



250th Anniversary
CARMEL MISSION
BASILICA

Carmel Mission Basilica

3080 Rio Road Carmel, CA 93923 • (831) 624-1271

www.carmelmission.org

Founded 1771 by St. Junípero Serra



Happy Mother's Day



**Sixth Sunday of Easter,
Sunday, May 10, 2026**



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PASTOR'S WEEKLY LETTER

Dear Friend of Carmel Mission,

As we near the end of the Easter season, our readings continue to point us with increasing directness toward the eventuality of the Ascension. Announcing His impending departure from His earthly life, Jesus promises the disciples at the Last Supper the gift of the Holy Spirit, "whom the world neither sees nor knows." (John 14:17) With this almost cryptic language, Jesus tells them that He will continue to be with them in a new way. In fact, they will be closer to Jesus than ever. Rather than left as orphans, they will be adopted as sons and daughters of our loving God. Of course, they did not fully understand at that time what He meant, and they had quite an ordeal ahead of them – grief and horror at His terrible Passion and Death, fear that they would be targeted next, finally confusion and then dawning awe at His Resurrection. This journey would come full circle at Pentecost, when the same Advocate Jesus had promised them arrives to enable them for the work of Jesus' mission and ministry.

The word "love" bookends the Gospel today. Jesus invites us into the relationship He has with the Father, and brings our human nature into the trinitarian communion of love that is God. For those of us who did not know Jesus during His earthly life, it is through our adoption as a child of God and the power of the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, that we come to be in relationship with Jesus. We do not have the opportunity to walk, talk, and share a meal with Him in the same way as did the first disciples. However, just as He promised, we can be close to Him in a way that no earthly relationship can achieve. Through the Sacraments, we are accompanied by Jesus through every season of our lives. In prayer, we can talk with Jesus with a candor and intimacy that goes beyond human connection. In the Eucharist, we share the very meal Jesus provides for us, His own Body and Blood.

I wish you and your loved ones Easter blessings of good health, and the sure knowledge of God's great love for each one of us,

Fr. Paul



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FEAST DAY OF ST. ISIDORE

FRIDAY, MAY 15

Join us and Bishop Ramon Bejarano for the Feast Day of Saint Isidore, patron saint of farmers and farm workers.

We will have a Special Mass at 10:00 AM in the Basilica, and a light luncheon to follow in Crespi Hall.





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LITURGY

Today's Readings

Reading I: Then they laid hands on them and they received the Holy Spirit. (Acts 8:5-8, 14-17)

Psalm: Let all the earth cry out to God with joy. (Psalm 66:1-3, 4-5, 6-7, 16, 20)

Reading II: Always be ready to give an explanation to anyone who asks you for a reason for your hope. (1 Peter 3:15-18)

Gospel: If you love me, you will keep my commandments. (John 14:15-21)

