



Our Lady of Mount Carmel St. Ann Parish

www.mtcarmel.ws

LORD'S DAY MASSES

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 p.m.
Sunday: 8:00, 10:00, and 11:30 a.m.

DAILY MASS

Monday through Friday 7:00 a.m.

HOLYDAY MASSES

Vigil: 7:00 p.m.
Holyday: 7:00 a.m. and 12:15 p.m.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday at 3:00 - 3:45 p.m. or by private appointment.

PASTORAL STAFF

Msgr. F. Stephen Pedone, Pastor
Rev. Jesus Martinez, Associate Pastor
Most Rev. George E. Rueger, in residence
Deacon Gerry Montiverdi, Part-time Liturgical Assistant.

PARISH OFFICES AND STAFF

Mailing Address: 28 Mulberry St., Worcester, MA 01605
Street Address: 24 Mulberry St., Worcester, MA 01605
Telephone: 508-797-4546
Office Hours are Monday-Friday from 9 a.m.-4 p.m.
Lisa Fenuccio, Administrative Assistant
Email: lisaolmc@gmail.com
Phyllis Lynch, Secretary
Mr. Francis Heffron, Head Custodian
Mr. Glenn MacGregor, Part-time Custodian
Mr. Walter Borek, Part-time Church Caretaker

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Parents and Godparents must attend the Baptismal instruction session before the Baptism is celebrated. These sessions take place on the First Tuesday of every month at 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Center. Community baptisms are celebrated on the third Sunday of every month after the 11:30 a.m. Mass. Private baptisms may also be arranged by calling the parish office.

SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

To prepare for this lifelong commitment, couples must begin marriage preparation twelve months before the proposed wedding date, according to the diocesan policy.

FAITH FORMATION

The Religious Education Program offers instruction to children and young people from Grade One through the high school years. Children are prepared for the reception of First Reconciliation and then First Holy Communion and young people for the reception of the Sacrament of Confirmation in high school, including those who attend Catholic schools. Rel. Ed. Office: 508-791-6139.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA)

This process of sharing faith stories and studying the Bible and the teachings of the Church is open to anyone who is in need of receiving any one or all of the Sacraments of Initiation. -Baptism, Holy Communion and Confirmation or to anyone who wishes to enter into full communion with the Roman Catholic Church.

FAITH FORMATION TEAM

Mrs. Joan D'Argenis D.R.E./Youth Director
Maria Sciannameo RCIA Director

LITURGICAL MUSIC MINISTRY

Mr. Scott Olson, Organist
Mr. Michael Garceau, Organist/Wedding Ministry

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

The Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Council meets on the third Tuesday of every month. The Council is committed to assisting the pastor in various liturgical celebrations and parochial and diocesan fundraisers and to pursuing its own charitable endeavors.

ORGANIZATIONS

Guild of Our Lady of Sorrows
Beato Angelo D'Acri Society
The Gene J. DeFeudis Italian Cultural Center
Mt. Carmel Golden Years Club

PRO-LIFE CONTACTS

Pro-Life Office, Mrs. Allison LeDoux: 508-929-4311
Respect Life Parish Representative: Louise Faiola: 508-756-1150
Visitation House: 508-798-0762
Problem Pregnancy: 888-310-7217

ILLNESS

Arrangements can be made to have Holy Communion brought those who are homebound due to illness, age, or impairment of any kind or to celebrate the Sacrament of Anointing and Reconciliation with them. Please notify the parish office with the necessary information.

PARISH REGISTRATION

To become a registered member of the parish, please call the office. One of the secretaries will gladly assist anyone and complete the registration over the phone or through the website.

REPORTING THE ABUSE OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

To report the abuse of a child or a teenager, please contact Mrs. Frances Nugent, Director of the Diocesan Office of Healing and Prevention at 508-791-7171. You may also call Gloria Caprioli, our parish coordinator for prevention and education, at 508-344-7718. Lastly, you may call Msgr. F. Pedone at 774-243-1154.

