

STEWARDSHIP

Not a Program, Not a Fundraising Campaign,

Not a Tagline...

A Way of Life

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel





STEWARDSHIP PRAYER

Jesus, teach us to pray. Help us to manage our time so that we can spend it with You.

Holy Spirit, fill us with Your gifts. May we offer ourselves in sacrifice for our parish and for all in need.

Father, give us generous hearts. Help us to manage our finances and to offer first fruits to You.

As Your faithful disciples, we ask this for ourselves and for Catholics everywhere, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

AMEN

BECOMING A STEWARDSHIP PARISH

In common language, “stewardship” simply means taking good care of one’s belongings. At Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, when we talk about stewardship, we mean something more than that.

As Christians, we believe that we don’t really own anything, per se. God has created all things; everything we “own” is really “on loan” from God. From this perspective, stewardship means taking care of God’s gifts. Everything God has given us — special skills, a nice smile, a good income — is meant not only for us, but for others as well. As strange as it seems, being a good steward of these gifts involves giving them away. As we learn from Jesus’ life, self-giving is the road to true happiness.

Stewardship is using our time, talent, and treasure to build God’s Kingdom. All three elements are equally important. Our Catholic Stewardship Renewal is an important event for our Our Lady of Mt. Carmel family. It is a time when we reassess the way we use God’s gifts by making commitments of time, talent, and treasure. Renewing ourselves in these areas results in great spiritual benefits for us as individual parishioners, and for the community around us. This year, how will you use your gifts?



“Pray without ceasing. In all circumstances give thanks, for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus.”

— 1 Thessalonians 5:17-18

ACTION STEPS TO IMPROVE YOUR PRAYER LIFE

- Spend 15 minutes every morning in quiet prayer by reading and reflecting on Sacred Scripture. A helpful place to start is the readings for each day, found at usccb.org/bible/readings or on Catholic phone and tablet apps, such as My Parish, iBreviary, Magnificat, or Divine Office.
- Thank God for the good things He has given you that you might take for granted throughout the day.
- Examine your conscience before going to sleep and say an Act of Contrition like we do at Mass.
- Pray with your children each night before bed, giving each family member an opportunity to pray for something and concluding with an *Our Father*, *Hail Mary*, and the *Glory Be*.



PREPARING YOURSELF SPIRITUALLY

The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* says, “Prayer and Christian life are inseparable” (CCC, 2745). In fact, St. Paul tells us to “pray constantly.” But as anyone who has ever tried to pray on a regular basis will tell you, prayer can be hard work. That is why we have to make a firm commitment to be persistent.

Just as we learn to budget our money or schedule occasions for service, we also have to be very specific when we make time for prayer. Many people set aside 15 minutes in the morning to sip a cup of coffee and read the daily readings. Others pray a Rosary on the way to work. Still others pray with their children before bedtime or pray with their spouse before retiring for the evening. Whatever the format, the important thing is that we make a conscious effort to spend time with the One we love most.



BECOMING AN ACTIVE SERVANT

Every week, our parish is buzzing with activity. There are groups that pray together, groups that minister to other parishioners, and groups that reach out to the community. Christ Himself taught us that “whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me” (Matthew 25:40). When we lay down our personal wants and desires to serve each other, God blesses our efforts! Will you consider where God is calling you to serve Him?

ACTION STEPS TO BECOME MORE ACTIVE IN SERVICE

- Pray about how the gifts God has given you can best be used to serve others.
- Use your Commitment Card to find a parish ministry that will help you grow personally in living out your faith.
- Commit to being faithful to God through those you serve in word and deed.

“As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God’s varied grace.”

— 1 Peter 4:10

OFFER OUR TREASURE IN PRAYER

- Pray about the best use of your financial resources and ask God to show you where you need to give Him priority in them.
- Evaluate your regular offertory gift and increase it based on what you think God is calling you to give until you reach the full tithe.
- Make a commitment to give regularly to God through the parish offertory, and be faithful to your tithing commitment, even when you attend Mass elsewhere.

“Jesus said to them, ‘Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men.’ Then they abandoned their nets and followed him.”

— Mark 1:17-18

CONSISTENT AND GENEROUS GIVING

Our deepest reason for giving is not because our parish has needs, but because we have a spiritual need to give. We are called to give to God from our first fruits, and to recognize that everything comes from Him. Our gifts to God should be out of faith and gratitude for what God has done for us. Just like the apostles who laid down their nets the moment that Jesus called them, we too should lay down everything, even something as important to us as our finances, to follow Christ. God’s promise to us is a promise of life and security when we place all of our trust in Him. “The Lord will be with you and will never fail you or forsake you. So do not fear or be dismayed” (Deuteronomy 31:8).



