

# Notre Dame of Mt. Carmel Church

# PARISH UPDATE

[www.ndcarmel.com](http://www.ndcarmel.com)



## NOTRE DAME OF MT. CARMEL CHURCH

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

[www.ndcarmel.com](http://www.ndcarmel.com)



## Parish Update: December 2, 2025





# 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

**Immaculate Conception**, Monday, December 8  
7:30 am & 12 PM

**Nativity of Our Lord, Jesus**

Vigil Masses, Wednesday, December 24  
4:00 PM (Family Mass)  
7:00 PM & Midnight (with Music Prelude at 11:30 pm)  
Masses, Thursday, December 25  
7:30 AM, 9:30 AM & 11:30 AM

*Parish Office is closed Dec. 8, 24, 25.*

## 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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[www.ndcarmel.com](http://www.ndcarmel.com)  
Facebook: @ndcarmel  
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YouTube: @NotreDameofMtCarmel

# *Notre Dame of Mt. Carmel Staff*



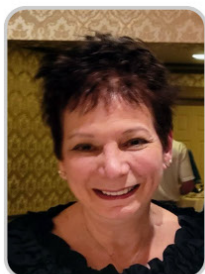
**Fr. Vidal Gonzales (Pastor)**  
frvidal@ndcarmel.com / x131



**Deacon Joe Harris**  
deaconjoeharris44@gmail.com



**Deacon Eric Kispert**  
erickispert@aol.com



**Maria Cascio**  
Parish Secretary  
parishsecretary@ndcarmel.com  
x100



**Cristina Folan - Director of  
Communications  
& Evangelization**  
commsupport@ndcarmel.com  
x105



**Laura Balogh - Director of  
Family Faith Formation**  
lbalogh@ndcarmel.com  
x121



**Diane Byrne - Elementary  
Family Faith Coordinator**  
dbyrne@ndcarmel.com  
x111



**Marc Luciani - Sacristan**  
mluciani@ndcarmel.com



**Karen Fajardo**  
Parish Bookkeeper  
parishbookkeeper@ndcarmel.com  
x 106



**Abigail Schumer**  
Music Director  
aschumer@ndcarmel.com  
x 109



**Louis Castano - Director of  
Contemporary Worship**  
lcastano@ndcarmel.com



**Leo Ramirez**  
Facilities Manager  
rou0510@yahoo.com/x120



**Frank Figur**  
Facilities Support

**Notre Dame of Mt. Carmel Church**  
75 Ridgedale Avenue  
Cedar Knolls, NJ 07927  
973-538-1358  
feedback@ndcarmel.com



## **Volunteer Main Office Support** volunteer@ndcarmel.com / x100



**Patty Gant**



**Agnes Loughlin**



**Mary Malone**



**Sallyann Augello**  
Database Administrator  
registration@ndcarmel.com

# **Evening of Formation & Renewal for our Ministry of Lectors and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion**

**By Fr. Vidal, Pastor**



*As pastor of our parish, I invited Fr. Jared Brogan, S.T.L., Director of Worship, to offer a formation talk and guide us toward a deeper understanding of two essential ministries in the life of the Church: the Ministry of Lectors and the Ministry of Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion. These roles are central to our parish's liturgical life, and it is important that those who serve are well-formed, confident, and spiritually grounded.*



*My hope was that our Lectors and EMHCs would come to understand not only what they do, but why their ministry is so important. The Church provides clear guidance on how these ministries are to be carried out, and a formation session helps us build a shared understanding so that all ministers serve in a unified, coordinated, and reverent way.*



*I want our liturgical ministers to be spiritually enriched, well-prepared, and firmly rooted in the Church's vision, so that our liturgy may always be celebrated with the dignity and reverence it deserves.*

*Thank you to all our Lectors and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion for attending the formation talk. Your dedication, time, and commitment to serving our community are truly appreciated. May God continue to guide and strengthen you in your ministry.*

*"Father Jared Brogan was a pleasant, refreshing surprise on how learning about the Sunday Mass can be so rewarding and entertaining. He brought a unique mixture of reverence and humility. His insights helped me continue to provide our services to our community, assisting our priest and deacons.*

*I was glad to see that my parish was following the correct way to distribute and administer Holy Communion.*

*We should lobby to have him visit our parish more often and to perform Mass for our community this Advent season. He can invigorate and bring back the fire àà most of us need to get back on track and prepare.*

*Very blessed to have attended this evening of renewal." Angelo Pecoraro*



*"Father Jared provided an enlightening refresher on the history and importance of our roles as Lectors and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion. I had no idea these ministries dated back so far! (Please insert year if you remember) He presented the information in a spiritually meaningful and sometimes humorous context. I believe all ministers left with some new insight into their ministry." Mary McGovern*

## **Generous Hearts of Notre Dame: Honoring Sacred Donations**

In recent months, our parish community has been blessed with two very special gifts through private donations. One of these, the breathtaking crucifix in our renewed Chapel, has graced our space for some time, though it had not yet received its proper blessing. In mid-October, Fr. Vidal took the opportunity to bless this cherished crucifix, along with another beautiful sacramental—a newly donated thurible.



