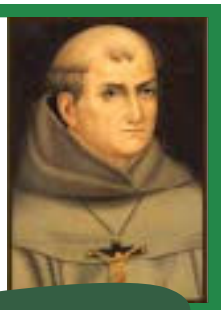
250TH Anniversary
CARMEL MISSION
BASILICA

Carmel Mission Basilica

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



MISSION SOCIETY OF THE PHILIPPINES

Fr. Glenn Jaron, MSP, will join us next weekend for a Mission Appeal

Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Sunday, October 18, 2026

Pastor's Weekly Letter

Dear Friend of Carmel Mission,

In the Gospel today, the Pharisees seek to trap Jesus with what they hope is an impossible question. If Jesus responds against the tax, He stands in opposition to the mighty Roman Empire, and the Pharisees hope that they can then inspire the Roman government to move against Him, as indeed they had done against other "tax revolutionaries" of the time. If Jesus responds in favor of the tax, He will be seen as a traitor to His own people and the Pharisees hope to curb His influence by discrediting Him in the eyes of the community. Jesus falls into neither trap, responding by calling out the test and putting the question back to His accusers – "Whose image is this, and whose inscription?" Giving His often-quoted response, Jesus answers the question with another implicit question: What is Caesar's and what is God'? Of course, all things belong to God and the obligation to God is significantly greater, as surely the Pharisees recognize. Jesus' intent here is not to give a framework for a Christian relationship between religion and the state, but to frame this issue as a locus for individual discernment. Are we giving to God what is owed to God? Or have we made the world's various Caesars our priority?

The first reading from the Book of Isaiah also ponts towards the reality that all good things are made possible by God, and God is the one we need to credit and thank above all. God often works through people, as He did through Cyrus in the first reading, but it is God who is guiding. There is a role for human action, for governance in society, to act for the common good. But that role is relative to the overarching power of the one God to act on our behalf. We are invited to prioritize our relationship with God, and ensure that this relationship shapes all other aspects of our lives.

Finally, we join with the Church across the world in praying for our Holy Father, Pope Leo. May Christ the Great Physician bring him a quick and complete recovery, healing where he most needs it, and encouragement of heart, mind, and spirit.

I wish you and your loved ones blessings of good health and great hope. Please continue to pray for peace in our world,

Fr. Paul

Liturgy

Today's Readings

Reading I: I am the LORD and there is no other, there is no God besides me.
(Isaiah 45:1, 4–6)

Psalm: Give the Lord glory and honor.
(Psalm 96:1, 3, 4–5, 7–8, 9–10)

Reading II: Our gospel did not come to you in word alone, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with much conviction.
(1 Thessalonians 1:1–5b)

Gospel: Then repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God.
(Matthew 22:15–21)

Readings for the Week

Monday, October 19
Ephesians 2:1–10
Psalm 100:1b–2, 3, 4ab, 4c–5
Luke 12:13–21

Tuesday, October 20
Ephesians 2:12–22
Psalm 85:9ab–10, 11–12, 13–14
Luke 12:35–38

Wednesday, October 21
Ephesians 3:2–12
Isaiah 12:2–3, 4bcd, 5–6
Luke 12:39–48

Thursday, October 22
Ephesians 3:14–21
Psalm 33:1–2, 4–5, 11–12, 18–19
Luke 12:49–53

