

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: December 23, 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

NATIVITY OF OUR LORD, JESUS

Vigil Masses, Wednesday, December 24:

4:00 PM (Family Mass with Prelude at 3:34 PM);
7:00 PM;

Midnight (with Music Prelude at 11:30 pm)

Masses, Thursday, December 25:

9:30 AM & 11:30 AM

MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

Tuesday, Dec. 31 Vigil Mass at 5:30 pm

Wednesday, Jan 1, Mass at 12 pm

Parish Office will be closed:

Dec. 24, 25 & 26; Jan 1.

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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Instagram: @ndcedarknolls

YouTube: @NotreDameofMtCarmel

Notre Dame of Mt. Carmel Staff



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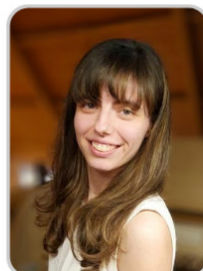
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Family Mass: Angel on Assignment

By Diane Byrne, Elementary Family Faith Coordinator

This past Sunday at our Family Mass, our Lead Angel (Angel on Assignment) tasked our families with driving around to look at Christmas light displays and count the number of nativity scenes they saw. After Mass, our lead angel, along with her helper angels, handed a package of hot chocolate to each child to enjoy after their drive.

As we wrap up our Angel Assignment Advent theme, we pray that these assignments helped our families create more time and “space” to be together—deepening their relationships with Jesus and one another, while strengthening their sense of service to others.



At our Family Mass, Fr. Vidal had the joy of presenting our new Altar Servers to our community and installing them for service in the Altar Server Ministry. We are deeply grateful for their generous “yes” to serving our parish in celebrating our liturgies, and for the loving support of their families as these young hearts fulfill this commitment.



We pray that this journey of service will continue to deepen their faith and nurture a growing love for our Lord and His Church.



A Night of Advent Hope & Christmas Joy

Our Contemporary Worship Ensemble hosted a grace-filled evening this past Thursday evening: A Night of Advent Hope and Christmas Joy! The gathering was

marked by a powerful sense of God's Spirit. His presence was palpable—in the hearts



The full recording of the gathering is available on our YouTube channel [HERE](#).

Special thanks to all who helped make this evening a true moment of worship and encounter. Thanks as well to Dan Bozza for capturing the beautiful memories!

Do you love music? Enjoy singing or playing an instrument? Do you have a heart for the Lord and a desire to serve through worship?



The **Contemporary Worship Ensemble** warmly invites you to consider joining this small community of music ministers who joyfully lead our parish in praise and prayer. The ensemble serves the **6:00 PM Sunday Liturgy** and also hosts special **Praise and Worship events** throughout the year.

If you feel called to share your gifts and grow in faith through music, we'd love to hear from you. Contact **Louis Castano**, Director of Contemporary Worship, at lcastano@ndcarmel.com.

Young Adults Wrap Up the Year with a Fun Christmas Celebration!

What a joy it has been to see our Young Adult Ministry grow in faith, fellowship, and community. Throughout the year, they have gathered with great faithfulness, offering creative opportunities for young adults to connect and find a safe, welcoming, and authentic space to grow in faith and friendship. To wrap up the year, they came together for a fun and festive Christmas celebration!

Please continue to pray for our Young Adults and in a special way for two who are currently journeying through OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation for Adults)



“What a fantastic night! I had such a great time hanging out with our NDMC young adults at the Ugly Christmas Sweater Party. Between the games, the karaoke, the delicious food, and, of course, the incredibly creative sweaters, there was never a dull moment.

What I enjoyed most was simply being together, laughing, cheering each other on during games, and bravely singing our hearts out during karaoke. It was such a joy to see everyone relaxed, having fun, and building real friendships. Nights like this remind me that faith and community grow when we take time to enjoy one another.

Huge thank-you to Madeleine, our young adult leader, for planning the evening, and to all our young adults who came out and made it such a joyful success. And a special shout-out to John and Thomas, who drove miles and miles to join us. Grateful for each of you!” Fr. Vidal



"The Young Adult Ministry Ugly Christmas Sweater Party was such a joyful time of fellowship and laughter! From the creative (and hilariously tacky) sweaters to fun games and karaoke, it was the perfect way to celebrate the season together. I left feeling more connected, encouraged, and grateful for this community that is so welcoming. It was a great evening!" - Natalie G.





