

Melissa Fasano

From: mail@flocknote.com on behalf of Notre Dame of Mount Carmel Church
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Sent: Tuesday, October 3, 2023 3:41 PM
To: Melissa Fasano
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Beautiful Eucharist

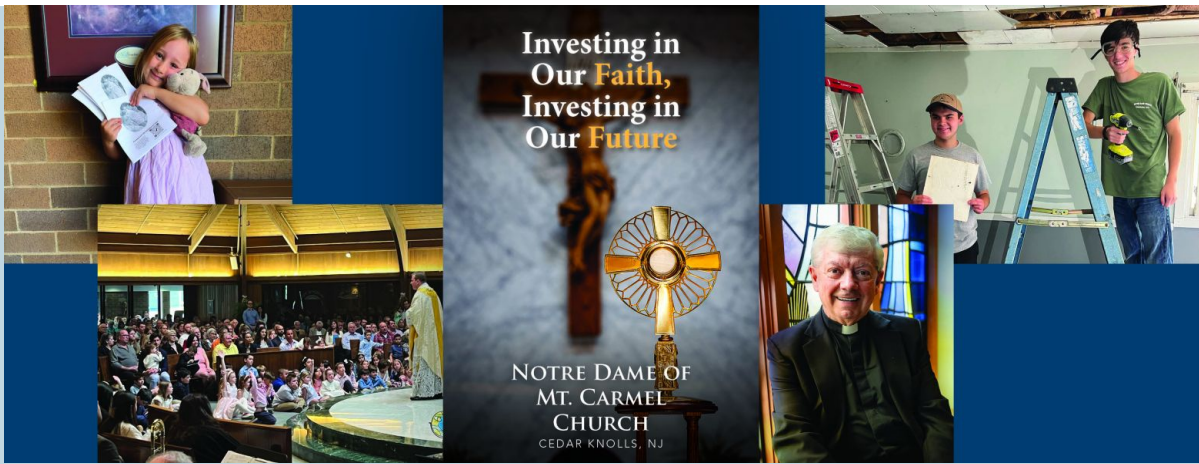
"There has not been a single meaningful relationship in human history that was not marked by some gift of sacrifice, one person to the other. Moreover, that's where mercy always comes from, and most of us learn this truth the hard way. When marriages need mending, families get fractured, or friends lose faith in each other, what is it that heals? It's sacrifice!"



"So how can any of us be sure that God loves us? Perhaps this sounds foolish to some and maybe too simple to others, but that proof can be found on every altar at every parish by every Catholic with the eyes to see it. Right in the middle of that worship, in that small white host raised to Heaven, there is a re-presentation of the one eternal sacrifice of Christ on His Cross. That is the very essence of the Eucharist. It is Christ himself, given up for you and me on the Cross, offered to us now and for eternity."

Father Eric Boelscher, in Matthew Kelly's Beautiful Eucharist

Investing in Our Faith, Investing in Our Future



Over the next few weeks, you will hear about the upcoming ***“Investing in Our Faith, Investing in Our Future”*** Program here at Notre Dame. This effort is very important as we move forward with the mission and vision of our church. We, as a parish family, have changed so many lives in our community! To continue our mission and ministries, we encourage **all parishioners** to spend time in prayer and discussion with their families, reflecting on the work we do. Our special ***Commitment Weekend*** will be celebrated on October 14 & 15. If you have any questions regarding the ***“Investing in Our Faith, Investing in Our Future”*** Program, please email commsupport@ndcarmel.c... or call our parish office at 973-538-1358, ext. 105.

Antioch Retreat:

Teens Impacting Teens Across the Diocese

By Q Furnald, Director of Youth Ministry & Contemporary Worship

This weekend, we were blessed to have a number of our teens serve and be served at **Antioch Retreat**, sharing in the joy of the Lord with teens from other parishes across our Diocese! A few of our teens (who had been candidates in the previous retreat) came back to serve as part of the retreat team, sharing witness and leading discussions of the Good News and the impact of faith in their lives with their peers on the weekend.



I am grateful for the NDMC Youth Ministry and the depth of faith found among our teens that they are able to take up the call towards Missionary Discipleship and go and serve as leaders of faith to their friends and peers beyond our walls of NDMC.



Small Group Alpha: Off to a Great Start!

A new Small Group Alpha series began last Wednesday, September 27. The Alpha team welcomed guests in the Parish Hall, where everyone had the opportunity to enjoy refreshments, get to know one another, and hear about what could be expected in the coming weeks.



Following an ice-breaker, introductions, and viewing the first video in the series, each of the three small groups headed to their own "cozy" spaces for conversation, which is at the heart of the Alpha journey.



It is such a blessing to welcome folks from different backgrounds and unique life and spiritual experiences (*"I'm not Catholic," "I recently became Catholic," "I don't know much about religion or prayer," "I'm Catholic but want to deepen my faith..."*) into this unique spiritual space. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, the Lord will reveal His plan for each of them in this particular leg of their journeys.