Friday, October 23
Ephesians 4:1–6
Psalm 24:1–2, 3–4ab, 5–6
Luke 12:54–59

Saturday, October 24
Ephesians 4:7–16
Psalm 122:1–2, 3–4ab, 4cd–5
Luke 13:1–9

Scripture Reflection

In today's Gospel, the Pharisees and Herodians, who pose the question to Jesus about paying tax to Caesar, are not seeking guidance about a difficult moral decision. They are trying to trap Jesus with a sticky question to which there is no easy solution. Since the Roman occupation of Palestine in 63 BCE Jews were obliged to pay a census tax, a head tax, on every man, woman, and slave. The amount was one denarius (one day's pay) per year, and was to be paid in Roman coins, which in Jesus' day bore the image the emperor Tiberius, who reigned from 14 to 37 CE. The attitudes of Jews towards the Romans varied, as did their strategies for resistance to the occupiers. Some paid the tax because they viewed the Romans as representing God's authority. Some tried to curry favor with the powerful Romans by openly advocating paying the tax. Some would have said that they should pay nothing to Caesar because everything belongs to God. (Lev 25:23) Some would have opposed any collusion with Rome. There were those who harbored strong nationalist sentiments and fomented armed revolt against the occupying powers. The ancient historian, Jospehus, tells of several first century revolutionary leaders who led unsuccessful tax revolts. In asking Jesus to take a stand on this thorny issue, the Pharisees hope to discredit Him. If He supports paying the tax, the He would be seen as cooperating with the enemy and His credibility as a prophet who preaches God's ways as opposed to Caesar's imperial ways would be compromised. If He replies the tax should not be paid, He puts Himself at risk vis a vis the Romans. Jesus relativizes the authority of the emperor by emphasizing God's ultimate sovereignty over all. Jesus' opponents are astounded and they depart to await another opportunity to ensnare Him. The first reading also reminds us that God is ultimately the source of all good things. Cyrus may have put an end to the Babylonian exile, but only through God's choice. In response, we praise God with the psalmist, thanking God for His great deeds. The psalm emphasizes God's transcendence, but within the context of of God's relationship with Israel and His "wonderous deeds" on their behalf. The right response to God's work in our lives is gratitude and praise, both for God's greatness, and God's goodness for each of us.

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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 Knox Mellon by Carlotta Mellon

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:

Philip John Duigley,
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

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Parish Prayers

Recently Deceased in our Parish

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

Elio Chiappe,
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 09/27/2026:

Electronic Donation:	**$ 3,514.67**
Mailed Donation:	**$ 2,613.00**
Weekend Masses:	**$10,027.00**
TOTAL	**$16,154.67**

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?

Mission Appeal

Mission Society of the Philippines

The Mission Society of the Philippines (MSP) is a Catholic missionary Society of Apostolic Life founded by the Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines in 1965, during the 400th anniversary of the evangelization of the Philippines. It was established as an expression of gratitude to God for the gift of the Catholic faith received by the Filipino people. The Philippines, once a country that welcomed missionaries from other nations, has become a Church that sends missionaries to share the Gospel throughout the world.

The primary mission of the MSP is mission ad gentes—bringing the Good News of Jesus Christ to peoples and communities where the Gospel is not yet widely known and assisting young and developing local Churches. MSP missionaries serve through evangelization, parish ministry, pastoral care, education, formation, and outreach to the poor and vulnerable.

The MSP began its first ad gentesmission in Thailand in 1970. Over the years, MSP missionaries have served in different parts of Asia, Oceania, Europe, and North America, including Thailand, Taiwan, Japan, South Korea, Papua New Guinea, Australia, New Zealand, the Pacific Islands, Europe, Canada, and the United States.

At the heart of the MSP mission is a simple conviction: the faith we have received is a gift meant to be shared. Through the prayers and generosity of benefactors, the Society forms future missionaries, supports priests serving in mission territories, assists communities in need, and cares for elderly and sick missionaries.

Through the MSP, the Filipino Church expresses its gratitude to God by generously sharing the precious gift of faith with the world.

Fr. Glenn Jaron, MSP

Fr. Glenn Jaron, MSP is a missionary priest of the Mission Society of the Philippines. He previously served as an MSP missionary in South Korea and is currently serving in the United States on behalf of the Mission Society of the Philippines, continuing the Society's mission of sharing the Gospel and serving the Church beyond the Philippines.

MISSION SOCIETY
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All Souls Day "We Remember" Mass

Monday, November 2, 2026

All are invited for the All Souls "We Remember" Mass in the Basilica on Monday, Nov. 2 at 5:30 PM, followed by a Soup Supper in Crespi Hall. Members of the Bereavement Ministry will assist those attending to enter the names of their deceased loved ones in the Book of the Dead and to place photos of those who've died on tables near the altar during the Mass. The photos are to be taken home after Mass. Following Mass there will be a Soup Supper provided for us in Crespi Hall by the Knights of Columbus and members of the Bereavement Ministry.

Please join us as we remember all our deceased loved ones and especially those who've died in the past year.

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

OCIA - Order of Christian Initiation for Adults

OCIA Classes are on Monday evening from 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM in 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.

Coffee and Donuts

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

October 18

October 25

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

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.

