



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 & 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
5/9/2015 & 5/10/2015**

4:00 PM Mass	\$1,414.00
8:00 AM Mass	\$1,020.00
10:00 AM Mass	\$1,009.00
11:30 AM Mass	\$811.00
Shared Envelopes	\$210.00
Total Mass Collections	<u>\$4,464.00</u>

Special Collections:

Weekend Envelopes –mailed in	\$765.00
Children’s Envelopes	.35
Ascension	\$86.00
Capital Campaign	\$1,170.00
On-Line Giving	\$252.50
Candle Offering	\$292.00
Total	<u>\$2,565.85</u>

Restricted Funds	\$1,170.00
Unrestricted Funds	<u>\$5,859.85</u>
Total	<u>\$7,029.85</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.

MEMORIAL DAY

Parish offices will be closed for the holiday. Mass will be celebrated as usual at 7:00 am. A happy and safe holiday to all!

SECOND COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND

We will join the parishes of the United States in taking up a second collection at all Masses this weekend to aid the people of Nepal who recently experienced two catastrophic earthquakes causing significant loss of life and extensive damage to the country’s infrastructure. Monies collected will be distributed by Catholic Relief Services and Caritas. Please be generous.

PARISH CENSUS

Beginning in June, we will take up a census of the parish by mail. According to our records, we have approximately 1600 registered households but less than 200 households who are active and supporting the parish. Every registered household will receive a letter and a form that must be returned to remain registered in the parish. These forms will also be available at the entrances to the church to allow those who wish to be parishioners to register.

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 \$42,792. We need everyone's help to make our goal. Again, many thanks!

MASSACHUSETTS CITIZENS FOR LIFE

On behalf of the Massachusetts Citizens for Life, I want to thank you, Louise Faiola and all who joined in Mothers' Day Rose Drives at Our Lady of Mount Carmel—St. Ann Parish that raised \$102.00

The Rose Drives held throughout the year are a vital fundraising opportunity for Massachusetts Citizens for Life. The response of churches to this effort is important because it establishes a vital link between MCFL and local faith communities. Their financial support emboldens our hope that one day the law will protect every unborn child's right to life from the moment of his or her conception.

Your parish's help in making the Drive a success is deeply appreciated.

May the Lord bless you for your commitment to restoring the right to life of all of God's children.

Sincerely,

Anne Fox
President
Massachusetts Citizens for Life

A NOTE OF THANKS

Many thanks to Dan Amorello for repairing the damage caused by a frost heave near the side door on the parking lot side of the church, as well as repairing the many pot holes in the parking lot. Also, thanks to Kevin Mercadante for his donation of a \$1000.00 for the purchase of Worship IV and Gather III hymnals. To both of you, we appreciate your kindness and generosity!



MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, May 23, 2015—4:00 p.m.

Carmine Annunciata Ferro and the Deceased of the Ferro Family by Domenic Lanzilotti and Family

Sunday, May 24, 2015—8:00 a.m.

Nikki Gangai by daughter Marlene and son-in-law Steve Perno

Sunday, May 24, 2015—10:00 a.m.

Yolanda Lombardi by Vee O'Neil
Members of East Side Post

Sunday, May 24, 2015—11:30 a.m.

Dominic DiBaro, Sr. by Family
Steven Raffa (First Anniversary) by Wife and Children

Monday, May 25, 2015—7:00 a.m.

Parishioners Intentions

Tuesday, May 26, 2015—7:00 a.m.

The Sick of the Parish

Wednesday, May 27, 2015—7:00 a.m.

Lucy R. DiLeo (Birthday Remembrance) by Family

Thursday, May 28, 2015—7:00 a.m.

Parishioners Intentions

Friday, May 29, 2015—7:00 a.m.

The People of the Parish

Saturday, May 30, 2015—4:00 p.m.

Frank Tomaiolo and Jean Tomaiolo-Harney by Rosemarie Walsh
Kleber Burgos (First Anniversary) by Burgos Family

Sunday, May 31, 2015—8:00 a.m.

