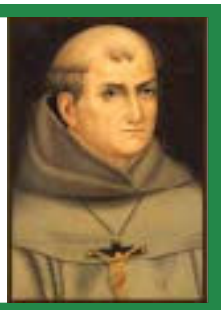
250th Anniversary
CARMEL MISSION
BASILICA

Carmel Mission Basilica

3080 Rio Road Carmel, CA 93923 • (831) 624-1271
www.carmelmission.org
Founded 1771 by St. Junípero Serra



Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Sunday, October 11, 2026

Pastor's Weekly Letter

Dear Friend of Carmel Mission,

In the Gospel today, Jesus continues to address the religious leaders in parables, abandoning the vineyard imagery we have heard the past few weeks in favor of the familiar comparison of the Kingdom of Heaven to a great banquet. In the parable the king sends out invitations, but the invitees choose not to attend. Some just move on with their own business, some react violently and attack and even kill the servant messengers. The king is shocked by this behavior, but remains determined to proceed with the feast. After all, the food is prepared and the tables are set. He instructs the servants to go out in to the streets and invite everyone that they find. They do just that, inviting the "bad and good alike," all of whom are happy to join the feast and the hall is soon full. This is a pointed message to the chief priests and elders who were certainly in the best position to understand and embrace the invitation Jesus came to present, and instead, in a short time, will seek to orchestrate His death. It is also a joyful message to anyone who feels that they are unworthy of an invitation to God's banquet table - all who accept the invitation are welcome.

The first reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah also uses banquet imagery to describe God's Kingdom. On God's mountain, God will provide for all people, consoling them in times of sorrow, feeding them in times of need, eliminating death itself. This has always been what God has wanted to do for God's children. It is what God wants to do today for each and every one of us. God's care has never wavered, only our willingness to open ourselves to God's invitation. This invitation exists here on earth in the Eucharist. When we celebrate the Mass, when we receive Jesus' Body and Blood in Holy Communion, we are accepting the invitation to God's overflowing banquet, which will be brought to complete fullness when, God willing, we are able to participate in the banquet feast of Heaven.

I wish you and your loved one blessings of good health and true nourishment. Please continue to pray for peace and that God's peace and consolation may be with those most in need,

Fr. Paul

Liturgy

Today's Readings

Reading I: The Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from every face. (Isaiah 25:6–10a)

Psalm: I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life. (Psalm 23:1–3a, 3b–4, 5, 6)

Reading II: I can do all things in him who strengthens me. (Philippians 4:12–14, 19–20)

Gospel: Many are invited, but few are chosen. (Matthew 22:1–14)

Readings for the Week

Monday, October 12
Galatians 4:22–24, 26–27, 31—5:1
Psalm 113:1b–2, 3–4, 5a and 6–7
Luke 11:29–32

Tuesday, October 13
Galatians 5:1–6
Psalm 119:41, 43, 44, 45, 47, 48
Luke 11:37–41

Wednesday, October 14
Galatians 5:18–25
Psalm 1:1–2, 3, 4, 6
Luke 11:42–46

Thursday, October 15
Ephesians 1:1–10
Psalm 98:1, 2–3ab, 3cd–4, 5–6
Luke 11:47–54

Friday, October 16
Ephesians 1:11–14
Psalm 33:1–2, 4–5, 12–13
Luke 12:1–7

Saturday, October 17
Ephesians 1:15–23
Psalm 8:2–3ab, 4–5, 6–7
Luke 12:8–12

Scripture Reflection

In today's Gospel, the host of the great banquet seemed to have used the ancient equivalents of both embossed paper invitations delivered by mail, and the more informal electronic "e-vite." When those who receive formal invitations are summoned to the feast, they refuse to come, even after two attempts by the servants. The king then instructs the servants to go out into the streets and invite anyone they can find. They do so, gathering "the good and the bad alike" and the banquet hall is filled. Matthew's version of the parable does not highlight the status divisions between the first and the last invited. Nor, are the latter said to be poor, crippled, blind, and lame, as in Luke's version (14:15-24). Instead, Matthew focuses on the generous extravagance of the host and the expected responses. This is the third in a series of parables directed at the religious leaders who would be expected to be the first to receive and respond affirmatively to God's invitation. The Matthean version of this parable veers away from the parabolic form, as it becomes a highly allegorized sketch of salvation history. While the extravagant generosity of the king in opening the banquet hall to all is a most apt depiction of God's invitation to us all through Jesus, the vicious retaliation against those who killed the king's servants and the burning of the city are not depicting God's doings; they are allusions to the killing of servants like John the Baptist by Herod, and the destruction of Jerusalem in 70 CE by the Romans. As in some of Matthew's other parables, there is a warning that refusal of the divine invitation has dire consequences. (Matt 8:12, 13:42, 50, 24:51 25:30) God does not inflict fiery punishment, but those who ignore God's invitation and do not allow themselves to be clothed in the garment of Jesus' ways of love, forgiveness, inclusivity, and nonviolent action for justice, choose for themselves a place at the table of retaliatory violence and destruction. We last heard Psalm 23 during the Easter Season, and we will hear it once again for the solemnity of Christ the King. This time, the third and fourth stanzas are particularly relevant. God invites us to the heavenly banquet, present here in the Eucharist and brought to perfection in the next life. God desires to welcome us into His home for eternity, if we but accept the invitation.

