



# Our Lady of Mt. Carmel CATHOLIC CHURCH

www.olmcfssp.org + 5612 S. Hickory St. Littleton, CO 80120 + (303) 703-8538



A parish of the Archdiocese of Denver, CO served by the Priestly Fraternity of St. Peter (FSSP) dedicated to the Traditional Latin Mass and Sacraments according to the 1962 Missal of Pope St. John XXIII.

## Sunday in the Octave of Christmas December 31, 2023

PASTOR  
**REV. MATTHEW J. MCCARTHY, FSSP**

ASST. PASTORS  
**REV. DANIEL NOLAN, FSSP**  
asst.pastor1@olmcfssp.org  
**REV. ERIC KRAGER, FSSP**  
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OFFICE HOURS  
**MON - FRI: 9:15 AM - 4:15 PM**  
office.manager@olmcfssp.org  
secretary@olmcfssp.org

SACRAMENTAL EMERGENCIES  
**303-241-2946**

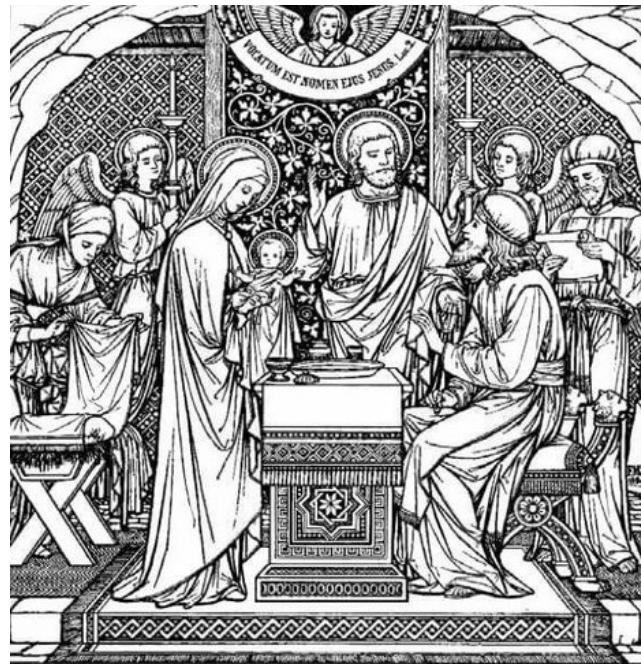
SUNDAY LOW MASS  
**6:30 AM | 8:00 AM | 9:30 AM | 1:00 PM**

SUNDAY HIGH MASS  
**11:00 AM**

DAILY MASS  
**8:30 AM MON - SAT**  
**Also 7:00 PM FRI**

CONFESSIONS  
**30 MINUTES BEFORE EACH MASS**  
**SAT: 8 - 9:30 AM**  
**SAT: 3 - 4 PM**

DAILY MASS  
**6:30 AM SUN - SAT**  
Carmelite Monastery  
6138 S. Gallup St. Littleton, CO 80120



*Vocábis nomen ejus Jesum:  
ipse enim salvum fáciat pópulum suum a peccátiis eórum.*

**From Fr. Nolan**

To fulfil Our Lady's wishes to PRAY the Rosary, we must meditate upon the events in the life of Our Lord and Our Lady as recorded in Scripture. The Joyful mysteries are taken from the first two chapters of Luke's Gospel supported by the 2nd chapter of St. Matthew. A broader knowledge of Scripture will be helpful as well, such as the prophets Isaiah, Jeremiah and Ezekiel, and the books of Samuel and Kings, in order to know the prophecies and promises that are being fulfilled. Some meditations that we can make upon the mysteries are as follows:

### **The Annunciation – Luke 1:26-38**

The fruit of the mystery is humility. It was Our Lady's humility that enabled her to be completely filled with Christ. She was generous and

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courageous in accepting God's plan for her – can I say the same about His plan for me? We are filled with Christ at Holy Communion - He is literally inside of us, even as He was with Our Lady. The world waited 4,000 years for this moment. Can we refuse to wait for grace? Why am I so impatient in my prayers and expectations?

