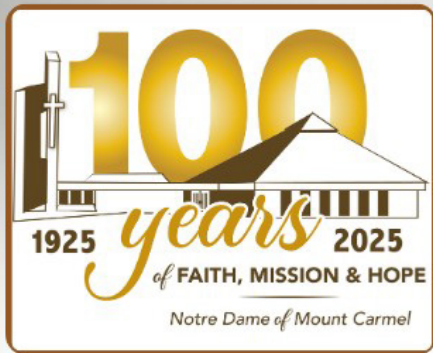


Notre Dame of Mt. Carmel Church

PARISH UPDATE

www.ndcarmel.com



**NOTRE DAME
OF MT. CARMEL CHURCH**

75 Ridgedale Avenue
Cedar Knolls, NJ 07927
973-538-1358

www.ndcarmel.com

Parish Update: November 18, 2025

**The Destruction of the
Temple and Signs of
the End Times**

Luke 21:5-19



MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday Mass Schedule

Saturday: 5 pm Vigil (*livestreamed on YouTube*)
Sunday: 7:30 am
9:30 am (Family Mass)
11:30 am
6:00 pm (Mass with Contemporary Worship)

Daily Mass Schedule

Mon - Sat: 12:00 pm (*followed by praying
of the Rosary*)
Mon-Fri: 7:30 am LENT ONLY and through
Wednesday of Holy Week.

Upcoming Holy Days

ALL SAINTS, November 1: 12:00 pm
*Obligation lifted this year as Holy Day
falls on a Saturday*

THANKSGIVING, November 27: One Mass at 9:30 am

Confession

Saturday: 12:45 pm to 1:30 pm
(*Except Holy Saturday and when Christmas Eve or
Christmas Day falls on a Saturday*)
By Appointment with the Pastor (*call the parish office
at 973-538-1358*)

Adoration

Thursday: 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm in the Chapel
Friday: 8:00 am - 3:00 pm in the Chapel

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973-538-1358
www.ndcarmel.com
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Notre Dame of Mt. Carmel Staff



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Women's Cornerstone:
Thrive & Bloom Where God Has Planted You!



This past weekend, our Women's Cornerstone team officially opened registration for their upcoming (26th!) retreat, January 30 & 31, 2026. Team representatives spoke at Masses this weekend, sharing how the Cornerstone Retreat has impacted their spiritual journey.



A Cornerstone Retreat is a grace-filled space where God meets each woman *exactly where she is*. Whether someone comes seeking renewal, clarity, healing, fellowship, or simply a pause from the daily rush, Cornerstone offers a place to breathe, pray, and rediscover the gentle presence of Christ through the retreat experience and the warm, welcoming hearts of its team members.

Through witness talks, prayer, conversation, and community,

Click below to find out more and to register!

participants often find themselves renewed from the inside out. Cornerstone provides not only a chance to encounter Christ in a personal way but also an invitation to continue "blooming" in alignment with the plan the Lord has for each of them.

All women of the parish are warmly invited to take part in this beautiful opportunity for spiritual growth and sisterhood.

Women's Cornerstone XXVI

January 30, 2026 - January 31, 2026

Notre Dame of Mount Carmel ~ Cedar Knolls



Generous Hearts of Notre Dame: *Thanksgiving Turkey Drive*

This past weekend, we held our Annual Thanksgiving Turkey Drive — and once again, our parish showed heartwarming generosity.

105 Turkeys * \$414 cash * \$118 donations online

We were blessed to have members of our Men's Cornerstone Ministry coordinating the turkey drop-off in our back parking lot, complete with entertainment! Thanks to their hard work and your donations, we were able to offer support to those in need through the Interfaith Food Pantry. Thank you for helping us share God's love in such a tangible way!



Parish Pastoral Council: Sharpening One Another in Fellowship

By Dan Balogh, PPC Chair

The current Parish Pastoral Council has been meeting for at least two hours every month since January 2024, discerning next steps for our beloved parish. As the expression goes, however, all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy. And we definitely don't want to be a dull council! So, when Vice Chair Jen suggested we all go out to dinner one evening, we all agreed it was a great idea. Jen polled all eleven

members, providing about a dozen possible dates... but none worked for everyone.

So, we decided that instead of our usual council meeting this month, we would use the time slot to break bread together and get to know each other better. So on November 10, we headed to the rectory for an evening of fun, fellowship, and delicious catered food. When we were finished eating, and began pairing off for conversations, the din became so loud that I could barely hear the person sitting next to me! That was the Holy Spirit working!



