Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish-Shrine

Fourth Sunday of Advent
Sunday, December 24th, 2017

The Italian National Parish of the Archdiocese of Chicago
Served by The Missionaries of Saint Charles – Scalabrinians
1101 N 23rd Ave - Melrose Park - IL– 60160
P (708) 344 4140 — F (708)344 0902

Staff

Pastor
-Fr. Miguel Alvarez, 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
- Nancy Diaz
- Daniel Michel

Office Hours

Sunday
-8:00am—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

THE SCALABRINIAN MISSIONARIES AT MOUNT CARMEL SINCE 1905

humilitas

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 SENORA DEL MONTE CARMEL — 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

Activities Coordinator
Miguel Aldana 708.345.3632

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—5:30pm 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

For the Month of DECEMBER

December 24th Sun/Dom Christmas Eve

- 5:00pm English Mass
- 7:00pm Misa en Español
- 11:30pm Christmas Caroling

December 25th Mon/Lun Nativity of the Lord

- 12:00am *English Midnight Mass*
- 10:30am Italian Mass
- 12:00pm English Mass
- 1:30pm Misa en Español

December 31st Sun/Dom New Years Eve

- Regular Sunday Schedule

January 1st Mon/Lun
Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

- 10:30am Italian Mass
- 12:00pm English Mass
- 1:30pm Misa en Español

Blessed are You Among Women

Weekly Offering

December 16 - December 17, 2017

Regular Sunday Collection: $6,013.00

Thank you for your enormous generosity.
I will always carry the memories created with you all in my heart, and will always remember the family of Our Lady of Mount Carmel.

Blessings,
Fr. Miguel Alvarez, C.S.

GOD'S PROMISE

The lengthy passage from Samuel is a wonderful exposition of God's promise to the house of David: that his throne would forever be gloriously occupied by his descendants. Hidden in the mystery of the prophecy is the promise of the Savior, the Messiah, Son of God and Son of David. The prophet Nathan, speaking in God's name, poetically turns around David's plan to build a house for God, and announces God's plan to build a "house," that is, a dynasty for David. From this house of David will come the Messiah, the Christ, not in kingly splendor as David ruled, but as a humble man, destined to rule forever and over all. When God gives a gift, it's amazing what we are given—so different from what we ever could have imagined.

HOLIDAY CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Our schedule will be as follows:

Christmas

Office will be closed
Tuesday, December 26th, 2017

New Years

Office will be closed
Tuesday, January 2nd, 2018

HOLIDAY COMMUNITY CENTER HOURS

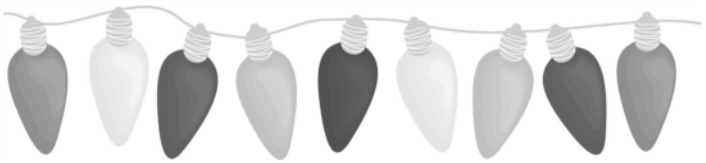
Our schedule will be as follows:

Christmas

Office will be closed - Mon, Dec. 25th & 26th

New Years

Office will be closed - Mon, Jan. 1st & 2nd



TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Children of the parish are somewhat focused on Santa Claus these days, who is keeping an eye on who's naughty and who's nice. Santa Claus, with his heavenly patron Saint Nicholas, has been more or less in charge of gift-giving to American children for a hundred years or so. In other places, perhaps more attentive to our Christian tradition, there are different gift-bearers. In Greece, Saint Basil delivers the presents on his feast day, December 31, and makes sure everyone is sprinkled with holy water. The Baby Jesus is in charge elsewhere, called the *Christkind* in Austria and Belgium, *El Niño Jesús* in Columbia, and *Le Petit Jesus* in France, where he shares his duties with *Père Noël*. In the Czech Republic almost everyone is atheist, but *Ježíšek*, the infant Jesus, brings gifts to one and all. In Poland the "Star Man" is said to bring the gifts, although often he turns out to be the village priest in disguise. Saint Nicholas, not his Americanized cousin, is the giver in Holland, where he wears a bishop's miter, and in Russia, where he wears a bishop's crown. Soviet Russia tried to dethrone Saint Nicholas and promote Grandfather Frost, but no one was much fooled by this attempt to squeeze religion out of Christ's birth. One country has a saintly woman in charge of the gifts, Saint Lucy, honored in Sweden on December 13, when children serve their parents breakfast in bed, and others awake to news that they have been nominated for a Nobel Prize. Some children have a second round of gifts on Epiphany, when the magi assume the gift-giving duties. In general, the gifts of Christmas are simple pleasures, not great heaps of treasures. Once upon a time, a new pair of socks or an orange was enough for us. No matter what gifts we receive, all of them are to point us to the true gift, and the true giver.

