

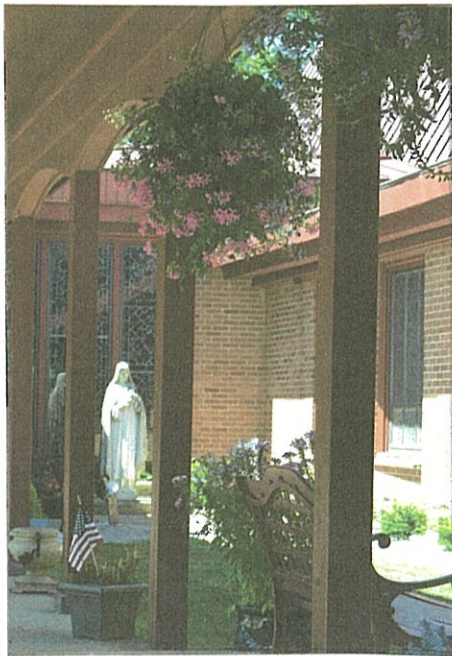
# The Scapular



The monthly newsletter of the National Shrine of Our Lady of Mount Carmel

Vol. One Issue 3 July 2024

## Enhancing the natural beauty of the National Shrine plant by plant



On most mornings before joining his Carmelite brothers for prayer and Mass at the priory, Fr. Gerard, Rector of the National Shrine, can be seen watering the many new plants and bushes that have been recently planted in the on-going National Shrine beautification program. Father Gerard shares with the Scapular bulletin readers a word about the program: "This month we continued with the beautification of the grounds of the Shrine of Our Lady of Mount Carmel. Through the generous donation of the Statue of St. Therese by Sr Peggy Murphy, O.P., We upgraded the St Therese Garden, and through the kind donations we have received from donors and from our Bake Sale, we have also upgraded the space in front of the statue of Our Lady of Lourdes and restored the Mary Garden in front of the Outdoor Scapular Vision Statue. The First Mary Garden in the Shrine of Our Lady of Mount Carmel was planted in front of the Scapular Vision Statue while Fr Francis Amodio was Shrine Director. The tradition of the Mary Garden goes back to medieval times, when various plants and herbs were planted to symbolize a virtue of the Blessed Virgin Mary. These differ from country to country. Among the plants found in a traditional Mary Garden include – impatiens – "Our Lady's earrings" – symbolizing the adornment of the ears of Mary who heard the word of God and kept it; Violet – symbolizing Mary's humility; Lady-Slipper – symbolizing Our Lady's Visitation to her cousin Elizabeth in the hill country; Marigold – Mary's Gold symbolizing her heavenly glory, Larkspur\ Delphinium – symbolizing Mary's tears and sorrows; Rose – often associated with Mary – mystical rose, symbolizing her purity,

grace ; Lavender – Mary's drying plant symbolizing healing and protection, Tulip – Mary's prayer – symbolizing her own life of prayer and devotion to God; Baby's Breath symbolizing her purity and the overshadowing of the Holy Spirit; Lily symbolizing her purity, innocence and Immaculate Conception."

**If you would like to contribute to the ongoing beautification of our gardens and shrine we invite you to use the envelopes provided in the back of the Church.**

## Meet the Shrine's Anthony Aunnunziata

If he's not busy helping customers in the Shrine gift store, Anthony Aunnunziata, can be seen almost anywhere at the Shrine multi-tasking in only the way he can multi-task.

Born in the Bronx, but reared in Italy, Anthony is the true Renaissance man. With a broad liberal arts education, Anthony is not your typical "jack-of-all -trades." He is a master of many arts with multiple talents...and the National Shrine benefits from them all. A professional musician and entertainer Anthony has made the Shrine sing. A trained artist, Anthony has transformed the Shrine with his displays that reflect the sacred seasons. His landscape and gardening skills have helped Fr. Gerard and Carol in enhancing the natural beauty of the property.

There's no end to what this one talented individual can do here at the National Shrine. His first act has received first-rate reviews. We can only imagine what he has in-store for Act Two.

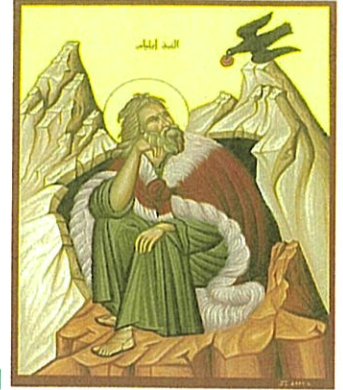


Recently, Anthony took the time out of his day to escort "unexpected guests" Fr. Shishir Natale Gregory from Bangladesh, Susamma Thomas and Thomas Joseph on a tour of the Shrine.

# Celebrating July's Carmelite Saints and Blesseds

Elijah is considered to be the Father of Carmelites, as the Carmelite way of life embodies the Elijahan tradition. Father Elijah's spirit of prayer, penance, contemplation, and zeal for the Lord is to this day the very spirit of the Carmelites. During his ministry, Elijah went up to Mount Carmel in Palestine to live and to pray. It was there that he taught and trained his followers, who are considered by some to be the first monks. From that time onward, Mount Carmel has always been inhabited by men seeking union with God. It is also believed that Elijah and the monks living on Mt. Carmel had a devotion to the woman who would be the mother of the Messiah, the Blessed Virgin Mary, long before she was born.