Our Lady of Mt. Carmel 2024 Ministry Catalog

ADULT EDUCATION AND SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT

Men's Prayer Group Ministry

All men of the parish are invited to join in prayer to share in their faith, and study Scripture with fellow members of the parish. They gather for prayer every Saturday morning, 7 to 8:15 a.m. Location: Peter Christopher Room
Contact: Ray Patacca, 440-227-9734, raypatacca@yahoo.com

Women's Book Group

In today's world, we seek to deepen our faith through the study of Church documents and Catholic writings. Each Monday morning, we meet to pray, discuss, and reflect.
Contact: Charlotte Gulden, 440-897-0305, cgulden@yahoo.com

SOCIAL CONCERNS AND CARING

Sandwich Maker Ministry

Sandwich makers meet once monthly to make over 50 sandwiches and deliver them to St. Augustine Hunger Center in Tremont. We currently have two shoppers, two delivery men that alternate every other month, and 12 volunteers that rotate the sandwich-making duty each month. We exist because of generous parishioners that donate to the St. Vincent de Paul Society, and they provide us with the funding to purchase supplies.
Contact: Diane Kopanski, 440-655-6249, dianekopa@icloud.com

St. Vincent de Paul Outreach

SVdP supports Wickliffe residents and families through a food pantry and other

forms of assistance. Each Monday night, guests are invited to come pick up a hot meal to take home. The Food Pantry is open Thursdays at 5 p.m. Each year, many families are helped at Christmas thanks to the generosity from the Christmas Giving Tree. Volunteers are needed in a variety of ways for the success of the ministry.
Contact: Fran Teresczuk, 440-943-3529

Wickliffe Knights of Columbus - Council #5405

The Knights of Columbus is a worldwide leadership organization for Catholic men who desire to grow in personal spirituality and serve the Church. Membership in the Knights of Columbus is open to males 18 years of age or older who are practical (that is, practicing) Catholics. The Wickliffe Council #5405 meets every second and fourth Thursday of every month at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, usually in the Peter Christopher Room. The meetings start at approximately 7:30 p.m.
Contact: Tom Foss, 216-407-5449, commanderfoss@aol.com



SERVICE TO THE PARISH

Collection Counters

Every Sunday, members of this group gather to open and count the weekend collection.

Contact: Mary Brown, 440-585-0700 ext. 306, mbrown@olmcwickliffe.org

Decorating Ministry Group

Use your God-given gifts and talents to create a beautiful, worshipful environment that reflects God's handiwork in nature — especially in our sanctuary without it being distracting to worship. Above all, we want to creatively glorify God in the way we decorate.

Contact: Amy Bopp, boppgirl3@gmail.com

Finance Council

The Parish Finance Council is a consultative body that helps the pastor in the administration of parish property and goods, financial resources, buildings, and grounds. Members of the Finance Council provide expertise in finance, administration, business, and law. Membership is by appointment of the pastor.

Contact: Mary Brown, 440-585-0700 ext. 306, mbrown@olmcwickliffe.org

Grounds Beautification (Landscaping and Grounds)

This group works to prepare, plant, and maintain our flower beds, shrubbery, etc. Their efforts help make OLMC a warm and inviting community and enhances the overall appearance of the property, which is centrally located in the city. The parish also needs people to help with snow removal seasonally.

Contact: Steve and Cindy Klemm, 440-220-2339, srklemm@toast.net



Pastoral Council

The Parish Pastoral Council is a consultative body that shares the responsibility with the pastor in setting the direction of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish. The Council seeks to listen to the Holy Spirit to discern what is best for the community in light of the Gospel, the Church's teaching, and the needs of the people. Membership is by appointment of the Pastor.

Contact: Fr. Michael Troha, 440-585-0700 ext. 304, frmtroha@olmcwickliffe.org; Secretary - Kelly Hoose, 440-391-1645, kmonroe35@yahoo.com

Stewardship Committee

The Stewardship Committee studies the meaning of stewardship, and formulates ideas and ways of promoting stewardship, including ways in which parishioners can offer the first fruits of their time, talent, and treasure to the Lord and the parish community. Membership is by appointment of the Pastor.

Contact: Fr. Michael Troha, 440-585-0700 ext. 304, frmtroha@olmcwickliffe.org

PARISH LIFE AND COMMUNITY

Legion of Mary

These dedicated women visit the homebound of our parish and visit the local nursing homes to provide caring conversation and the Eucharist for those who wish and can receive.