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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 Dr. Robert Maurice Adams by Carmen Ajan

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

Mass Schedule

Basilica

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.

Blessed Sacrament Chapel

Noon Masses

Wednesday - Friday, 12:00 pm in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday, 9:00 am - 10:00 am in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel

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 extensions 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 time we pray especially for:

Ron Coulter,
Margaret Luke,
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:

Admiral Richard Brophy,
Robert Maher,
Capt. Meghan Brophy,
Capt. Alex Weiman,
LCDR Ben SchmidtC
LT Tommy Brophy,
LTJG Claire Brophy,
LTJG Kurt Brophy,
ENS Hunter Brophy

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

Parish Prayers

Recently Deceased in our Parish

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

Dr. Robert Maurice Adams,
Sharry Lauter,
Erin Hagan,
Myrna Moore,
Diane Kremer,
Joan Hutton,
Rose Healy,
Katrina Losee Ivey,
Abigail M. Janko,
Frank Mayo Ryan,
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

… 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

Carmel Mission Legacy

Report for the week ending on 09/20/2026:

Electronic Donation:	**$ 7,458.94**
Mailed Donation:	**$10,493.00**
Weekend Masses:	**$ 6,578.00**
Second Collection — Maintenance:	**$ 2,640.00**
TOTAL	**$27,169.94**

A SAFE PATH OF TRAVEL

Thank you for your continued support. We have passed our goal of $300,000!

Our campaign is active until the end of the year, can we beat our last year's record of $328,000?

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OCIA Returns! — Come and See

I am happy to announce that OCIA will be returning to the Mission this month. As many of you are aware, OCIA, formerly RCIA, is the process by which adults receive the Sacraments of Initiation - Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist.

OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation for Adults, formerly RCIA) is the process whereby adults become full, active, participatory members of the Catholic Church. To that end, we will be integrating Church teaching and tradition with our lived, evolving relationship with God. Specifically, we will explore such topics as spirituality, ways of praying, Church history, morality and the seven sacraments.

Next Sunday, October 11, immediately after the 11:00 AM Mass we will have a "Come and See" event in MacMahon Center and anyone who would like to learn more about becoming Catholic and feels called to the Sacraments of Initiation are most welcome to come and learn more about the process of OCIA at Carmel Mission.

Classes will be on Monday evenings from 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM also in the Mac Mahon Center. If you would like more information about the program and/or the process of OCIA or if you wish to receive the Sacraments of Initiation - Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist, please contact ocia@carmelmission.org, or call (831) 624-1271 ext. 307.

Knights of Columbus
Pastapalooza
Sat, Octover 17th 2026
Crespi Hall
6:30 P.M.
Enjoy a great 3-course Italian meal with friends and family while listening to live music.
A silent and live auction will take place.
Scan QR code
Admission: $40
Attire : orange & black

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.

Carmel Mission Book Club

Book Club meets on Friday at 1:30 PM in Crespi Hall

On October 16th, Book Club will begin reading **Twelve Ordinary Men** by John MacArthur. This book recounts what is known about each of Jesus' Disciples and discusses how together they became a force that forever changed our world. Everyone is welcome to attend and books are available at the meetings.

For information email BookClub@carmelmission.org

Coffee and Donuts

Join us for Coffee and Donuts after each Mass (9 AM and 11 AM) every Sunday.

Knights of Columbus

Meet on the first Tuesday of each month in Crespi Hall at 7:00 PM.

For more information please email koc@carmelmission.org.

Knights of Columbus Women's Auxiliary

Meet on the third Tuesday of each month in Crespi Hall at 2:00 PM.

We are excited to remind the women of our parish that the second meeting for the Knights of Columbus Women's auxiliary will take place on Tuesday, October 20th at 2 pm in Crespi Hall.

Please attend and bring your friends. For more information please email your inquiries to: auxillary@kofc4593.org

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Every First Friday of the month 12:30 PM - 5:00 PM in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel

The Carmel Mission invites you to attend Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at the Mission every first Friday in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel following the Noon Mass and ending at 5 PM. You can pay a visit to the Lord at anytime during those hours or volunteer to take a specific hour to be in His presence.

If you would like to volunteer for an hour, please call Sandie Herbert, 831-320-4436 or Kathleen Anderson, 707-373-2355.

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.