OUR TRADITION

By now, the first Christmas carols are heard in the home, but usually not yet in church. What is a "carol" anyway? Originally, a carol was any kind of communal song sung at a festival such as a harvest. By the thirteenth century or so, carols were associated with household celebrations. "Carol" comes from the Old French *carula*, meaning a circular dance. Carols weren't for church, since the language of liturgy was Latin and the carols were in the common language. Their characteristic sound comes from medieval chord patterns, and they often have strong refrains for everyone to sing. Even in the churches of the Reformation, carols didn't make it into church services until the 1870s or so, since there was a preference for psalms. Anglicans resisted popular carols; most of our beloved carols came via the Methodists, an offshoot of the Church of England. The Catholic Church generally didn't admit carols to liturgy either, but we didn't make laws against them.

We are told that the beloved carol "Silent Night" comes from Catholic Austria and a harried parish music director. Joseph Mohr, the priest of St. Nicholas in Oberndorf, had written the words in 1816, but offered them to his music director, Franz Gruber, when the church's organ broke. Mohr asked him to write a melody that could be played on guitar as a prelude to Mass. Gruber finished the tune just hours before midnight Mass in 1818. The people were shocked to hear a guitar in church, but were charmed by the sweet lullaby. The church was swept away by a flood in the 1990s and the village later relocated, but the townspeople have set up the "Silent Night Memorial Chapel" at the site. Today the carol is in print in some three hundred languages. How wonderful that the pipe organ broke on that night!

Be generous with your church this Christmas season.

Don't forget to add Our Lady of Mount Carmel to your gift list.

Muchas gracias por su infinita generosidad. Los recuerdo siempre, y los llevara en mi corazón.

Bendiciones,
P. Miguel Álvarez, C.S.

TRADICIONES

La tradición mexicana de las Posadas se acompaña de las tradicionales piñatas. Aunque hay piñatas de animales y caricaturas, la piñata original es una estrella con siete picos.

La piñata llegó al continente con los misioneros agustinos procedentes de España, mismos que la habían recibido de italianos; y éstos, a su vez, la obtuvieron de Marco Polo quien conoció decoraciones de animales coloridos en China. El asociar la piñata con las Posadas viene de la cultura Náhuatl quienes celebraban a Huitzilopochtli (dios de la guerra) del 17 al 26 de diciembre. Estos ponían cazuelas de barro decoradas con listones y plumas sobre palos en el templo. Al romperlas, tesoros y alhajas caían a los pies de su dios.

Los misioneros mezclaron las dos costumbres para la catequesis. La estrella de siete picos representa al diablo y los 7 pecados capitales, mientras que la venda en los ojos es la fe en Cristo. El acto de pegarle a la piñata son nuestros esfuerzos cristianos a pesar de las desorientaciones que trae la vida. Romper la piñata es estar bañado con la gracia del Espíritu Santo y recibir los dones de Dios.

Fortaleciendo Familias

Participe en un programa familiar para las familias del área de Proviso.

Aprenda Disciplina efectiva, Comunicación Saludable, Como resolver conflictos, Como Controlar el Estrés, Como fijar limites y Como mejorar la unión familiar.

Acompáñenos en la primera orientación este próximo
Enero 5, 2018, de 5PM a 7PM.

Llame para registrarse al
Teléfono 708-786-8540.
Espacio limitado.

HORARIOS DE OFICINA PARA EL FIN DE SEMANA DE NAVIDAD

- La oficina parroquial estará cerrada el martes 26 de diciembre.

HORARIOS PARA AÑO NUEVO

- La oficina parroquial estará cerrada el martes 2 de enero, 2018.

HORARIOS DEL CENTRO COMUNITARIO

- La oficina estará cerrada el 25 y 26 de diciembre por la Navidad.
- La oficina estará cerrada el 1 y 2 de enero del 2018 por el año nuevo.

TRADICIONES DE NUESTRA FE

De las muchas tradiciones latinoamericanas para celebrar el Adviento y la Navidad, las Posadas parecen ser lo mejor conocido en EE. UU. Tienen su origen en la última mitad del siglo XVIII cuando las estrepitosas Misas de Aguinaldo dejaron de ser celebradas en México. Para remplazar la festividad de esas Misas, los laicos decidieron celebrar en sus casas tomando lo que habían visto dramatizado en los templos, esto es, el recorrido de José y María mientras buscaban posada en Belén. Como las "Antífonas de la O" de la liturgia oficial cristiana, estas Posadas llegaron a ser celebradas nueve noches consecutivas.

