

# The Scapular

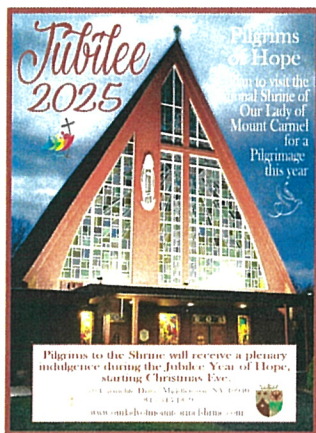
The monthly newsletter of the National Shrine of Our Lady of Mount Carmel



Vol. One Issue 9 January 2025

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

## Cardinal Dolan Designates the National Shrine of Our Lady of Mount Carmel as a Jubilee of Hope Site



The National Shrine of Our Lady of Mount Carmel was elated when Cardinal Dolan named the Shrine as one of only eight locations in the Archdiocese as an official Jubilee Pilgrimage site. Fr. Gerard Tang Choon, O. Carm., the Shrine's rector, echoed Pope Francis' call for "all Christians to become pilgrims of hope at a time when far too many people around the world are prey to brutality and violence."

The official opening of the Jubilee year in the archdiocese, which coincided with all other dioceses throughout the world, took place at St. Patrick's Cathedral when His Eminence Timothy Cardinal Dolan celebrated Mass on Sunday, December 29 ( the Solemnity of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph). The Jubilee of Hope will run until January 6, 2026.

What does the Jubilee of Hope mean to you? During the Jubilee year, the faithful Catholic will be in the position to be granted the gift of an indulgence as decreed by the Holy Father. "All the faithful, who are truly repentant and free from any affection for sin, who are moved by a spirit of charity and who, during the Holy Year, purified through the sacrament of penance and refreshed by Holy Communion, pray for the intentions of the Supreme Pontiff, will be able to obtain from the treasury of the Church a plenary indulgence, with remission and forgiveness of all their sins, which can be applied in suffrage to the souls in Purgatory."

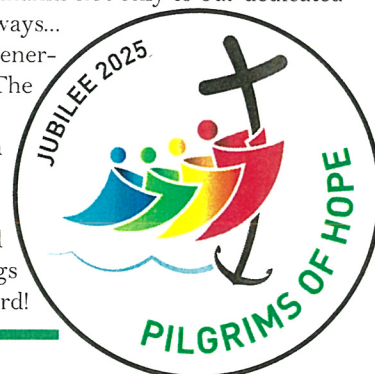
The faithful, pilgrims of hope, will be able to obtain the Jubilee Indulgence granted by the Holy Father if they undertake a pious pilgrimage to any sacred Jubilee site by devoutly participating in Holy Mass (where the liturgical norms allow for it, the Mass of the Jubilee might fruitfully be chosen, or one of the Votive Masses: for Reconciliation, for the Remission of Sins, for the Promotion of Charity, or to Foster Harmony); a ritual Mass for the conferral of the sacraments of Christian Initiation or the Anointing of the Sick; or any of the following: a celebration of the Word of God; the Liturgy of the Hours (office of readings, lauds, vespers); the Via Crucis; the Marian Rosary; the recitation of the Akathist hymn; a penitential celebration, which ends with the individual confessions of the penitents, as established in the Rite of Penance.

The language and complexities of the granting of the plenary indulgence might at first be overwhelming, but the Shrine will make use of the various social media outlets we have to provide you with information on all aspects of the plenary indulgence granted during the Jubilee of Hope year.

**\*A plenary indulgence removes all temporal punishment for sins, making the soul as pure as a newly baptized infant.**

2024 proved to be a banner year for the National Shrine of Our Lady of Mount Carmel...with sincere thanks not only to our dedicated Shrine staff and loyal men and women who give of their time to assist at Mass and in so many other ways... but to the faithful who have made the Shrine a vibrant part of their spiritual lives. And...to the many generous individuals and organizations who have blessed us with their gifts...we cannot thank you enough. The Shrine's grounds have never looked so magnificent.

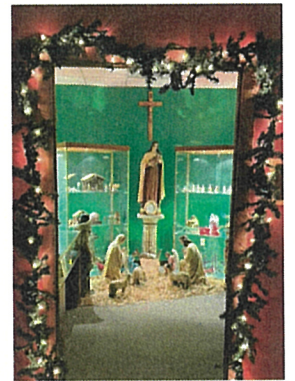
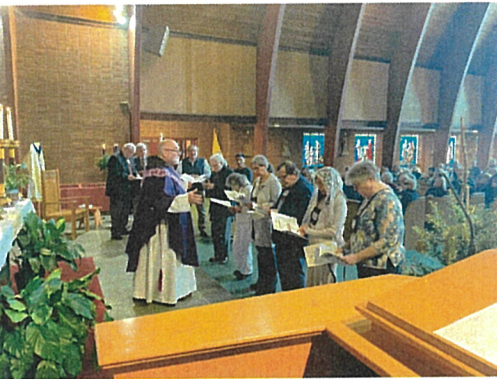
Our hopes for a New Year filled with so many opportunities were magnified when we were named a Jubilee of Hope site. This honor is not something we will passively acknowledge with a humble head-nod. On the contrary. We take this honor as an opportunity wrapped in a challenge. We want you to take advantage of all the spiritual opportunities that come with the Shrine being a Jubilee site. We will go to great lengths to make the Shrine shine across the county. We hope that the light the Shrine brings to the area will reach pilgrims who are searching for spiritual renewal. We ask you to spread the good word!



