

## Melissa Fasano

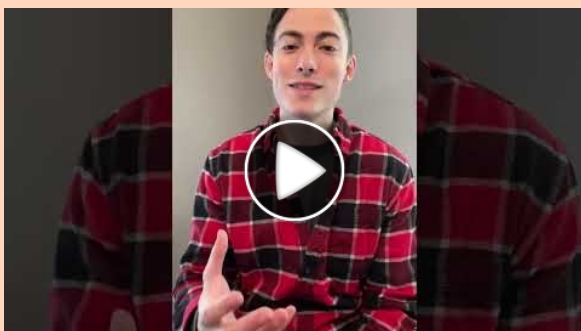
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**From:** mail@flocknote.com on behalf of Notre Dame of Mount Carmel Church  
<mail@flocknote.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 8, 2023 5:05 PM  
**To:** Melissa Fasano  
**Subject:** Parish Update: March 8, 2023



### **Antioch Retreat & Youth Ministry Update**

**By Q Furnald, Director of Youth Ministry & Contemporary Worship**



*"I attended Antioch 83 at St. Lawrence in Chester. The amazing witness talks from team members regarding their experiences of personal struggles and their relationships with God inspired me to do my best in living the faith. From discussion to fun activities to Eucharistic Adoration, Antioch was an incredible experience!" Christopher DSouza*



*"Antioch deepened my connection with faith and increased my understanding of God's children. I met many new people, some of whom will be my close friends for a long time to come. It's easy to get in your own head about the struggles of life, but experiences and transformations like Antioch show us how common our struggles are and, with the faith in God that we have, face each day with more courage and comfort." Derek Schroeder*

## **Order of Christian Initiation for Adults**

**By Laura Balogh, Family Faith Formation Director**





Our Order of Christian Initiation for Adults (OCIA) ministry is blessed to be journeying with two wonderful adults, **Tyrone Leggiardo** and **Eric Kemp**, who are being formed to be fully initiated members of the Catholic Church. James and Claire Matlon are the two dedicated ministry leaders facilitating the sessions throughout the year. Tyrone is being formed to receive all the Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation. Eric has already been baptized and is seeking Eucharist and Confirmation. They will receive their Sacraments at the Easter Vigil Mass here at Notre Dame. This past weekend, they took the next important step in their spiritual journey!



Last week, Tyrone participated in the Rite of Election at the Cathedral in Paterson with Bishop Kevin. This past Sunday, he received the Rite of Acceptance at the 11:30 am Mass, a crucial threshold in the lives of those seeking to know God since it involves a change of identity. Those formerly known as inquirers before this Rite become catechumens and are formally welcomed as disciples into the parish family.



In the presence of the faithful, Fr. Paddy introduced Tyrone, his Baptism godfather, Jason Ascot, and his Confirmation sponsor, Becca Steinel. Fr. Paddy asked Tyrone why he sought to join the Catholic faith. He was then signed with the Cross by Fr. Paddy on his forehead, eyes, ears, lips, heart, hands, shoulders, and feet to express Tyrone's assent to God's call to live out the teachings of Jesus' Gospel and follow in His path. Father also introduced Eric, his wife, Beth, and his daughter Kathryn to the faith community.



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## SCRUTINIES

The three scrutinies are rituals for the elect that "are meant to uncover, then heal, all that is weak, defective, or sinful in the hearts of the elect; to bring out, then strengthen, all that is upright, strong, and good." (RCIA 141)  
They are normally celebrated on the Third, Fourth, and Fifth Sundays of Lent.

MY RCIA FLASH CARDS

The next step in Tyrone's OCIA journey will be the three scrutinies. Please continue praying for Tyrone and Eric on their faith journeys this year and for their families!

Do you know anyone interested in becoming Catholic? Please contact Laura Balogh at: [lbalogh@ndcarmel.com](mailto:lbalogh@ndcarmel.com) or 973-538-1358, ext. 121.

## Living Stations: Did you know?

In 1988, several members of our parish decided to mount a production of **The Living Stations of the Cross** as a meaningful way for parishioners to come to know the events of the Passion of Jesus and to feel as if they were there, while He was crucified, died, was buried and rose again.



For many years they continued the tradition. In 2008, under the direction of Beth Vecchio, there was an effort to add detail and create better production quality with more realistic costumes, props, and new music.





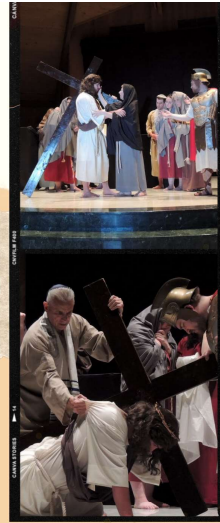
The production grew to incorporate the musical ensemble, consisting of piano, guitar, and voices, an ensemble of actors who do not speak, and the key narrators.