**WEEKEND COLLECTION
11/22/2014 & 11/23/2014**

4:00 PM Mass	\$1,487.00
8:00 AM Mass	\$1,138.00
10:00 AM Mass	\$1,247.00
11:30 AM Mass	\$1,027.00
Shared Envelopes	\$240.00
Total Mass Collections	<u>\$5,139.00</u>

Special Collections:

Weekend Envelopes –mailed in	\$806.00
Children’s Envelopes	\$4.70
Fuel	\$142.00
All Saints	\$5.00
All Souls	\$5.00
Churches in Eastern Europe	\$5.00
Christmas	\$5.00
Christmas Flowers	\$60.00
Religious Education	\$35.00
Campaign for Human Development	\$795.00
Immaculate Conception	\$5.00
Capital Campaign	\$490.00
Candle Offering	\$215.00
On-Line Giving	\$300.50
Total	<u>\$2,873.20</u>

Restricted Funds	\$1,290.00
Unrestricted Funds	<u>\$6,722.20</u>
Total	<u>\$8,012.20</u>

**WEEKEND COLLECTION
11/29/2014 & 11/30/2014**

4:00 PM Mass	\$911.00
8:00 AM Mass	\$778.00
10:00 AM Mass	\$1,230.00
11:30 AM Mass	\$1,089.00
Shared Envelopes	\$125.00
Total Mass Collections	<u>\$4,133.00</u>

Special Collections:

Weekend Envelopes –mailed in	\$1,018.00
Fuel	\$89.00
Christmas	\$50.00
Christmas Flowers	\$525.00
Campaign for Human Development	\$10.00
Capital Campaign	\$230.00
Candle Offering	\$199.00
On-Line Giving	\$157.50
Total	<u>\$2,278.50</u>

Restricted Funds	\$240.00
Unrestricted Funds	<u>\$6,171.50</u>
Total	<u>\$6,411.50</u>

The Finance Committee has determined that we need to collect \$9,400 each week to meet our current expenses. Thank you for your continued support of Our Lady of Mount Carmel-St. Ann parish.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE AND
PASTORAL COUNCIL**

There will be a combined meeting of the Finance Committee and the Pastoral Council on Monday, December 8 at 6 p.m. in the cafeteria at the parish center. Mr. George O’Neill, project architect for our church building, will present his firm’s proposal for repairing the church and its cost.

**SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE
CONCEPTION – A HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION**

Masses will celebrated on Monday, December 8th at 7:00 am; 12:15 and 7:00 pm.

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve Day – Wednesday,
December 24th - Mass will be celebrated
as usual at 7:00 am

Christmas Eve – Mass will be celebrated at
4:00 pm and 12:00 Midnight

Christmas Day – Mass will be celebrated at
8:00 and 10:00 am

New Years Eve—Mass will be celebrated at
4:00 p.m.

New Years Day—Mass will be celebrated at 10:00 a.m.

**RETIREMENT FUND FOR
RELIGIOUS COLLECTION**

Give thanks for religious. A parishioner writes, “We thank God today and every day for every religious sister who taught us in school, not only our ABC’s, but also to love God.” Share your gratitude for the senior Catholic sisters, brothers and religious order priests who made a positive difference in so many lives. Please give generously to next weekend’s for the Retirement Fund for Religious. Thank you!

CHRISTMAS POSADA

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Knights of Columbus Council #13575 will once again be hosting their annual Christmas Posada on **Tuesday, December 9 at 6:30 p.m.** This traditional celebration includes song, prayer, and a procession from the church to the parish center where a small reception will be hosted by the KofC after the final prayer. All are invited to attend and are asked to invite people who may not be part of our parish family



**MASS
INTENTIONS**

Saturday, December 6, 2014—4:00 p.m.
Joseph Kwiatkowski (5th Anniversary) by Family

Sunday, December 7, 2014—8:00 a.m.
Francis Pascucci by Carmel and Esther Lonardo
Patsy, Mary and Maria Sacco by Family

Sunday, December 7, 2014—10:00 a.m.
Deceased of Feola Family, Antoinette Rosetti,
Rosalba Puca by D'Andrea Family

