Subject: Parish Update: August 23, 2022

Date: Tuesday, August 23, 2022 at 2:46:58 PM Eastern Daylight Time

From: Notre Dame of Mount Carmel Church

To: Cristina Folan



Notre Dame of Mount Carmel Church



Notre Dame of Mt. Carmel Church

Parish Update

August 23, 2022

"August is a big month for our Mother Mary, the whole month is dedicated to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, and we commemorate her Assumption (August 15) and Queenship (August 22) as well. The elementary families celebrated this month of Mary by making an Immaculate Heart of Mary craft and enjoying ice cream!"

Diane Byrne, Elementary Family Faith



Coordinator







Thanks to Michelle Blanchfield for capturing these photos!

Staff Announcement

from Fr. Paddy

Please join us in welcoming **Marina Makowski** as our new **Bookkeeper** here at Notre Dame of Mt. Carmel. She comes to us with years of experience ranging from education to corporate administration. Most recently, Marina owned and operated an event planning and stationery design studio located in Chester, NJ. There she managed all the aspects of the business, including all the administrative, design, and accounting needs.



You might recognize Marina sitting with her husband Edward and their beautiful children (Izabella, 7; Francesca, 4; and the newest addition, Joseph, three months) in the second pew at the 9:30 Family Mass. They have been members of Notre Dame since 2015. It is a blessing to have Marina join our staff and serve our parish in this new capacity.

We are grateful for the time Jenny Benitez served as our Bookkeeper. We also specially thank parishioner Karen Calabrese for her help with the bookkeeping responsibilities during the transition.



Family Faith Formation 2022-2023: Last Call

We are approaching the closing of registration for the upcoming **Faith Formation Year**. If you have a child entering PreK4 through 8th grade not attending Catholic School or a child with Special Needs, please begin the registration process today! **The registration deadline is next Monday, August 29th**.

Family Mass Summer Travels Disciple-Ship Eighth Stop: Italy!

By Michelle Blanchfield, Family Mass Core Team Member

This week our disciple-ship stopped in Italy for a disciple with neither a feast day nor saintly status. **Peppina Mustica** was our own Maria Cascio's grandmother. Born in 1909 in Calabria, Italy, she was a mother and grandmother. With seven of her children, she traveled to America, to a new place, for a better life. The trip took four months! Maria shares below her grandma's inspiring and saintly story.



"Life was hard in Italy. They heard stories about how life in America was so much better. So after struggling for many years, they decided to leave everything they knew behind and journey to a new place and a better life. Coming to America made things a little better, but they still worked very hard. My grandfather worked as a tailor at Bamberger's in Newark, and my grandmother did what she did best — take care of her family and then lots of grandchildren. She never learned to read or write and never learned to speak English.



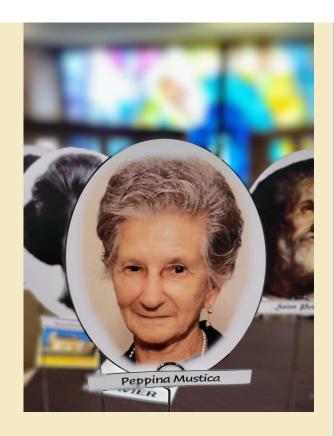
"She never earned a paycheck, but she was the hardest worker I have ever known. She was an amazing cook and taught us all the traditions from home – making pasta from scratch, baking Easter bread, and jarring our own tomato sauce. There was always a place at the table for any guest. What little she had was shared. Everyone was welcome.

"My grandmother was the kindest, most generous, and most loving person I have ever known. She was this way because of her deep devotion to our Blessed Mother and Jesus. She was never without her rosary beads, and she prayed for everyone.

"When I was young, I saved up my allowance to buy her something special. Because she loved the Blessed Mother so much, I bought her this little statue; she kept it by her bed to see it as she said the rosary. Now I have it by my bed just as she did. She taught me how important it is to pray and not just for things but to pray in gratitude for the many blessings we receive. And to always pray for others.



