

Cristina Folan

From: mail@flocknote.com on behalf of Notre Dame of Mount Carmel Church
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Sent: Monday, November 15, 2021 4:34 PM
To: Cristina Folan
Subject: Parish Update: November 15, 2021



Notre Dame of Mount Carmel Church

Investing in Our Faith, Investing in Our Future



This past October, several parish leaders and community members embarked on small group faith journeys lasting anywhere from 5-10 weeks (a couple of them are still underway!). Eight groups were launched, offering varied themes and formats. Here is what some of these leaders have to say about their particular journeys:

*"What a joy it has been to gather in person for **The Biblical Walk through the Mass**. The group is comprised of participants at different stages in their faith journey. The program gives us many insights into the rituals of the Mass and addresses why we do and say what we do during the various parts of our Sunday Gathering. All of us are learning something new, and our sharing has brought us closer to God and each other!" Liz Laverty & Debbie White*



Beth Letizia, who led the *Life is Messy, but there is CPR for the Soul* journey shared: *"Many participants agreed that this theme seemed relevant for them now more than ever, and they were grateful that this series was in-person. Here are some of their takeaways:*

- *"The session made me realize I'm not alone."*
- *"The book was an easy read and very relatable."*
- *"The in-person discussions were part of the CPR for the soul."*
- *"We learned to cherish today and every moment."*
- *"Being imperfect is ok."*
- *"Most of all, there is hope in the light of God."*



We ended with, "Forgive yourself for whatever mistakes you've made that still drag you down. They are in your past. Do not let them squander your future. Wherever you can, ask for forgiveness, then grant what you give to others to yourself." - Maria Shriver

Laura Balogh, who is co-leading *Bishop Barron's Pivotal Players* series with Marge Collins, shared: *"The journey this fall has been very inspiring! We meet virtually, which is helpful for those who work or are not in the local area. We have enjoyed exploring the different personalities who have made a significant impact on the Catholic world, who came*

from different walks of life and had diverse talents: St. Augustine, the 20th-century author Flannery O'Connor, and legendary creator of the Sistine Chapel, Michelangelo. The group discussions have been lively and have even inspired some to dig deeper into these "players." Some of our participants are returning members from the previous offerings of Pivotal Players in past seasons. We have one more session to go and are already talking about offering another series this Lent!

Young Adult Christa Cottone chose as the theme for her group, ***Who Am I to Judge? Responding to Relativism with Logic and Love:***

"We have completed the first half of this FORMED series, which centered on the classical, or Catholic, view of morality, and now we are learning how to address moral relativism. This theme has proven relevant in today's age—the secular world has distorted how each person achieves and experiences happiness.



We meet in person, and our sessions have become like conversations in a living room, featuring serious anecdotes and musings, but laughter, too. We may be of different ages, backgrounds, and marital statuses, but we all long to implement and share insights from this journey." Christa Cottone

Leading a Discipleship Group for the first time at ND, Dave Gillespie:

"As you can see, we had a new member join us halfway through the series: my son Luke! He's been my co-leader, haha.



Our Discipleship Group is based on the book "The Case for Christ." Our journey is going well, with significant participation from all! It has been a valuable way to bolster our understanding of our faith and gain insights into how we can talk with our friends and loved ones about our faith in a more helpful way.

As a relatively new leader at Notre Dame, I have really loved having the opportunity to lead a discipleship group! The virtual format has been convenient for us since we are not all in the local area; it has been a special blessing for me as a father of two young children. I have appreciated sharing this journey with other faith-filled members of the parish.” Dave Gillespie

Stay tuned! Coming early next year, our **Lenten Discipleship Groups** will offer a new menu of opportunities to journey in small group faith-sharing. If you have a passion for a particular topic, book, film, or program, and you feel called to lead a small group series, please reach out to Cristina Folan at commsupport@ndcarmel.com.



Girl Scouts: Outreach to Local Seniors!

On Thursday, November 4th, Hanover Township girls from Troop 6625 assembled care packages for home-bound seniors via the Visiting Nurses Association.



The girls received a list of most wanted/needed items which they then went out and purchased and used to create their special bundle. The bundles will be delivered to the Visiting Nurses for distribution sometime this week.



The Angel Trees are up in our Gathering Space!
Let us bring Christmas Joy to those in need!

This year we will reach out to:

- Children in the Faith Formation program at the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist in Paterson
- Women and children supported by JBWS (Jersey Battered Women's Service)
- Clients of the National Alliance on Mental Illness
- Clients at the Greystone Facility
- Local families in need



Please take a tag or two when you come to church, or sign up online via our [Virtual Angel Tree](#), and **bring the donated gifts back by Sunday, December 5th**. Click [HERE](#) to find out more!

