Subject: Parish Update: August 1, 2022

Date: Monday, August 1, 2022 at 4:41:12 PM Eastern Daylight Time

From: Notre Dame of Mount Carmel Church

To: Cristina Folan



Notre Dame of Mount Carmel Church

Operation Appalachia: Off on their 29th Outreach Mission



This past Saturday, at the Vigil Mass, Father Alex offered our Operation Appalachia missionaries a special blessing. The crew headed early on Sunday for West Virginia to spend the week repairing homes for folks in need.









Special thanks to Melissa Fasano for these beautiful photos captured at the Vigil Mass (click <u>HERE</u> to view more).

Earlier this morning, we received this photo indicating they arrived safely and are in good spirits to embark on their mission this week. Please join us as we pray for our Lord to protect them and make their labor fruitful in His name.





Congratulations to *Dennis Bloshuk*, *Michael Yap*, and *Ann Hoag*,

Operation Appalachia Raffle winners of the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd prizes, respectively! The ministry offers profound gratitude to the parish community for supporting this year's mission!



Shoutout to our Adult Summer Choir!





Thanks to Music Director Jim Keefe and the Summer Adult Choir for lifting our Vigil Mass liturgies during July with wonderful music! It was a joy to see new faces and familiar ones up on those risers!





Family Mass Summer Travels Disciple-Ship Fifth Stop: Beverly Hills!

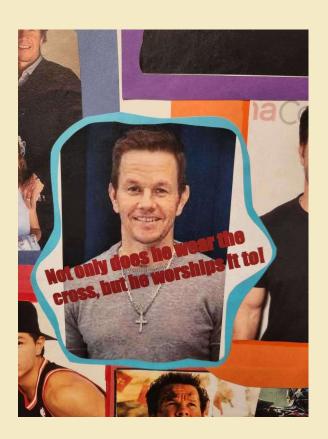
By Michelle Blanchfield, Family Mass Core Team Member

This week, **Maya and Marley Zeris** shared the story of a Catholic celebrity, Mark Wahlberg, an American actor, singer, songwriter, TV producer, member of New Kids on the Block (and Marky Mark and the Funky Bunch), and a disciple of Christ!





Mark Wahlberg grew up in Boston, Massachusetts, and dropped out of school when he was 14. By age 16, he was in prison for assault. After leaving prison, he changed his ways and turned to God. According to Mark Wahlberg, "Being Catholic is the most important aspect of my life." He also shares that "Once I focused on my faith, wonderful things started happening for me. And I don't mean professionally that's not what it's all about." Mark Wahlberg reminds us to pray about all the good things in life instead of praying for material items.....and that's the exact same message Fr. Alex shared in his homily. Coincidence? I think not!



Strengthening Faith & Leadership in our Domestic Church: Maya & Marley





"Mark Wahlberg is onboard our Disciple-Ship because he is a faith-filled practicing Catholic. He is deeply involved in his parish Good Shepard Catholic Church and has a close relationship with his priest, Father Flavin. He is just like you and us. He is a sinner and a modern example of a disciple of Christ. He is a humble celebrity who grew up poor and was a troubled teen who turned his life around by way of his faith. He hasn't always made the best decisions in his life and has gotten himself into some trouble. However, he turned to his faith and now has a special relationship with Jesus Christ.



Mark is inspiring to us because he doesn't allow his money and fame to get in the way of his faith. He not only wears the cross, but he publicly worships it too. We had a lot of fun doing this presentation. We found tons of information on Mark, printed lots of cool pictures, and made a big collage. Each and every time we have the opportunity to speak at church, we take it because it helps our parish learn more, and it also builds our confidence in public speaking."

- Maya & Marley Zeris

2022 Divine Renovation Conference Takeaways: Laura Balogh

"On July 17-20, I was fortunate to be part of the leadershin team oroun that traveled to



Dallas for the Divine Renovation Conference 2022. This was my first DR Conference, and I was a bit starstruck at the prospect of experiencing in person the key people who are part of the renewal movement, including Fr. James Mallon, the author of the book Divine Renovation: Bringing Your Parish from Maintenance to Mission, which was the catalyst for getting our parish on the road to renewal. There were about six hundred attendees from all over the world, from the UK to Spain to New Zealand, and it was a great privilege to mingle with them and hear their stories.



