíenos una carta informándonos de este hecho. Además, deje las instrucciones en el Testamento para que contacte a la Iglesia OLMC en el momento en que el Testamento se registra en los tribunales, para que podamos conocer sus intenciones. Gracias por su generosidad y apoyo hacia nuestra Comunidad Parroquial.*

Asegurándole nuestras oraciones.

Pidamos a Nuestra Señora del Monte Carmelo le cuide y esté siempre a su lado.

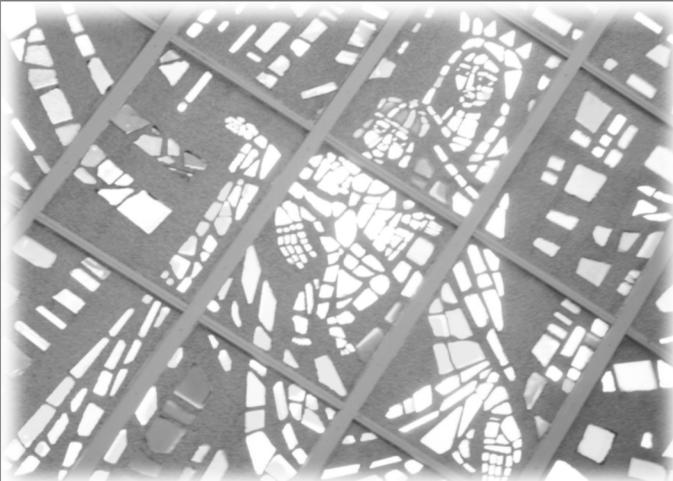
PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR BROTHERS AND  
SISTERS WHO ARE ILL OR INFIRMED :

Linda Bandy  
Mary Donato  
Judith Escamilla  
Jacob Duda  
Kristie Goldi  
Linna Goldi  
Susan Humpf  
Vandy Liala  
Joseph Pulido  
Luke Westrick  
Alexandra Vitali  
Anna Baffa  
Jan Clark  
Sara Zonca  
Nancy Oshea  
Madeline Vittori  
Nico Felice  
Emilio Scalzitti

Nell Baker  
Fabiola Pintor  
Isabel Pintor  
Marie Torchia  
Kelly Ann Haymaker  
Macy Grace Giacone  
Josephine Grasso  
Conny Rico  
John Sepka  
Robert J. Villa  
Louis DeGuissepe  
Baltazar Garcia  
Margarito Flores  
Guadalupe Rico  
Frances Jude  
Ann Yench  
Damian A. Velasquez

*May our prayers bring them strength,  
healing, and peace.*

Please call our Parish Office to add a loved one's  
name to our parish prayer list.



*125th Feast  
In honor of  
“La Madonna del Carmine”*

+

*An unbroken tradition  
where Mary's beloved children  
can honor the mother of God  
Under her ancient title of  
Our Lady of Mount Carmel*

**The Italian National Parish of the Archdiocese of Chicago  
Served by The Missionaries of Saint Charles – Scalabrinians**

***Staff***

**Pastor**

Fr. Giovanni Bizzotto, C.S.

**Associate Pastors**

Fr. Augusto Feccia, C.S.

Fr. Yosef A. Sadipun C.S.

**Parish Deacons**

John Battisto

Giulio Camerini

Jose Ramon Arenas

**Secretaries**

Daniel Michel

Nancy Diaz

***Office Hours***

Sunday

8:30am—3:00pm

Tuesday– Friday

8:30am—8:30pm

Saturday

8:30am — 1:00pm

2:00pm—5:30pm

Monday

We're Closed

**Sunday Mass Schedule**

5:30pm - Sat. Vigil Mass

7:45am - English

9:00am - Español

10:30am - Italiano

12:00pm - English

1:30pm - Español

5:00pm - Español

***Weekly Mass Schedule***

**English**

Monday - Saturday at 7:30am

**Español**

Martes y Jueves a las 6:30pm

**Italiano**

Sotto richiesta

1101 N 23rd Ave - Melrose Park - IL- 60160

P (708) 344 4140 — F (708)344 0902

Website: [www.olmcp parish.org](http://www.olmcp parish.org) or [www.facebook.com/olmcp parish](http://www.facebook.com/olmcp parish)



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