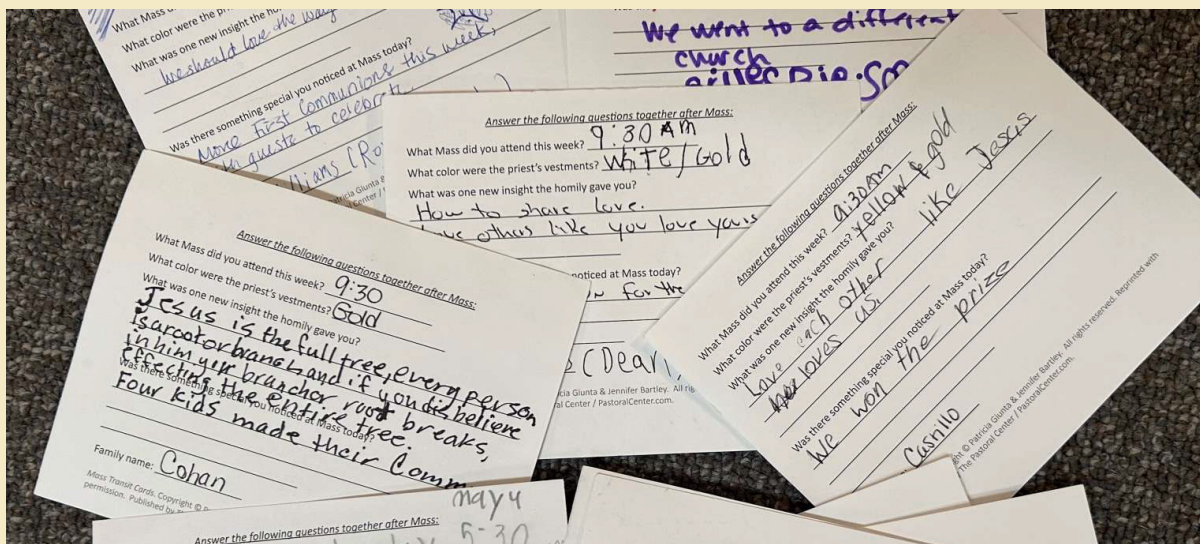
Knights' Outreach

Grand Knight John Monahan and Past Grand Knight Dennis Fashano presented Allegro School teacher Kathleen Cincotta with toys for the school Christmas Party last week.



In addition, the Knights provided Market Street Mission with 20 Dunkin' Donuts gift cards to be distributed to the men at the Mission. This particular act of giving to Market Street Mission was initiated by the late Knight John Luzzo, who led the Notre Dame Annual Thanksgiving Turkey Drive for many years. He is deeply missed.

Mass Transit Conversations



What was the one insight the homily gave you?

"Jesus is always with you whether you feel his presence or not."

"You are together on Christmas because of love."

"We watched it Livestream because Mom had her wisdom teeth out."

"To prepare for Jesus you can be kind and honest."

"Mary's baby boy will heal people."

"Emmanuel means God is with us."

"Complaining is good but only when it's needed."

"Jesus heals people and brings them back to life."

"When we love God we have to love other people."

"That Mary was helpful and kind but she was going through hard things."

"We can prepare for Jesus without words and actions."

"You can prepare for Jesus by caring, helping, and going to church."

"Beautiful song about Mary being the mother of Jesus."

"When we love God we also have to love others."

"Mary had a baby because of the holy spirit."

"Jesus walked on water."

"When we love God, we love other people. Also, we need to prepare for Jesus."

"Mary learns at her cousin Elizabeth's house that she will be Jesus' mom, and she says yes to God, so we keep getting ready for Jesus."

"We have joy in our hearts because God loves us."

"We should be unafraid like Mary."

Was there something special you noticed at Mass today?

"We brought up the gifts."

"There was no deacon."

"Another Advent candle got lit."

"My favorite song went on."

"I enjoyed the song 'Mary did you know'"

"I read the prayers of the faithful and my pa is reading the homily."

"Different color vestments."

"There was the children's choir and the gifts were no longer under the Christmas tree."

"The boy talking to his Grandpa and Dad. FUNNY!"

"So many people!"

"The last candle was lit."

"It was almost Jesus' birthday."

"My cousins came."

"We brought up the gifts at mass."

"All four candles were lit."

"Deacon Joe did the homily. He had us listen to a beautiful song called 'Mary Did You Know?'"

"All four Advent candles were lit. The fourth candle is purple."

"They were blessing the new altar servers."

"Angels and friends lit the last candle."

*"John sent a messenger ahead of him."
"If you listen to God, he will help you
through the struggles of life."*

& This Lamp Week's Intentions Mass

Parishioner Announcements

Memories that Share Our Stories

7:30 am Mass (click below!)



9:30 Family Mass (click below!)



11:30 am Mass



6 pm Mass