Elijah's end was as quick and mysterious as his beginning. One day as he was speaking with his successor Elisha, "a fiery chariot, and fiery horses parted them both asunder, and Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven" (2 Kings:11) Elijah appeared along with Moses at the Transfiguration of the Jesus on Mount Tabor. **His feast is celebrated on July 20.**



Jane Scopelli (1428 – 9 July 1491) was an Italian Roman Catholic from Reggio Emilia who was a religious from the Carmelites and established her own convent as its first prioress. Scopelli was forbidden to enter the third order branch of that order during her adolescence and waited until her parents died to embrace the religious life.

Scopelli was given the title "Servant of God" in 1500 by Pope Alexander. She was beatified on 24 August 1771 under Pope Clement XIV when the latter approved her local 'cultus' – otherwise known as popular devotion – and thus ratified her beatification. **Her feast is celebrated on July 9.**

Louis Martin was born in Bordeaux, on August 22, 1823. While he was master-watchmaker in Alençon, where he met Marie Azelie (Zelie) Guerin, a lace maker. They were married on July 13, 1858, and had nine children, including the future Saint Therese of the Infant Jesus. Model spouses, devoted parents, workers, attentive to the poor, always nourishing a missionary spirit, they found their strength and hope in regular attendance at Holy Mass and in a deep devotion to the Blessed Virgin. After a long illness Zelie died in Alençon on August 28, 1877. Louis, in retirement, went to Lisieux near his in-laws to ensure a better future for his five children. He died on July 29, 1894.

The home that Louis and Zélie created nurtured the sanctity of all their children, but especially their youngest, who is known to us as Saint Thérèse of the Child Jesus. Louis and Zélie were beatified in 2008, and canonized by Pope Francis on October 18, 2015. **The liturgical feast of Saints Louis Martin and Zélie Guérin is celebrated on July 12.**



**Teresa of Jesus of Los Andes** was a Chilean nun of the Discalced Carmelites. She was a pious child but had an often unpredictable temperament; she seemed transformed when she decided to become a nun. Her character when she dedicated herself to the service of God. Her time in the convent was cut short when an aggressive disease killed her.

Pope John Paul II canonized her March 21, 1993. **Her feast day is celebrated on July 13.**



## The Martyrs of Compiegne

As the height of the French Revolution, 16 Discalced Carmelites from the Monastery of the Incarnation offered their lives as a sacrifice to God. On June 24, 1794, they were arrested and condemned to death for their fidelity to the Church. Having renewed their vows before Teresa of St. Augustine, they were put to death in Paris on July 17, 1794.

They were beatified by Saint Pius X on May 13, 1906. **Their feast day is July 17.**



**John Soreth** entered the Carmelite house in Normandy where he was ordained around 1417. He was unflagging in his efforts at renewal, during what was an especially critical period for both the Church and the Order. He dedicated himself entirely to the reform of the Order, travelling across Europe, making canonical visitations and promoting a more faithful observance of religious life both in the older Provinces and convents and in the Mantuan Reformed Congregation. He was instrumental in the development of the Lay Carmelite Third Order. He died at Angers on July 25, 1471. He was beatified by Pope Pius IX in 1866. **His feast day is July 24.**



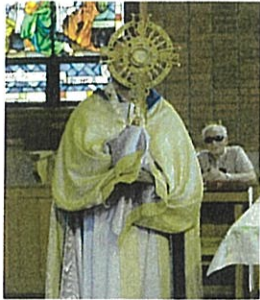
The Church celebrates the parents of the Virgin Mary, Saints Joachim and Anne. Mary grew up in the home of **Joachim and Anne**, surrounded by their love and faith: in their home she

learned to listen to the Lord and to follow His will.

Saints Joachim and Anne were part of a long chain of people who had transmitted their faith and love for God, expressed in the warmth and love of family life, down to Mary, who received the Son of God in her womb and who gave Him to the world, to us.

**The Church celebrates their feast day on July 26.**

# SOME PICS FROM JUNE SHRINE EVENTS

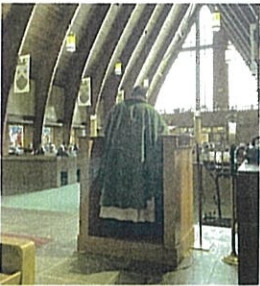


## Row 1 L-R

- 40 Hour Adoration
- Farewell picnic for Br. Joseph
- Fr. Justin's Series of Prayer talk

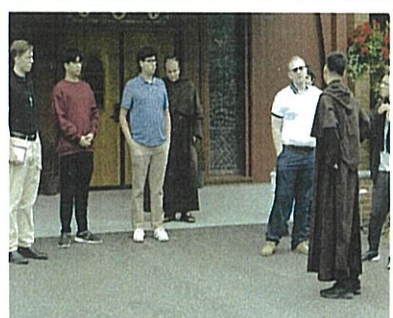
## Row 2 L-R

- Fr. Joseph's (Troy) Series of Prayer talk
- The "usual Shrine faithful" at the blessing of the new icon at Elijah Lounge-Transfiguration Church parishioners retreat at Shrine



