



NOTRE DAME OF MT. CARMEL CHURCH

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Parish Update: September 30, 2025

Seminarian Lucas Folan to be Ordained Transitional Deacon this Thursday

By Maria Cascio

*With great joy and gratitude to God, all are invited to gather for a Holy Hour of Eucharistic Adoration on **Thursday, October 2nd, at 6 PM**, in prayerful support of **Lucas Folan**, a beloved member of our parish, who will be ordained to the **Sacred Order of Deacon** on this very day in Rome.*

Please join us!



HOLY HOUR

OCTOBER 2 AT 6:00 PM

In Honor of Lucas Folan,
who will be ordained Transitional Deacon on
Thursday, October 2, 2025.

Notre Dame of Mt. Carmel
St. Benedict Chapel

- Reflection & prayer time for Lucas
- Prayer time for all Vocations



As Lucas takes this sacred step toward the priesthood, we are called to surround him with our love through prayer, lifting him to the Lord, who is present in the Most Holy Eucharist. Together, we will ask Jesus, truly present in the Blessed Sacrament, to pour out His grace upon Lucas, strengthening him in faith, hope, and love as he begins his ministry of service.

Come and spend this hour with our Eucharistic Lord, offering thanksgiving for the gift of vocations and asking for an outpouring of blessings on Lucas, his family, and all those discerning God's call. Your presence will be a powerful sign of the love and support of his parish family.

A Note from Our Facilities Manager

"Over the past few weeks, we have taken care of some important 'housekeeping' around our parish grounds. Six unsafe areas along our walkways and entrances have been replaced. Over time, age and the growth of roots had caused damage to several concrete slabs, creating uneven and unsafe areas. These have now been repaired, making it much safer for everyone to come and go—especially as we head into the winter months. Thank you for your patience during this work, and God bless you all. Please stay safe!" — Leo Ramirez, Facilities Manager





This work is made possible through the generous **Offertory Giving**, which enables us to maintain and care for our spiritual home. Thank you for your continued support!

If you consider Notre Dame your parish but are not committed to Regular Offertory Giving, please pray in thanksgiving for God's providence in your life and for the trust your heart seeks to respond with generous support for the mission of our parish. Click [HERE](#) for details on how to become a regular offertory giver.

"Even the smallest act of generosity can grow into something great in God's hands. Don't wait to feel "ready." Start now."

Special Gift of Prayer Coming this Advent!

Prayer is one of the most essential pillars in the life of the Church and in the life of every person seeking the Lord. It is the starting point of our conversation with Him, where we open our hearts and allow Him to guide our path to holiness in a deeper relationship with Him.

Through prayer, God meets us where we are and leads us on a journey of spiritual growth and transformation. Beyond personal benefits, communal prayer fuels our mission of making disciples within our community and beyond the walls of our parish.

In our hope that all in our community strengthen their prayer life, and through that, the life and mission of our parish. In support of that hope, we have embarked on a parish partnership with the **Hallow, the #1 Catholic prayer app**. **Our journey with Hallow will begin this Advent!**



Our vision for this parish partnership with Hallow is fourfold:

- To foster a personal encounter with Jesus Christ
- To help people build robust habits of daily, personalized prayer
- To build relationships through a small Christian community
- To help fuel the mission of the parish

We will share more details about this exciting initiative in the near future!

Generous Hearts of Notre Dame - We extend our heartfelt gratitude to a parish couple (who wish to remain anonymous) for their generous donation, which made

this partnership possible. They are not only avid users of the Hallow app but are also deeply committed to our mission of transforming lives for Christ. May God bless their generous hearts by multiplying their gift in countless lives transformed through prayer!

Charisms: Essential to Our Church Mission

While it may sound "cool" or appealing to learn about how God has gifted us, the reality is that learning about our charisms goes beyond our feeling good and excited about something we have. In reality, these gifts were given to us by God to impact the lives of others. Not all are given the same gifts and in the same manner, but we need everyone's gifts to journey in discipleship. Not only are others waiting to be impacted by your charisms, but you are also waiting to be impacted by the charisms of others.

