

# **128<sup>th</sup> Annual Feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel**



**Our Lady of Mount Carmel Shrine Church  
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New York, NY 10029  
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**Dear Pilgrims to the Shrine Church of Our Lady of Mount Carmel:**

**It is once again time for our annual Feast to honor Our Lady. Hard though it is to believe, 128 years have passed since the Pallottine Fathers took custody of this great spiritual event. We have witnessed many interventions here: Our Lady seems keen to hear your prayers, whether they be in thanksgiving or supplication.**

**Remember, that our Madonna was crowned over 100 year ago by order of the Pope, in recognition of the devotion to the Lady of Mount Carmel and the answered prayers here at the Shrine.**

**As times change throughout the world, it is comforting to note that we can always come to Mary, to beg her to place our needs at the foot of her Son, Our Savior Jesus. We remember her example of faith at Wedding Feast of Cana, how He listened to her entreaties, and granted them. We are ever grateful to have the powerful intercession of the Blessed Mother on our side. Our Mother protects and helps all of her children.**

**So we reach another Feast: How this seed of 128<sup>th</sup> years has borne fruit to nourish us! The faithful from Southern Italy placed their lives in the hands of Mary, having immigrated to a strange land. The descendants of those faithful are now joined by many from all the world's peoples. Haitians, Latinos, Asians, Europeans and Africans, all come together at our Shrine to honor the Blessed Mother under her title of Our Lady of Mount Carmel. We remain united under the maternal mantle of our Blessed Mother.**

**Therefore, dear pilgrims, continue your devotion. Say the Rosary, and other Marian prayers. Wear the Scapular of Our Lady, specially given for this Feast. Attend our novenas. March in the processions. Participate in the many activities of the Feast. Be sure to demonstrate your respect by visiting her Shrine during the Feast for Mass. Be justifiably proud in your devotion to Our Lady of Mount Carmel. Your Mother calls you. Above all, keep in mind the adage, through Mary to Jesus.**

## **Feast Program**

### **Novena**

**French Triduum July 6-9 7:30PM**  
**Spanish Triduum July 10-12 7:30PM**  
**English Triduum July 13-15 7:30PM**  
**Italian Triduum July 11-13 9:00AM**

### **Anointing of the Sick Mass**

**July 8<sup>th</sup> at 5:00PM**

### **Special Novena Mass with One Thousand Hail Marys**

**July 7<sup>th</sup> 9AM French/Latin Mass**

### **Vigil Mass of Our Lady**

**July 15<sup>th</sup> at 6PM**

### **Traditional Latin Vespers of Our**

**Lady of Mount Carmel**

**July 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:30PM**

### **Candlelight Procession**

**July 15<sup>th</sup> at 9:00PM**

### **Multi Language Rosary & Litany**

**July 15 at 10:45PM**

### **Midnight Mass of Mt. Carmel**

**Anticipated at 11:30 PM, July 15**

### **Traditional Latin Mass**

**July 16 at 9AM**

### **Feast Mass followed by** **Grand Procession of Our**

**Lady of Mt. Carmel**

**July 16 at 10AM**

**Multi Language Masses and Confessions: throughout the  
Feast Day 6AM-8PM**

## **ORIGINS OF THE FEAST**

The Feast of Mount Carmel dates its origins back to Old Testament times of the Bible. It was at Mount Carmel, in the Holy Land, that the Prophet Elias (Elijah) recorded his victory against the priests of Baal. Baal's priests tried in vain to light their sacrificial fires. Elias poured water on his altar to drench his offerings and prayed to God to light his oblations. Fire came from heaven and consumed the offerings, water, and altar stone itself.

In early Christian times, hermits gathered to live in the Eastern monastic tradition at Mount Carmel. They met together occasionally for prayer, at a chapel they dedicated to Our Lady. This became the Lady of Mount Carmel. Turmoil in the Holy Land and the Muslim invaders scattered the hermits. They were forced to travel to the cities of southern Europe. Here, not having the solitude of the mountain, their rule was adapted to more of a cenobite monk existence. They spread throughout the western world. Our Lady appeared to St. Simon Stock, to whom She gave the brown scapular, and the graces of the Sabbatine Privilege. The Sabbatine Privilege, grants the wearer of the scapular, who follows the requirements of the Office of the Blessed Virgin, and chastity according to their station in life, release from time in Purgatory.

This devotion took special hold in southern Italy. When immigrants began to live in East Harlem they brought their love of the Lady of Mount Carmel with them. In 1884, they build the Shrine Church. In 1904, following the investigations began by Pope Leo XIII, Pope St. Pius X ordered the statue venerated at the Shrine, be solemnly crowned, in recognition of the favors granted at this Shrine. Thousands, from all communities of people, from all over the world still come here each July to pray, to thank the Blessed Mother, to receive the indulgences, or to ask for an intercession. Truly this Feast is blest.