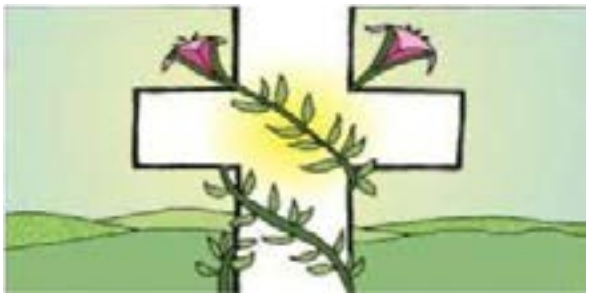
If you would like to join with us or learn more about our Ministry, please contact Laura Schwingle, liturgy@carmelmission.org.

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.

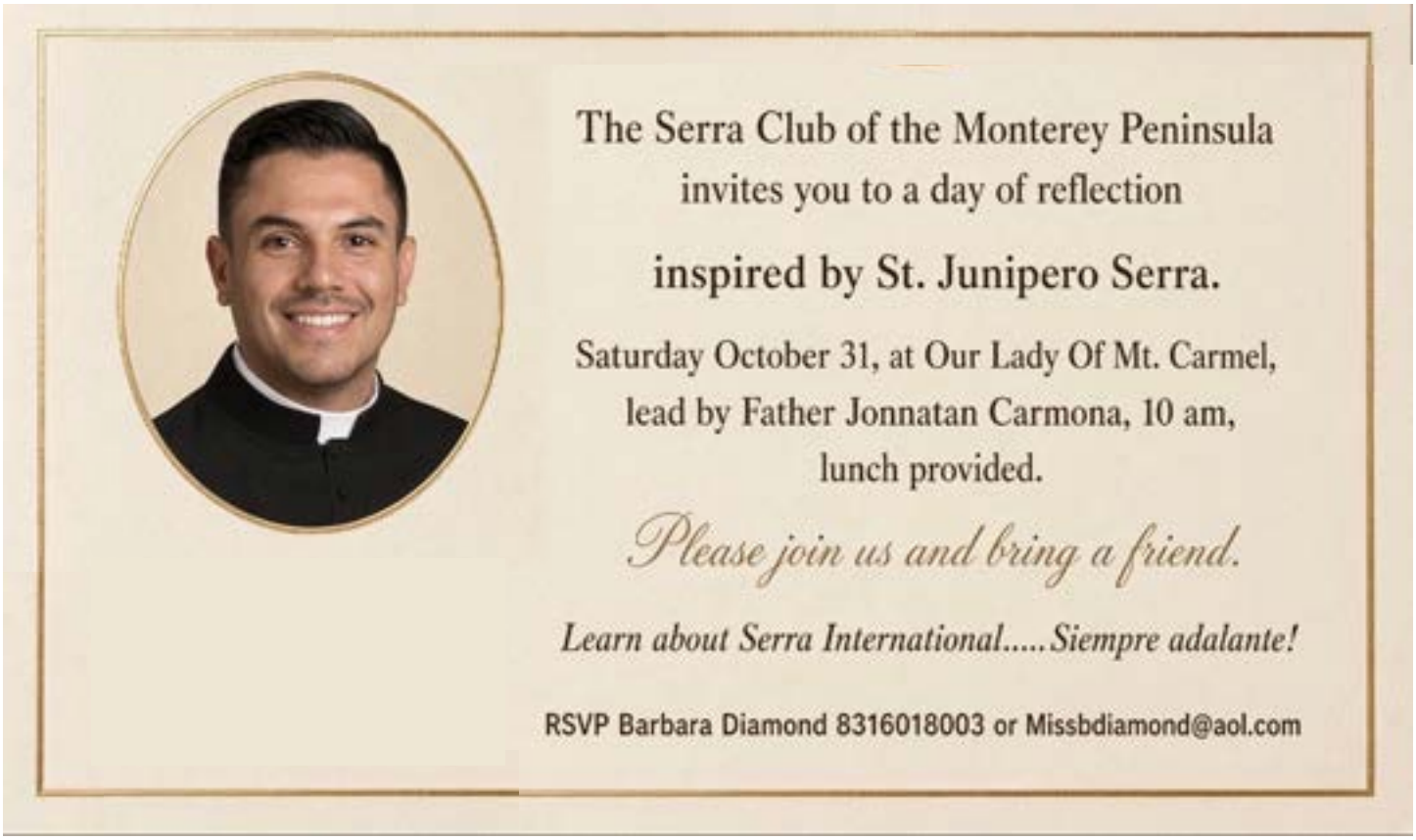
Homebound Ministry



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 Resale Shoppe

Proceeds Benefit San Carlos School

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.