

Cristina Folan

From: mail@flocknote.com on behalf of Notre Dame of Mount Carmel Church
<mail@flocknote.com>
Sent: Monday, May 17, 2021 3:26 PM
To: Cristina Folan
Subject: Parish Update: May 17, 2021



Spring Leadership Summit

by Pastoral Associate Jean Pankow

This past Saturday morning, over 70 parish leaders came together for the first time since the pandemic struck without warning in March 2020. These committed disciples represented nearly all of our parish ministries, and it was a special joy to welcome new leaders into the fold for such a milestone event.



Most participants attended in person, and the morning began with breakfast and joyful fellowship in the Parish Hall. The theme of the Leadership Summit – “Reconnecting in Hope” – was on vivid display as ministers exchanged hugs, laughter, and brief snippets about the past year’s journey of separation.



After a welcome and opening prayer by Father Paddy, participants listened to personal testimony from 3 parish leaders who shared their struggles and joys during these challenging months. Following their powerful witness, Summit participants

(both in-person and virtual) engaged in small group discussion about what they had heard and about the impact of the pandemic on their own lives and ministries. A representative from each discussion group briefly summarized a key takeaway from their group's conversation.



As our gathering wound down, Father Paddy shared with these “essential workers” in the vineyard insights about how we, as a parish in renewal, are structured based upon a model that is not the traditional top-down approach, but on a bottom-up, servant leadership model. Also shared was what has been created as a roadmap or pathway for discipleship at Notre Dame.

What People Are Saying...

“Everyone has been profoundly impacted by the pandemic. Their faith and the support of Notre Dame in so many ways helped many people to cope. We need to

continue to offer support and comfort as well as the opportunity for people to share their feelings. Our community at ND is powerful in helping others to heal."

"To be together in person was a joy. Although I have been fulfilled and engaged throughout the pandemic with the numerous virtual offerings, it was wonderful to be together again, life and in person."

"The summit was very beneficial in jump-starting my re-engagement with onsite church participation."

"For me (the Summit) affirmed the importance of our Notre Dame community, not only in my life but in the lives of everyone I spoke to and heard speak at the gathering."

"The Summit reminded us that there is a lot of grief to process. Some ministries are open to returning to a hybrid of in-person and virtual, and I liked Fr. Paddy saying that we can use technology to minister beyond our parish and the local area."



We give all thanks to the Holy Spirit for our dedicated, faith-filled leaders, without whom very little would be possible, and for this opportunity to reconnect and look toward a hopeful, ever more vibrant future as a faith community!

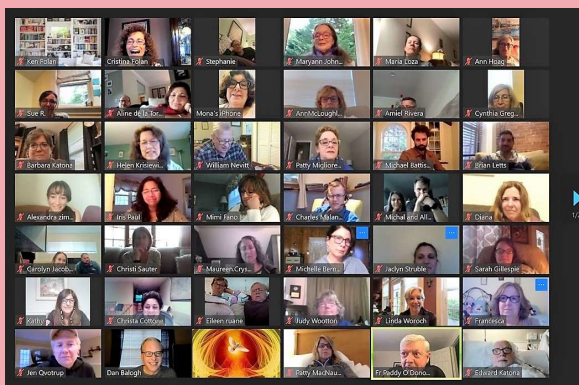
Click [HERE](#) for more special memories from our Leadership Summit.

It's a wrap for our 3rd Virtual Alpha Series

by Ministry Co-Leader Dan Balogh

The parish's third Virtual Alpha in twelve months came to a close last Wednesday night. And judging by the survey results, which are still coming in, the reaction so far has been overwhelmingly positive. One of our guests wrote, *"Alpha was a fantastic experience for me. I am very appreciative of the dedication and hard work that went into putting it together."* Another shared, *"Thanks to the people who made this possible."* A third noted, *"It brought me closer to the Holy Spirit, prayer, community and sharing."* And that's what Alpha is all about! A few of our

participants had such a favorable experience that they have already expressed interest in being on the Alpha team!



Perhaps the most amazing fruit of this past Alpha is the fact that two of our guests who experienced Alpha will now be bringing it back to their own parishes. Fr. Kevin Corcoran, pastor of Corpus Christi in Chatham, and Charles Malaniak, lay leader at the parish of St. Cecilia's in Rockaway, are both planning to start the Alpha course at their parishes in the near future! What a blessing!

The team will be taking a much-needed break over the summer, but we plan on running our fourth Virtual Alpha starting in late September and running until mid-December.

Food Rescue Ministry: Meals for Low-Income Seniors

Carolyn Lake of The Interfaith Food Pantry and her colleagues, Katy and Christine met last week with Food Rescue Ministry leaders Beth Vecchio, Mary McGovern, Patty Gant, and Anne Roda-Farrell to discuss their newest initiative, the preparation of meals for low-income seniors at our Notre Dame kitchen, which would be delivered by IFP drivers. The program begins this week!



BEWARE! Unfortunately, these scams pop up every so often. Be sure to NEVER respond to any such message seemingly coming from Fr. Paddy or any staff member. The originator's email address is a quick give-away; all of our staff members' email addresses come from an "@ndcarmel.com" email address.

-----Original Message-----
 From: Fr. Paddy O'Donovan <frmichael.ccjgs@gmail.com>
 To: mletterese@aol.com
 Sent: Sat, May 15, 2021 7:02 pm
 Subject: Blessings Mike

Hi, How are you?

I need an assistance from you,

Let me know if you receive this email

Peace,

Fr. Paddy O'Donovan

UPCOMING



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

**Welcoming Help
Needed for
Weekend Masses**

As previously announced, **Jean Pankow** will begin a new chapter in her life at the end of this month when she officially retires as Pastoral of our parish. Although she will be in the local area through the summer, we would like to offer her a special blessing this coming **Saturday, May 22 at the 5 PM Vigil Mass**. Please join us!

**Marriage Ministry
"Year-End Couple's Witness
Event"**

**This Friday, May 21, 7:30-9:00
PM**

Join us in-person in our sanctuary or participate virtually. [Click HERE for more details and to register!](#)



DRIVE-THRU DROP-OFF

Food & Clothing Collection

SATURDAY, MAY 22, 2021, 9-11 AM

Gently used clothing (in plastic bags) and non-perishable food items



Notre Dame of Mt. Carmel Church

75 Ridgedale Ave., Cedar Knolls, NJ (Back parking lot)

www.ndcarmel.com

Men's Group

An opportunity for men to gather virtually in faith and friendship. We explore a different topic at each meeting and offer the opportunity for sharing and discussion. **Saturday, May 22, 8:00-10:00 AM.** Please contact Ed Newlands at ed.newlands@gmail.com to obtain the link to join the gathering!



LOCAL AREA ANNOUNCEMENTS



Sent by Cristina Folan - Communications

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