



NOTRE DAME OF MT. CARMEL CHURCH

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Parish Update: July 1, 2025

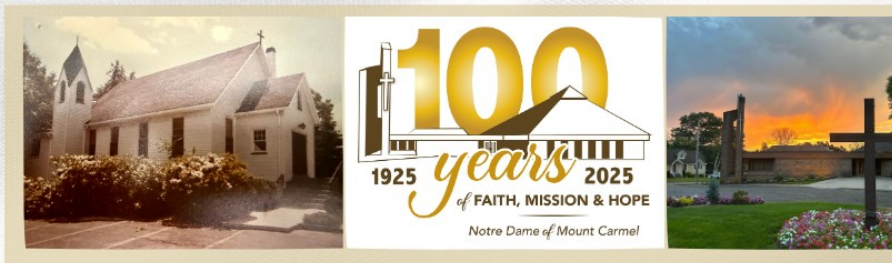
Last Call to Register for our Centennial Kick-Off Celebration!

Registration closes tomorrow, Wednesday, July 2nd -- Please register today!!

Notre Dame of Mt. Carmel

CENTENNIAL KICK-OFF Celebration

Join us in gratitude and joy as we honor
a century-long legacy of God's
faithfulness and the vibrant spirit
of our parish community!



JULY | 12 | 5 PM

Vigil Mass with Bishop Kevin Sweeney
Followed by Social Gathering on our premises
Catered by The American BBQ Company!

All are welcome!

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER

Centennial Merchandise Notice! If you purchased Centennial merchandise, you may pick it up in the Gathering Space after all weekend masses this weekend (July 5/6). Any merchandise not picked up at the Masses must be collected from the parish office. If you have not yet paid for the merchandise, please bring your payment at the time of pickup. Questions? Please contact Erwin D'Souza at erantds@yahoo.com.



Faith in the Present, Hope for the Future

As we conclude our “Faith in the Present, Hope for the Future” Offertory Initiative, we offer our heartfelt thanks to all who responded with generosity and faith to support our parish's mission.



While the initiative is ending, our parish continues to need your gifts of time, talent, and treasure. Your discernment and decision to support our parish mission at any time are an impactful blessing!

“Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.”

— 2 Corinthians 9:7

As we've shared throughout this effort—and continue to hold—**every response matters, regardless of the amount.** What matters most is the heart with which it is given. In that spirit, please join us as we lift the parishioner below in deep gratitude for his sacrificial gift, and let us pray that they may soon find employment.



We look forward to sharing the initiative's results in the weeks ahead. We are hopeful that the generosity shown will help resolve our current deficit and begin the critical process of covering our operating expenses and restoring our Capital Expense Fund so we can address necessary facility improvements and plan for our long-term needs.

Be the Hands of Christ: Mission Trip Opportunity Still Available

There is still time to join the Operation Appalachia mission trip to West Virginia, July 27 through August 2. No experience is necessary, just a heart for our brothers and sisters in need of home repairs and improved living conditions. **Anyone 16 and older, as well as those entering 9th grade, accompanied by a parent or guardian, may join.** Visit our website today (ndcarmel.com/operation) for more details regarding this life-transforming experience!



A Word of Thanks! The Operation Appalachia ministry is deeply grateful for the countless generous donors who have supported the mission trips for over 32 years! **Most recently, the ministry received a donation of \$3,500 from the Morristown Rotary Club to provide running water to indigent residents of Preston County, WV.**

Rotary 
Club of Morristown

A Beautiful Outreach Partnership in Service!

Founded in 1989, ALLEGRO School Inc. is a non-profit organization whose mission is to provide quality services to educate and support persons with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) as needed, throughout their lifespan. Their facility is just a few blocks down from us on Ridgedale Ave.



About five years ago, through family connections, Allegro School Counselor Dave Venezia (brother-in-law of parishioner and cantor Nicole Payne-Venezia) contacted our office seeking to offer Allegro School students an experience of service outside of their facility. Since then, this partnership has flourished. Coordinated through Leo, our Facilities Manager, each week from September through June, a special group of Allegro friends joins us in our building to lend a helping hand; they assist with light cleaning and, when weather allows, some light landscaping around our parish grounds.

This ongoing collaboration is a beautiful reminder of the gifts we share when we open our doors and hearts to one another. We are blessed by their presence, their joy, and their generous service!