Contact: Shirley Tarasco, 440-943-5326

Mt. Carmel Society

The mission of the Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Society is to promote the practice of Christian life and devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary through prayer, (especially the Rosary) and to support the Parish through creative fundraising projects. Mt. Carmel Society hosts a traditional spaghetti dinner and bake sales. We meet the first Tuesday of the month (except for July, August, December and January) in the Peter Christopher Room at 7 p.m.

Contact: Pat Boehmer, 440-813-4931, mamaboehmer@gmail.com

Parish Festival

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel's annual summer festival is an important local event hosted by our parish. It is our biggest fundraiser for the year and all work (food, setup, breakdown, etc.) is done by parish volunteers. It is a wonderful way to gather with friends for the good of the parish.

Contact: Mary Brown, 440-585-0700 ext. 306, mbrown@olmcwickliffe.org

Sunday Hospitality

Sunday mornings are a great time to gather and catch up with church friends over a cup of coffee and a donut. Immediately following Sunday Masses (8 a.m. and 10 a.m.), we open Maria Goretti Hall for our Sunday Hospitality. Hospitality is run by a volunteer team who goes and picks up the donuts, brews the coffee, cuts the donuts, and serves the smiles!

Contact: April Windhorst, 440-585-0800; Pat Boehmer, 440-813-4931, mamaboehmer@gmail.com



WORSHIP

Altar Servers

Any child (fourth grade or older) is welcome to serve in this ministry at weekend liturgies. Training sessions will be offered. Any adult who is a practicing Catholic is welcome to serve in this ministry at funerals or special liturgical events. If you have knowledge in liturgy, previous experience, or willing to learn how to serve at Mass, contact Fr. Troha. [Contact: Fr. Michael Troha, 440-585-0700, ext. 304, frmtroha@olmcwickliffe.org](mailto:frmtroha@olmcwickliffe.org)

Eucharistic Adoration

Our Adoration Chapel in the Parish Rectory is open 24 hours a day, every day of the year, except Good Friday and Holy Saturday. If you are willing and able to dedicate one hour every week, we welcome your support to take an assigned time slot. We will assign a code to you if you sign up between the hours of 9 p.m. and 6 a.m. The door on the side of building is open to the public from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. Substitute volunteers are also needed.

[Contact: Mary Kay Sladky, 440-944-1615, msladky@yahoo.com;](mailto:msladky@yahoo.com)
Diane Rocco, 440-585-0445

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion assist the priests and deacons with the distribution of Holy Communion in order to accommodate the faithful at Mass and to bring Communion the sick of the parish. The ministry demands the utmost respect and reverence for the Most Blessed Sacrament and rubrics of the Mass. All Eucharistic Ministers must be trained by the Diocese of Cleveland. The diocese offers two training sessions a year, in the fall and in the spring.

[Contact: Connie Contenza, 440-944-5529, ccontentza@aol.com](mailto:ccontentza@aol.com)

Ministers of the Word

Ministers of the Word are trained by the parish to proclaim the Word of the Lord as revealed in Scripture. This responsibility is open to those who feel called to this ministry and are trained by the parish.

[Contact: Mary Keiper, 440-585-0700 ext. 302, bulletineditor@olmcwickliffe.org](mailto:bulletineditor@olmcwickliffe.org)

Ministers of Welcome

Our ushers greet parishioners and guests at all the Sunday Masses, as well as take up the collection and pass out bulletins following our celebration. If you have any questions about the parish or are interested in volunteering as a Minister of Welcome.

[Contact: Mike Champa, 440-585-9764, mike.champa@electrolock.com](mailto:mike.champa@electrolock.com)

Music Ministry

The purpose of the Music Ministry is to exhort, uplift, and encourage the body of Christ through song and worship. The Music Ministry consists of musicians, the choir, and cantors that provide music for our weekend Mass and special liturgies.

[Contact: David Krizan, 440-585-0700, music@olmcwickliffe.org](mailto:music@olmcwickliffe.org)

Sacristan

Responsible for the care of the precious objects used during liturgies, such as the linens, altar supplies, and vestments.

They also keep the sacristy clean and in order. The duties of the sacristans are under the direction of the Pastor.

[Contact: Barbara Bopp, 440-944-4569, edbopp756@gmail.com](mailto:edbopp756@gmail.com)

FORMATION

Children's Liturgy of the Word Team

Children's Liturgy of the Word is open to children ages 4-10 on Sunday mornings during the 10 a.m. Mass. To volunteer, contact Alisa.

Contact: Alisa Clemente, 216-386-2377, alisaclemente@icloud.com

Mater Dei Academy Volunteers

Mater Dei is a Catholic, co-ed, Pre3 through eighth grade school. Mater Dei Academy, a Christ-centered community working together in an atmosphere of mutual respect, guides students to grow in Catholic values, to discover their potential, and to achieve success. Parishioners and parents can volunteer in a variety of different ways throughout the school year.

