



# Our Lady of Mount Carmel St. Ann Parish

[www.mtcarmel.ws](http://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](mailto: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 & Director of Adult Education

## 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  
4/25/2015 & 4/26/2015**

4:00 PM Mass	\$1,292.00
8:00 AM Mass	\$1,063.00
10:00 AM Mass	\$787.00
11:30 AM Mass	\$1,510.00
Shared Envelopes	\$330.00
<b>Total Mass Collections</b>	<b><u>\$4,982.00</u></b>

Special Collections:

Weekend Envelopes –mailed in	\$2,340.00
Children’s Envelopes	.70
All Souls	\$5.00
Ascension	\$40.00
Capital Campaign	\$136.00
Catholic Communications	\$15.00
Catholic Relief Services	\$5.00
Church in Latin America	\$10.00
Easter	\$50.00
Fuel	\$74.00
On-Line Giving	\$347.50
Candle Offering	\$165.00
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>\$3,188.20</u></b>

Restricted Funds	\$166.00
Unrestricted Funds	<u>\$8,004.20</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>\$8,170.20</u></b>

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.

**First Communion**



The following children received their First Holy Communion on April 26, 2014. Please keep them, their parents and teachers in your prayers.

- |                   |                           |
|-------------------|---------------------------|
| Derek Anderson    | Gianna Manzello           |
| Liana Antar       | Rhianalise Mastrogiovanni |
| Francesca Bello   | Vincent Palumbo           |
| Alessandra Bianco | Kayliani Parkinson        |
| Francis Cardinal  | Isabella Petrone          |
| Gianna Cariglia   | Logan Puente              |
| Sasha Di’lorio    | Ava Roedel                |
| Dario Fraioli     | Damien Rossi              |
| Parker Higgins    | Dominic Rossi             |
| Alfonso Huaman    | Natalia Sasso             |
| Samuel Lopez      | John Shields              |
| Bella Mara        | Alex Tarallo              |
| Sophia Oliveri    |                           |

**PARTNERS IN CHARITY**



Many thanks to all who have donated or pledged to the 2015 Partners in Charity Appeal. This annual appeal for the Diocese of Worcester serves 28 charitable, educational, and pastoral ministries. Through your generous support, we are able to serve thousands of families and individuals in Worcester County through outreach, formation, evangelization and worship. Our goal again this year is \$50,000. The last two years you as a parish successfully exceeded this goal. We are again asking for your generous and faithful support to this vital diocesan campaign. If you haven’t yet pledged or donated, envelopes for this purpose are in the pews. Once completed, they can be dropped into the collection basket, mailed to or dropped off at the parish center. To date, you as a parish have pledged and donated \$40,262. We need everyone’s help to make our goal. Again, many thanks!

**ROSES AND NOVENA CARDS FOR MOTHER’S DAY**



Louise Faiola, our Parish Respect Life Representative, will have fresh and silk roses available after all Masses on Mother’s Day weekend, **May 9 and 10** in the church. Donations from the fresh roses will benefit Problem Pregnancy and donations for the silk roses will benefit Massachusetts Citizens for Life. Suggested offering for real roses are \$2 and silk roses are \$1.

Louise will also be offering Mother’s Day Novena Mass cards. Suggested offering for Mass cards is \$5 to benefit Visitation House.

If you are interested in the Respect Life Ministry at Our Lady of Mount Carmel-St. Ann please contact Louise at 508-756-1150.

**PASTORAL COUNCIL MEMBERS AND CONTACT INFORMATION**

- Msgr. F. Stephen Pedone – [fpedone@charter.net](mailto:fpedone@charter.net)  
 John Conte, Chair – [john.conte@verizon.net](mailto:john.conte@verizon.net)  
 Cheryl Berthiaume – [cherylbert23@gmail.com](mailto:cherylbert23@gmail.com)  
 Amoret Zamarro-Beiter – [amoretzb24@gmail.com](mailto:amoretzb24@gmail.com)  
 Albert Cecchini – [acecchin@concentric.net](mailto:acecchin@concentric.net)  
 Mateo Fiore  
 Deacon Gerald Montiverdi – [montigrs@verizon.net](mailto:montigrs@verizon.net)  
 Maria Sciannameo – [maria.sciannameo@yahoo.com](mailto:maria.sciannameo@yahoo.com)  
 David Soares – [dasoares8@charter.net](mailto:dasoares8@charter.net)



**MASS  
INTENTIONS**

Saturday, May 2, 2015—4:00 p.m.

