

Melissa Fasano

From: mail@flocknote.com on behalf of Notre Dame of Mount Carmel Church
<mail@flocknote.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 7, 2023 3:03 PM
To: Melissa Fasano
Subject: Parish Update: February 7, 2023



Women's Cornerstone XXIII

This past weekend, Women's Cornerstone team members and 23 candidates journeyed through the annual spiritual retreat, opening their hearts to the opportunity to encounter Christ and be moved by His Holy Spirit.



Several candidates have joined us recently and/or been participants of Alpha or Discipleship Groups. Undoubtedly, the seeking to encounter Jesus and grow in faith is here, and our ND disciples are being fruitful in welcoming and accompanying those the Lord sends our way.



"I am honored and humbled to have been a part of Cornerstone XXIII. As one of the youngest Cornerstone leaders, I have the utmost respect for my co-director role. My predecessors' mentorship, Patty's encouragement, and the team's support have been crucial to my success. I hope I have shown that young adults love Christ and want to bring Christ to others. Candidate demographics have also shifted, and I am glad younger women have sought encounters with our God. Again, this past weekend, I was amazed by the Holy Spirit's presence. The joy and the positive feedback made the team's efforts even more worthwhile." Christa Cottone



"Seeing so many women attend the retreat on such an arctic blast of a weekend was a blessing. Christa and I were in awe as we watched the retreat unfold and progress and watched women being drawn closer to our Lord. The personal stories shared and meditations everyone experienced enhanced connections with God by renewing our spirits. Spending time together on a journey of navigating our faith is truly an incredible experience. The fellowship of other women is a unique bond and true sisterhood carried on for a lifetime." Patty Strunk



What two of the candidates, now Cornerstone Sisters, had to say...



More Alpha Conference Takeaways!

As previously mentioned, a small group of ND's Alpha ministry members recently attended the Alpha Conference in Fr. Lauderdale. We continue sharing some of their takeaways from this invaluable experience.

"I felt a strong pull to attend the Alpha conference. Never having attended anything remotely like it, I had many questions: Would the experience help me be a better Alpha team leader and connect better with the team? Would I have a chance to pray? Would I find new inspiration and new energy for my spiritual journey? Would I find greater courage to invite others? The answer: Yes! I prayed: alone, in small groups, in the prayer space, with my team, and with an immense gathering. Yes! I was inspired, energized, and renewed for my upcoming Alpha journeys by wonderful speakers (priests, pastors, youth leaders, and of course, Nicky Gumbel), musicians, and fellow attendees. Yes! I feel closer to my Alpha team and feel blessed by them. Yes! I can and will invite others. And finally, I hope to continue to learn and grow, become a better faith leader, and be of use to others. Would I attend again? Absolutely yes!" Jen Quotrup



"It was an amazing experience to participate in the Alpha conference and be renewed in Spirit and skill with hundreds of people. So beautiful to realize so many are committed to bringing others to faith so they too can know the life-changing gift of being filled with the Holy Spirit." Diana Thomas

"The top two takeaways for me were:

- There was a visibly increased focus of the conference on the evangelization of Gen Z (youth born in 1997 - 2013). I was impacted by how young adults (who witnessed at the conference through presentations, conversations, videos, and just being conference participants) are taking on inspiring and equipping Gen Z to be evangelizers themselves. As it was noted, in 20 years, our Church will be, to a great extent, in the hands of these young people. The challenge and question for us is, are we inviting and giving them the space to grow and evangelize in their generation's*

context and their gifts, talents, and passions? I can say that from what I have seen here at ND in Youth Ministry, especially in the past year, there is significant affirmation and great hope!

- There continues to be in the conferences the underlying message of unity (not necessarily uniformity) among Christian faiths. We all share a deep love for Jesus, the mission, and our need to lean on the power of the Holy Spirit in accomplishing that mission. As Dr. Healy reminded us of Christ's words, 'I pray that they will all be one, just as you and I are one—as you are in me, Father, and I am in you. And may they be in us so that the world will believe you sent me.' John 17:21.'"