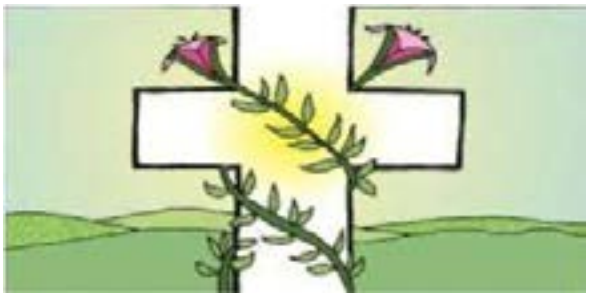
If you would like to join with us or learn more about our Ministry, please contact Laura Schwingle, liturgy@carmelmission.org.

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.

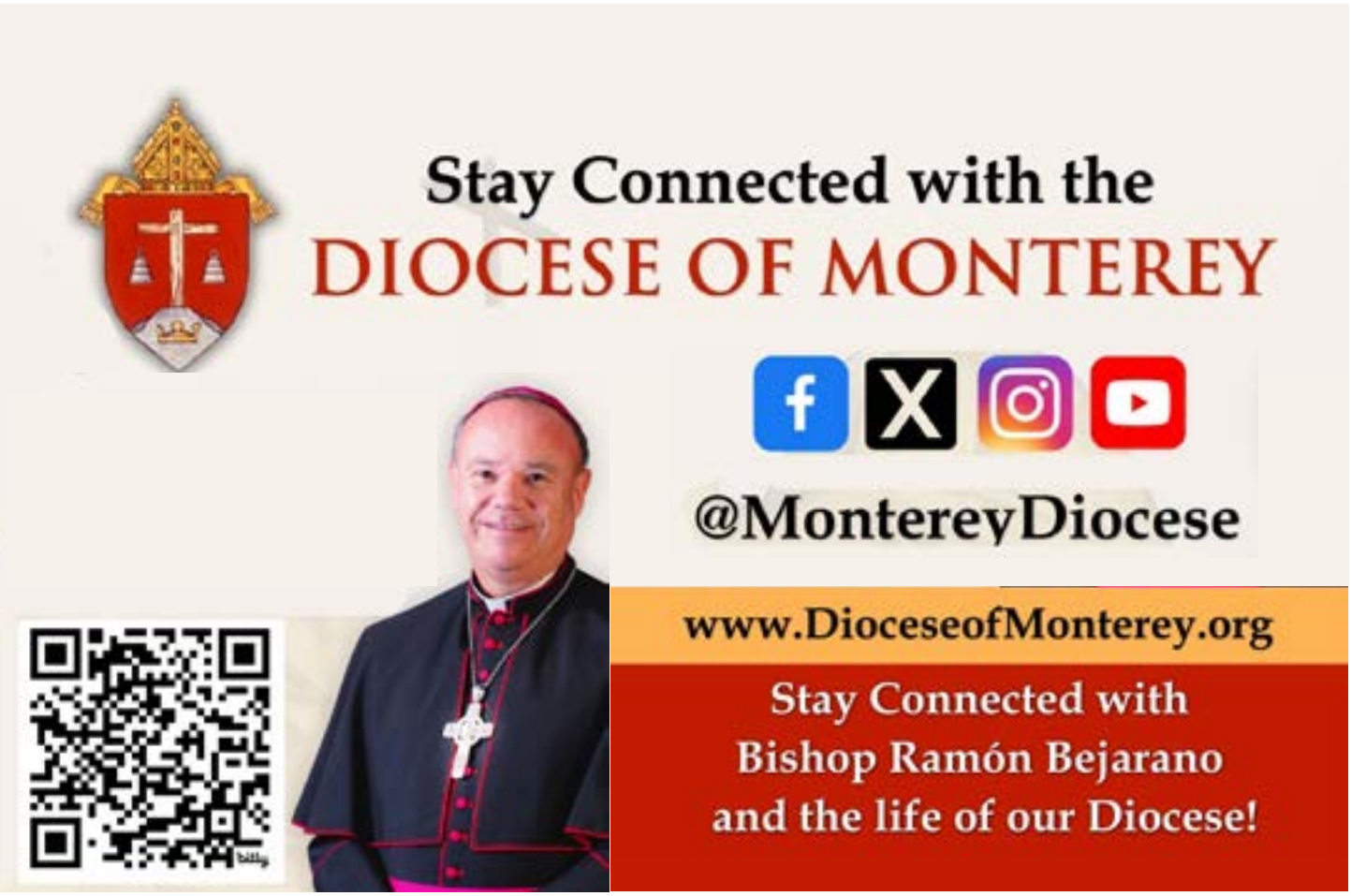
Homebound Ministry



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



Branches
Proceeds Benefit San Carlos School
Resale Shoppe

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!

St. Angela Merici Parish

Returners and Learners

St. Angela Merici parish will present a seven-week fall program for "Returners and Learners" – both practicing Catholics and persons who have been away from the Church – anyone who seeks to know more about being a Catholic in today's world.

Come and Explore

Mondays, September 28 - November 9

6:30 PM to 8:00 PM in St. Angela's Parish Hall

9th Street and Lighthouse Avenue, Pacific Grove

For more information,
please call the St. Angela Merici

Parish Office at (831) 655-4160.

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Bulletin Advertisment

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.