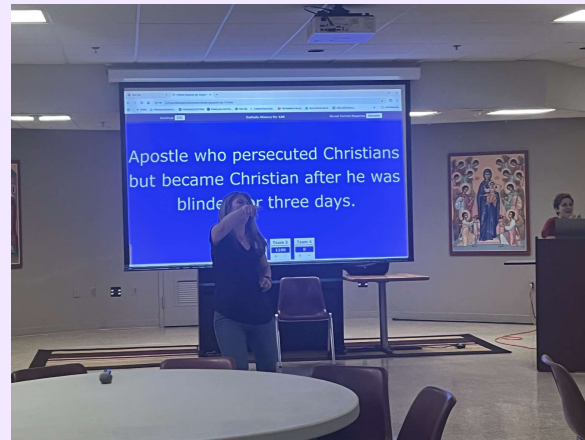
Post Confirmation Celebration!

By Laura Balogh, Family Faith Director

On Sunday, June 22, we held our Post Confirmation Celebration with the 8th-grade teens who received their sacrament in May, along with their parents.



The goal of our celebration was to reflect on the teens' Confirmation experience and discuss the next steps in their ongoing faith journey. During the gathering, following food and fellowship, we had table discussions. Then, we heard from Kamil Zarczynski, a member of the Youth Ministry core team, about why they should consider joining this community. Then catechist Renee Manno led us in a fun game of Catholic Jeopardy, with both parents and teens playing for candy prizes.



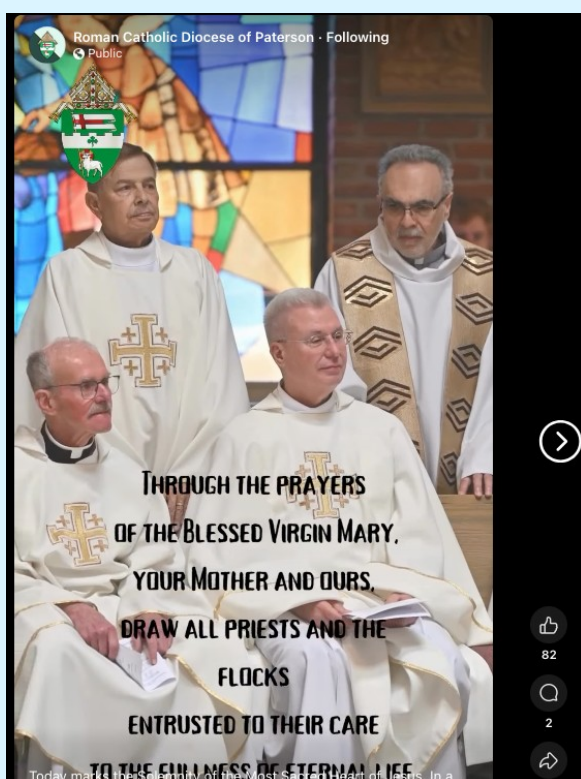
Having completed the Sacraments of Initiation, Confirmation is often a time when many teens and families feel a sense of completion, and unfortunately, sometimes begin to disconnect from the Church. Let us pray that the Holy Spirit will continue to ignite the hearts of our teens and their families, so that their journey of faith may not only endure but flourish, deepening their relationship with Christ and bearing fruit in their lives and the lives of others.

World Day of Prayer for the Sanctification of Priests

By Tanya D'Souza, Vocations Ministry

The World Day of Prayer for the Sanctification of Priests takes place every year on the Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus (celebrated this past Friday, June 27). This special day of prayer was established by Pope St. John Paul II in 2002 and encourages priests to reflect upon the importance and dignity of their vocation. We pray for our priests serving in the Paterson Diocese.

For more information on vocations to the priesthood, patersonvocations.org



Gracious and loving God, we thank you for the gift of our priests. Through them, we experience your presence in the sacraments.

Help our priests to be strong in their vocation. Set their souls on fire with love for your people. Grant them the wisdom, understanding, and strength they need to follow in the footsteps of Jesus. Inspire them with the vision of your Kingdom. Give them the words they need to spread the Gospel. Allow them to experience joy in their ministry. Help them to become instruments of your divine grace. We ask this through Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns as our Eternal Priest. Amen.