Fr. Josh Johnson offers compelling biblical and spiritual insights as to why we all need to explore and live out our charisms, but first, we need to discern what these are. Father Josh's talk, below, is 22 minutes long and well worth every minute, but if you're pressed for time, here are two highlights you won't want to miss:

- At **8:51**, he shares a powerful story about how a lived charism transformed the life of a saint and the world around her!
- At **13:22**, he shares his thoughts on our own discernment of charisms.



Don't forget to register for this important workshop offered here at ND on **Saturday, November 8th**. We have limited space, and registrations are picking up as we approach the date and also welcome participants from other parishes. Click below for details and to register.

CALLED & GIFTED WORKSHOP



**CALLLED & GIFTED
WORKSHOP AT
NOTRE DAME OF
MT. CARMEL
CHURCH**
75 Ridgedale Ave.
Cedar Knolls, NJ

**Saturday,
November 8, 2025
9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.**
in the Parish Hall

COST: \$60
(Includes lunch)

Discover God's call for your life

God is calling you to a unique purpose in life, a work of love that only you can do. Discern your charisms (spiritual gifts) and begin to discern God's call. You have received gifts in Baptism and Confirmation through which God intends His love to reach others. Come and discover these charisms in you!

WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

Saturday 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

The Call of the Laity
Catholic Spiritual Gifts Inventory Explained
Role of the Holy Spirit
Charisms
Discernment Process
Role of Charisms in Parish, Community and World

When you register for the workshop, you will be emailed instructions on how to go online and take the Catholic Spiritual Gifts Inventory. *To get the most benefit from the workshop, please complete the online inventory before you come.*

**2025 Diocesan Ministries Appeal:
“Three Counties, One Family of Faith”**

*As stated in this year's Diocesan Ministries Appeal theme, **"Three Counties, One Family of Faith,"** the impact of the Appeal can be felt in every corner of our Diocese. For instance, the Appeal helps support the following ministries and programs in Sussex County:*



Group home for adults with disabilities, Sparta; Meals on Wheels program for seniors; Partnership for Social Services in Franklin, which includes a food pantry, clothing thrift shop, friendly visitors program for seniors, community education, referral services; treatment services for individuals struggling with addiction; aging services; services for veterans and their families; veterans clothing closet; family referral and information for loved ones with intellectual and developmental disabilities, and case management for over 200 people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Thank you to all who support this important work! Lives are transformed through your generosity. Next week, the work of the Appeal in Morris County will be

highlighted. Please consider a donation to the 2025 Diocesan Ministries Appeal. Visit www.2025appeal.org to make a gift today.

Seeking to Become Catholic?

Are you seeking a deeper relationship with God by joining the Catholic Church? Or are you already Catholic but never received one of the sacraments? This is the perfect time of year to consider joining our OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation for Adults) process!



Are you married to a Catholic and attend Mass, but just don't know what the next step is to become Catholic?

Are you seeking a deeper relationship with Christ but have never been Baptized, or have not received First Holy Communion or Confirmation?

Have you been worshipping with us but never officially taken the step to become Catholic?

We invite you to consider the Order of Christian Initiation for Adults (OCIA), a journey of faith that will guide you through the steps to become Catholic and follow the life-long journey of following Jesus.

Our sessions are scheduled for selected Sunday afternoons, **starting on October 19, 2025**, following the 11:30 am Mass, in our Parish Office. Please contact Laura Balogh, Faith Formation Director, at lbalogh@ndcarmel.com / 973-538-1358, ext. 121 to discuss how we can welcome you onto that path!

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

**Parishioner
Announcements**

***As we prepare to welcome the month of
October:
Life, Our Sign of Hope!***

In October, the Catholic Church in the United States celebrates **Respect Life Month**, and the first Sunday of October (this year, October 5th, is designated as Respect Life Sunday.



The 2025 Respect life poster features an image of an infant receiving the sacrament of Baptism. The message, “Life: Our Sign of Hope,” reflects the ongoing Jubilee Year of Hope. Through the gift of our Baptism, Our Lord Jesus Christ calls us to be a member of his body thereby, demonstrating the invaluable dignity of the human person. This mystery invites us to be witnesses to the hope of the resurrection by promoting and defending the precious gift of life.