Since becoming a council member, I have observed over and over how “iron is sharpened by iron; one person sharpens another” (Proverbs 27:27). The skills and points of view we bring to the table, and how we bring them, is very important. The discussion during dinner, however, reminded me that each member also has his or her own personality and story. The time we spent getting to know each other during dinner was very fruitful. Cultivating friendships within all of our ministries is so important.



With Thanksgiving just around the corner, we want to give thanks to Fr. Vidal and Turbo for hosting us; to Maria and Leo for getting everything set up; and to Jen, who helped plan it all.

I personally would like to extend thanks to the entire council for all of their hard work over the past nearly-two years. And I would also like to give thanks to our wonderful parish. The blessings we all receive from each other, not only as children of God, but as parts of the Mystical Body of Christ, are inestimable.

Happy Thanksgiving!

**Hallow-ND Partnership:
Be Still: Advent Challenge Begins December 1st**



Prepare your heart for Jesus this Advent with daily prayer on Hallow!

To join:

1. Go to **Hallow.com/Parish** on your web browser to redeem an exclusive offer and join your parish page.
2. Download or open the Hallow app
3. Create an account or log in
4. Search for our parish (zip 07927) in the Community tab



5. Join the Advent Pray25 Challenge
6. Start praying on December 1st!

Need help? Email
commsupport@ndcarmel.com

100 Years - 100 Meals Centennial Outreach Opportunity!

Earlier this fall, we were presented with an opportunity to support the **Plaid House** on Western Avenue in Morristown. The mission of Plaid House is to provide residential and supportive services to adolescent girls. Plaid House teaches skills that foster growth, independence, and family reunification. The group home hosts up to 10 teenagers placed through the New Jersey Children's System of Care. The youth range in age from 14 to 19, and referrals are accepted from anywhere in New Jersey. Simply put, by Katharine Evarts Merck, Founder of Plaid House, they seek *"To re-weave the lives of young women into the fabric of society."*

The Beginning

Late one evening prior to Christmas 1970, Kate Merck and her husband received a telephone call from the Morris County Probation Department. They wanted to know if they would take a seventeen year old girl for about a week or so over the Christmas holidays. They were told that the judge wanted to send her to a residential treatment center, but the center was closed over Christmas. They were told that if they did not take her the Sheriff had orders to pick her up at 7.30 am the next day to take her to Clinton State Prison for Women. So Kate took her into her home for the holidays.



How can we help? Plaid House reached out to us to see if we could support their mission by helping prepare meals for the residents. After a conversation with **Deacon Joe Harris** and **Food Rescue Leader Beth Vecchio**, it was determined that supporting the young women served by Plaid House would indeed be a blessing. And what better time to do so than in a year when our hearts are filled with gratitude, celebrating 100 years of faith, community, and mission? **100 meals**

to celebrate our 100 years sounded like a wonderful start to this story of

Not surprisingly, our Food Rescue Ministry went into immediate action, gathering the logistics for meal preparation and delivery, and what a start they've given us! Since October 13th, Food Rescue ministry members have already cooked and delivered 11 meals!



Many hands make light work!

This opportunity is now being brought to our parish at large: preparing a meal for 10 people seems like an excellent way for parishioners to share their time, talent, and treasure while impacting the lives of young women in need.

Check out the SignUpGenius below and find a time slot that works for you. Whether you choose to cook and deliver the meal on your own or invite a friend or family member to join you, make this a personal and fruitful experience of generous discipleship!



Questions? Please contact Food Rescue Core Team Leader Kathleen Beck at 973-597-8580.

Encountering Faith in Action on the Road to Emmaus

"I attended the 11th Road to Emmaus retreat a couple of weeks ago and was inspired by the men who were there and by the new insights I gained through the discussions, rituals, and camaraderie. It was truly holy ground, in a retreat house at a Benedictine Abbey, in the beautiful Fall setting, among men who were willing to share their faith and move closer to God.