A crucifix has the power to deepen our encounter with the Lord. Simply pausing to gaze upon it can draw our hearts into the mystery of Christ's love and the profound sacrifice He made for us. Those who faithfully offer a Holy Hour in Adoration know well how even a brief glance at the crucified Christ can ground the soul, inspire gratitude, and renew one's devotion. Such beauty within our Chapel serves as a quiet invitation to prayer and a gentle reminder of the love that continually transforms us.



The thurible, the vessel through which incense is burned, carries its own rich symbolism. As the fragrant smoke rises, it signifies our prayers being lifted to God, creating a visible reminder of our worship and petition. It is a beautiful part of special liturgical celebrations—such as Easter, funerals, and other solemn occasions—enhancing the sacred atmosphere and drawing the faithful more deeply into the mystery of the Mass.

We are so grateful to the individuals who donated these sacramentals to our parish community—gifts that enrich both the beauty and devotion of our shared journey of prayer, worship, and encounter with the Lord.

# **Building Stronger Connections: Highlights from Our Marriage Workshop**

By Danielle Jones, Marriage Ministry Core Team

Our Marriage Ministry hosted an Enrichment Workshop, "Speaking of Marriage: A Vibrant Communication Workshop for Couples," on Saturday, November 22nd.

The workshop provided a joyful and engaging atmosphere focused on enhancing communication skills and strengthening marital bonds. Couples gained practical tools and insights to foster vibrant discussions and deepen their connections. Whether participants were newlyweds or had been married for years, the workshop offered valuable resources for every stage of marriage. We hope everyone left with open hearts and a renewed willingness to learn!



Thank you to everyone who attended!

Mark your calendars for the Marriage Ministry Holiday party – Saturday, December 20! Details will follow shortly.

## **Family Mass: Angel on Assignment**

**By Diane Byrne, Elementary Family Faith Coordinator**

The Elementary Family Faith Program's theme for this Advent is "Angel on Assignment." Each Sunday at the end of the 9:30 Mass, our lead angel assigns families a task to complete during the week to help them prepare for Advent. The lead angel is assisted by two other angels, one to announce the angels' presence and the other to hold the scroll specifying that week's task.





The assignment for the first week of Advent is to create a Christmas card for the homebound of our parish. After Mass, our lead angel, along with her helper angels, handed out blank cards and envelopes to be returned this Sunday as Christmas cards.



**Hallow-ND Partnership:**  
**Be Still: Not too late to join!**



**We have 156 hearts who have joined us in this Advent Challenge!  
It is not too late to join in!**

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

*Need help? Email  
[commsupport@ndcarmel.com](mailto:commsupport@ndcarmel.com)*

## **Knights Happenings**

**By Dennis Fasano, Former Grand Knight**

The Knights were available at Shop Rite on Saturday, November 22, to help bag for those buying their Thanksgiving menus. Seventeen brothers spent close to 60 hours and collected \$1783 for the council's charities! Special thanks to all who contributed!





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

**Parishioner  
Announcements**

***Memories that Share Our Story***

*Thanksgiving Day Mass*

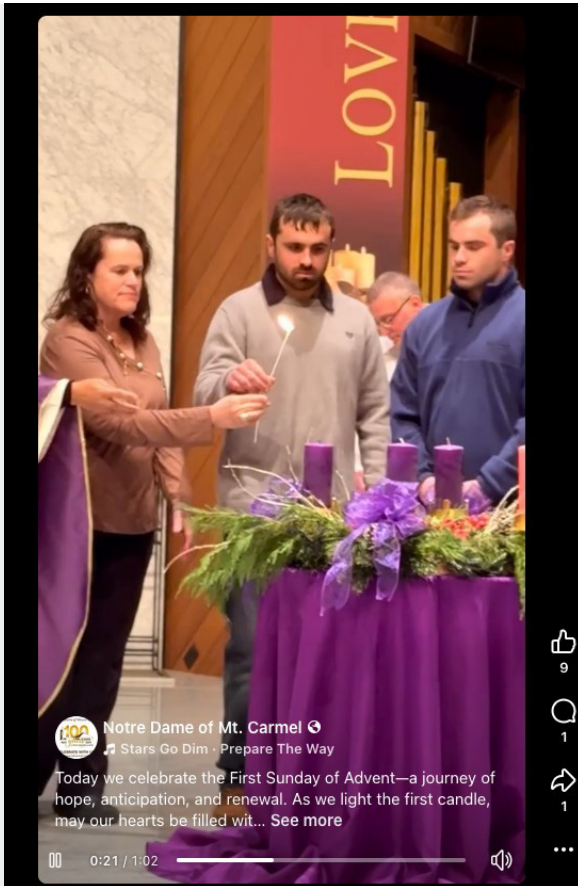
*Click below for our reel!*



*7:30 am Mass (click below)*



*9:30 am Mass (click below)*



**Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,  
and let perpetual light shine upon them.  
May they rest in peace. Amen**

*Anthony and Elisa Scarpino were vibrant and generous members of our parish community. In recent years, they both faced significant health challenges. Anthony passed away in March, and Elisa passed away this past Wednesday. We are grateful for their presence and for their gifts of faith, time, talent, and treasure for so many years. We pray for the eternal rest of their souls and for the peace and comfort of their daughters, Grace and Elyse, and their loved ones.*