**Grace Flaminio** by Family  
**Frank and Annie DeLuca** by Family

Sunday, May 3, 2015—8:00 a.m.

**Joseph Cianci, Jr.** by Lillian Pascarelli  
**Marcello and Albino Faiola** (5th Anniversary) by Louise

Sunday, May 3, 2015—10:00 a.m.

**Debbie Mosher** by Roseanne Papetti

Sunday, May 3, 2015—11:30 a.m.

**Joan Turo** (Month's Mind) by Family  
**Pasquale Mazzamurro** (First Anniversary) by Family

Monday, May 4, 2015—7:00 a.m.

**Susan Stapinski** by husband Paul

Tuesday, May 5, 2015—7:00 a.m.

**Cornelius D. O'Connor** by John Evangelista

Wednesday, May 6, 2015—7:00 a.m.

**Deceased of Feola Family, Antoinetta Rossetti,**  
**Rosalba Puca** by D'Andrea Family

Thursday, May 7, 2015—7:00 a.m.

**Gerry Ambrosino** by Family

Friday, May 8, 2015—7:00 a.m.

**The People of the Parish**

Saturday, May 9, 2015—4:00 p.m.

**Lena Rizzo and Jennie Riccardi** (Mother's Day  
Remembrance) by Mary  
**John and Carmela Bafaro** by Family

Sunday, May 10, 2015—8:00 a.m.

**Eleanor B. D'Elia** by Family  
**Paul Marrone** by sister, Caryl

Sunday, May 10, 2015—10:00 a.m.

**Dorothy Ciccone** by Family  
**Joseph Sama** (First Anniversary) by Friends

Sunday, May 10, 2015—11:30 a.m.

**Hattie Culbert** by Family  
**Marie Pecorelli** by Husband and Children

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

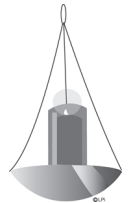


**Please pray for the sick of our parish:** Anna Perro, Francis Caffone, Susan Stomski, James Dionne, Donna Grasseschi, Lena Sbrogna, Michael Crossen, Lori Blackwell, Carmella Szklarz, Matteo Fiore, Matthew Hicks, Henry Penny, Patrick Loconto, Eleanor Lupisella, Butch Rano, Mary O'Connor, Christina Rovezzi, Christopher Collazo, Eleanor Gaudenzi, Eileen Biziewski, Patricia Naples, Paula & Arthur Mari, Beverly Sacco, Sim Simone, Cathy Coffey, Lorraine Mazzola, Mary Ciuffredo and Mildred Bassan. May the Lord give them strength, courage and healing.

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

**Congetta DiVirgilio**  
(Mother's Day Remembrance)  
By Family

**Michael Naples**  
(Birthday Remembrance)  
By Ma, Dad and Family



**PARISH/ADULT  
Continuing Education.....**

We are trying to expand our Adult Education program here at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel with varying formats. If you've wondered WHAT and WHY the Catholic Church teaches..... scripture, doctrine, morality, and/or current issues that affect our everyday lives, please make an effort to join us. We hope these educational sessions will prove to be instrumental in helping to make our lives more meaningful, relevant, joyful, and helpful to us as we strive to live through the many difficulties in our lives. The 1st of a three part series will be offered on Wednesday May 6, 2015 beginning at 7:00 pm at the center. This series will focus on a discussion on the Old Testament passage from Micah 6:8. All are welcome. Anyone interested in joining us, please contact Maria @ (508) 842-7604.

UNLESS IT IS AN ABSOLUTE EMERGENCY,  
PLEASE REFRAIN FROM USING THE RESTROOMS  
DURING THE CONSECRATION. IT IS IMPORTANT  
TO SHOW REVERENCE FOR WHAT IS HAPPENING  
ON THE ALTAR AT THAT TIME, AS BREAD AND  
WINE ARE TRANSFORMED INTO THE BODY AND  
BLOOD OF

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

**Program for the Month May 2015**

**May 5, 2015**

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

**May 12, 2015**

10:00 A.M. Socializing  
11:00 A.M. Memorial Mass  
12:00 NOON Dinner at Parish Center

**May 19, 2015**

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.

