



# 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.

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

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IN RESIDENCE  
**REV. JOSEPH DALIMATA, FSSP**  
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OFFICE HOURS  
**MON - FRI: 9:15 AM - 4:15 PM**

**OFFICE MANAGER:** Bruce Muhe, III  
office.manager@olmcfssp.org

**SECRETARY:** Kaleigh Sims  
secretary@olmcfssp.org

**DIRECTOR OF MUSIC:** David Hughes  
music.director@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 AM until the line is gone.**  
**SAT: 3 - 4 PM**

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

## Palm Sunday

### March 29, 2026



*Dícite filiæ Sion: Ecce Rex tuus venit tibi mansuétus, sedens super ásinam et pullum, filium subiugális.*

**From Fr. Dalimata**

The veneration of relics — physical remains of saints (first-class), objects they touched (second-class), or items that have touched first-class relics (third-class) — is an ancient Christian practice rooted in belief in the resurrection of the body and the communion of saints.

Today we are somewhat used to relics. We may be impressed if there is an obscure or large relic at some particular church, but we tend to think, “Oh. A relic. That’s cool.” and move on. The Church has long guarded against abuses: it is strictly forbidden to buy or sell relics, and for more than twelve centuries official authentication has been required for public veneration. This protects the sacred character of these treasures and prevents them from becoming mere curiosities.

(Continued on page 2)

I reflect on all this because of the history of one of the most beautiful hymns in the liturgical year which we sing during this Passiontide, the *Vexilla Regis*, is a beautiful example of the proper veneration and honor due to relics.

In the year 568 a pious and powerful woman, St. Radegunda, requested from the Emperor Justin II and his wife Sophia, a relic of the Holy Cross for her monastery. They granted her request and sent the relic with a full entourage and ceremony from Constantinople to her monastery in Poitiers, France. Formerly dedicated to the Virgin Mary, the monastery was on that occasion rededicated to the Holy Cross (Sainte-Croix).

It was on November 19th, 569AD that the relic of the True Cross arrived at the walls of the city of Poitiers. Crowds of faithful and ecclesiastical dignitaries met the relic there and with great pomp and splendor accompanied the relic in its magnificent, jeweled reliquary.

Living near the monastery at that time was a poet named Venantius Honorius Clementianus Fortunatus (usually just called Fortunatus for short). Close friends with St. Radegunda, this event moved him to write a series of poems, two of which are used to this day in the Liturgy. It was to the beautiful words and music of the hymn the "*Vexilla Regis*" written by Fortunatus for this occasion that the crowd of pious faithful accompanied the precious relic of the Holy Cross from the walls of Poitiers into the monastery Church. Fortunatus also gave us the Passion hymn *Pange lingua gloriosi*, still sung today.

The original processional use of the *Vexilla Regis* is commemorated in the pre-1970 Roman Missal on Good Friday, when the Blessed Sacrament is carried in procession from the Repository to the High Altar. Its principal use however, is in the Divine Office. In the Roman Breviary it is sung for at Vespers from the Saturday before Passion Sunday to Maundy Thursday, and to Vespers of feasts of the Holy Cross, such as the Finding (3 May), the Exultation (14 September), the Triumph (16 July, in some places).

With these historical reflections we ought to strive to have a deeper love and appreciation for our rich musical and poetic tradition in the Church. For millennia the people of God have sought to honor and communicate the richness of revelation in song, poetry and liturgical ceremony. These traditions are not "relics" in the contemporary and dismissive sense of the word. They are living contact with the rich cultural heritage which we continue to immerse ourselves into this day. Here is my favorite verse, the fourth, with a translation. This verse moves me to think about how we venerate and respect a relic of the cross which only once bore the Savior whose body we are permitted to consume even daily at Holy Communion.

