

Melissa Fasano

From: Notre Dame of Mount Carmel Church <mail@flocknote.com>
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To: Melissa Fasano
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Beautiful Eucharist



"Lord Jesus, set a fire in my heart that is hungry to find the way, set a fire in my heart that is hungry to discover the truth, set a fire in my heart that is hungry for the fullness of life you spoke of when you walked the dusty roads of Galilee 2000 years ago. And remind me in all things that you are the Way, the Truth, and the Life."

Matthew Kelly's Beautiful Eucharist

2023 Vivere Christus Award

For several years, each parish in the Diocese of Paterson has bestowed the Vivere Christus Est Award ("To live is Christ") on an individual, couple, or family who lives as faithful stewards of God's grace and generosity as they respond to the call of missionary discipleship. Our parish has chosen **The Mulligan Family -- Mike, Nancy, and their five boys, Ryan, Jack, Kevin, Sean, and Michael**, as the recipients of the **2023 Vivere Christus Award**.



In the 23 years the Mulligan family has been part of our parish, they have offered an inspiring witness through the day-to-day living of their faith and the generous sharing of their time, talent, and treasure through numerous ministries, including Faith Formation, Operation Appalachia, Altar Serving, Youth Ministry, and Welcoming & Hospitality.



"We have been blessed to be part of this special church and raise our children here for the past 23 years. We have been fortunate to grow in our faith and love of God here at Notre Dame through friendships, ministry, and Mass celebrations. We have been touched by the disciples who have shown us that true joy comes from loving one another and serving those on the margins. We are thankful for the opportunity to serve our brothers and sisters in West Virginia for several years, and we look forward to working there as a family and as part of the Notre Dame parish. God is good. We are humbled by this recognition and accept it on behalf of all the Notre Dame families whose lives are dedicated to being missionary disciples. God bless." The Mulligan Family



The Vivere Christus Est Award will be presented at a special service on **Sunday, October 15, 2023, at 3:00 PM** at the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist in Paterson, NJ. All are welcome to attend!

Asking the question: Who is missing?

Our faith community is blessed by a spirit seeking to welcome all. As part of our missionary hearts, we are to continually ask, ***"Who is missing... from our ministries, events, celebrations, conversations...?"*** so we can be more intentional in developing opportunities and creating spaces that welcome those not in our midst.

Two quick examples of such a question asked a few years back (and the subsequent actions) are our Family Mass (*intentional engagement of children and young parents*) and the Marriage Ministry (*intentionally seeking engagement of younger couples*).



That same question led to a realization that young women are underrepresented in the opportunities we specifically offer for women to grow in faith. So, we gathered a few women in various age groups for conversation to better understand "the why" and how we might move forward in creating opportunities that also welcome our younger sisters with greater intention.



It was heartwarming to see how very grateful these younger souls felt to have been asked in the first place to be part of the conversation and to offer their insights!



While the pressures and breadth of responsibilities most younger women face can significantly limit their availability, they shared their desire to belong, to grow spiritually, to be mentored and accompanied, and to be on mission impacting our faith community and beyond!

The gathered voices prayed and discerned the beginning of a path forward for a Women's Ministry here at Notre Dame that would continue supporting the faith journey of those currently engaged but would also seek with greater intention those hearts missing from our midst. This new beginning is called **Daughters of Grace Ministry!** There is great hope for opportunities and events that will invite, welcome, support, and send on mission women across ages and stages of life!

The Daughters of Grace Ministry



Mission:** We seek to inspire, strengthen, and disciple women of all ages by creating spaces for friendship, laughter, support, mentorship, service, and spiritual growth. Sharing God's love and doing what He commands is at the core of our mission! **All women are welcome!

- *Olders, youngers, and in-betweeners*
- *Working, stay-at-home, and retired*
- *Introverts, extroverts, and other-verts*

- *Jesus-lovers, Jesus-seekers, and even Jesus-avoiders!*

Let us keep in our prayers this new initiative as it continues to develop and grow in outreach and fruitfulness. And stay tuned for the ministry's first offering coming this October!

Celebrating Catechetical Sunday!

By Laura Balogh, Faith Formation Director

Catechesis is a distinct and special ministry in the Church. As the Catechism of the Catholic Church makes clear, *“Catechesis is intimately bound up with the whole of the Church’s life... her inner growth and correspondence with God’s plan depend essentially on catechesis.”*





This ministry of teaching in the name of the Church has a profound dignity, which is why catechists are formally commissioned by the Church.

It is only fitting that we set aside a day to highlight this ministry and invite the entire church community to think about our responsibility to share our faith with others. The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops has designated the third Sunday in September as Catechetical Sunday.



The theme this year was “Come to me, all who are burdened” (MT 11:28), and it reminds us of the invitation we receive from the Lord Jesus to follow Him and the promise that He doesn’t want to add to our burdens; he wants to lighten them.

Thank you to all those who are sharing their time, talent, and treasure in this very special ministry! Please pray for all our families and catechists in our Family Faith Formation programs as they begin their journey of faith this year!

Perhaps you or someone you know are considering becoming Catholic or would like to become Catholic but are unsure how to get started. We invite you to consider the OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation for Adults), a journey of faith that will walk you through the steps to become Catholic and walk the life-long journey of following Jesus!

Order of Christian Initiation for Adults

by Laura Balogh, Director of Faith Formation

We're excited to announce that the OCIA journey will begin again here at Notre Dame this fall. With our faith community, OCIA leaders invite, welcome, and accompany those over 18 years of age who feel called to be formed for the Sacraments of Initiation, including Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation.

This process is the coming home of any adult into the full and warm embrace of God the Father and Holy Mother Church. It is a joyous time of growth, healing, and love in the life of any adult who comes to a relationship of faith, hope, and love in God through Jesus Christ.





Sessions begin on Sunday, October 7, following the 11:30 a.m. Mass, and are facilitated by our experienced and faith-filled parishioners, James & Claire Matlon. If you or anyone you know has not yet received some or all these Sacraments and would like to hear more about this process, please contact me, Laura Balogh, at lbalogh@ndcarmel.com

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

**Parishioner
Announcements**

Memories that share our story...

Food Rescue in Action:



Family Mass:

Our Joyful Noise Children's Choir filling up those rises! What a blessing!







Sent by Cristina Folan - Communications



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