Sunday, December 7, 2014—11:30 a.m.
Theresa Groccia (Birthday Remembrance) by Family
Rano Family: Anthony Sr., Florence, Anthony Jr., Kathleen, Alesio, Carl, and Janet by Francis

Monday, December 8, 2014—7:00 a.m.
Parishioners Intentions

Monday, December 8, 2014—12:15 p.m.
Parishioners Intentions

Monday, December 8, 2014—7:00 p.m.
Parishioners Intentions

Tuesday, December 9, 2014—7:00 a.m.
The Sick of the Parish

Wednesday, December 10, 2014—7:00 a.m.
Gloria Rovezzi by Matteo Travaglio

Thursday, December 11, 2014—7:00 a.m.
Salem Francis (Birthday) by wife, Deborah Francis

Friday, December 12, 2014—7:00 a.m.
The People of the Parish

Saturday, December 13, 2014—4:00 p.m.
Lucy R. DiLeo (In honor of St. Lucy) by Family

Sunday, December 14, 2014—8:00 a.m.
Dr. Italia M. D'Argenis Granata and husband Nicholas Granata by daughters

Sunday, December 14, 2014—10:00 a.m.
Virginia Mondor by the Mondor Family
Ann Marie Clemente Cavallelli by Family

Sunday, December 14, 2014—11:30 a.m.
Barbara E. Battelle (8th Anniversary) by Family

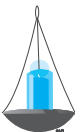
PLEASE REMEMBER OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL-ST. ANN PARISH IN YOUR WILLS, BEQUESTS, YOUR ESTATE PLANNING AND UPON THE DEATH OF A LOVED ONE. MANY THANKS!



Please pray for the sick of our parish: Anna Perro, Francis Caffone, Susan Stomski, James Dionne, Donna Grasseschi, Lena Sbrogna, Michael Crossen, Vinnie Gianfredo, Lori Blackwell, Carmella Szklarz, Matteo Fiore, Matthew Hicks, Henry Penny, Patrick Loconto, Eleanor Lupisella, Butch Rano, Mary O'Connor, Christina Rovezzi, Christopher Collazo, Eleanor Gaudenzi, Eileen Biziewski, Patricia Naples, Paula & Arthur Mari, Beverly Sacco, Cornelius O'Connor, Clara Merola, Ellen Biancheria and Ava Grace Mackenzie. May the Lord give them strength, courage and healing.

THIS WEEK OUR SANCTUARY LAMPS ARE DEDICATED TO THE MEMORY OF:

Marguerite Johnston Caffone
and Betty May Duncan
 By Family



GIVING TREE

Once again to remind our parishioners that we will be collecting gifts for children in need for Christmas through the Rainbow Child-Development Center, the YWCA Young Mother's Club, and individual families. Different colored tags have the first names of the children for whom we are buying, their ages and the suggested gifts. Gifts should be placed in a **gift bag** with the original tags that had come from The Giving Tree. The tags are important since the color of a tag identifies the agency that had submitted the names and will distribute the gifts. You may also see some tags, which simply say "a grocery gift card from a family of 4 or 5 or 6." (Please remember that toy guns, war games, pretend weapons or violent video games are inappropriate gifts at any time for anyone.) Mt. Carmel parishioners have always responded to the Giving Tree with awesome generosity. We know that you will be as big-hearted as always. Thank you and God bless you!

Please have all gifts to the Parish Center no later than December 14.

SPECIAL "GIVING TREE" FOR SEMINARIANS

Please remember our seminarians at Christmas. Several of them are from foreign countries and are away from their families this Christmas. Please take a tag with a seminarian's name on it. Gift cards from CVS and Staples make great and useful gifts for our seminarians. Thanks for supporting our seminarians, our future priests!

A LETTER FROM BISHOP McMANUS

December 4, 2014

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

On the weekend of December 13, our parishes will be conducting the collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious. This annual appeal benefits some 35,000 senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests—women and men who have consecrated their lives to serving God and the Church.