Fina Romano and Cheryl (Romano) Patterson by Family

Sunday, May 31, 2015—10:00 a.m.

In Loving Memory of the Incutto Family and their Spouses by their Children

Sunday, May 31, 2015—11:30 a.m.

Deceased Members of the Cappabianca Family



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, Mary Ciuffredo, Mildred Bassan, Vincent Pusateri, Jeffrey Berthiaume and Debbie Caffone. May the Lord give them strength, courage and healing.

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

Eileen Grosse
By Caryl Masiello



ST. THOMAS MORE LAW SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP

Each year the St. Thomas More Society of our Diocese awards a scholarship of not less than \$3000 to a law student attending an accredited law school in the fall. Applicants or parents must be registered and active members of a parish in the Diocese of Worcester. Applicants may be in any year of law school studies. Applications may be obtained by visiting the diocesan website, www.worcesterdiocese.org/st-thomas-more-society, by mailing requests to: St. Thomas More Society, Chancery Office, 49 Elm Street, Worcester, MA 01609 or by calling Julie Schroeder at 508-929-4345. Applications are due on or before June 30, 2015. Should anyone wish to contribute to the scholarship fund, donations will be greatly appreciated and you can make contact at the above address or phone number.

SPONSORSHIP CERTIFICATES

We often receive requests from parishioners who have been asked to serve as a godparent at a baptism or a sponsor at confirmation. In order for us to issue these certificates, certain rules apply: (1) You must be a baptized and confirmed Catholic; (2) You must be a registered member of this parish, who contributes financially to the parish and attends Mass here regularly; (3) If married, you were married before a Catholic priest. If these criteria are not met, regretfully we cannot issue the certificate.

Looking for Catholic Programming ? **WCCA TV** , formerly Ch. 13 but now found on **Ch. 194** in Worcester airs Diocese Specials every Tuesday at 8pm. Also streaming live online on Tuesdays at 8pm at wccatv.com .

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

Program for the Month May 2015

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.**

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.

**EVENING OF BEAUTY
FOR MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN**

Monday, June 29
4:00 – 7:30 p.m.
Invidium Salon
274 Franklin Street

Fundraiser for the Summer Program Youth Program at
Our Lady of Mt. Carmel
Hair Stylists –Pasquale Totaro from San Remo, Luigi Ro-
meo from Invidium Salon
Massage Therapist – Chip Sena
Women Hair Design – (Cut and Blow Dry) - \$20.00
Children and Men Hair Style - \$10.00
Manicures - \$8.00
Massages - \$1.00 per minute (20 minute max)
For appointments Joan at 508- 733-9870 or email at
joan_dargenis@yahoo.com

We are still in need of Hairdressers and Manicurists if you
can help please let me know.

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!



**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

WHITE CHRISTMAS

Two World War II vets have become partners in a song-
and-dance act after the war. Looking for love, they follow
a duo of beautiful singing sisters to a gig at a Vermont
lodge, which happens to be owned by their former army
commander General Waverly.

Wednesday, December 9 in Providence show is at 7:00
p.m. we will leave at 4:30 p.m. Dinner is on your own.
There are some nice restaurants in the area. Cost -
\$55.00 includes ticket

**BLESSING AND DEDICATION OF SIGN AT
ST. LUKE'S CEMETERY**

On May 30th at 3PM Msgr. Foley, Pastor of St. Luke The
Evangelist Church in Westborough is dedicating the sign at
St. Luke's Cemetery In memory of our late employee
and friend Matt Bruce. Matt was an Employee of the Mer-
cadante Funeral Home & Chapel when he passed
away March 21, 2014. The sign has been donated by all
of Matt's fellow employee's of the Mercadante Funeral
Home, who really loved and miss Matt very much. All are
welcome to attend.

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 sum-
mer! Please call 508-753-1170 or visit
www.stmarysworcester.org for more information.