*Arbor decora et fulgida,      O lovely and refulgent Tree,  
Ornata regis purpura,      Adorned with purpled majesty;  
Electa digno stipite      Culled from a worthy stock, to  
bear*

*Tam sancta membra      Those Limbs which sanctifiéd  
tangere.      were.*

## LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

### SUNDAY, MARCH 29

#### Palm Sunday

6:30 am William Schott+ by Fleischer Family  
8:00 am Cynthia Miller+ by Jeanné Reed  
9:30 am Matthew Comstock  
**11:00 am (Solemn High Mass)** Pro Populo  
**No 1:00 pm Mass today.**  
5:00 pm Solemn Vespers and Compline

### MONDAY, MARCH 30

#### Monday of Holy Week

8:30 am William Michael Mauritz by Jennifer Filipi

### TUESDAY, MARCH 31

#### Tuesday of Holy Week

8:30 am Corporal Comstock

### WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1

#### Wednesday of Holy Week

8:30 am Daniel Pulse by Eileen Pulse  
7:00 pm Tenebrae

### THURSDAY, APRIL 2

#### Holy Thursday

6:15-6:45 pm Confession  
**7:00 pm (Solemn High Mass)** For Parish Vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life  
9:00 pm Tenebrae  
10:30 pm-12:00 am Vigil at Altar of Repose

### FRIDAY, APRIL 3

#### Good Friday

12:00-1:45 pm Confession  
2:00 pm Stations of the Cross  
3:00 pm Mass of the Presanctified  
7:00 pm Tenebrae

### SATURDAY, APRIL 4

#### Holy Saturday and the Easter Vigil

8:00-10:00 am Confession  
**7:00 pm (Solemn Vigil)** Pro Populo

### SUNDAY, APRIL 5

#### Easter Sunday

6:30 am OLMC Volunteers  
8:00 am Flower Donors' Intentions  
9:30 am Archbishop Golka  
**11:00 am (Solemn High Mass)** Pope Leo  
**No 1:00 pm Mass today.**  
5:00 pm Solemn Vespers and Compline

#### Fr. McCarthy's Private Intentions

30 Holy Souls of Deceased Legionaries  
31 Special Intention  
1 Arcenia Munoz by Jeanné Reed

#### Fr. Dalimata's Private Intentions

30 Yumna Keynai by Madeline Martelles  
31 Irma Gloria Ruiz R.+ by Francisca Rivera Ruiz  
1 Teresa Ponce Gonzalez by Francisca Rivera Ruiz

#### Fr. Loftus' Private Intentions

30 Celestino Carbajal+ by Jeanné Reed  
31 Nathaniel Hazel Pulse by Eileen Pulse  
1 Jack DeLine+ by Mary Anderson

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Today:** Blessed Palms will be available in the church vestibule after the 11am Mass and throughout Holy Week. **Please note that there will not be a 1:00pm Mass today.**

**Holy Week:** Please note that no confessions will be heard during any of the solemn liturgies. **There will not be a 1pm Mass on Easter Sunday.**

**All Triduum Liturgies** will be livestreamed (Masses and Tenebrae). The link will be sent out via Flocknote.

**Easter Flower Donation Envelopes** are available outside the office or in the vestibule. The 8:00am Mass on Easter morning will be offered for donors' intentions. Return to the office by today.

**Good Friday** is a day of Fasting and Abstinence by law, not pious custom.

**Easter Sunday Obligation:** Under the Code of Canon Law presently in force, attending the Easter Vigil fulfills the obligation to attend Mass on Easter Sunday.

**The Parish Office** will be closed from 2pm this Thu, Apr 2 through Mon, Apr 6.

### **Carmelite Monastery Holy Week Schedule:**

- **Palm Sunday:** 6:30am High Mass and Blessing of Palms
- **Holy Thursday:** 4:30pm High Mass
- **Good Friday:** 3:00pm Liturgy
- **Easter Vigil:** 8:30pm
- **Easter Sunday:** 8:00am High Mass

**This Fri, Apr 3 - Way of the Cross for Victims of Abortion** at 9am at Planned Parenthood (7155 E. 38th Ave., Denver). Join us as we pray for healing for the victims of abortion and for a final end to this injustice in our land. For more info, contact Tom Uebbing at 574-383-7173 or thomasuebbing@gmail.com.

**This Sat, Apr 4 - Public Rosary** led by the Legion of Mary at Bega Park starting at 9:30am. 2250 Main Street, Littleton (there is parking at the Train Station). Please spread the word and we hope to pray with you all in reparation to the Immaculate Heart of Mary on this First Saturday.