Readings for the Week

Monday, May 11

Acts 16:11-15

Psalm 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b

John 15:26-16:4a

Tuesday, May 12

Acts 16:22-34

Psalm 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8

John 16:5-11

Wednesday, May 13

Acts 17:15, 22-18:1

Psalm 148:1-2, 11-12, 13, 14

John 16:12-15

Thursday, May 14 — Saint Matthias, Apostle

Acts 1:15-17, 20-26

Psalm 113:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8

John 15:9-17

Friday, May 15

Acts 18:9-18

Psalm 47:2-3, 4-5, 6-7

John 16:20-23

Saturday, May 16

Acts 18:23-28

Psalm 47:2-3, 8-9, 10

John 16:23b-28

Scripture Reflection

In today's Gospel, which is part of Jesus' farewell discourse, He tells the disciples He will not leave them orphaned. His impending departure will not leave them bereft of His love. They will not be homeless and will not need to be cared for by strangers. He promises to send them "another Advocate" who will be with them always. The word "paraclete" has a rich array of nuances. It literally means "called to the side of another." This can have a legal sense, like the representation of an attorney. More generally it can refer to a helper, mediator or intercessor, one who appeals on another's behalf. Another nuance is that of "comforter" as expressed in the sequence of Pentecost when we pray, "you, of comforters the best," and ask for rest, refreshment and solace. What is paradoxical in the last aspect is that the kind of consolation provided by the Comforter is not the sort that wraps us in a warm cocoon and allows us to remain there forever. It is more akin to the loving nudge with which a mother bird impels her fledglings to take flight. In order to be able to be thrust out, the Consoler also give us the sure knowledge that we are never abandoned. We have a home in the One who draws us ever more deeply into mutual indwelling. The first reading gives us a glimpse into what results when disciples make their home in Christ and allow the generativity of the Spirit to be unleashed. Immediately before the passage chosen for today's first reading, the Acts of the Apostles tells us about the martyrdom of Stephen, who is chosen as a minister among the Greek-speakers. After Stephens' stoning, other preachers of the word were scattered but kept preaching. Among them is Philip, who today's reading portrays as fearless enough to go in the region of Samaria and proclaim Christ. His intrepid venture among a people previously thought to be enemies impels Peter and John also to leave the nest in Jerusalem and continue Jesus' mission to the lost and forgotten. Following the outpouring of the Holy Spirit in Samaria, the psalm this week is a song of immense joy. Above all, the psalm praises God for His works. God is not content with passivity but desired to provide for the people of Israel and desires to care for us today and always.



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ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus,

I believe that You are present in
the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love You above all things,
and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment
receive You sacramentally,

come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace You as if You were already there
and unite myself wholly to You.

Never permit me to be separated from You.

Amen.

Altar Flowers Opportunity

The Altar Flowers are given today in memory of Josephine Lagow by Christine Lagow



Here at Carmel Mission we are very fortunate to be surrounded by natural beauty in our wonderful gardens, and we receive feedback from parishioners and visitors alike on how much they enjoy the flowers, plants and trees on our property. The beauty of nature is a concrete reminder of the beauty of God, in whose image we are made. When we enjoy beautiful flowers, plants and trees we are celebrating God's gift of the natural world.

We are so happy to continue the beauty of altar flowers at our Masses each week. We invite you to consider sponsoring a bouquet for \$90 in memory or honor of a loved one, to celebrate a birthday or anniversary, or in thanksgiving to God.

The altar flowers will be a part of our weekend Masses and your dedication will included in our weekly e-bulletin.

Please contact Laura at liturgy@carmelmission.org for more information and to schedule your gift. Thank you so much for your generosity and for helping to ensure that these symbols of beauty and life are part of our weekly celebrations.



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MASS AT THE MISSION

Special Mass for Saint Isidore Day

Mass in the Basilica on May 15 at 10:00 AM.

Mass Schedule

Saturday Mass

5:30 pm - Mass in the Basilica.

Sunday Masses

9:00 am - Mass in the Basilica.

11:00 am - Mass in the Basilica with Choir.

Moved to the Basilica during construction

Noon Masses

Wednesday - Friday, 12:00 pm — Mass in the Basilica

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday, 9:00 am - 10:00 am — Confessions at the Basilica

Mass Entrance

Gates open 30 minutes before Mass. Those attending our weekend Masses will be entering through the Visitor's Gate into the Basilica Forecourt or through the Parish Gate into the Central Courtyard. We will have an attendant at each entrance.

Please note that the Basilica Forecourt is an extension of our Mass. We ask that everyone be aware and respectful of the prayerful environment of this setting.

Accessibility

There are 9 designated accessible parking spots near the Visitor entrance and 6 more spots by the Parish Office entrance. If you require any assistance, please let the attendant know. We recommend arriving early so we may better accommodate accessibility needs.





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PARISH PRAYERS

Sick in the Parish

All the sick are prayed for during a general intercession at every Mass.