Cristina Folan



*John, Kim, & Gabrielle Afordakos,
Whippany*

Lynn Amaducci, Cedar Knolls

*Jimmy, Gina, & Matteo DeCuollo,
Morris Plains*

Leila De Mille, Morristown

*James, Kristine, Sophia, & Andrew
Formanes, Morristown*

*Michael & Lindsay Hyland, Morris
Plains*

Jorge & Jamie Manzo, Parsippany

Kevin & Julia Matlon, Morristown

Rich & Angela Novack, Morris Plains

*Joe Orecchio & Dahye Jeong,
Ridgefield*

*Kathy, Rick, Robert & Patrick
Schneider, Morris Plains*

Maureen Swan, Morristown

Ron, Jo, Elizabeth, & Adina (Miele)

Weston, Whippany

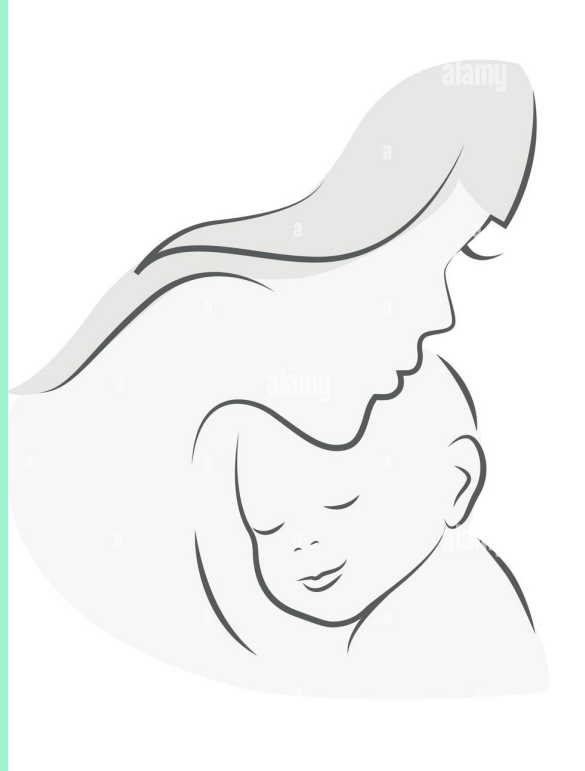
Kam, Kristen, & Grace

Zarczynski, Whippany

Roses for Life: Thank you!

The Elizabeth Ann Seton Council # 6904 Knights of Columbus would like to thank you for your generous support of our most recent Roses for Life Drive. We raised \$3,300; of that total, \$1,650 will go to Several Sources Shelters of Ramsey and \$1,650 to Birth Haven of Newton so they may continue with their good work of saving young mothers and their babies. All your prayers and donations will go a long way to ensuring that a young mother and her baby will have a chance at a better life. Thank you again, and God Bless.

Elizabeth Ann Seton Council, Knights
of Columbus #6904



Interfaith Food Pantry Network: Thank you!

"Thank you very much for your 4th quarter 2022 donations totaling \$625 and 9,111 pounds of food. Your support is greatly appreciated by thousands of people across Morris County whose lives have been changed through your generosity."

*Carolyn Lake, Executive Director,
IFPN*



**Do you come to Sunday's 9:30 AM Mass?
Perhaps you can help!**

Long-time parishioner and faithful servant of our parish who is no longer able to drive is hoping and praying to continue coming to Sunday's 9:30 AM Mass. She lives very close to the church and is willing to compensate. If you can help, even if not every week, please contact our parish office at 973-538-1358, ext. 100. Bless you!

This week's Mass & Lamp Intentions

Parishioner Announcements

JOB BOARD & LOCAL AREA ANNOUNCEMENTS

Memories that share our story...

Women's Cornerstone





[Click here to view more!](#)

Family Mass





Sent by Cristina Folan - Communications

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