"It wasn't so much what she said that made her a disciple. It was the way she lived. She lived her life based on what Jesus taught - Put God first and share His love with everyone along the way. Whatever she did, she did with love. She showed me what it meant to have a servant's heart. Serve God first, then serve others. Her deep and true faith is the example I follow, and how she lived helped me become the person I am today. She showed me the heart of Jesus.



"My grandmother wasn't famous and doesn't have her own feast day as a named saint. To me, she is a saint. She lived a very simple but faith-filled life. She never accomplished anything extraordinary, but as a follower of Jesus, whatever she did, she did with extraordinary love." - Maria Cascio

Diocesan Missionary Cooperation Plan

Missionary Childhood Association



MCA - Children Helping Children in the Missions since 1843!

If you didn't get a chance to donate to the Missionary Childhood Association, you may still do so online <u>HERE</u>. Be sure to note *Missionary*Cooperation Plan in the comment section of the form. Bless you!

Divine Renovation Conference Takeaways: Maria Cascio

It was Wednesday, the last day of our conference. I love the dark and quiet stillness of the early morning. For me, the best time to pray. My prayer this day was first, gratitude; gratitude for the amazing days spent in the company of Fr. Alex, Cristina, Laura, and the hundreds of disciples from all over the country and the world. Second, I asked the Lord for guidance; what messages can I bring home and share, Lord?



There were so many personal highs during the conference. Celebrating Mass with so many faith-filled people, spending time in adoration with the Blessed Sacrament, and seeing so many priests dedicated to renewing the Church, are just a few of those moments.

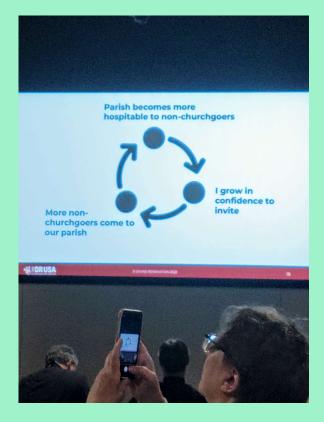


Another personal highlight was experiencing the exceptional hospitality of St. Ann's Parish. You could feel the warmth and welcome as soon as we met in the church courtyard. Their message was that we are so glad you are here without many words! I experienced what we hope everyone feels when they walk through our doors at Notre Dame.



Small world! Our very own Marilyn Hudson's niece is a parishioner at St. Ann's (hosts of the DR Conference) and was part of the wonderful welcome and hospitality team!

Personal joys aside, I knew I was there to learn additional ways to support the renewal of our Church. I attended several breakout sessions with that goal in mind. I focused on the topics of hospitality and metrics. While I do know our parish is widely known for its welcoming hospitality, there are always opportunities to learn and grow. A parish from Salem, Massachusetts, presented the challenges of fostering hospitality while undergoing a complete church rebuild in the session titled "No Place Like Home." It was amazing to hear how their community thrived while attending Mass in a tent! The key message – stay faithful to the Lord's teaching of welcome and hospitality in all circumstances.



The session on metrics appealed to the data nerd in me. "12 Baskets Left Over: The Importance of Measuring the Fruitfulness of Mission" touched on why looking at measurements is a vital component of renewal. The presentation highlighted that

the goal of measuring is to form disciples. The third breakout session I attended was notable because I knew one of the panelists presenting. Our very own Cristina Folan did an amazing job describing how leadership is developed and supported at Notre Dame. It was a blessing for other parishes to hear about Notre Dame's challenges and successes through Cristina's beautiful witness.

Now I share my final takeaway and the most important one: the answer to my morning prayer. I had the honor to hear two incredible speakers; Dr. Mary Healy, a renowned biblical scholar and professor of Sacred Scripture, and Peter Herbeck, a well know leader in evangelization and renewal. They shared the only way we could bring about the renewal of the Church. They spoke about the undeniable power and absolute reliance on the Holy Spirit. A lasting impression of the talks was the image of the Upper Room, where the troubled and lost Apostles gathered to wait as the Lord had instructed them. Alone, they now faced a world that had rejected the teachings of who they believed to be the Messiah and had put him to death. But they held on to the hope of the Promise and prayed.