At this time we pray especially for:



Katrina Losee Ivey,
Margaret Luke,
Rose Healy,
Paul Borromeo,
Jana Schmidt,
Matthew Escovar,
Anne Emmerich,
Joan Kenny,
Tobi Lunt,
Sean Kenny,
Nancy Buchanan,
Larry Fry,

Richard Cruickshank,
Charles Cardoza,
Frank Machalla,
Brandon Paulikas,
Julieta Evangelista,
Missy Student



Please pray for our Military

Keep in your prayer our brave parishioners, relatives and friends of our parish family who are in service to their country in the Armed Forces abroad:

Major Trevor C. Kuchman, USMC,
Richard Brophy,
Robert Maher

We ask the Lord to keep them safe from harm and pray for their families while they are far from home.

Prayer Requests and Special Intentions

Our prayer request email is a great way to let us know about your prayer requests, or any special intentions you may have. Also, if you know of anyone in our parish family who is ill we ask that you share that with us so we may pray for them, and reach out to them or their family.

**Send Your
Prayer Request**



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PARISH PRAYERS

Recently Deceased in our Parish

Please pray for our brothers and sisters who have died, especially:



Lorraine Nicora,
Daniel Sahagun,
Nancy D'Angelo,
Aurelia Narvaez,
Raymond Narvaez,
Jim Brady,
Laura Pura,
Susan Betz McCance,
Gerry Chiappe,
Robert Moore,

Marie Zenorini-Canepa,
Meridee Doud,
Charleen Sciambi
David Perez
Margaret "Peggy" Ryan
Pearla Tarsitano
John Jennings,
Samantha Jennings,
Cristina Biegel,
William Griffon,
Jeff Brady,
Nelly Ortega,
Douglas Forzani,
Joe Diaz, Jr,
Theron Bergeron,
Trudy Bohland,
Theodor Albert,
Wilma Jauregui,
Jose Ponce Gutierrez,
Teresita Chan,
Walter DeFaria,
Lucille Eggerman,
Dianne Lee (Taylor) Mueller R.N.,
Rebecca Simms,
Debora Frances Embody,
James M. Fremgen

... that they may rejoice with the Risen Lord. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let your perpetual light shine upon them; and may the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.

Amen.



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STEWARDSHIP

AMA 2026 - A Safe Path of Travel

**We have exceeded our contribution to the
diocesan ministries,
We are currently at
\$80,456**

Carmel Mission Legacy



[Visit our Website](#)

[FAQ](#)

Reports for the week ending on 04/26/2026:

Electronic Donation:	\$ 4,338.83
Mailed Donation:	\$ 2,916.00
Weekend Masses:	\$ 6,567.00
Second Collection — Maintenance:	\$ 2,809.00
Estate Gift:	\$50,703.30