Several things were especially impactful to me—first, the valuable opportunity to develop new relationships with others in religious education from other DR parishes. To prepare for the conference, I organized a virtual Family Faith meet-up a week before the event. The goal was to introduce ourselves, discuss current challenges in families' faith formation, and share what we hoped to learn at the conference. While in Dallas, we had opportunities to share our learning points each day and swap ideas/ best practices. To keep these relationships going, the Family Faith Formation team and I plan to schedule additional meet-ups throughout the year to pray for and support one another.





The conference's emphasis on the power of the Holy Spirit was inspiring and personally moving. No matter how God calls us to serve in ministry, we all need to continually collaborate with the Holy Spirit for any hope of success. This message can become lost in the "busyness" of our lives, but it is especially vital for those of us in Family Faith. As we continue our planning for the upcoming faith year, we need to assist our faith leaders in better identifying and utilizing their spiritual gifts provided by the Spirit. Continuous prayer is a key part of this process to obtain practical guidance about bringing the power of the Holy Spirit into the culture of our community.

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Laura Balogh, Director of Family Faith Formation

Monthly Food Collections: Our help is needed!

"Generally speaking and considering all of our donor organizations, food donations to our pantry are down about 16% from last year, from 180,099 lbs. to 154,874. Also, generally speaking, families are spending about 9% more on food this year than last year.

The number of new families seeking our help is through the roof. In 2021 we had 331 new applications from January - June. This year we have 580! Compared to 2020, when we had 630, we are closer to pandemic levels for new applicants. We've also noticed families visiting more often and are beginning to take much more of their monthly allotment than previously; they simply need more because they can afford less.

As you know, as our founding parish, Notre Dame has always been extremely gracious and generous in its giving. We're very grateful for all your continued support!"

Increasing our support through the Monthly Food Collections would be a blessing to our local community's brothers and sisters in need. So please consider taking a bag on the 2nd weekend of the month and bring it back with your donations (preferably from the list below) the following weekend. This month's collection will take place on the weekend of August 21 & 21.



- Peanut butter 15-18 oz preferred
- Pasta
- Tomato products (sauce, crushed, whole, diced, paste, puree, etc.)
- Side Dishes Rice-A-Roni,
 Hamburger Helper, Instant
 Potatoes, etc. (except Stuffing and Mac & Cheese)
- 100% Fruit juice (32 oz. preferred)

- Cereal lower sugar preferred
- Oatmeal
- Fruit Cups
- Soup Hearty and Condensed
- Evaporated milk
- Dry milk (1-qt. packages)
- Calcium-fortified milk alternatives such as soy, rice, or almond milk
- Healthy Snacks (i.e., Belvita Breakfast Biscuits, Granola Bars, Wheat Thins, Ritz Crackers)
- Baby Food Stage 1, Stage 2, and Stage 3

Eucharistic Congress: You are invited!



Bishop Sweeney is pleased to announce the premier event of the diocesan *Year of the Eucharist*, inviting all parishioners to attend the Eucharistic Congress on September 24 and 25 at the Cathedral in Paterson.

Several events in both English and Spanish will feature prayer, community, and talks from Archbishop Rino Fishichella, Pro-Prefect of the Dicastery for Evangelization at the Vatican. For a full schedule of events and to register,

click HERE.



Silver and Gold Wedding Anniversary Mass



Couples, were you married in 1972 or 1997? (Or, have you been married for 60+ years?) The Diocese of Paterson invites you to celebrate your **25**th, **50**th, **or 60**+ wedding anniversary during a special Mass at the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist in Paterson, NJ. Bishop Sweeney will serve as the main celebrant on this joyful occasion: **Sunday, November 6**th, **2022, at 3:00 pm.**

Arrangements can be made by contacting the parish office at 973-538-1358, ext. 100 or via email at parishsecretary@ndcarmel.com. **The deadline to submit your registration to the parish office is Thursday, October 6, 2022**. You will receive additional information from the Office of Family Life once your registration has been processed. *Congratulations on this joyous occasion!*

HAPPENING...

This week's Mass & Memorial Lamp Intentions

Parishioner
Announcements

Clothing Drive

Drive-Thru Drop-off



Rear Parking Lot

Saturday, August 13th
9 - 11 am only

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:

August 20 & 21, 2022

Note: Please bring your donations no later than **11:30 am, Sunday**. This is a food collection ONLY, Please do not bring clothing bags into the building. We appreciate your cooperation!

JOB BOARD & LOCAL AREA ANNOUNCEMENTS

The best thing about.

Messer about.

... is making them























Special thanks to Melissa Fasano for

capturing these beautiful memories! Click <u>HERE</u> to view more.



Sent by Cristina Folan - Communications



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