Contact: Karen Trunk, Mater Dei Principal, 440-585-0800, ktrunk@materdeiacademy.us

OCIA: Order Of Christian Initiation Of Adults (RCIA)

RCIA is available for any adults who have not completed the three Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, First Communion, Confirmation). This program is designed to further education, enhance an experience of faith, and support those who are seeking a stronger faith.

Contact: Deacon Paul Hlabse, 440-942-4500

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Faith Formation (PSR) Parish School of Religion & Sacramental Formation Teacher and Classroom Aide

Grades K-8 meet on Monday evenings from 6 to 7:15 p.m. at Mater Dei Academy, September through May. Volunteers are needed for classroom aides and catechists (teachers). Catechists (teachers) must be 18 years or older. Assistance and training are provided.

Contact: Raquel Nelson, 440-585-0700 ext. 310, rnelson@olmcwickliffe.org

Pre-Baptism Program

The Sacrament of Baptism for infants is celebrated following Mass. Couples expecting their first child or those who have never participated in a pre-Baptism program must do so in accordance with diocesan requirements. Our Lady of Mt. Carmel offers a pre-Baptism program, or it may be taken at any parish within our diocese.

Contact: Deacon John Nelson, 440-942-4500



Please Keep Until Fall 2025

It's difficult to give God any percentage of our time, talent or treasure if we do not first give Him 100 percent of our hearts. For this reason, our Stewardship Renewal is a time for growing closer to God above all else. It is a time to make God our top priority, and then express this growth through written commitments. How will you turn more readily to Him with your whole heart?

TIME

Several suggestions for regular prayer are listed on your Commitment Card. Will you set aside time each day to spend with God?

TALENT

Your Commitment Card lists numerous parish ministries available for your involvement. Will you offer yourself in service to God through others?

TREASURE

This year, will you make a specific financial pledge to contribute to the Sunday offertory?

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Not a Tagline... A Way of Life

TIME

Stewardship begins in prayer. Stewardship is not about me; it is about Him. Consider a few of the following prayer suggestions.

Please mark your family's prayer commitments:

- Attend Mass every Sunday and on Holy Days
- Attend weekday Mass once a week or more
- Attend Adoration once a month or more
- Spend 15 minutes or more a day in personal prayer
- Pray together with my loved ones
- Read the Bible for at least one hour a week
- Pray the Rosary at least weekly
- Go to Reconciliation every other month or more
- Schedule time for a spiritual retreat
- Invite a friend or acquaintance to Mass
- Pray for the sick of our parish
- Pray for my country daily
- Pray for an increase in vocations
- Pray for our priests and deacons
- Pray for our active duty military

TALENT

Find out more about these programs in our ministry and apostolates catalog or on the parish website. When you sign up, the leader will call to explain how to get involved.

Write the first name of the family member who wishes to join or is active in each ministry on the line. You may write multiple names for the same ministry.

Currently Involved Interested in Joining

↓ Please clearly write the first name of interested family member(s) on the line.

ADULT EDUCATION AND SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT

- Men's Prayer Group
- Women's Book Group

SOCIAL CONCERNS AND CARING

- Sandwich Maker Ministry
- St. Vincent de Paul Outreach
- Wickliffe Knights of Columbus - Council 9595

SERVICE TO THE PARISH

- Collection Counters
- Decorating Ministry Group
- Finance Council
- Grounds Beautification (Landscaping and Grounds)
- Pastoral Council
- Stewardship Committee

PARISH LIFE AND COMMUNITY

- Legion of Mary
- Mt. Carmel Society

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TREASURE

In thanksgiving for household at Our Lady asked to give a special income based on the

5% to Our Lady
\$ to the diocese
4% to others

My Offertory
Our Lady of

Please complete either a weekly or monthly gift.

Weekly gift: \$ _____
OR
Monthly gift: \$ _____

Weekly gift proportion

At Our Lady of Mt. C is asked to work toward to the parish. Some families reaching this goal as if your weekly gift meet an amount that you

WEEKLY GI

0-1000
1000-2000
2000-3000
3000-4000
4000-5000
5000-6000
6000-7000
7000-8000
8000-9000
9000-10000
10000+

2024 COMMITMENT CARD
Our Lady of Mt. Carmel

First & Last Name _____
Phone _____
Email _____
Spouse: First & Last Name _____
Spouse: Phone _____
Spouse: Email _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Please bring your completed Commitment Card to Mass on **November 2 or 3**, mail it to the parish in the envelope provided, or complete one online at olmcwickliffe.org.

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Our Lady of Mt. Carmel

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