#### **The Visitation – Luke 1:39-56; also 1:5-24 and 1:57-80**

The fruit of this mystery is charity for our neighbor. Our Lady, rather than thinking of herself in this moment, hastens to help her cousin. St. Elizabeth, conceived in her old age - a lesson in persevering faith, even beyond hope. Our Lady is filled with the Holy Ghost and says "all generations will call me blessed". This is not Our Lady boasting of herself, but the Holy Ghost testifying that Mary ought to be revered and honored for all time.

#### **The Nativity - Luke 2:1-21**

The fruit of the mystery is a spirit of poverty. God, whom the entire universe cannot contain, made by his almighty power, lies as a helpless babe in a manger. God left behind everything, to give Himself to us. Can we recoil at poverty, if it was suitable enough for a king? God can do all things, even reconcile seeming opposites. How can an eternal God enter into time? How can the almighty become powerless? How can a virgin be a mother? God is the master of paradoxes, His foolishness is greater than the wisdom of man. Do not allow yourselves to become upset when you do not understand the ways of God, or when there seems to be 'contradictions' in the Faith.

#### **The Presentation – Luke 2:22-38**

The fruit of the mystery is obedience. The God who made the law, now makes himself subject to it. Our Lady also obeyed the Mosaic law, subjecting her most pure nature to the Levitical purification rites. Simeon prophesies Christ is a light to all the nations. All nations must belong to the Church, and come to Christ.

#### **The Finding in the Temple – Luke 2:41-52**

The fruit of the mystery is wisdom. If we want to find Christ, go to the Church, as did St. Joseph and Our Lady, and we will find his real presence. Our Lady sorrowed for three days without Christ, distraught at losing his presence. Can we say we are as distraught at losing the presence of Christ in our souls by mortal sin? The Christ child was teaching in the temple with the brilliant simplicity of a child. How often do we over-complicate things? Be rather as a little child, simple and pure, and admit there are mysteries we do not understand. Our Lady was confused, she even asked Christ "why have you done this to us?" And she did not understand his answer. Sometimes, we ask of Christ an answer, and we will not understand His answer.

The result of meditations such as the above, is to imprint upon hearts and minds the truths of the Church. Let our Rosaries from here on include these valuable meditations.

## **LITURGICAL SCHEDULE**

### **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31**

#### **Sunday in the Octave of Christmas**

6:30 am Ruth Mallarkey+ by Anthony and Mary Dixon  
8:00 am Lori True by True Family  
9:30 am Nicholas Barker Parrott+ by Dave Parrott  
**11:00 am (High Mass)** Pro Populo  
1:00 pm Scholastica Salazar by Mary Morley  
5:00 pm Vespers and Compline

### **MONDAY, JANUARY 1**

#### **Octave of the Nativity of the Lord**

8:30 am Veronica Salazar by Mary Morley  
10:00 am Esther Lerma de Castillo+ by Jeronimo Castillo  
**12:00 pm (High Mass)** Gabriel Rosas Martinez+  
by Gabriela Hernandez Rosas

### **TUESDAY, JANUARY 2**

#### **Most Holy Name of Jesus**

8:30 am Jaime de Jeronimo+  
by Gabriela Hernandez Rosas

### **WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 3**

#### **Feria of Christmastide**

8:30 am Judith Carrera by Maria Carrera

### **THURSDAY, JANUARY 4**

#### **Feria of Christmastide**

8:30 am Rev. Mr. Jacob Kasak, FSSP  
by Josh and Brooke Field

### **FRIDAY, JANUARY 5**

#### **Feria of Christmastide**

8:30 am Valdes Flores Family by Gabriela Hernandez Rosas  
7:00 pm Jason and Elizabeth Petrucelli 25th Wedd. Anniv.

### **SATURDAY, JANUARY 6**

#### **The Epiphany of Our Lord**

**8:30 am (High Mass)** Gus and Ruby Petrucelli  
by Elizabeth Petrucelli

### **SUNDAY, JANUARY 7**

#### **Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph**

6:30 am Sha Balizet Fisher+ by William Fisher  
8:00 am FSSP and Preservation of the TLM  
9:30 am Paul Barrett+ by Susan Barrett  
**11:00 am (High Mass)** Pro Populo  
1:00 pm Roy Matteri+ by Susan Barrett  
5:00 pm Vespers and Compline

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#### **Fr. McCarthy's Private Intentions**

- 2** Rodriguez Carrera Family+ by Maria Carrera
- 3** Mr. Robert Becker, FSSP by Josh and Brooke Field
- 4** Mr. Shane Conlon, FSSP by Josh and Brooke Field
- 6** Thea Wofford by Maddie Wofford

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Tomorrow - Octave Day of the Nativity** is not a Holy Day of Obligation this year. Mass times are 8:30am, 10am and 12pm High Mass.