(Prayer from USCCB)

One Step Closer Through Divine Mercy

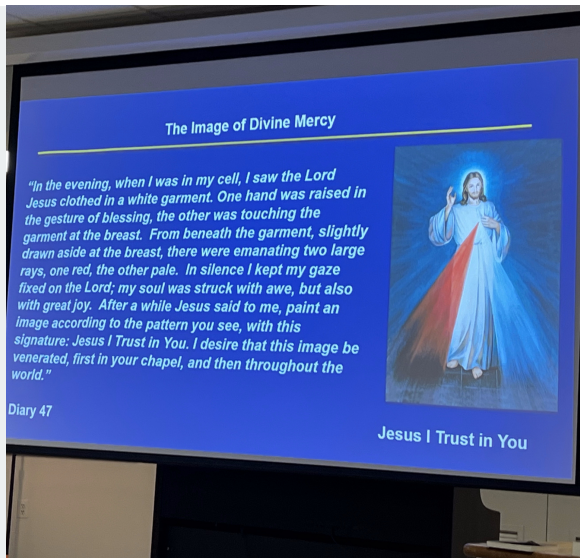
By Laura Balogh

On Tuesday, June 17, 2025, at our monthly One Step Closer, parishioner and theology teacher Matt Cooney presented ***Divine Mercy: The Second Greatest Story Ever Told***. The Divine Mercy message and devotion have been called the largest grassroots movement in the Catholic Church's history.



During his talk, Matt explored the origins of the Divine Mercy through the visions and diary of Polish nun and mystic St. Faustina Kowalska and why this devotion is important to our faith. Matt also shared that when Saint Pope John Paul II canonized Sr. Faustina on April 30, 2000, he surprised the entire world by establishing Divine Mercy Sunday as a feast day for the entire Church. We celebrate this day on the Second Sunday of the Easter season.

The message of Divine Mercy is simple: God loves us all, and He wants us to recognize that His mercy is greater than our sins. Thus, we will call upon Him with trust, receive His mercy, and let it flow through us to others. Thus, all will come to share His joy. We can call the message to mind simply by remembering the ABCs: ***A - Ask for His Mercy; B - Be merciful to others; C - Completely trust in God's mercy.***



Matt also explained the Divine Mercy image, which reflects how Jesus appeared to St Faustina: one hand raised, the other hand opening his garment, and two rays of light emanating from his breast, representing the risen Christ whose hands and feet bear the marks of the Crucifixion. The pale ray stands for the Water, which makes souls righteous. The red ray stands for the Blood. These two rays signify the sacraments of mercy (Baptism and Reconciliation) and the Eucharist.

"When I heard that the next One Step Closer series would focus on Divine Mercy, I felt a deep tug to be there—and I'm so thankful I followed that urge. The presentation, subtitled "The Second Greatest Story Ever Told," was not just a talk—it was a powerful journey, beautifully guided by Matt. Matt shared the life of St. Faustina and her extraordinary encounters with our Lord, unfolding the profound and beautiful message of Divine Mercy. What made it even more impactful was how he gently wove in the lives of St. Maximilian Kolbe, St. John Paul II, and even Rudolf Höss, illuminating how grace can pierce even the darkest corners of history. Matt's thoughtful storytelling and deep knowledge of the subject touched me and brought a new dimension to my understanding of Divine Mercy. I'm truly grateful I was able to attend." Maria Cascio

One Step Closer is an ongoing adult faith formation series that breaks open the richness of our beautiful Catholic faith, bringing disciples one step closer to Christ. There will be no sessions in July and August. Join us when the series resumes on Tuesday, September 16, when Dan Balogh will present on *Benedictine Humility: Without the Monastery*.

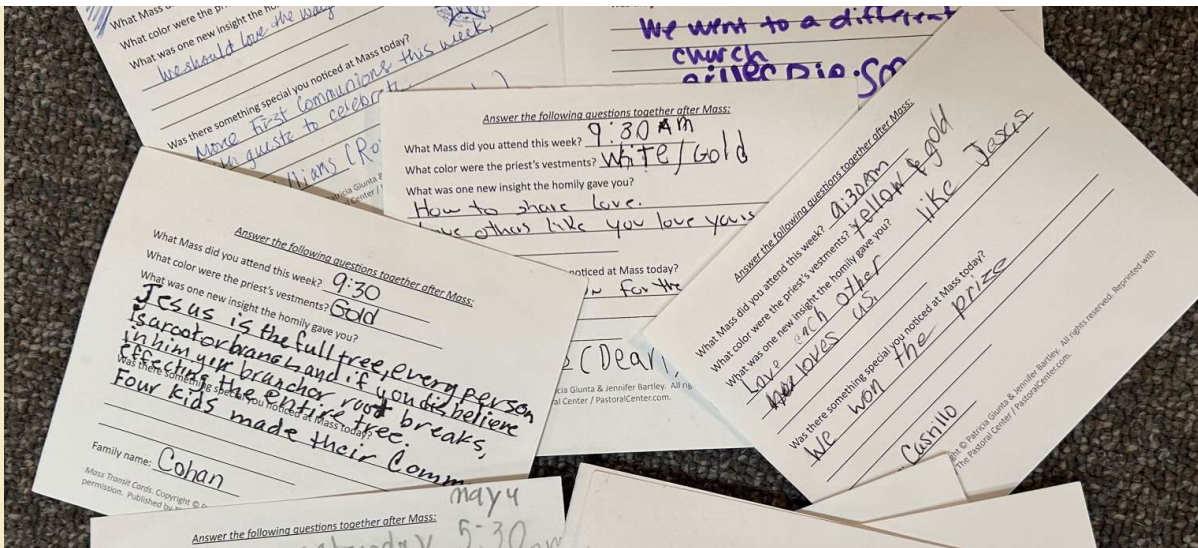
The Generous Hearts of Notre Dame **Corpus Christi Annual Food Drive: Thank You!!**