## Row 3 L-R

- Fr. Jonathan's first Mass at the Shrine
- Celebrating Fr. Gerard's 25th anniversary of Simple Vows
- Italian feast after Mass



## Row 4 L-R

- A wedding proposal at the National Shrine
- Solemnity of Corpus Christi
- *Come and See* weekend for young men interested in joining the Carmelites

"I see God in the work of his hands and the marks of his love in every visible thing, and it sometimes happens that I am seized by a supreme joy which is above all other joys."  
- St. Titus Brandsma



Titus Brandsma, O.Carm., born Anno Sjoerd Brandsma on February 23, 1881, was a Dutch Carmelite friar, journalist and professor of philosophy. Brandsma was vehemently opposed to Nazi ideology and spoke out against it many times as a newspaper editor before the Second World War. He was imprisoned at the Dachau concentration camp, where he was put to death on July 26, 1942. He was beatified by the Catholic Church in November 1985 as a martyr of the faith and canonized as a saint on May 15, 2022 by Pope Francis. The Province's Fr. Michael Driscoll's O. Carm. miraculous healing was used in Brandsma's canonization process. **Feast Day: July 27.**

**Additional Feast Days:** July 4 – Bl. Maria Crocifissa Curcio – (1877-1957) – Virgin; July 23 – Our Lady, Mother of Divine Grace and Bls. Maria Pilar, Teresa and Maria Angeles (Martyrs of Guadalajara Spain) – (d.1936) – Virgins; July 24 – Bl. Maria Mercedes Prat – (1880-1936) – Virgin and Martyr; July 28 – St. Pedro Poveda Castroverde – (1874-1936) – Priest and Martyr

## The National Shrine of Our Lady of Mount Carmel

A Ministry of the Carmelite Friars of St. Elias Province

### MASSES

Monday-Friday: 11:30 am  
Saturday & Sunday: 12 Noon

### CONFESSIONS

Saturdays: 10:45 - 11:45 am

### EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION & BENEDICTION

Every Friday: 10:00 - 11:25 am

## SUMMER HOURS

### SHRINE

Week Days: 8:30 am - 3:00 pm  
Sat/Sun: 10:00 am - 3:00 pm

### GIFT STORE

Daily: 10:00 am - 3:00 pm

## JULY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- 2 Tues. 10:15 am Prayer Conference "Music and Prayer" Very Rev. Fr. Mario Esposito, O. Carm. - Edith Stein Conference Room
- 4 Thurs. Shrine will close after Mass. Gift Store is closed all day.
- 6 Sat. 6:30 pm Spanish Mass - Shrine Church
- 7 Sun. 10-11 am - Flame of Love Group - Shrine Church  
Novena to Our Lady of Mount Carmel - continues daily at 11:30 am Mass thru 7/15
- 11 Thurs. 12:30 - 1:30 pm - Flame of Love Group - Elijah Fireside Lounge  
7:00 pm Young Adult Mass - Shrine Church
- 12 Fri. 10 am - 2 pm - Retreat - St. Anthony of Padua Oratory, Red Bank, NJ
- 13 Sat. 9 AM - 8 PM - RETREAT - 8TH ANNUAL LA VANG MARIAN DAY CELEBRATION - OUTDOOR LA VANG SHRINE
- 14 Sun. 9 AM - 5 PM - RETREAT - SECONE DAY - 8TH ANNUAL LA VANG MARIAN DAY CELEBRATION - OUTDOOR LA VANG SHRINE
- 18 Thurs. 12:30 - 1:30 pm - Flame of Love Group - Elijah Fireside Lounge
- 21 Sun. 1 - 5:30 pm Lay Carmelite Formation Meeting - Pilgrim Hall & Shrine
- 24 Wed. TBA Prayer Conference "La Bruna" Fr. Francis Amodio O. Carm. - Edith Stein Conference Room
- 25 Thurs. 12:30 - 1:30 pm - Flame of Love Group - Elijah Fireside Lounge



If your church group is interested in hosting a retreat, day of prayer, a presentation ...at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, please contact Carol Bezak, Shrine Admin., at [cbezak@carmelites.com](mailto:cbezak@carmelites.com)

## SOLEMN COMMEMORATION OF OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL

Novena in honor of Our Lady of Mount Carmel  
July 7-16

### Monday, July 15

- 5 pm - Evening prayer followed by Adoration  
5:45 pm - International Rosary  
6:30 pm - Vigil Mass (Spanish)

### Tuesday, July 16

- 9 am - Morning Prayer  
11:30 am - Feast Day Mass  
Bishop Edward B. Scharfenberger, D.D.  
Bishop of Albany

Procession & Crowning to follow

Buffet Lunch in Pilgrim Hall: \$20 pp

RSVP: 845-3431-1879 by July 12

### Tuesday, July 20

- 4:30 pm - Italian Mass - Our Lady of Mount Carmel