Important: The Alpha team can still welcome new guests in time for the second session tomorrow evening! So, if you or someone you know

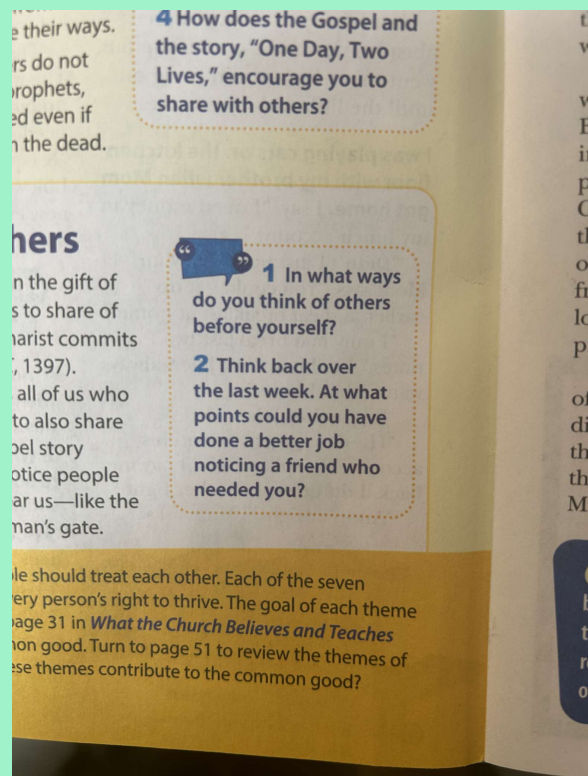
would like to join the journey, please visit our website [HERE](#) and register ASAP!

Equipping Catechists

By Laura Balogh

This year, as previously shared, we are embarking on a new path of Confirmation Preparation for our families. For the first year of preparation (Level 1), families will follow the Pathways "Mercy" program while those in the second year of preparation (Level 2) will be guided through the "Visions" Gospel Weeklies.

Visions Gospel Weeklies are lectionary-based materials that emphasize **Social Justice, Moral Reasoning, and Service** for the participants through current interest articles, life dilemma stories, and real Christian life examples. Participants will also experience discussions to help them explore the links between today's issues, the Sunday readings, and their own lives.



This past Saturday, we invited Vince Lunetta, a representative of Pflaum Publishing, to lead our Confirmation catechists in a training session to familiarize everyone with "Visions" Gospel Weeklies resources. Our session included prayer, reflection, and discussion about the value of the role of the catechist in today's world and the

importance of personal witness. We will have a follow-up session with the catechists in December.



"I thought the training session was great. Vince was very spirited, relatable, and engaging. He explained the materials clearly, and the slides followed along with what he told us. Happy to have the guidance the materials give us for this upcoming Confirmation preparation year." Patty Gant

The ultimate goal is that following their Sacrament, the families will be better equipped to "go out" into the world as missionary disciples.

It's a family affair! Our first Confirmation Level 2 session will be on Sunday, 10/15. Families are invited to the 6 p.m. Mass with Contemporary Worship. Following Mass, our formation sessions will take place, with parents participating in their own session utilizing an adult version of the Gospel Weeklies materials. Please pray for our parents and teens as they begin their faith journeys this year!

**Elementary Family Faith:
Introducing our new theme, "Mary."
By Diane Byrne, Elementary Family Faith Coordinator**

This past Sunday at our Family Mass, we introduced our new thematic series for this season: **Our Blessed Mother, Mary**. In the next few weeks, families will learn about **Marian Feasts, Titles, and Devotions**. Welcoming the month of October, month of the Holy Rosary in our Catholic Church, it was appropriate to kick off the series with this special tradition and devotion.