**May 26, 2015**

10:00 A.M. Socializing  
11:00 A.M. Paper Sale – No broken packages.  
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.**

**MOUNT CARMEL GOLDEN YEARS CLUB ANNUAL MEMORIAL MASS**

Mount Carmel Golden Years Club Annual Memorial Mass and Dinner will be held on **Tuesday, May 12, 2015 at 11:00 a.m.**

Mount Carmel Church Memorial Mass for Deceased Members from May 2014 to May 2015.  
12:00 dinner at Mount Carmel Center  
Full course dinner will be served by Maria and Michael Caterers.

Chicken \$17.00 Haddock \$19.00

Anyone interested in the event may contact:  
Leona Mazzamurro, chairperson 508-852-4375 or Gladys Bello co-Chairperson 508-798-8071 for information or reservations.

Deadline for reservations is May 5th.

**VACATION BIBLE AND SUMMER PROGRAM**

**Ages 5-10  
July 7-30  
9:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m.**

Please contact Joan D’Argenis at joan\_dargenis@yahoo.com or 508-797-4546 for more information.

**CAROLE KING THE MUSICAL**

Sunday, September 20

Providence Performing Arts Center  
Tickets: \$88.00 includes show and bus

I will need people to pay in advance, but wanted to secure good seats. So I took a chance and ordered the tickets now. They go on sale to the public next week.

Long before she was **Carole King**, chart-topping music legend, she was Carol Klein, BROOKLYN girl with **Passion** and **Chutzpah**. She fought her way into the record business as a teenager and, by the time she reached her twenties, had the husband of her dreams and a flourishing career writing hits for the biggest acts in rock ‘n’ roll. But it wasn’t until her personal life began to crack that she finally managed to find her true voice. BEAUTIFUL tells the inspiring true story of King’s remarkable rise to stardom, from being part of a hit songwriting team with her husband Gerry Goffin, to her relationship with fellow writers and best friends Cynthia Weil and Barry Mann, to becoming one of the most successful solo acts in popular music history. Along the way, she made more than BEAUTIFUL music, she wrote the soundtrack to a generation.



**PASTA DINNER TO BENEFIT 2015 OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL ITALIAN FESTIVAL**

**May 30, 2015  
6:00 p.m.**

**Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish Center**

Pasta, meatballs, salad, garlic bread

Raffles, music, cigar table and a great time.

Reserve your tables early!!!!

Tickets are \$12 in advance and \$15 at the door and \$45 for a pack of 4.

Reserved tables available.

For tickets please contact Jonelle Garofoli at 508-840-0749 /Jonellegarofoli@gmail.com or Gina Valentine 508-826-0048/Gina248@yahoo.com

**SUMMER PROGRAM**

The following are a list of supplies needed for our summer program. All donations are needed and appreciated.

**Black Plastic Sheeting (for slip and slide), glue sticks, Elmer's glue, popsicle sticks, colored construction paper, kick balls, jump ropes, hula hoops, gimp - plastic strings for crafts, beads, yarn, shells, board games, red, white, blue nail polish, red, white, blue hair streaking spray, face paint, finger paint, 1<sup>st</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> place ribbons (are available at the dollar store and lparty)**

Last year we made some changes to our summer program, that was a huge success. We would like to continue in the same direction this year. We will offer cooking lessons, Art and Building Stories, BOOKMAKING! Drama workshop, clay modeling, sewing classes, etiquette classes, sport skills, photography classes, dance classes, yoga classes, painting classes. We obvious need help to run these mini workshops. We are looking for volunteers. Perhaps some grandparents, parents, aunts, uncles, older siblings, professional and non-professionals. There will also be plenty of time for kids just to be kids. We have planned some great outdoor activities, such as a Mini - Olympic day and a nautical day (water activities). Shirley and Anthony George have already volunteered for the Mini-Olympic day.