**Tomorrow - High Mass at Carmel** at 6:30am for the Octave Day of the Nativity.

**The Parish Office** will be closed tomorrow.

**Fr McCarthy** will be away Jan 1-5 inclusive at the FSSP Convocation.

**Today, Sun, Dec 31 - Epiphany Home Blessings:** After each Mass, the Altar and Rosary Society will be handing out Epiphany Home Blessing kits which explain how to use the blessed chalk to protect your home in the new year. Epiphany water will be available...

**This Fri, Jan 5 - Epiphany Water Blessing** at 6pm in the parish hall. All are welcome to attend. There is a table in the hall for water to-be-blessed. Please bring only one or two containers for your needs.

**This Sat, Jan 6 - Confraternity of Christian Mothers** invites all women of the parish (16+, single or married) to an Epiphany brunch in the St. Albert room following the 8:30am Mass. Please bring a potluck item to share. We'll be covering the basics of the Confraternity and enjoying a social hour.


**Yearly Donation Statements** will be sent out at the end of January. The deadline for tax-deductible donations for 2023 is today, December 31, 2023. Any donations that come in after 12/31 will be counted for the 2024 tax year.

**First Sacraments:** If you have a child in the 3rd grade of religion class in school, they are eligible to receive First Holy Communion/Confirmation in 2024. For more info, please go to [olmcfssp.org](http://olmcfssp.org) > sacraments > first holy communion/confirmation. Classes will be on Sundays at 2:15pm beginning on Jan 28. Registration ends Jan 14.

**Knights of Columbus Essay Contest** for students in grades 8-12. All entries due by 6pm on Jan 5. In 500-750 words, How can the Church evangelize in the digital age? Submit essay by emailing Matt Perkins at [jmattperkins@gmail.com](mailto:jmattperkins@gmail.com) with the name, grade level, and contact information included. Winners will receive a cash prize of \$500 for first place, \$250 for second place, and \$125 for third place.

**Tue, Jan 9 - St. Joseph Business Club:** Join us for our next lunch and learn networking event from 11:30-1pm. Kendall Williamson will present Office Automation: Eliminate the mundane to increase profits. Register in the Flocknote.

**Fri, Jan 12 - Aristotle Institute:** 5-6:30pm in the St. Albert room. Anthony V. Morley will talk about the philosophy of Aristotle through history, the unseen linkages to the architecture of digital media & discover what Aristotle's thought can teach us about effective use of digital media.

**Sun, Jan 21 - Blood Drive** hosted by OLMC and sponsored by the KofC. Vitalant will be running the drive. We need a minimum of 40 committed donors by Dec 25 in order to make the drive happen. Sign-up after Mass in the parish hall or via Flocknote/QR. 

**Sun, Jan 21 - Altar Flower Donation Drive:** If you would like to provide flowers for a special intention, please stop by the ARS table in the hall after Mass on Sun, Jan 21. Thank you for helping to make our altar beautiful.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### OLMC's Annual Christmas Party

Next Sun, Jan 7 - after the 1pm Mass. Please bring a dish to share according to your last name. A-G, Main Dish; F-P, Side Dish; Q-Z, Dessert. Drinks will be provided. Sign up for the talent show in the Flocknote. If you are able to help decorate, serve, or clean-up for the party, please email the office.

**Sun, Jan 21 - Bethlehem Handicrafts** will showcase a collection of beautiful olive wood carvings & gifts from the Holy Land following each Mass. Wood carving allows us to pass the faith on to generations of Christians, ensuring that the faith is alive and well in the Holy Land. By purchasing our items, you are supporting the future of Christians in the Holy Land!