At his Angelus address this past February, Pope Francis shared the following: “Every consecrated person is a gift for the People of God on its journey.” Many of us can recall the women or men religious who played crucial roles in our lives. This may have been the sister who taught us in elementary school, supporting our educational development. Perhaps it was the religious brother who led us on retreat and nourished our spiritual growth. Their support of our journey in the faith often required great sacrifices. Most senior religious worked for small stipends, leaving a substantial gap in retirement savings. As a result, hundreds of religious communities now struggle to provide adequate care for aging members.

Like many Americans, religious communities face the monumental challenge of funding eldercare. Currently, the average annual cost of care for women and men religious past age 70 is \$39,400 per person. Skilled care can reach nearly \$61,000. In 2013 alone, the total cost to support elder religious was over \$1.2 billion. Contrast that to the fact that in 2013 the national collection’s office awarded \$23 million in Direct Care Assistance to 424 religious communities, or an average of \$1,024 for every member of an eligible Catholic religious community who is age 70 or older. The need for care continues to be daunting to many religious communities.

The Retirement Fund for Religious offers us an opportunity to support elder religious in this phase of their journeys. While many continue in some form of ministry, others are frail and need assistance as they continue in their ministry of prayer. Your gift provides vital funding for medications, nursing care, and more. It also helps religious congregations implement long-term retirement strategies that ensure quality eldercare and continued service to the People of God.

Our Holy Father has announced that 2016 will be a Year of Consecrated Life. In anticipation of a year dedicated to supporting and promoting Religious vocations, let us share in the care of those who have given their lives in grateful service to God’s people. In gratitude to God for their service, please join me in supporting the Retirement Fund for Religious and in thanksgiving for the gifts that consecrated life offers our Church.

With prayerful best wishes, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,
 Most Reverend Robert J. McManus
 Bishop of Worcester

**Our Lady of Mount Carmel – St. Ann
 Golden Years Club**

Program for the Month December 2014

December 9, 2014

10:00 A.M. Socializing
 12:00 NOON Lunch – Followed by Social.

December 16, 2014

12:00 Noon Christmas Party
 11:00 A.M. Doors Open

December 23, 2014

9:00 A.M. to 11:00 A.M. VNA “Keep Well Clinic” – Blood Pressure Etc.
 10:00 A.M. Socializing
 12:00 NOON Lunch – Followed by Social.

December 30, 2014

10:00 A.M. Socializing
 12:00 NOON Lunch – Followed by Social.

REMINDER --- PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING
 FOOD FOR THE POOR --- FOOD FOR OUR
 FOOD BANK---DONATIONS FOR THE FOOD
 BANK HAVE BEEN VERY LOW---IF MEMBERS
 DONATE ONE ITEM EVERY TUESDAY FOR THE
 FOOD BANK IT WILL BE VERY HELPFUL.

ADULT CONFIRMATION INFORMATION

The annual diocesan celebration of Confirmation for adults will be held at the Cathedral of St. Paul on **Sunday, February 1, 2015 at 3:00 p.m.** This celebration is intended for catechized adults, age 18 and up, who have not been confirmed. The Office of Religious Education will offer a retreat for those preparing to be confirmed at the diocesan celebration. The retreat will be held at the Immaculate Conception Spiritual Renewal Center, 600 Liberty Highway, Putnam, CT, on Sunday, January 11, 2015, from 2:00 to 8:00 p.m. For further information, or to register candidates for the Confirmation celebration or the retreat, please contact the Office of Religious Education at (508) 929-4308/(508) 929-4308. More information can be found on the diocesan website www.worcesterdiocese.org/religiouseducation.

WINTER WEATHER POLICY

In the issue of safety, we want to restate the policy for weekday Mass when the weather is threatening. On those weekdays when Worcester schools cancel or delay opening due to inclement weather, the 7:00 am Mass is also canceled.

UPCOMING EVENTS

December 13—Annual New York Trip - Cost - \$50.00

December 14 at 9:30 a.m. Nativity Pageant – We are inviting all babies that were born in the year 2014 to come dress as baby animals to be a part of the Nativity Pageant.