**OPEN HOUSE FOR CATHOLIC WOMEN'S GROUP IN WORCESTER**

The Daughters of Isabella, St. Katherine Drexel Circle #1398, will be hosting an open house for all Catholic women 16 years old and over on **Wednesday, May 13, at 6:30 p.m.** at St. George Church Hall, 40 Brattle St. If you are looking for a way to reach out to others, to help people in need and to feel that your life is more fulfilled and complete, then come to this meeting. Msgr. Moroney, who is the Rector at St. John Seminary in Brighton, will be our guest speaker. His topic will be the Blessed Mother and the History of Art. Refreshments will be served.

**FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

"Children, let us love not in word or speech but in deed and truth." (1 JOHN 3:18) Do you "walk the talk?" Does your action reflect what you say? If not, spend time every day in prayer, give some of your talent to help one of your parish's ministries and give some of your money to support the work of the Church.

**ART EXHIBITS**

May 26: 6:30 p.m. Donald Tarallo - lecture and poster series - Font Design Project from Siena

June 3, 2015, 6:30 p.m.  
Travel Journal; Art and Poems - Judy Ferraro will discuss her book; *The little O, the earth: Travel journals, art & poetry.*

Both exhibits will take place at the Italian American Cultural Center located in the Parish Center. For more information please contact Joan D'Argenis at 508-797-4546 or [joan\\_dargenis@yahoo.com](mailto:joan_dargenis@yahoo.com)

**OPEN HOUSE AT ST. MARY'S SCHOOLS, WORCESTER**

St. Mary's Schools (Grades PreK-12) 50 Richland St., Worcester, will be holding a Spring Open House on **Saturday, May 9 from 10 AM-Noon**. Come experience the spirit-filled community of St. Mary's Schools. Tours of the schools and informational packets will be provided. Information for our new "Tools of the Mind" program for grades Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten will be available. For more information please call 508-753-1170 or visit our website at [www.stmarysworcester.org](http://www.stmarysworcester.org).

**SUMMER CAMP IN WORCESTER**

St. Mary's Schools of Worcester is sponsoring a summer camp for all children grades PreK-6. Camp weeks run from **June 22 through August 21**. Camp cost is just \$30 per day. Come make new friends and have fun this summer! Please call 508-753-1170 or visit [www.stmarysworcester.org](http://www.stmarysworcester.org) for more information.

**SAVE THE DATE!**

"Death with Real Dignity" Conference. **Saturday, Oct. 17, 2015 9:00 am- Noon** at Assumption College. A free conference on Physician Assisted Suicide. Speakers: Rev. Myles Sheehan, S.J., Priest and Physician; Most Rev. Robert J. McManus, Bishop of Worcester. Sponsored by Witness for Life Committee.

**PARISH FOOD PANTRY**

Through your generosity, we are able to help families in our local area with food. Please drop off food items in the white cart near the shrine of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel. Your donations make a big difference to some one who is hungry. Many thanks!



**TAKE FIVE FOR FAITH**

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

**SUNDAY, MAY 3, 2015 FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

**Fruit of the womb**

Prepositions are fascinating parts of speech: small, seemingly trivial until one looks closely. When Jesus uses the metaphor of a grapevine to illustrate our relationship to him and to God, he says, “Remain *in* me.” To be “in” is not to be “on”! We are not random branches grafted onto the vine. We’ve been chosen to bear fruit. We have the vine’s very sap, its inner life, its juices, as Gerard Manley Hopkins says of spring: “What is all this juice and all this joy?” We belong there, in Christ. We are pruned. We abide. We remain. We ripen. We bear.

*TODAY’S READINGS: Acts 9:26-31; 1 John 3:18-24; John 15:1-8 (53). “Remain in me, as I remain in you.”*

**MONDAY, MAY 4**

**EASTER WEEKDAY**

**At the heart of it all**

“Jesus knew and loved us each and all during his life,” says the Catholic Catechism. “He has loved us all with a human heart.” Take a moment to let that teaching sink in: Jesus knew you long before you were made aware of your own existence. That alone is all you need to understand your life’s purpose. You were, are, and will continue to be in the mind and heart of Jesus, who is love itself. What joy there is in embracing that love!