**This Sat, Apr 4 - Easter Basket Blessing:** The traditional Easter basket blessing is for foods that have Easter blessings tied to them. Check the Flocknote for a list of common food items. Please bring your basket of food to the parish hall by 10am. The blessing takes about 10 minutes.

**This Sat, Apr 4 - Easter Celebration** after the Easter Vigil in the parish hall. All are welcome. Desserts & drinks provided.

**Next Sun, Apr 5 - Easter Egg Hunt:** Come to the parish hall immediately after the 11am High Mass. For children 12 and under. Remember to bring a basket or bag.

**Thu, Apr 9 - Young Adult Group:** Join the OLMC Young Adult group (18-35) and Catholic Sports for a rollerblading Easter celebration at Skate City in Littleton from 7-9pm. Free admission (\$10 suggested cash donation). Send questions to young.adult@olmcfssp.org

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Parish Spring Outing

**Sun, Apr 26** - Registration is open for the parish picnic with the FSSP Seminarians at Gallup Park, 2:15-5:15pm. Sign-up via Flocknote. Food, Beverages & Activities to be provided by the parish. **Sign-up closes Sun, 4/19.**

**Sat, Apr 11 - Leisure and Culture Movie Night** from 6-9pm in the parish hall for adults 21+, to connect adults from all walks of life in an enriching environment. Come in your Sunday best or teatime attire. Contact Hope (h2jxavier@gmail.com) with any questions.

**Sat, Apr 18 - Catholic Women's Conference of Denver:** Join women from across Colorado from 9:30 am - 2:30 pm at Our Lady of Loreto Catholic Church. You are invited to step away and discover the inner movements of the soul- learning how to sanctify your day and live more consciously in God's presence. Tickets are \$40.00 Learn more and register at [denvercatholicconference.com](http://denvercatholicconference.com)

**Sat, Apr 25 - OLMC Father Daughter Dance** from 6-8:30pm. The event is open to all ages and will include games, crafts, prizes, and refreshments. All excess proceeds will go to Sodality of the Blessed Virgin Mary. To RSVP scan code or email [angie.flees@gmail.com](mailto:angie.flees@gmail.com) or call/text 720-936-5315 Angie Flees.



**Morning Star Camp for Catholic Girls** will be held again this year at Mullen High School July 27-30. Registration opens 4/12 for young ladies of the parish ages 7-18.

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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, Jamie Jimenez, Jacob Jaxson, Indigo Williamson, Jeff McBride, Shannon Coffey, Miriam Halazon, John Filipczak, Cristina Vigil, Maria McKinley, Rebecca Noël Moser, Joanne Leary, Ronald Rider, Robert Tancredi, Pat Bergman, Maria Lonardo.

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

James Hamm, Tony Morley, Susan Martin, Joyce Doherty, Keith Hoyt, Loye Bussey, Mary Spreier, Bill Bowling

### **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**



## The Ceremonies of Holy Week: The Mass of Palm Sunday

*Gregory DiPippo (New Liturgical Movement)*

Note two important characteristics of the Roman Holy Week. First... the Passion narratives are read before the days on which the events which they recount originally took place... The Passion of St Matthew is read on Palm Sunday. Secondly... in the Passion narratives... the accounts of the Lord's Supper and the events of His Passion are always joined together... (1)

The first ceremony of Holy Week, the blessing of the Palms, is unique within the Roman Rite as the only example of a blessing which imitates the rite of Mass. It has an Introit, Collect, Epistle, Gradual and Gospel, followed by a Secret, a Preface dialog and Preface, the Sanctus, several prayers for the blessing analogous to the Canon of the Mass and then the distribution of the palms... This was clearly done to underline the tremendous solemnity and importance of the rite, as the greatest of the major blessings incorporated into the liturgical year...

The Epistle begins with a mention of palms... The fickleness of the Israelites, who have just crossed the Red Sea... and now murmur against God's prophet and priest... represents the fickleness of those who were in Jerusalem at the time of the Lord's triumphal entry, crying out "Hosanna," and five days later, gathered before Pilate and cried out "Crucify him!" The gathering of twice as much manna on the day before the Sabbath refers to the consecration of two Hosts on Maundy Thursday, one of the Mass and one which is reserved for the Mass of the Presanctified on the following day.