DINING FOR THE YOUTH

The Our Lady of Mt. Carmel CYC program will be hosting a series of Dining Evenings to help support our Summer Youth and Family Programs. **Tuesday, May 26 – Pub 99 – 11 East Central Street, Worcester - 5:00 – 9:00 p.m.** **June 3 – Texas Roadhouse – 535 Lincoln Street, Worcester - 4:00 – 9:00 p.m.** **June 9 – Pepe’s – 274 Franklin Street - 5:00 – 9:00 p.m.** We really need your support! So please mark your calendars. Everyone goes out to eat often, most at least once a week. We are looking into having a DQ evening also. **More information and flyers will follow.** You will need a flyer when attending to show you are there for Mt. Carmel. If anyone has any ideas, please contact me. So far the ideas have been wonderful. All of the restaurants will give us a table to place near the front door. To sell raffles and other items.

TEXAS ROADHOUSE FUNDRAISER NIGHT

Please help spread the word ! A separate invitation will follow and must be presented the evening of the event.

Who: The Texas Roadhouse will partner with our community.

What: The Texas Roadhouse will offer the restaurant as a place to hold a “Fundraiser Night”. The Texas Roadhouse will offer a minimum of 20% donation of the total sales of any guest who presents a PRE-DISTRIBUTED invitation on the day of the event to their server. All invitations must be given PRIOR to the guest’s arrival at the Texas Roadhouse on the day of the event. NO DISTRIBUTION OF INVITES INSIDE OR OUTSIDE THE RESTAURANT THE DAY OF THE EVENT WILL BE ALLOWED. IF SUCH ACTIVITY OCCURS, DONATIONS MAY BE JEPORDIZED.

When: Wednesday, June 3 - 3:30 - 9:00 p.m.

Where: The event will be held at the Texas Roadhouse on Lincoln Street in Worcester, Ma during regular business hours of 3:30-9:00. Take-out orders ARE ELIGIBLE. The distribution of all invitations will be left up to the organization involved.

Why: All funds raised will be used expressly for the stated needs of the organization and a minimum of 20% of the collective sales from invited guests will be mailed to Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Youth program.

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

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, 1st – 5th 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.

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 **Pasion** 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.

Please contact Joan D’Argenis for tickets at 508-797-4546 or joan_dargenis@yahoo.com

TAKE FIVE FOR FAITH

SUNDAY, MAY 24, 2015 SOLEMNITY OF PENTECOST

Sing a new song

A “sequence” is part of the Liturgy of the Word, sung before the gospel on the greatest feasts in the year. However, it seems to be hardly ever sung anymore. Does it “prolong” the liturgy? Why not celebrate the gift of God’s Spirit today and discover yourself embraced by God’s Spirit in one of these thrilling manifestations: *Come, Holy Spirit. Come, father of the poor, giver of gifts, light of the heart. Greatest comforter, sweet guest of the soul, sweet consolation. In labor, rest, in heat, temperance, in tears, solace. Cleanse what is unclean, water that which is dry, heal that which is wounded. Bend that which is inflexible, fire that which is chilled, correct what goes astray. Grant eternal joy.*

TODAY’S READINGS: Day: Acts 2:1-11; Galatians 5:16-25 or 1 Corinthians 12:3b-7, 12-13; Sequence Veni Sancte Spiritus; John 20:19-23 (63). “He breathed on them and said to them, ‘Receive the Holy Spirit.’”

MONDAY, MAY 25

FEAST OF BEDE THE VENERABLE, PRIEST, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

So many books, so little time

You know the drill: You buy the book, then never read it. It gathers dust and remorse the longer it sits on the shelf. Your intentions were sincere, but time always seems short, energy scarce. It’s much easier to watch television or surf the internet than to give yourself to the pursuit of learning! The Venerable Bede made the time: for learning languages, studying scripture, pouring over histories, and becoming truly wise. Today we begin a week of reading Sirach, a compilation of acquired wisdom. Turn off the media and find three wise sayings in Sirach meant for you.