200 años después, muchos latinos continúan celebrando las Posadas en EE. UU. Recuerdo como de niño cantábamos "En el nombre del cielo" recorriendo las calles del barrio hasta llegar a la casa donde nos abrirían con cantos, tamales, galletitas y chocolate. Ese recorrido de José y María lamentablemente sigue todos los días en los pasos temerosos y cansados de tantos inmigrantes en este país. Como la Sagrada Familia, otras familias latinoamericanas continúan buscando hospedaje con la esperanza de dar a luz una nueva vida para sus hijos e hijas.

LA PROMESA DE DIOS

El largo pasaje de Samuel expone de manera maravillosa la promesa de Dios a la dinastía de David: que su trono siempre estaría ocupado gloriosamente por sus descendientes. Oculta en el misterio de la profecía está la promesa del Salvador, el Mesías, Hijo de Dios e Hijo de David. El profeta Natán, quien habla en nombre de Dios, desbarata poéticamente el plan de David de construir una casa para Dios y anuncia que el plan de Dios es construir una "casa", una dinastía, para David. De esta dinastía de David provendrá el Mesías, el Cristo, quien no llegará con el esplendor majestuoso con el que reinó David, sino que vendrá como un hombre humilde, que gobernará por los siglos de los siglos. Cuando Dios hace un regalo; lo que recibimos es asombroso: es muy distinto a lo que podríamos haber imaginado.

No olvides de ser generoso con tu parroquia en esta Navidad. Agrega a Nuestra Señora del Monte Carmelo a tu lista navideña.

Fr. Feccia's Reflection

Quarta domenica di Avvento — Anno "B"— Davide abita ormai tranquillamente nella sua casa e sente il bisogno di costruire una casa anche per il suo Dio. Ma Dio, tramite il profeta Natan, glielo impedisce, non perché non gradisca la cosa, bensì perché ha egli stesso su Davide un progetto ben preciso. Prima gli ricorda che è stato Lui stesso a sceglierlo per farlo, da pastore di pecore, pastore di popoli (1 Sam, 16,11ss) e poi gli annuncia che continuerà ad essere con lui come lo fu nel passato e benedirà il suo popolo. Nel futuro poi continuerà a dare a Davide vittoria sui nemici e al popolo una «sede» stabile e tranquilla: una lunga discendenza perché il «seme» di Davide si possa perpetuare nei secoli. Ma ancora qualcosa di più. Promette la figliolanza divina al Figlio, al re e al popolo. La figliolanza divina e la durata del regno hanno la loro piena realizzazione in Cristo. Solo Cristo è il vero figlio di Dio e soltanto Lui assicura l'eternità di questo regno.

Davide morirà senza poter realizzare il desiderio di costruire una casa al suo Dio. In verità Dio gradisce la proposta di Davide ma gli fa capire che tutto l'universo è suo e che a lui è più gradita la disponibilità ai suoi piani, la fede nelle sue promesse e la fedeltà all'alleanza: un popolo «stabile per sempre». Lui stesso costruirà al suo popolo una «casa»; la promessa avrà pieno compimento nel regno del Messia: Gesù Cristo sarà il costruttore della dimora stabile ed eterna. Tutto il popolo di Dio sarà chiamato ad essere la sua vera casa. Ed è questa la meravigliosa realtà che ora noi viviamo, poiché sappiamo che è venuto ad abitare in mezzo a noi. Gesù non viene in mezzo a noi per metterci al sicuro in una roccaforte, ma per aprirci un cammino di conversione incessante. Un cammino di continua lotta per la conquista della vera pace, che consiste nello stabilire un rapporto di realtà e di amore con Dio, con noi stessi, con gli uomini, con le cose.

Una casa per Dio

Nel corso dei secoli Israele aveva preso coscienza della propria identità nazionale e insieme religiosa: anzi, la monarchia era parsa la garanzia di una fedeltà al Dio dell'alleanza.

Davide (prima lettura) pensa che la costruzione di una «casa» a Dio propizi in modo definitivo i suoi favori, e lo faccia abitare stabilmente in mezzo al popolo. Ma il profeta di corte è costretto a dirgli che sarà Dio a costruire una casa a Davide, cioè una dinastia che duri per sempre.

Ora, il figlio annunciato a Maria è chiaramente designato come figlio di Davide, poiché Giuseppe, a cui Maria è fidanzata, appartiene alla casa di Davide. Era importante garantire, di fronte agli Ebrei, attraverso l'istituzionalità della successione, il titolo che fonda l'azione dell'inviato di Dio, e, per la fede cristiana, la «verità» umana del Salvatore (cf *Rm* 1,3).

