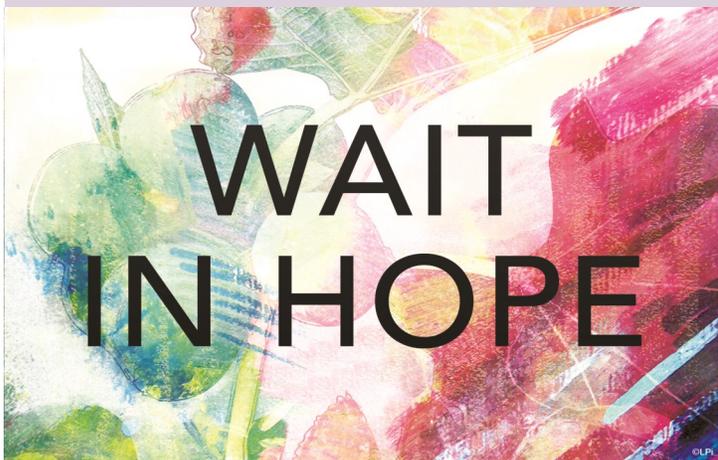


GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE
DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF
SCRIPTURE

March 24, 2019
3rd Sunday of Lent

"There once was a person who had a fig tree planted in his orchard, and when he came in search of fruit on it [he] found none." We live in a results-driven society. It can be easy to put pressure on ourselves to succeed. If we're not keeping up with the perceived "good life" of those around us, we feel anxious and disappointed. Some of the Gospel stories about fruitfulness can seem to play out in this fashion. "For three years now I have come in search of fruit on this fig tree but have found none. So cut it down." The message seems to be clear. Abide in God and bear fruit! Stand apart from God and be barren. But what happens when we're trying, but the growth we wanted doesn't seem to be coming our way? What if it feels like life just isn't bearing fruit?

This Sunday, Jesus gives us a sign of hope. "[The gardener] said to him in reply, 'Sir, leave it for this year also ? it may bear fruit in the future.'" How quick we can be to judge! Perhaps you started out Lent with high hopes and big ideas for getting closer to God. Maybe things haven't gone exactly like you thought. It can be easy to lose patience with our failures or slow growth. We shouldn't be too quick to assume that God has given up on us. He hasn't.



MASSES OF THE WEEK

MON. (Mar. 25) The Annunciation of the Lord

7:00 am Catherine H. Errico (Dean & Lisa Tallo)

TUE. (Mar. 26) Lenten Weekday

7:00 am Joseph Pigga (Marie & Stanley Rovinski)

WED. (Mar. 27) Lenten Weekday

7:00 am Jean Cipriano (Kristin & Anthony Cipriano)

THU. (Mar. 28) Lenten Weekday

7:00 am John "Jack" Mangan (A Friend)

FRI: (Mar. 29) Lenten Weekday

7:00 am Albert Powell (The Higgins Family)
5:30 pm 1st Yr. Anniv.) Albert Yonick, Sr. (Marion Clauss)

SAT: (Mar. 30) Lenten Weekday

4:00 pm (Anniv.) Jane McDonald (Peggy Kelly & Family)
5:30 pm Captain Martin Patrick Monahan (Joseph & Joan Cianci)

SUN: (Mar. 31) Fourth Sunday of Lent

7:00 am Robert J. McNamara (Jim & Judy Kelly)
9:30 am
11:30am (Anniv.) Edward Kocis (Wife, Theresa)
5:00 pm
(Anniv.) Ray Lakatos (Wife, Pat)
Anthony DeSando (Connie, Mary Jane & Chole)

Please pray for the elderly, the seriously ill, the dying and recently deceased members of our parish community, especially *Fr. Thomas O'Malley*. May God grant them and all the faithful departed, eternal rest.



OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL

Collections for the Weekend of
March 16/17, 2019

\$10,555.00

Collections for the Weekend of March
17/18, 2018

\$9,177.18

Thank You!

We're almost there! Only 68 more tickets have to be sold in order to have the drawing for our fundraiser/raffle! Please consider purchasing a ticket for a great cause and great prizes.

OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL
PARISH
CASH RAFFLE

Grand prize \$10,000! 2nd prize \$3,000; 3rd prize \$1,000; 4th and 5th prizes \$500. Tickets are \$100 each. 350 tickets will be sold before drawing. Purchase alone or share price of a ticket with friends! Tickets can be purchased from Sam Valenza or from the rectory.

Parish Cemeteries

I feel it is the proper time to request your assistance in maintaining our two parish cemeteries . Because both of our cemeteries no longer have lots available for sale, the cemeteries have become aa financial burden to our parish. We include a monthly envelope for the maintenance of the cemeteries in your envelope package; I am requesting that everyone please consider a \$10.00 monthly donation in support of the cemeteries. At the present time, this envelope is used by a very small number of parishioners. The maintenance of the cemeteries is costing the parish approximately \$85,000 annually. Thank you for all the support you provide to our parish. ~ Father Doris

SPONSOR OF THE WEEK

We would like to thank

***DAMAGE CONTROL
FIRE, SMOKE & WATER DAMAGE SPECIALISTS***

for sponsoring an ad in our weekly bulletin.

**CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES
COLLECTION for the Weekend of
March 30/31**

For more than 75 years, CRS has been providing expertise and compassion to the very poorest of our brothers and sisters in more than 100 countries.

But we can't do this lifesaving work without your help.

When you give, you help fill the bellies of young children so they can study hard in school. You help prevent trafficking and provide welcome kits for survivors. Your donations help mothers and babies around the world receive nutritional care and health exams.

Refugees find safety and receive emergency assistance and trauma counseling. Farmers learn innovative ways to plant and grow crops despite drought or disease. And women find dignity in opportunities for savings and training.

When you give, you change lives, families and communities.



Mission Statement

We, the eucharistic community of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish in Dunmore, are called to manifest the leadership, love and service of Jesus Christ. In union with the Holy Father, and under the leadership of Diocesan Bishop, we are called to proclaim the salvation of our loving Lord through our participation in His Word, Worship, Service and Community. With the Blessed Virgin Mary as our model, we seek to share our Baptismal gifts to build His Kingdom.

Our Value Statement

We recognize that, as a Parish Faith Community of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, our purpose is to accept and develop our call through a servant style of leadership, to evangelize others with zeal and joy through the witness of our life in the Word, Worship and Service that builds up our Community

Please remember in your personal prayers the other members of our parish who are in need of prayer. There are many people in nursing homes and hospitals, people who are homebound and sick, and others who experience many other types of trials in their lives. If you would like to request a personal intention, please call the parish rectory office.

Lord God of healing and wholeness, I ask your blessing upon my brothers and sisters who are currently experiencing difficulties in their lives, especially those who are members of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish. I trust in your goodness and in your loving mercy. Help these fellow disciples on their journey to your kingdom. Bring them to healing and wholeness and peace. Give them the strength to accept their current situations and the courage they need to do what they must to move forward in this life. Bless them with the knowledge of your presence and the grace of your love so that they may rejoice with you both now and in the Kingdom to come. I ask this in the name of Jesus. ~ Amen.

Nativity Miguel School Seeks Part— Time Secretary

As secretary, you will help ensure that the school office runs smoothly and efficiently. Your clerical and administrative support will assist and optimize work flow. You need to be comfortable being the primary point of contact in all manner of inquiries and requests, from families who have limited English skills, while working in the school office and supporting the principal.

Please email cover letter and resume to info@nmscranton.org.

Can you spare about an hour of your time?

We are looking for volunteers, on Tuesday's from 3:00 p.m. — 4:15 p.m., to teach CCD (Faith Formation). NO TEACHING EXPERIENCE IS NEEDED. TRAINING IS PROVIDED. Clearances are necessary and will be facilitated by the rectory. If interested, please call the rectory office at 570.346.7429.

Easter Flower Donation

If you would like to donate a Lily in our church this Easter Season, please complete the following information and return in the collection basket or to the parish office.