In 2020, the COVID pandemic put the live presentation on hold for three consecutive years! Nonetheless, the 2018 video-recorded version was shared via livestream so our parishioners and friends could still experience this prayerful presentation.

We are thrilled that this year, 2023, we will be journeying again to prepare and present our Notre Dame of Mt. Carmel's Living Stations of the Cross!

**Be a part of it!** The ministry seeks performers (no speaking parts), stage crew members, and costume assistants. Families (children must be 12 yrs. +), singles, teens, and young adults, consider being part of this extraordinary experience!



Notre Dame of Mt. Carmel's  
Performing Arts Ministry invites you  
to be part of the

## Living Stations of the Cross

### We welcome...

**Performers:** this does not involve speaking parts; participants must be able to remain in position for several minutes.

**Stage Crew:** assisting with lighting, organizing props, facilitating scene changes, etc.

**Costume Assistants:** organizing costumes, repairing and/or making new ones.

*Invite friends or members of your family (12 yrs old and above) to take this faith-filled, exciting journey with us this Lent.*

### Could you make the following commitment?

- Monday: March 27, 7:00-9:00 pm - Rehearsal in Parish Hall
- Thursday: March 30, 7:00-9:00 pm - Rehearsal in the church
- Sunday: April 2, 1:00-3:00 pm - Rehearsal in the church
- Tues., April 4 - 7:00-9:00 pm - Dress Rehearsal in the church
- Good Friday, April 7, Report at 6:00 pm, Room 201; Presentation begins at 8:00 pm

*Interested?*

Contact Agnes Loughlin at 973-539-0524 / [agnesloughlin25@gmail.com](mailto:agnesloughlin25@gmail.com)



## God's Family Tree

By Diane Byrne, Elementary Family Faith Coordinator





On Sunday, the Estrada family talked about Noah and the great flood. We learned that the ark was made from gopher wood. This wood had lots of sticky tar and resin that helped make the wood float and helped keep the water out.

We learned that sin was destroying God's creation, and Noah was the only person still faithful to God. God made a covenant with Noah to protect Noah and his family during the flood.



We need God's love and protection on life's journey, too. We can trust in God to bring us safely through whatever struggles we are experiencing.



*"Initially, I was hesitant to do the presentation; Talina and I are relatively new to the parish and, as a single Mom, with her preparing for her First Communion and extracurricular activities, I was concerned with having the time to do a great job. I have to say I am so glad that we did it. Diane and team made it easy by providing the guidance we needed. What I loved most and didn't expect was the dialogue that it created between Talina and me. We spent our evenings practicing together, and she had a lot of questions about God, Noah, and faithfulness. I love that preparing for this made these conversations possible. It was fun to practice and then watch our bloopers, and, more importantly, we BOTH learned. It was a great experience, and I am so proud of Talina as she did such an amazing job. I am thankful for the parish and so happy we did the presentation." Amy Estrada*

## Teen Anxiety & Depression: Let's Talk About It

By Laura Balogh, Family Faith Formation Director





Are you or a loved one feeling depressed, anxious, or alone? Do you feel that no one understands what you're going through? If so, it's important to remember that help is available. This was the main message of Tracy Cappicille, who spoke to the Confirmation Prep parents and teens on Sunday, February 26th. Tracy is the Director of Suicide Prevention Services at the Mental Health Association, and she told a powerful story about her own diagnosis of severe depression when she was an adolescent and her subsequent recovery. This experience drove her desire to give back and serve others who are facing similar struggles in their lives.



Tracy discussed the signs and symptoms of teen depression and anxiety and the best ways to help. After taking questions from the audience, Tracy shared resources with the participants, including information about a Teen Connect support line, which is a non-crisis mental health support resource run by youth and for youth.

We know that raising a teen, and being a teen in today's world, can be difficult. Our goal with this session was to offer resources for support since depression and anxiety are so prevalent and stigma, unfortunately, remains.

*"Thank you so much for arranging for Tracy to speak at the session. She is a fantastic speaker and one of the best I've seen at Notre Dame. Through her humble and honest witness, I felt like she spoke directly to my similar challenges with anxiety, depression, and trauma. This is such important information for all of our teens and their families to hear; hopefully, it will help people seek help." Confirmation Prep Parent*

## **Announcing our Summer Stellar Adventure!**



Our out-of-this-world Stellar Vacation Bible School voyage will lift off this July. Children entering Pre-K4 through 5th grade are invited to participate in this out-of-this-world adventure. Registration will open May 1 and end June 16, or when full, whichever comes first.

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

**Parishioner  
Announcements**

**JOB BOARD & LOCAL AREA ANNOUNCEMENTS**



## Memories that share our story...







Sent by Cristina Folan - Communications

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