With heartfelt gratitude, we thank all who contributed to this year's Corpus Christi Food Drive. Your generous donations directly support the vital mission of Catholic Charities here in our own Diocese of Paterson, providing food, hope, and compassion to our neighbors most in need. Because of you, the love of Christ is made visible and

tangible in countless lives. Thank you for being a beacon of faith and mercy in our community!



Mass Transit Conversations



What was one new insight the homily gave you?

"That the Holy Spirit will always be with us, guide and strengthen us to be good servants of God."

"The Holy Spirit gave us 7 gifts, namely wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety and fear of the Lord."

"Jesus always gives us chances. He will never abandon us."

"You need 100 points to get into heaven."

"Paul was not one of the apostles."

"The Holy Trinity is one God in three persons, all are God. We don't need to understand this to accept."

"St. Peter denied Jesus. St. Paul put early Christians in prison. They both converted to be great saints."

"You need the grace of God. You need to respect Jesus to go into heaven."

"Saint Peter learned that God's grace is the most of points that can be earned to get into heaven."

"We are all sinners, but God is merciful."

"We will get into heaven by the Grace of God."

"That Paul wrote many books about God."

Was there something special you noticed at Mass today?

"Celebration of Pentecost Sunday and the birth of the church."

"Today, we also celebrated Father's Day. Fr. Vidal gave blessings to all the fathers who attended the mass."

"Father Vidal told us a story about a boy named Eli who tried to get enough points to get into heaven."

"The altar flowers were pretty."

"I passed out books with my friends."

"We carried the gifts!"

"Good music."

"Celebrating Father's Day!"

"We handed out the music sheets."

"Something I noticed at mass today is that they put new flowers on the altar."

"Peapa is here with us!"

"There are a lot of flowers."

"There were many tourists, and it was a beautiful church. (St. Agnes, Manhattan)"

"Flowers."

"Love, peace, families together."

"We had a beautiful family blessing with calls upon the Holy Spirit for his gifts for our family."

"Praying in confidence is that God will help us on our journey."

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

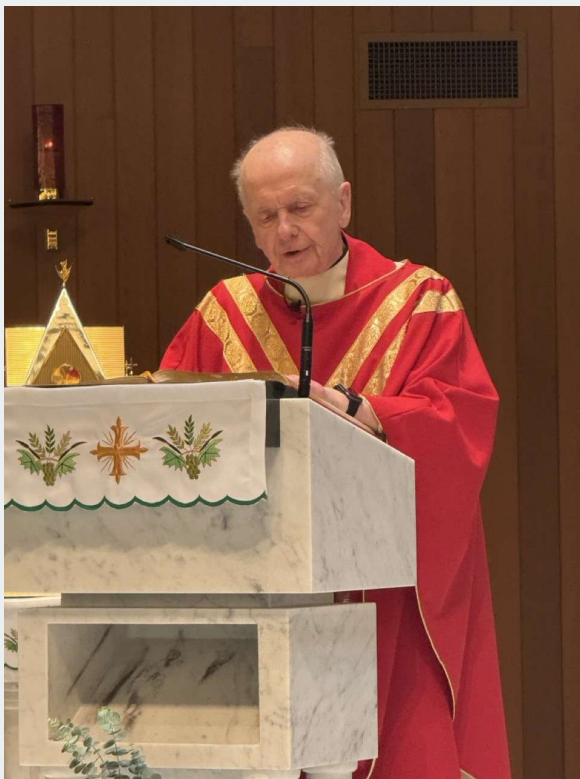
**Parishioner
Announcements**

Memories that share our story...

Congrats to Jo & Ron Weston on their 55th Wedding Anniversary, this past June 20th!



7:30 am Mass



9:30 am Mass