The words of Moses and Aaron towards the end of the reading, "Vespere scietis - In the evening you shall know", refer to the Gospel of the Easter Vigil which begins with the words "Vespere autem Sabbati - On the eve of the Sabbath" ... The words "Et mane videbitis gloriam Domini - And in the morning you shall see the glory of the Lord" look forward to the second verse of the Gospel of Easter morning "Et valde mane una sabbatorum - And very early in the morning, the first day of the week."

The Epistle is followed by one of two responsories... [which] remind us that the Lord's triumphal entry into Jerusalem was a prelude to His Passion, plotted by His enemies even before He came to the Holy City, and now fully imminent, as indicated also by the uniquely Roman custom of reading the Passion as part of the liturgy of Palm Sunday.

The Gospel... is the ritual declaration of the occasion on which, and in imitation of which, the palms are blessed.

After the Gospel... the "Secret" [prayer] is sung out loud... [which mentions] Noah and the Ark and the Crossing of the Red Sea... figures of the Church, multiplied by the addition of new children in the sacrament of Baptism...

The conclusion of this prayer segues into the preface dialog and a preface, which in the Roman tradition is a feature of many of the more solemn blessings and rites. For example, there is a preface in the ordination rites of bishops, priests and deacons... No other blessing in the Roman Missal includes a preface, nor do any of the ordinary blessings in the *Rituale*.

The Preface [praises Christ as King]. In the Gospels, direct references to Christ as a king occur almost exclusively during the two events which the Roman Rite commemorates this day, His triumphal entry into Jerusalem and His Passion... Indeed, the first chant of the [palm blessing] ceremony (the "Introit") [declares]: "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is He who cometh in the Name of the Lord. O King of Israel: Hosanna in the highest!" [which is also] the last verse of the Gospel read at the blessing, the words "King of Israel" added from [the gospel of] John. The Preface therefore declares that on this day, as the Church and her members "confess that great Name of (God's) only-begotten Son before the kings and powers of this world", they are naming Him as King, [a] theme... very prominent in the chants which accompany the procession, and most particularly, in the famous hymn sung at the door of the church, "Gloria, laus et honor."

Although a Preface is used in many rites and blessings, the blessing of the palms is the only one in which it is followed by the Sanctus as it is at the Mass... which was obviously done to include the words by which the children of Israel hailed the coming of the Messiah, "Blessed is He who cometh in the name of the Lord, hosanna in the highest."

The prayers which follow form the "canon" of the blessing... The first prayer speaks of the olive "which the dove, returning to the ark, bore in its mouth"; this is repeated in the fourth, which states that God "ordered the dove to announce peace to the lands through the branch of an olive." The second prayer begins with the words "O God, who gather what is scattered and preserve what is gathered", refers to the unwitting prophecy of Caiphas ["It is expedient for you that one man should die for the people, and that the whole nation perish not."] ... The third prayer... mentions both the Passion and the Resurrection. Since the palm branch was in ancient Rome a symbol of victory, "the palm branches await (Christ's) triumphs over the prince of death", and the shoots of olives, the source of oil, and hence of anointing, "cry out in a certain way that the spiritual anointing (i.e., of the Messiah, the anointed one) has come." "For already then, that blessed multitude of men understood that it was prefigured that our Redeemer, taking compassion on human miseries, was about to fight with the prince of death for the life of the whole world, and by dying to triumph" ... The prayer which follows the blessing speaks of... the crowds which accompanied Him, and of us "following in His footsteps." The branches are then distributed...

The liturgical celebration of the events of Our Lord's life is not a series of commemorations of events in the dead past. We live through these events as things for which we are really present and in which we really participate. With this idea of the liturgy as the living representation of the events of Christ's life, the blessing of the palms changes tenor in this final part to prepare us for the procession, for the first in a series of events in Holy Week in which we truly "follow in His footsteps."

1. This conjunction which recalls that the Mass is the liturgical re-presentation of the Lord's Passion was removed in the Holy Week reforms of the 1950s. Mel Gibson's "The Passion of the Christ" highlights this conjunction.