(clip and return by April 15, 2019)

In Memory of:

Given by:

Cost \$15.00

Checks can be made payable to:

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish
Send: OLMC Rectory, 322 Chestnut St.,
Dunmore PA 18512

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

What is it? Liturgy of the Word for Children is a program in which the Sunday Scripture readings are proclaimed and explained on a level appropriate to children from Pre- K through 6th grade at the 9:30 mass every 2nd & 4th Sunday of the month from September through May. Any child may participate.

What exactly do they do? The children gather with a volunteer in the front of the altar before the first reading and are led to the sacristy. After a brief welcome, they listen to readings from the Children's Lectionary. An age-appropriate reflection of the Word is shared by the leader through stories, discussions, and coloring pictures. During this time, the children are encouraged to share their own thoughts and ideas. The children return to their families at the time of the Presentation of the Gifts.

How can you help? To volunteer, please call the rectory office, during business hours, at 570.346.7429 or email stmarysdunmore@aol.com.

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

ROAD TO RESURRECTION 2019 LENTEN SERIES:

Father Joseph Sica, Homilist

**March 28th at 7:00 p.m.: St. Paul's Parish
1510 Penn Ave., Scranton**

**April 4th at 7:00 p.m.: Immaculate Conception
801 Taylor Ave., Scranton**

**April 11th at 7:00 p.m.: Cathedral of St. Peter
315 Wyoming Ave, Scranton
(Social afterward in the Parish Center)**

ROAD TO RESSURRECTION: Saint Paul's Parish



Send in the Clowns

Are you humor impaired? Do you suffer from laughter deficiency? If so, it's time to try some rip-roaring, belly-aching laughter! It's the best medicine for the soul and the cheapest therapy on the market. Plus, there are no negative side effects! "But I'm a serious straight-laced person." *Why?* "I just don't see how that's funny." *Really?* Laughter is a God-given gift and it's yours to claim. It's your birthright. Give yourself a laughternoon and experience the lighter side of life—the joyful, merry and happy side. It's there if you look in the right direction. Over here; CAUTION: It's contagious, but it's oh-so worth catching!



Please note: Sixth and seventh grade confessions will be held on Thursday, March 26, at 6:00 p.m.



The Light is On for You

The Church encourages us to make confession a regular part of your spiritual life, especially during the holy season of Lent, as we reflect on our baptism and repentance. Again this year, parishes are participating in a Lenten initiative called *The Light is On for You*. Every Monday evening during the Lenten season, and continuing through Monday of the last full week of Lent, April 8, confessions will be heard in every parish from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. so that Catholics can come to or return to this incredible source of God's grace, mercy and healing.

A Prayer for Lent

Jesus, in you I am never alone, even at difficult moments, even when my life's journey comes up against problems and obstacles that seem insurmountable, and there are so many of them! I accompany you, I follow you, but above all I know that you accompany me and carry me on your shoulders. This is my joy, this is the hope that I must bring into this world. ~Pope Francis



TV Mass for the Homebound. WOLF channel 56 (Fox) at 8:00 a.m.

Is someone you love unable to join us at church during this holy time of Lent and Easter? Please invite anyone you know who cannot get out to church to tune in Catholic Mass on TV, or watch online anytime on Sunday's at www.HeartoftheNation.org.

Ministers of the Liturgy Schedule—Weekend of March 30/31

<u>TIME</u>	<u>LECTOR</u>	<u>EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER</u>	<u>SERVERS</u>
4:00 P.M.	Helene Mancuso	Bill & Cathy Harrington, K. Gerrity	Bryce Talutto
5:30 P.M.	Kevin McDonnell	N. Rinaldi, C. Berry, T. Carlucci	Hannah Albano
7:00 A.M.	Alice Foley	Joe Eboli	No Server
9:30 A.M.	Sid Prejean	L. Gatto, Jim & Pat Conway	Jacob Gatto & Laurel Cortazar
11:30 A.M.	Lisa Davis	T. Devanney, M. Roche, J. Michalczyk	M. Mancuso, K. Walsh & R. Gullone
5:00 P.M.	Maria Kocsis	Connie DeSando	Mary Jane Zindle