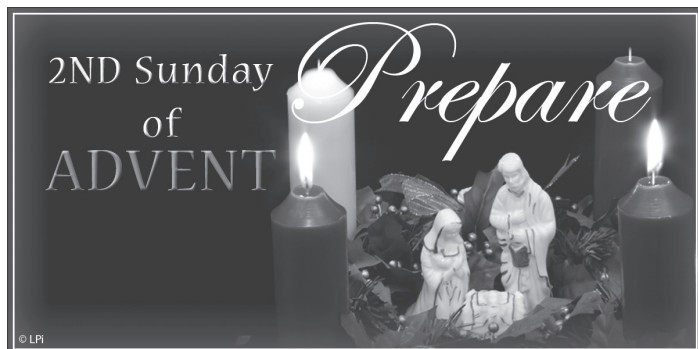
NATIVITY PAGEANT – CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

Sunday, December 14 at 9:30 a.m. prior to the 10:00 a.m. Mass. Grades pre-K - Drummer Boys or Girls or Angels, K, 1, and 2 will be angels. Grade 3: Shepherds and animals, Grade 4 – Grade 6: Shepherds, Grade 6: Three Kings – 3 students. **All toddlers ages new born to 3 are asked to come dressed as baby animals. The shepherds should wear a bathrobe with a dish towel on their heads tied with a ribbon. Please come and show your support for our children.**



MARCH FOR LIFE REGISTRATION INFORMATION NOW AVAILABLE!

Plan now to attend the 42nd annual March for Life in Washington, DC on **Thursday, Jan. 22, 2015!** Buses will leave from St. Paul’s Cathedral on Wed., Jan. 21 following the Respect Life Mass at 7:30 p.m., and will travel to the Basilica of National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC in time for Thursday a.m. Mass followed by the March for Life at noon. Buses will return by 1 am on Jan 23 to Cathedral immediately following the March, Cost is \$70 per seat for registrations postmarked by Dec. 31, and \$85 thereafter. Registrations will be accepted on a first-come-first-served basis until all seats are full. For more details and to download registration forms, visit www.worcesterdiocese.org/respectlife or contact the Respect Life Office at 508-929-4311/508-929-4311 or ale-doux@worcesterdiocese.org. Can’t attend this year but want to help? Consider making a donation that will help defray expenses for students in need.



SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

John the Baptist’s call to repentance is echoed in the U.S. bishops’ pastoral letter on stewardship: “Christians must beg God for the grace of conversion: the grace to know who they are, to whom they belong, how they are to live — the grace to repent and change and grow, the grace to become good disciples and stewards.”

MANY THANKS FOR YOUR GIFTS OF FOOD!



Thanks to all those who brought food to our recent food drives organized by the Knights of Columbus and Joan D’Argenis. We have a constant flow of people looking for our help. Please continue your gifts of food to our food basket in the church. Many are hungry and we need to help them!

CHRISTMAS FLOWER DONATIONS



Envelopes are available in the vestibule of our church for Christmas flower donations. Please list the names in whose memory you want to make a donation. Please write names as clearly as possible. You can drop the envelope in the collection basket or mail it to the parish office. Many thanks for your generosity in helping us pay for the cost of decorating our sanctuary for Christmas. A complete list of contributions will be published in a future bulletin.

ON-LINE GIVING

We appreciate your contributions to the church community and would especially like to recognize those who are now using our Online Giving service.



To get started or to learn more about Online Giving, please click the Online Giving link on our church website at mtcarmel.ws. If you would like help, please call Lisa at 508-797-4546 or e-mail us at lisaolmc@gmail.com

TAKE FIVE FOR FAITH

Invest just five minutes a day, and your faith will deepen and grow—a day at a time.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2014

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Into the wild

The desert is arguably the most prominent landscape of the biblical world—and equally important in a metaphorical sense. Deserts are desolate, formidable places that require physical and mental fortitude for survival—the perfect place to get lost, turn inward, and be tested. But from the wandering of the Israelites to Christ's temptation by the devil, time spent in the desert is temporary; there's a return to wholeness made possible by the trials. Everyone finds themselves in a spiritual wilderness at times. Remember that while your stint there is difficult, it's probably necessary to find your way.

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11; 2 Peter 3:8-14; Mark 1:1-8 (5). "Every valley shall be filled in, every mountain and hill shall be made low; the rugged land shall be made a plain."