We are much like those early disciples of Jesus. We must remember He promised to be with us until the end of the age through the power and gift of the Holy Spirit. It is with great hope I look forward to this exciting time of renewal in our Church. Together, empowered by the Holy Spirit, we can change the world through the message of the Gospel and the witness of God's eternal love and divine mercy.



Maria Cascio





Click above to find out more!

HAPPENING...

This week's Mass & Memorial Lamp Intentions

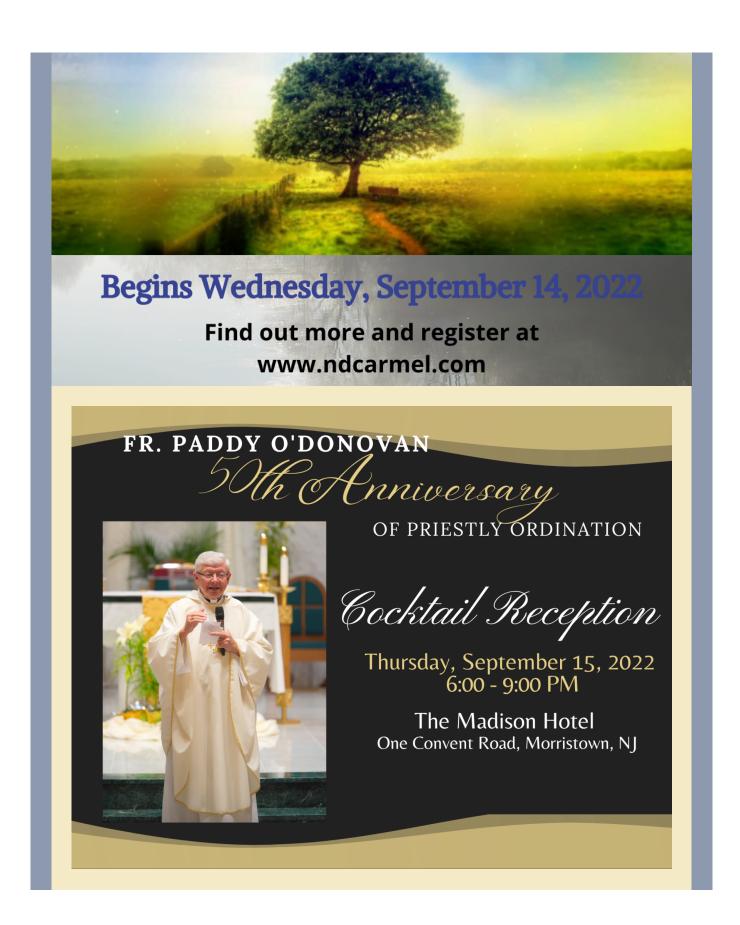
Parishioner
Announcements



Click above to find out more!

Learn how to heal from the deep hurt of divorce or separation and discover hope for the future.





Eucharistic Congress: You are invited!



The Eucharist: The Source and Summit of the New Evangelization

Who is the Eucharistic Congress for?

The Friday night event is for priests, deacons and religious brothers and sisters.

Saturday events are for all people of the Diocese of Paterson, with an English session in the morning and a Spanish session in the afternoon. The weekend will conclude with a bilingual Mass on Sunday for all people of the diocese.

Journeying Together Towards the Eucharistic Congress

For a full schedule of events and to register, click <u>HERE</u>.

JOB BOARD & LOCAL AREA ANNOUNCEMENTS

Have you joined us at Sunday's 6 PM Mass?

All are welcome - young and not so young. We celebrate Eucharist with contemporary music.

Life Teen Youth Ministry, for teens in 8th-12th grade, follows after Mass. Come, taste and see!



















Thanks to Melissa Fasano for capturing these special memories!



Sent by Cristina Folan - Communications



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