UPCOMING

**This week's Mass
& Lamp Intentions**

**Welcoming Help
Needed for
Weekend Masses**

SS

LIFE TEEN

Youth Mass & Life Night

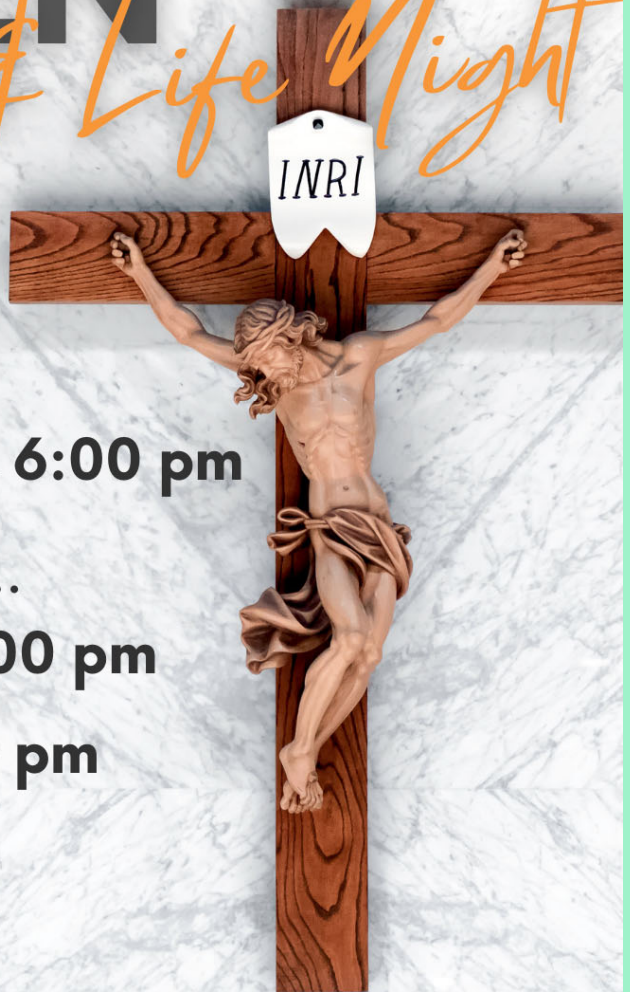
All are welcome!


Youth Mass, Sundays, 6:00 pm

For High School Teens...

Food & Fellowship, 7:00 pm

Life Night, 7:30 -8:30 pm





*Listen, find peace,
and get in touch with God within...*

Women's Guided Meditation

Wednesday, November 17, 7:30 pm

Notre Dame of Mt. Carmel Church, Cedar Knolls, NJ

In the Resource Library

www.ndcarmel.com

Catholic Spiritual Warfare

Notre Dame of Mt. Carmel
Thursday, Nov. 18, 2021
7:00-8:30 pm
in the church



What is Catholic Spiritual Warfare?
Does the Devil really exist and how
does he tempt us today?

Join Father John Gordon, Coordinator of the Office for Evangelization in the Archdiocese of Newark, as he explores the issue of Catholic Spiritual Warfare and its relevance in today's society.

All are welcome!

Questions?

Contact Family Faith Director Laura Balogh at lbalogh@ndcarmel.com

Notre Dame of Mt. Carmel Church
75 Ridgedale Ave., Cedar Knolls, NJ | www.ndcarmel.com

MONTHLY FOOD COLLECTION

3rd weekend of each month in our Gathering Space



Upcoming:
November 20 & 21, 2021

Note: This is a food collection only. Please do not bring clothing bags into the church building. We appreciate your cooperation!



Men's Group

Join us in faith and friendship!

We explore a different topic each month and offer an opportunity for sharing and discussion. Our next gathering is

SATURDAY, NOV. 27, 8:00-10:00 AM

Downstairs in the Resource Library

Mass of Remembrance

MONDAY, NOV. 29, 2021 AT 5:30 PM



*Anyone who is grieving the loss of a loved one
~ regardless of when your loved one passed away ~
is invited to attend this peace-filled liturgy.
Please feel free to invite family and friends.*

Hospitality & fellowship will follow.

JOB BOARD & LOCAL AREA ANNOUNCEMENTS

Special Memories that tell our story...

Clothing Drive



Turkey Drive



Elementary Faith Movie Night



Sacramental Prep. Family Session



Sent by Cristina Folan - Communications

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