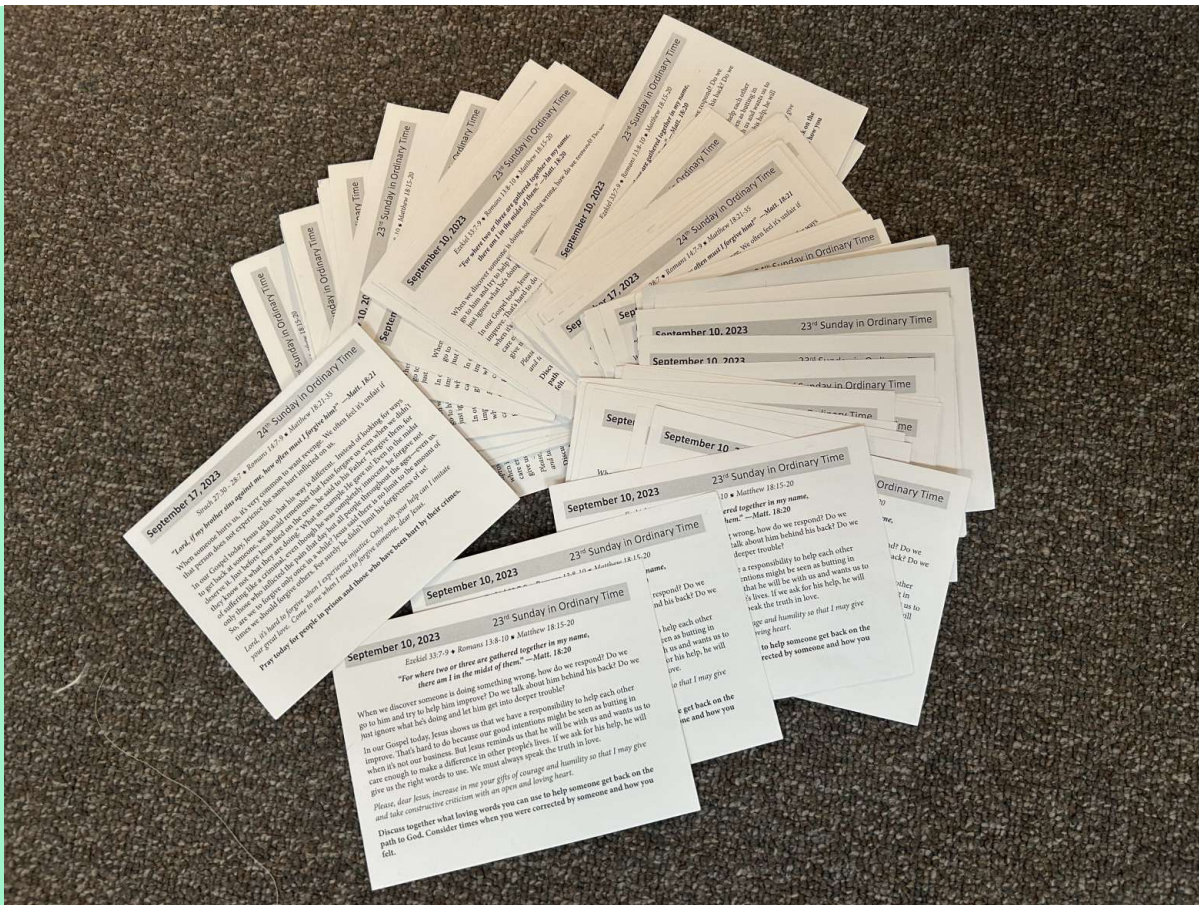


Following Mass, many families participated in a **Living Rosary** on the front lawn of our church. **Click the photo below for a quick reel shared on our Instagram channel (@ndcedarknolls)!**





Family Faith: Mass Transit Conversations



Was there something special you noticed at Mass today?

"My grandparents came to hear me sing."
"We saw some of our friends from the Hanover Tigers in their uniforms."
"There was a gold castle."
"We gave out our programs, and everyone was so kind and friendly."
"Eight lights were off."
"In persona Christi means the priest acts in place of Jesus like in Confession."
"There's a new piano player."
"Paul crawled under the pew and came out the other side, then walked over to my dad."

What was one new insight the homily gave you?

"I learned that you should take away your madness & keep your happiness."
"Forgive, and don't hold a grudge even with my brother."
"Be generous like God."
"God is generous; trust him and be patient. What may seem unjust will be fair."
"Life isn't fair, and fair isn't equal."

This week's Mass & Lamp Intentions

Parishioner Announcements

Memories that share our story...

Praise, Worship & Adoration





*Extraordinary Ministers of the
Eucharist Training*





Youth Ministry



Family Mass





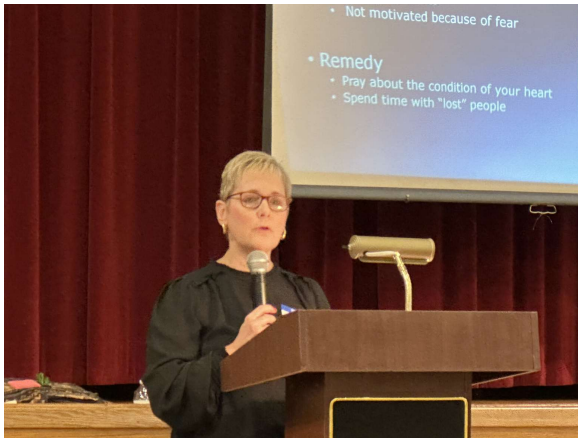
Pet Blessing





Disciples on Mission Beyond the Walls of Our Parish

Equipping "Everyday Apostles" at St. Catherine of Siena



Missionary Sisters of Charity Newark Outreach



Food Rescue Outreach



Sent by Cristina Folan - Communications

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