Durante la sua vita Gesù non si è attribuito volentieri il titolo di «figlio di Davide» (anche se la gente lo acclamava così), per non alimentare un nazionalismo facile e pericoloso.

Identificandosi con i «poveri» che attendevano una salvezza spirituale, egli conferma che «la carne non serve a nulla», e che ogni potenza umana non ha consistenza. La sua nascita da una donna vergine (e «segno» è la nascita di Giovanni da una donna anziana e sterile) mette in risalto la forza dell'intervento di Dio (vangelo).

Mass Intentions

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23 — **ADVENT WEEKDAY**
7:30 am † Eda Falco by Children
Miss you this Christmas Mom by Children and Family
5:30 pm † Rino & Ada Morella by Children

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24 — **FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**
7:45 am † Marion Guiglio by Husband Frank & Children
9:00 am †
10:30 am †
12:00 pm †
1:30 pm †
5:00 pm English Vigil Mass
7:00 pm Misa en Español

MONDAY, DECEMBER 25 — **THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD**
12:00 am English Midnight Mass
7:30 am † Roseann Morroco by Husband George
10:30 am † Lino Rauzi by Wife & Family
12:00 pm English Mass
1:30 pm Spanish Mass

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 26 — **SAINT STEPHEN**
7:30 am †
6:30 pm †

WEDNESDAY. DECEMBER 27 — **SAINT JOHN**
7:30 am † Edo Marocchi by Mary Marocchi
7:30 pm NOVENA

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 28 — **THE HOLY INNOCENTS**
7:30 am In Thanksgiving to God from Magdalena
6:30 pm †

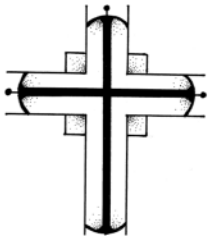
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29 — **FIFTH DAY, OCTAVE OF THE NATIVITY**
7:30 am †

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30 — **SIXTH DAY, OCTAVE OF THE NATIVITY**
7:30 am † Christine Ariola DeBuono by Aunt Corinne Principe
† Eda Falco by Children & Family
5:30 pm †

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31 — **THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY, AND JOSEPH**
7:45 am †
9:00 am †
10:30 am †
12:00 pm † Lorraine McKenzie by Sister Corinne Principe
1:30 pm †
5:00 pm †

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
Ethan Maidl
Joseph Pulido
Lauren Rendi
Luke Westrick
Ann Yench
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
June Stellato
Conny Rico
John Sepka
Bridget Midula
Donna Novotny
Nayeli Hernandez



Rest In Peace

† Amparo Escamilla
† Andrew E. Panico

THIRD SUNDAY COMMUNAL MASS CELEBRATION: December. 2017
+ MASSES REQUESTED DURING OUR LADY OF MT. CARMEL 2017 FEAST +

This Mass, requested during the Feast of OLMC, is celebrated for the benefit of the following persons:
Questa Messa, richiesta durante la Festa della Madonna del Carmine, viene celebrata a beneficio delle seguenti persone.

Saturday, December 16 5:30 p.m. Mass	Sunday, December 17 7:45 a.m. Mass	Sunday, December 17 10:30 a.m. Mass	Sunday, December 17 12:00 a.m. Mass
Isabelle Fazio	Mark Smith Jr. Family	Triestina e Giugliamo Perfetti	Amelia Seminara e Rosanna Aristodemo
Jack Martinez	Fiora Libonati	Rolano V Libonati	Corinne Principe
Mary Dee Mariani	Stella Rubel	Carolina e Antonio Aristodemo	Pat and Rose Nunziato Family
Anthony Sbarra	The Urban Family	Elia Family	Jerry Bunken Family
Carmella Leto	Diane Leone	Emilio Conforti	Wanda and Bopnifacy Demel
Angelo Tosto	Ciffone Family	Ellen and Art Fumarolo	Benigna Bulnes
Mr. and Mrs. J. Smith	Hector and Pola Caustrita	Betty and Mike Tosto	Baio Families
Joseph Bonge III	Mauro e Mary Glorioso Sr	Gloria e Renato Bacci	Mr and Mrs. Fumarol Family
The Ruffalo Family	Betty M Beahna	Theresa DeVivo	Kaner and Haugh Family and Friends
		Josephine Consalvo	

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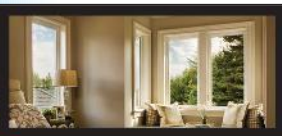

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