**Fri-Sat, Jan 26-27 - Marriage Enrichment Retreat** at St. Mark's in Highlands Ranch. Be reintroduced to the beauty of the Sacrament of Marriage and your commitment to each other. No matter how "aged" your marriage may be, this retreat will help you discover the special reserve of God's grace and graft you and your spouse onto the Vine, Jesus Christ. (John 15:1-5) For information and to sign-up, visit: <https://give.stmarkhr.org/marriage-enrichment-retreat>

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**OLMC Online Parish Calendar** is available via the website or the code to the right. Please check there for upcoming events.



### DAILY PRAYER LINE REQUESTS

Contact Jane Brennan: [jmbrennan555@gmail.com](mailto:jmbrennan555@gmail.com)

### Please Pray for the Sick

David Williamson, Lane Reagan, Joanne Leary, Jamie Jimenez, Kim Poletto, Jacob, Jaxson, Joan Anselmi, Esther Garcia, Indigo Williamson

### Please Pray for the Repose of the Souls of

Peter Doran, Jackie Briggs, Thomas Morley, Patricia Jambor, JoAnn Ice, Geraldine Marie Pellant, Lydia Ferran, Francis Smith, James Sohmer, Fr. James Buckley, FSSP,

**ALTAR FLOWERS** The Poinsettias will remain on the altar until the Commemoration of the Lord's Baptism (Jan 13).

### HOMEBOUND

Any parishioner confined to home who would like to receive the sacraments or the bulletin, please contact the parish office.

**Electronic Giving via Faith Direct**





### **Thoughts for an Extraordinary Epiphanytide**

(with thanks to Fr William Rock, FSSP)

The word "Epiphany" comes from the Greek ἐπιφάνεια [epipháneia] which means "manifestation." Epiphanytide commemorates three manifestations of the Lord: the visitation of the Magi from the East, Our Lord's Baptism, and Our Lord's first miracle of turning water into wine at the wedding at Cana.

The number of Sundays in Epiphanytide varies with the date of Septuagesima/Easter. Sundays not used are resumed after the 23rd Sunday after Pentecost.

The liturgical color is white which symbolizes: (1) the gladness to which the Angels invited the world, (2) the beauty of our Divine Sun that has risen in Bethlehem, (3) the spotless purity of the Virgin-Mother, and (4) the clean heartedness which they should have who come to worship at the mystic Crib.

After the Baptism of the Lord, the liturgical color is green which teaches us that in the birth of Jesus, Who is "the flower of the fields," we first received the hope of salvation, and that after the bleak winter of paganism and of the Old Law there opened the verdant springtime of grace. Green also symbolizes the spiritual growth which we are to make by reflecting on the mysteries we have been celebrating and contemplating.

On the vigil of the Epiphany, Epiphany Water may be blessed. It was during Our Lord's Baptism that water was first sanctified so that it might serve as the matter of the Sacrament of Baptism. There are also special Epiphany blessings for gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

There is a special Epiphany house blessing. With special blessed chalk, over the doors of the house are written crosses, the year, and the letters "C," "M," and "B" which are the first letters of the words of the Latin phrase "Christus Mansionem Benedicat (may Christ bless this house)." They also represent the first initials of the traditional names of the three Magi: Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar.

The Feast of the Purification occurring 40 days after Christmas on 2 February commemorates two mysteries. One was Mary's fulfillment of the Old Testament law directing the poor mother of a male child to offer in sacrifice a pair of turtle-doves, or two young pigeons as a ceremony for purification. The second, concerning Jesus, was the redeeming from God's service of the firstborn male child by five shekels. However, because of the miraculous manner of Mary's motherhood and because Christ is the Son of God Who came to be the Redeemer of others, neither were obliged to fulfill these laws. But in order to serve as an example of humility and obedience (and probably also to avoid scandal), Mary and Joseph, under the inspiration of the Holy Ghost, nevertheless undertook to fulfill these precepts. This feast, the most ancient feast of the Latin Church to the Mother of God, closes the Christmas cycle. Before the start of Mass, traditionally candles are blessed and distributed. After the candles are distributed, there is a candlelight procession. Due to all of this, the Feast of the Purification is also known as "Candlemas." Each blessed candle, which is composed of three parts (the wax, the wick, and the flame), represent Christ. (1) The wax, which is the production of the virginal bee, is the Flesh of Our Lord; (2) the wick, which is within, is His Soul; and (3) the flame, which burns on the top, is His Divinity.