

The Scapular

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



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70 Carmelite Drive, Middletown, NY 10940 - 845-343-1879

A Lenten Greeting from the Shrine's Rector

*Stations of the Cross Every Friday in Lent
at Noon after the 11:30 am Mass*



The
National Shrine of
Our Lady
of Mount Carmel

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Greetings to you dear brothers and sisters as we prepare to enter the season of Lent, and as we continue with this Jubilee Year. The 40 days of Lent has been in the Church since the time of Pope Gregory the Great - The 40 days recall the 40 days of temptation of our Lord when he fasted and prayed. And so every year, we fast and pray and give alms in special ways to honor and to enter into his life, passion, death and resurrection. According to Tommy Lane, The word "Lent" comes from an old English word which means "springtime" so it reminds us of spring cleaning and the new life in nature during spring. Lent is a time of repentance and change of heart. We prepare for Easter through the practices of prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Pope Francis in his Lenten message for 2025 asks us to journey together in hope he says "The Holy Spirit impels us not to remain self-absorbed, but to leave ourselves behind and keep walking towards God and our brothers and sisters. Journeying together means consolidating the unity grounded in our common dignity as children of God (cf. Gal 3:26-28). It means walking side-by-side, without shoving or stepping on others, without envy or hypocrisy, without letting anyone be left behind or excluded. Let us all walk in the same direction, tending towards the same goal, attentive to one another in love and patience." Archbishop Eamon Martin of Ireland notes, "Beyond the practice of merely giving up something for Lent - perhaps we can do something else - may be do random acts of kindness, Helping the poor, sick, old, or lonely or do some social action project, we could abstaining from meat or some other food, or drink or smoking; Making a special effort to pray together as a family, making a special effort to meditate on God's Word, Making a special effort to go to Mass during weekdays of Lent, Visiting the Blessed Sacrament, Stations of the Cross, Going to confession, even fasting from the internet. This Lent in addition to the Ash Wednesday Masses (11:30 am and 4:30 p.m) we also have weekly stations of the Cross (every Friday) and Divine Mercy Chaplet (every Wednesday). The FILAM community also hosts a Lenten Food Drive for the needy, please assist if you can. We invite you to keep track of all of our Lenten and Easter activities on the National Shrine's updated website.

<https://www.ourladyofmtcarmelshrine.com>

Let us continue to keep our Holy Father Pope Francis in prayer during his crisis and for a speedy recovery. God bless you all!

- Fr. Gerard

The National Shrine of Our Lady of Mount Carmel invites you to join us for
The Divine Mercy Chaplet
Every
Wednesday at
3:00 pm
Starting on
Ash
Wednesday

Eternal God, in whom mercy is endless and the treasury of compassion inexhaustible, look kindly upon us and increase your mercy in us, that in difficult moments we might not despair nor become despondent, but with great confidence submit ourselves to your holy will, which is Love and Mercy itself. Amen.

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The Altar at the National Shrine at the Carmelite's Our Lady of the Scapular on 28th St., NYC

A Look Back at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Mount Carmel. The journey from Manhattan to Middletown.

February 25, 1991 was an important day in the over eight-decade long history of the National Shrine of Our Lady of Mount Carmel. On that day, in a letter from John Cardinal O'Connor to Fr. Matthias DesLauriers, O. Carm. (Prior of the Carmelite Province of St. Elias), the Cardinal approved the Carmelite's petition to relocate the National Shrine from Manhattan to Middletown. A little over a year later the National Shrine of Our Lady of Mount Carmel was incorporated as a Not-for-Profit Organization. The newly elected Prior Provincial of the Carmelite Province of St. Elias named Fr. Matthias the newly-located Shrine's first director.

Although many area residents have been with us from the beginning of our time in Middletown, the birth of the Shrine began 50 years earlier at the Carmelite's Our Lady of the Scapular Church (OLS) on 28th Street in Manhattan.

On the Feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel (July 16, 1941) the Most Rev. Hilary Doswald, O. Carm., Prior General of the Order of Carmelites, designated OLS as the National Shrine of Our Lady of Mount Carmel. Fr. Hilary named Fr. Gabriel Pausbach, O. Carm., Assistant General of the Order of Carmelites, the first Director of the National Shrine.

While neither Fr. Hilary nor Fr. Gabriel were members of the Carmelite Province of St. Elias, they were evacuated from Rome at the start of World War II in Europe. They were stationed at OLS during the War.

Following the bombing of Pearl Harbor, Fr. Pausbach created the Scapular Militia at OLS. Joined by Fr. Lawrence Flanagan, O. Carm., who was the pastor of OLS at the time, the two of them declared that the first apostolate of the National Shrine was to provide Scapulars to members of the armed forces. Hundreds of Scapular Militia volunteers joined in the arduous task of making and distributing the scapulars. By the end of the War, the volunteers had made millions of Scapulars.

With the War over and a job-well done completed, Fr. Gabriel returned to Rome where he continued to serve as the Order's Assistant General. The new National Shrine Director, Fr. Donald O'Callaghan, O. Carm., a member of the province of St. Elias, dedicated the next 20 years of his vocation to seeing to it that the National Shrine not only served the needs of the parishioners of OLS, but saw to it that it had a reach that extended well beyond the borders of the five boroughs of New York City. Every year a growing number of pilgrims would visit the Shrine. To accommodate the growing needs of the Shrine's guests, OLS opened the Marian Center. This new center featured displays on and about the Carmelites, provided rooms for meetings and lectures, and opened a book and gift store.

The National Shrine of Our Lady of Mount Carmel continued its mission even after OLS merged with nearby St. Stephen's in 1990. A year later, Cardinal O'Connor, approved the Shrine's move from Manhattan to Middletown.

Continued on page three

The National Shrine of Our Lady of Mount Carmel

MASSES

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

CONFESSIONS

Saturdays: 10:45 - 11:45 am

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION & BENECTION

Every Friday: 10:00 - 11:20 am

SHRINE HOURS: Mon-Fri: 7 am to 4 pm
Sat: 10 am to 4 pm Sun: 10 am to 3 pm

GIFT STORE: Mon-Sat: 10 am to 4 pm
Sun: 10 am to 3 pm




MARCH SHRINE EVENTS

For complete March schedule, go to <https://www.ourladyofmtcarmelshrine.com/>

THE NATIONAL SHRINE OF OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL INVITES YOU TO JOIN US FOR A SPECIAL CELEBRATION OF THE SACRIFICE OF THE MASS IN HONOR OF ...

The Holy Face of Jesus

Tuesday
March 4
11:30 am






70 Carmelite Drive - Middletown, NY 10940 - 845-343-1879

Ash Wednesday

at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Mount Carmel on March 5th

Mass at 11:30 am & 4:30 pm



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Únase con nosotros en el Santuario Nacional de Nuestra Señora del Monte Carmelo el primer Sábado de cada mes para nuestra Misa en Español


SANTA MISA EN ESPAÑOL

Sábado
Primero de Marzo @ 7:00 pm
Saturday, March 1



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The 2025 Carmelite Spirituality Series at The National Shrine of Our Lady of Mount Carmel






Saint Teresa of Avila

Saint Joseph

Presented by Rev. Brother Gregg Durham, O. Carm.

Saturday, March 15 @ 10:15 am

The Edith Stein Conference Room



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THE NATIONAL SHRINE OF OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL

The Feast of St. Joseph

Wednesday - March 19th

Masses at 11:30 am & in Italian at 4:30 pm followed by procession



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To make a donation to the National Shrine of OLMC



The National Shrine of Our Lady of Mount Carmel asks you for your prayers for our ailing Pontiff, Pope Francis.