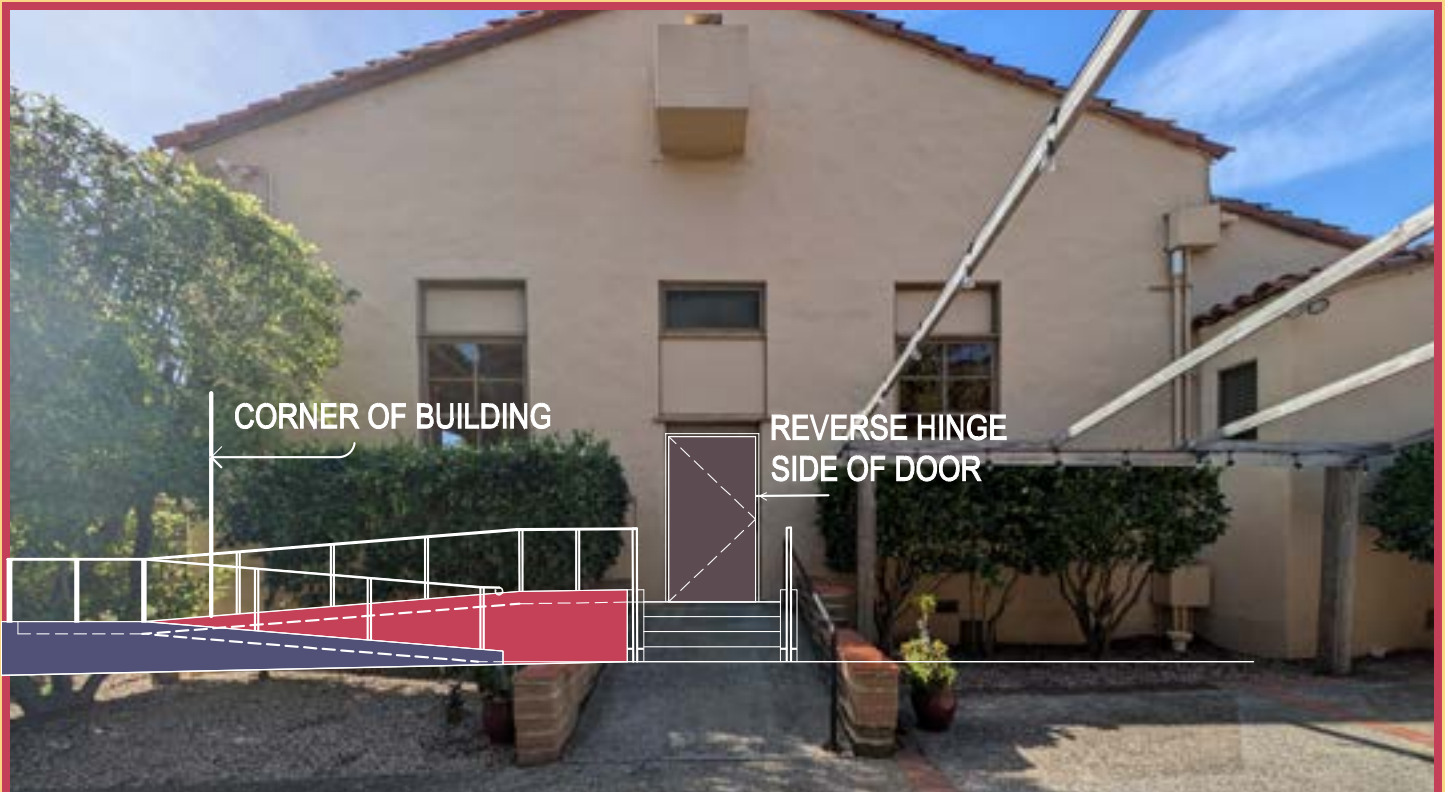
TOTAL \$67,334.13



A SAFE PATH OF TRAVEL

[CLICK HERE TO VISIT OUR WEBSITE](#)

A key project of this year's AMA is the construction of a safer, more accessible ramp at the back of Crespi Hall. Crespi Hall is a vital center of Parish life, hosting ministries, events, and gatherings throughout the year.



The 2026 AMA Campaign focuses on improving safe paths of travel, accessibility, and wayfinding across the Mission property. These efforts ensure improvements are made responsibly and with long-term sustainability in mind.





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RESTORATION: AT THE HEART OF OUR IDENTITY

**Please Watch this Video Message from Fr. Paul:
An Update on Our AMA Projects & the Story They Tell**



From the earliest days of Carmel Mission's history, restoration has never been simply a practical necessity — it has been an act of faith. Since its foundation, generations of parishioners, benefactors, clergy, and staff have poured their hearts into caring for and preserving this sacred place. Today, we are proud to share that we are living through one of the most significant periods of restoration in Carmel Mission's modern history.