TODAY’S READINGS: Sirach 17:20-24; Mark 10:17-27 (347). “No more can the dead give praise than those who have never lived.”

TUESDAY, MAY 26

FEAST OF PHILIP NERI, PRIEST

Let your life be your sermon

Philip Neri was a popular spiritual advisor and confessor. But this “saint of Rome” who lived during the Council of Trent also was criticized by some for allowing laymen to preach and for using hymns written in the language of the people. History is a great teacher that in this case reminds us that a saint of the church recognized the richness of faith within the laity of his day and encouraged the use of everyday language in the singing of hymns. Say a prayer of gratitude today for the faith that is yours alone to preach by the way in which you live.

TODAY’S READINGS: Sirach 35:1-12; Mark 10:28-31 (348). “But many that are first will be last, and the last will be first.”

WEDNESDAY, MAY 27

FEAST OF AUGUSTINE OF CANTERBURY, BISHOP, RELIGIOUS, MISSIONARY

The original Canterbury tale

Imagine being uprooted from a monastic life and told to march across medieval Europe to Christianize a far-flung kingdom with unknown gods. This was the task given to Augustine of Canterbury, a Benedictine monk who became the first archbishop of Canterbury and a founder of the English church in the year 597. We would not be talking about Augustine today had he listened to the men in his mission who, seeing the task before them, urged Augustine to turn back and cancel the undertaking soon after it began. Encouraged by Pope Gregory the Great, Augustine and the men persevered and succeeded. If we stay the course through the difficult times, our mission of faith—large or small—can and will be completed. Hang in there!

TODAY’S READINGS: Sirach 36:1, 4-5a, 10-17; Mark 10:32-45 (349). “Come to our aid, O God of the universe, look upon us, show us the light of your mercies.”

THURSDAY, MAY 28

Let failings lead you to faith

Many of us find it difficult to ask for help. We would much rather give than be vulnerable enough to receive. While faith tells us that God is in charge, we so often forget and live as if we are in control of our lives. Then something stops us in our tracks: a disappointment, a diagnosis, a failure, or a death. And in that moment pride is revealed for the false god that it is and we cry out, “Master, help me see.” Write a note of gratitude to someone whose “strength has been revealed in weakness.”

TODAY’S READINGS: Sirach 42:15-25; Mark 10:46-52 (350). “Many rebuked him telling him to be silent. But he kept calling out all the more.”

FRIDAY, MAY 29

A prayer for the ages

Shrines, home altars, burial grounds, memorial services—these are all common ways people honor their ancestors. For Christians, we have the Litany of Saints, one of the oldest prayers in Christianity, where we call to mind the holy men and women in our salvation history. The litany is most often sung at Easter Vigil Mass and All Saints Day, but many of us also pray modified litanies each night calling out the names of our own special circle of saints: God bless Mom, God bless Dad . . . Remembering the goodness and faithfulness of living and departed holy men and women is the first step in paying our respects. To ensure a lasting legacy, we must follow their examples of radical love.

TODAY’S READINGS: Sirach 44:1, 9-13; Mark 11:11-26 (351). “Now will I praise those godly men, our ancestors, each in his own time.”

SATURDAY, MAY 30

FEAST OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

She just keeps showing up

Some people put great faith in the apparitions of Mary—those times throughout history when the Mother of Jesus has been reported to appear, speak, and sometimes perform a miraculous sign. The church officially makes belief in Marian apparitions a matter of decision, not doctrine. Still, as one Protestant believer has phrased it, whether you credit these visions or not, what do you make of the idea that folks throughout history and around the world keep seeing her? Mary speaks to our longing for a personal encounter with the sacred. She had one. We’re all invited to be Christ-bearers.

TODAY’S READINGS: Sirach 51:12c-20; Mark 11:27-33 (352). “When I was young and innocent, I sought wisdom openly in my prayer.”

End of Bulletin

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