*TODAY’S READINGS: Acts 14:5-18; John 14:21-26 (285). “Whoever has my commandments and observes them is the one who loves me.”*

**TUESDAY, MAY 5**

**EASTER WEEKDAY**

**Cling to the love and let go of the fear**

If (or *when*) you feel down, confused and especially afraid, wondering—in spite of the evidence!—whether God loves you, go to John’s gospel and read what Jesus wanted his friends to hold onto (chapters 13-15). Jesus almost pleads with his intimates to realize how much he loves them and how they/ we and he will not be separated, in spite of what is about to happen to him. Do little pockets of fear pop up in your day, moments of dismay? Hold on to “Be not afraid. Trust in God and trust in me.” Cling to that love Jesus has for you, but let go of the fear. Relax. Be at peace. God is in control.

*TODAY’S READINGS: Acts 14:19-28; John 14:27-31a (286). “I am going away and I will come back to you.”*

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 6**

**EASTER WEEKDAY**

**Why wine?**

In the ancient Near East wine was essential for sustenance; it was a symbol of life and celebration. Perhaps that is why wine plays a key role in Jesus’ first public miracle, where he changed water into wine at the wedding at Cana, and in the Last Supper, when he reveals who he is to his disciples. Through his death and Resurrection, Jesus becomes the symbol of life and celebration for all of us. He is the fruit of the vine poured out for us. Drink deeply.

*TODAY’S READINGS: Acts 15:1-6; John 15:1-8 (287). “I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower.”*

**THURSDAY, MAY 7**

**EASTER WEEKDAY**

**Be careful using “us and them”**

The phrase “us and them” separates humanity into teams of rivals. But what happens when those teams change sides? When Saint Paul, apostle to the Gentiles, talks about “us,” he means his Jewish brothers and sisters. For Paul, “them” refers to non-Jewish followers of Jesus—which curiously now means, mostly, “us.” Today the Jewish community celebrates the mystical side of faith on the feast of Lag B’Omer, the revelation of divine secrets to a second-century rabbi. Mysticism reminds us all that heaven’s view of history is quite fuller than ours. Isn’t it time to build more bridges, and to see as God sees?

*TODAY’S READINGS: Acts 15:7-21; John 15:9-11 (288). “God made no distinction between us and [Gentiles], for by faith he purified their hearts.”*

**FRIDAY, MAY 8**

**EASTER WEEKDAY**

**A friendship worth fighting for**

Jesus wants to be your friend. But accept the invitation at your own risk, because that is what it requires: Risking all you have, all you are, your very life for his sake. That doesn’t exactly conjure a romantic image of hanging out with Jesus watching a ballgame. In fact, true friendship is complicated. As a friend of Jesus, you will find yourself angry and frustrated at what is being asked of you. But, as renowned theologian Martin Marty assures us in *Friendship*, his little treasure of a book on this sacred relationship, “For friends, never coming into conflict is probably a sign of apathy; people who care deeply about anything in the world are going to disagree.” So go ahead, accept Jesus’ invitation of friendship, and get ready for the fights, fun, and unconditional love that the best of friendships bring.

*TODAY’S READINGS: Acts 15:22-31; John 15:12-17 (289). “I have called you friends, because I have told you everything I have heard from my Father.”*

**SATURDAY, MAY 9**

**EASTER WEEKDAY**

**Already taken care of. Thank God.**

The events of Jesus’ life, death, and Resurrection have brought redemption, healing, and wholeness, as we declare when we pray the words, “We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you, because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.” There is no longer separation between the so-called “secular” world and the reign of God. With Christ, we participate in the life welling up within us and within the world. Next time you are waiting in traffic, wrangling with a tough business decision, or scrolling through your newsfeed, be on the lookout for Christ, who has already redeemed even the challenging situations we have yet to resolve!

*TODAY’S READINGS: Acts 16:1-10; John 15:18-21 (290). “God had called us to proclaim the Good News.”*

# **End of Bulletin**

**Church Name: Our Lady Of Mt. Carmel—St. Ann**

**City: Worcester**

**Account Number: 04-0513**

**Routing Code: Y**

**Run: 15**

**Editor:**

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