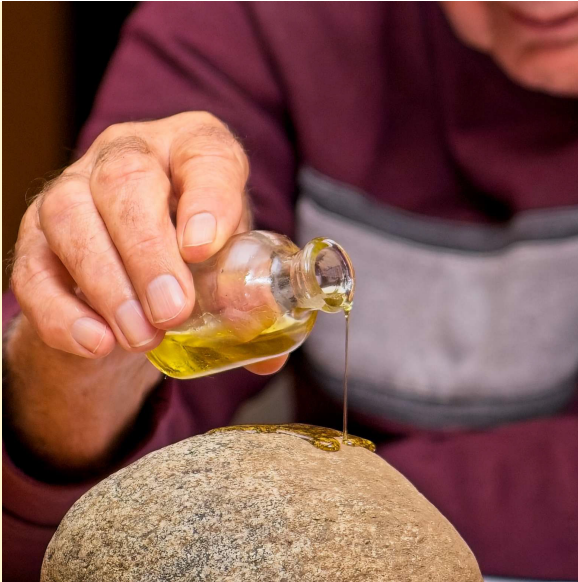
It was great to see those who had been on past retreats (this is not a “one and done” experience) and meet new friends who impressed me with their stories. Emmaus is a strongly Catholic retreat, created by laymen for men who wish to strengthen their relationship with God and Jesus. We even had a campfire on Saturday night to socialize and learn how God has affected other men's lives.



A central theme of the weekend was “Faith in Action,” and each of us was asked to consider when and where we have put our faith into action through specific behaviors and spiritual works. This involved the time, talent, and treasure we’ve put to work in our parish, family, and community.



Along the way, we also considered the barriers that might interfere with our willingness to apply our abilities in the service of God’s plan. As difficult as it is to do this type of self-analysis on my own, it was made easier in the company of other men doing the same thing and willing to talk about these barriers. In the end, I was able to confront my fear, self-doubt, ego, and other issues in developing a plan to increase my faith-based actions.



This retreat was a great time to think about the really important questions in life, as outlined in Pope Francis's encyclical "On the Human and Divine Love of the Heart of Jesus Christ." Some of these are:

***Who am I really?
Why and for what purpose am I in
this world?***



***What meaning do I want to give to
all my experiences?***

Who do I want to be for others?

"Stepping away from everyday life to grow closer to God and feel a deep sense of renewal is a powerful experience. There is something here for everyone: brotherhood, prayer, reflection, authentic sharing, laughs, a Saturday night fire pit, and a clearer sense of purpose.

If you seek any of this, whether you are not sure about your faith or are a mature disciple already, TAKE THE LEAP! Emmaus will change you for the better and help clear the path to a closer relationship with our Lord. "

Bob Flynn

I was extremely fortunate, even blessed, to be on the "Road to Emmaus" this year. Everyone should have this experience." Pat Madden



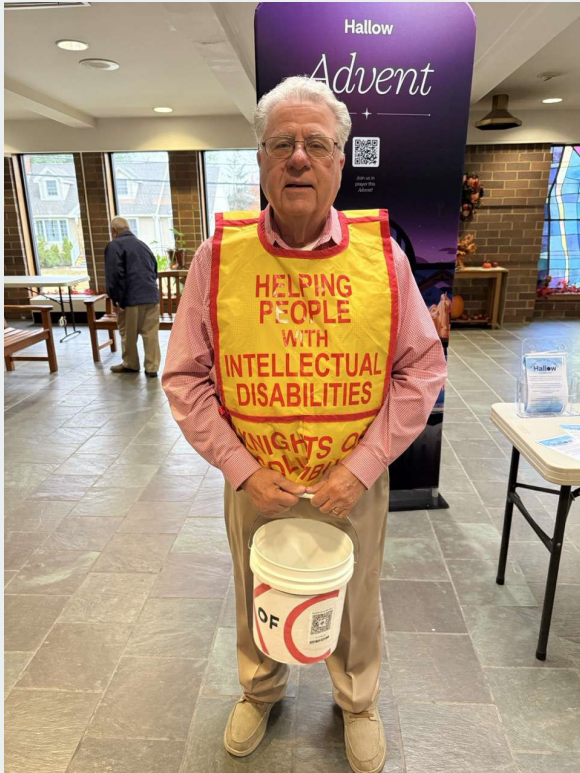
Knights of Columbus Happenings

By Dennis Fashano, Former Grand Knight

*The Knights of Columbus held their **semi-annual blood drive** on Saturday, November 1, at OLM gym. We had a good turnout and a total of 32 pints of blood were collected. We thank all who may have participated. Blood is always urgently needed!*



The Knights also conducted their Intellectually Challenged Drive at both Notre Dame and Our Lady of Mercy parishes the weekend of November 8/9. We wish to thank the generous parishioners at both churches who donated a total of \$3300 雪霄霏霏霏霏yb