Thanks to your generous support of our Annual Ministry Appeal (AMA), more conservation, preservation, and restoration work has been completed than in any other period of the Mission's history. The last 12–15 years mark the beginning of what we believe will be remembered as Carmel Mission's Modern Restoration Era, a time during which we all witnessed the canonization of St. Junipero.

Every dollar you have given to our AMA designated projects has gone — and will continue to go — directly toward this work.

A LIVING LEGACY OF STEWARDSHIP

Did you know that virtually every building at Carmel Mission, outside of the Basilica itself, has changed its purpose over the centuries? Crespi Hall once stood in the middle of our central courtyard. Each of these historic spaces has a story — one of adaptation, resilience, and the faithful care of those who came before us.

Under the leadership of Fr. Paul, our Mission has entered a new chapter of this story. His stewardship, combined with your support, has made it possible not only to restore what exists but also to develop a comprehensive vision for the future — one grounded in structural integrity, faithful preservation, and thoughtful planning.

EXPLORE OUR RESTORATION STORY ONLINE

We have created a dedicated Restoration website — the living home for Carmel Mission's preservation history. There you'll find architectural timelines, notable benefactors, the stories of our pastors and parishioners, and updates as our work continues to grow. This is your history, too.

Visit: www.carmelmissionrestoration.org



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KEEPING CARMEL MISSION SAFE

A Message on Safety & Security at Carmel Mission

Carmel Mission is a vibrant parish and beloved historic site, and maintaining a safe environment for worship and all who visit is always our highest priority.

We ask all parishioners to remain aware of their surroundings and to promptly report any unusual occurrences, concerning behavior, or missing property to a Carmel Mission staff member or Fr. Paul. Your safety always comes first — in any urgent situation or health emergency, call 911 immediately.

Lost & Found:

If you have found an item or are missing something, please contact us at lostandfound@carmelmission.org. This inbox is monitored by multiple staff members and has been a very effective way to reunite people with their belongings.

We are grateful for our parishioners' vigilance and care for this community. Together, we help keep Carmel Mission a welcoming and sacred space for all.





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FIRST LIBRARY OF CALIFORNIA VI

It's high time for another update on California's first library. Cataloging continues, now filling in Library of Congress (LC) call numbers and subject categories. As you can imagine, this involves a lot of work online, finding our books in other catalogs, primarily in WorldCat, the world's largest union catalog, and then comparing this information with various other libraries for LC information.

I also gave a presentation a few weeks ago on our library at the annual conference of the California Missions Foundation at Mission Dolores, San Francisco. I think it was well received, and now many others know about the great collection of books we are fortunate enough to have right here in Carmel. My topic for today is a different one, however, namely the care and preservation of old and rare books. As this topic is rather broad, this will be the first of two parts.

Many of our books are two or three hundred years old. Imagine where they have been and what they have seen. About three quarters of the books in our library were printed in Spain. From their original place of publication, whether it was Madrid, Barcelona, or elsewhere, they made their way to a convent or collegio or church. Then they were gathered together and sent across the Atlantic to New Spain and Mexico City. There, in the Colegio de San Fernando, the Franciscans built a great library of some 20,000 volumes. These were distributed out to the missions in Mexico and Baja California, and eventually Alta California. So even before our books arrived in Monterey, they had some serious mileage behind them.

Imagine the trip from Baja or Mexico City to upper California, either by ship or mule train. Saint Junipero most certainly brought some books with him from Baja in 1769, when he set out to found San Diego and Monterey. We know from one of his inscriptions that he also brought a book from Guadalajara back with him on his return from Mexico City in 1773.



"Given as alms in Guadalajara [by] Thomas de Basauri to this Mission of San Carlos of Monterey in the year 1773"

When the missions were secularized and abandoned in the 1830s, the books were usually scattered to the wind. We were lucky, in that most of the books at Mission San Carlos Borromeo were saved and taken to the parish church in Monterey, now San Carlos Cathedral or the Royal Presidio Chapel. The books found a new home there, most likely in the rectory, and there they stayed for over a hundred years until 1949, when the bishop gave permission to return them to Carmel Mission.