MONDAY, DECEMBER 8

SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY; PATRONAL FEAST DAY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

A mother's love

Under the title of the Immaculate Conception, Mary is the patron of our nation. A patron takes up the needs of others to plead their cause. Ultimately, our one patron is Christ and none other, but we also have a universe of patrons, the communion of saints. It is a network that binds Christianity with cords of love. We depend upon the motherly care of God and Mary, who clearly knows how to raise a child to be full of love. As a good daughter or son, follow Mary who bids you do as Jesus asks.

TODAY'S READINGS: Genesis 3:9-15, 20; Ephesians 1:3-6, 11-12; Luke 1:26-38 (689). "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word."

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9

ADVENT WEEKDAY

God's in charge of the lost and found

When you feel lost, the hardest thing can be to cry out for help. Sometimes you don't necessarily realize how off track you are; other times you just don't want to face that fact. The good news though is that God seeks out those who are lost. God longs to respond, hanging in there every step of the way. When everything else wilts away, God remains and when that happens, you realize that everything you are and all that seemed lost is actually held and graced by the One who cries out to you constantly with love and mercy.

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 40:1-11; Matthew 18:12-14 (182). "Though the grass withers and the flower wilts, the word of our God stands forever."

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10

ADVENT WEEKDAY

There is strength in meekness

To be meek is to have and know your own power and to use it wisely and gently in the service of others. In a world that values productivity and pride over all else, being meek can seem like a fool's task, yet it is a hallmark of Christian living. "Learn from me, for I am meek and humble of heart," Jesus declares, "and you will find rest." This is the true gift of meekness—learning that caring for others is not a weakness but a strength that allows you to find rest in the One who's really in charge.

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 40:25-31; Matthew 11:28-30 (183). "I will give thanks to the Lord with all my heart."

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11

FEAST OF DAMASUS I, POPE

Don't be sheepish about shepherding

Saint Damasus's fourth-century ministry as bishop and pope was fraught with doctrinal controversy and political intrigue. His friend Saint Jerome encouraged him by stressing the pope's role in holding the church together with these words: "Though your greatness terrifies me, your kindness attracts me. . . . From the shepherd [I expect] the protection due to the sheep. Away with all that is overweening; let the state of Roman majesty withdraw. My words are spoken to the successor of the fisherman, to the disciple of the cross." In our own day, Pope Francis heard the call to abandon the trappings of power to be a better servant. What may be holding back your service?

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 41:13-20; Matthew 11:11-15 (184). "Let the clouds rain down the Just One, and the earth bring forth a Savior."

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12

FEAST OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

Roses in December

On December 2, 1980, lay missionary Jean Donovan and three American nuns were brutally murdered by members of El Salvador's security force. An award-winning documentary on Donovan's life and death is titled *Roses in December*, a reference to the miracle associated with the appearance of Our Lady of Guadalupe on a sacred hill outside Mexico City in 1531. As proof of the authenticity of her message, Mary is said to have made fresh roses fall from her mantle in December—an impossibility in that climate. The faith Mary inspires is the faith that inspired Donovan to give her all. How does it inspire you?

TODAY'S READINGS: Zechariah 2:14-17 or Revelation 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; Luke 1:26-38 or Luke 1:39-47 (690A). "Hail, full of grace! The Lord is with you."

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13

FEAST OF LUCY, VIRGIN, MARTYR

Her eyes have seen the glory

Saint Lucy is often depicted in art holding a dish with two eyes on it. The startling image draws our full attention, then delivers an important message about Christian life. Lucy viewed her world through the eyes of faith, wanting to give her life to God and to help the poor. For this, she died in the persecutions of the fourth century. According to legend, she lost her eyes to torture, but God restored them. Her sight led to insight, giving meaning and direction to her life and death. Let's walk with Lucy today, guided by the wisdom of spiritual insight.

TODAY'S READINGS: Sirach 48:1-4, 9-11; Matthew 17:9a, 10-13 (186). "In those days, like a fire there appeared the prophet Elijah."

End of Bulletin

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