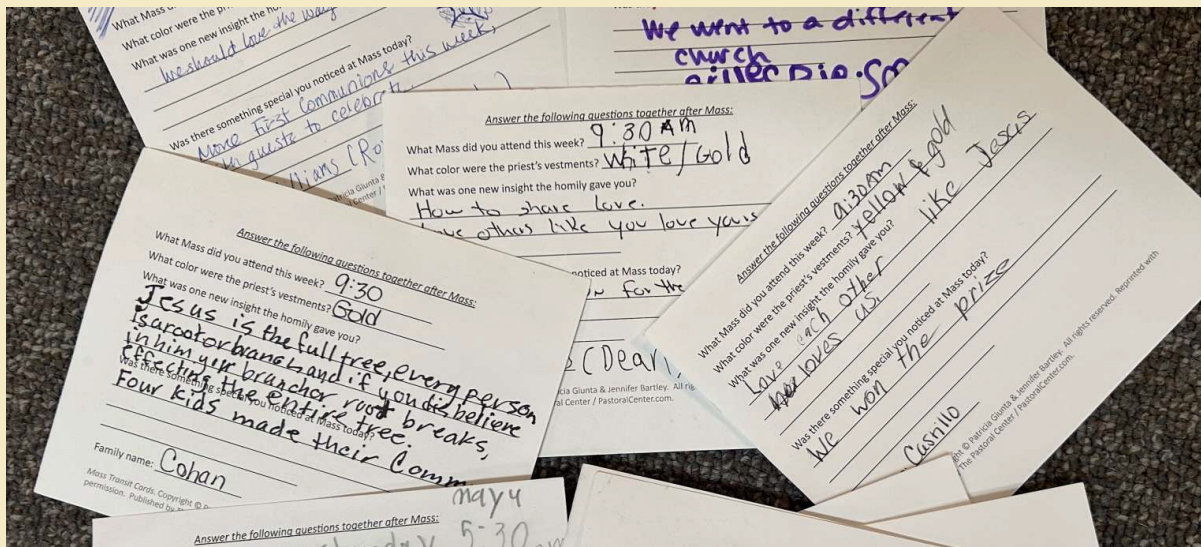


*The Knights are now “all hands on deck” as they plan for our grand annual Parishes’ Christmas Party! This cherished celebration is a wonderful opportunity to unite our faith communities—Notre Dame of Mt. Carmel and Our Lady of Mercy—as families come together in joy to embrace the magical and divine season of Christmas. **Click below to RSVP!***





Mass Transit Cards



What was the one insight the homily gave you?

"Believe in your faith even when times are difficult."

"It is important to be respectful at church during mass."

Was there something special you noticed at Mass today?

*"The baptismal pond was missing."
"I got to read the homily."*

"I saw a soccer friend, basketball friend, and a school friend."

"We should fast one hour before receiving communion. Don't be scared in hard times - Jesus will be beside you."

"God doesn't care about what we have, he cares about how we treat each other."

"You said believe in Jesus, no matter what!"

"Don't eat during church."

"Heaven and earth will pass away, but Jesus words will live forever. You are never alone."

"God knows us before we were born."

"Jesus loves me for what is in my heart,"

"Priests visit Rome."

"We must behave well in church because it is God's house and we must show respect."

"The church is a place for pray not for play or a market. You need to be respectful."

"Faith can deepen under pressure and not crumble."

"Jesus is always here for us."

"The giving angel tree is up. I like giving toys to kids!"

"Children's choir performed."

"Deacon Joe did a reading."

"My whole family brought up the gifts!"

Father Vidal had on different green vestments today. It had more gold."

"The children's choir sang today."

I brought a lamb in honor of Saint Agnes."

"My sister read."

"I saw my friend from dance class."

"Priest dressed in all white - no colors."

"All the love and laughter."

"Father Vidal came back."

"There were two angel trees up."

"New plants."

"Fr. Paddy was there."

"My Mom did a reading."

**& This Lamp
Week's Intentions**

**Parishioner
Announcements**

Memories that Share Our Story

Mass of Remembrance (click below)



Notre Dame of Mt. Carmel

Mark Pentleton · The Prayer (Instrumental)

Remembering our loved ones who have passed...Eternal rest grant unto them, O, Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. May... See more



21



6



1



7:30 am Mass





9:30 am Mass







Shepherd's Call





11:30 am