Various components make up the object we call a book. First, let's talk about the binding, or the outer cover that protects the interior text and illustrations. Many volumes from the 17th and 18th



centuries are bound in what is called "limp vellum," which is basically just a leather wrapping, or "pergamino" in Spanish. This type of covering was cheaper, but vellum bindings often suffer from the separation of the spine from the book block at the hinges. This leaves a gap and can lead to the binding becoming loose and eventually falling off.





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CARMEL MISSION COMMUNITY

Carmel Mission Bible Study

Bible Study meets in Crespi Hall every Wednesday at 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM



Join our the Mission Bible Study on their weekly study of the Gospel of Matthew. We meet at Crespi Hall each Wednesday morning at 10:30 AM for about ah hour. You are invited to join us in exploring this Gospel which is so foundational to our Catholic Faith

Questions; Dick Gorman 595-6363.

Centering Prayer

Centering Prayer meets in Crespi Hall every Friday, 12:50 AM - 1:30 PM

All are welcome to join CENTERING PRAYER each Friday at 12:55 in Crespi Hall. We meet for 20 minutes in prayer, with the option to stay for Book Club at 1:30.

For more information about Centering Prayer, please email Sally Greig saljogreig@aol.com

Carmel Mission Book Club



Book Club meets in Crespi Hall every Friday, 1:30 PM

Book Club is reading **The Lamb's Supper** by Dr. Scott Hahn. This book aims to deepen our understanding of the Catholic Mass by exploring its connection to the book of Revelation.

Please join us! Everyone is welcome to attend, and books are available at the meetings. For information email christina.renna@gmail.com

Coffee and Donuts

Coffee and Donuts each Sunday following 9 AM & 11 AM Masses.

May 10 May 24

May 17

05/10/2026





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CARMEL MISSION COMMUNITY

Carmel Mission Bereavement Ministry

The Carmel Mission Bereavement Ministry, founded in 2003, is a group of volunteers who provide consolation and support to families who are grieving the death of a loved one. The Ministry, under the direction of the Pastor, offers assistance with planning and staffing the Funeral Mass and assists with receptions held in Crespi Hall. The Ministry has a three-fold purpose of Service to the Parish and Spiritual Development and time for Social gathering for our Members.

If you would like to join with us or learn more about our Ministry, please contact Laura Schwingle, liturgy@carmelmission.org.

Knights of Columbus

Meet on the first Tuesday of each month in Crespi Hall at 6:30 PM.

For more information please email koc@carmelmission.org.



Our Coordinator for the I-HELP Ministry has retired.

Carmel Mission's I-HELP ministry needs YOUR help!

We need YOU to help us continue providing this emergency housing program one evening a month for homeless women on the Peninsula.

Please contact Father Paul at fr.paul@carmelmission.org for more information.

Homebound Ministry



Dear Parishioners of Carmel Mission,

If you or someone you know cannot get to mass and would like to receive Holy Communion, please contact our Homebound Ministry Coordinator, Joan Brophy Thomas at (831) 624 3074.

Please stay safe and sound, Blessings,
Fr. Paul



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www.DiocesefofMonterey.org

Stay Connected with
Bishop Ramón Bejarano
and the life of our Diocese!



GOT STUFF YOU DON'T NEED??

Give it new life - Support students at San Carlos Catholic School in Monterey and our peninsula community.

All gently-used household items, furniture and clothing accepted Tue-Sat, 10am-4pm at 480 Webster St. Monterey (one block from San Carlos Cathedral)

OR

Call us at (831) 375-4780.

Thank You For Your Support!



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BULLETIN ADVERTISEMENT

Advertise your business in your parish community through Carmel Mission's weekly electronic bulletin.

For more information on how to advertise your business on our bulletin, contact Bulletin@carmelmission.org.



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