# Wishing you a blessed New Year



# A Wonderful December to Remember at the National Shrine



**ROW ONE:** (l to r) Christmas Carols at the Piano: Anthony Annunziata; Maxine Martin, Fr. Gerard & Sr. Peggy; Charlie and Sr. Peggy at the ribbon cutting for Presepio display. **ROW TWO:** Fr. Mario Esposito, O. Carm. blesses newly donated Infant of Prague statue dedicated to the Ven. Mary Angelina Teresa, foundress of the Carmelite Sisters of the Aged and Infirm; outdoor nativity scene at the Shrine. **ROW THREE:** Fr. Francis Amodio, O. Carm. led the Advent meeting of Lay Carmelites; Fr. Gerard & Carol are joined by Michael Corsini who shared his music at the Mass for The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception' Fr. Emiel Abalahin, O. Carm, gives talk on St. John of the Cross; Heritage Room nativity scenes from around the world. **ROW FOUR:** Lay Carmelites at Advent meeting; Christmas altar at the Shrine.





**ROW ONE:** The Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe

**ROW TWO:** Simbang Gabi

**ROW THREE and ROW FOUR:**  
A Victorian Christmas Concert





(l. to r.) Deacon Aaron Salkin, Fr. Von Erick Maria Sandoval, O. Carm. & John Bulatao at Simbang Gabi Mass



A gathering of Carmelites at celebratory meal following Simbang Gabi Mass at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Mount Carmel



The Shrine's Anthony Annunziata takes center stage with fellow community Italian-Americans at dinner following Italian Mass



The Shrine's Fr. Gerard, Carol Bezak, and Anthony Annunziata are surrounded by past and current Carmelite Interns: Bros. Joseph Trung do, Joseph Tuan Bui and Joseph Tung Nguyen

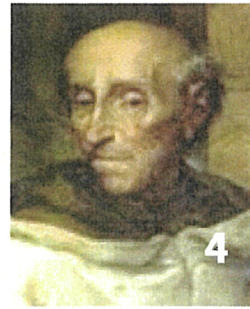


(L. to R.) Anthony Annunziata is as the piano during the Shrine's Christmas open house; Fr. Gerard Tang Choon, O. Carm. takes a moment out of his busy schedule to celebrate the 21st anniversary of his ordination as a Carmelite; and Carmelite Fathers, Von Erik Maria Sandoval, Gerard Tang Choon, and Roberto Perez at the Mass celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ.





# CARMELITE SAINTS AND BLESSEDS FOR JANUARY



**(1) St. Elias Kuriakos (1805-1871):** Co-founder and first prior general of the congregation of the Carmelites of Mary Immaculate, was born at Kainakary in Kerala, India. He entered the seminary in 1818 and was ordained priest in 1829. He made his religious profession in 1855 in the congregation he had founded. In 1861 he was named vicar general for the Syro-Malabar church; in this capacity he defended ecclesial unity threatened by schism when Tomas Rochos was sent from Mesopotamia to consecrate Nestorian bishops. Throughout his life he worked for the renovation of the church in Malabar. He was also co-founder in 1866 of the congregation of the Sisters of the Mother of Carmel. Above all, he was a man of prayer, zealous for the Eucharistic Lord and devoted to the Immaculate Virgin Mary. He died at Koonammavu in 1871 and was canonized by Pope Francis in 2014. Feast day: January 3.

**(2) St. Peter Thomas (1305-1366):** Carmelite Latin patriarch and papal legate. Peter was born in Gascony, France and joined the Carmelites while still a young man. In 1342 he was appointed procurator of the order and, from Avignon, he oversaw the organization and government of the Carmelites. As Avignon was then the seat of the popes, he entered into their service, attracting papal attention because of his skills as a preacher and his eloquence. Named to the papal diplomatic service, he held the post of papal legate to Genoa, Milan, and Venice, and was appointed bishop of Patti and Lipari in 1354, bishop of Coron in 1359, archbishop of Candia in 1363, and titular Patriarch of Constantinople in 1364. At the behest of Pope Urban V, he journeyed to Serbia, Hungary, and Constantinople in an effort to organize a crusade against the Turks. He took part in a military operation against Alexandria, Egypt, in 1365 during which he was severely wounded. He died from his injuries at Cyprus a few months later. Thomas was canonized by Pope Urban VIII in 1628. Feast day: January 8.

**(3) St. Andrew Corsini (1302 -1374 ):** Corsini joined the Carmelites in Florence in 1318 for his novitiate and began a life of great mortification. He was ordained to the priesthood in 1328. He began preaching in Florence, and was then sent for his studies to the University of Paris and later to Avignon. He returned to Florence in 1332 and was chosen as prior. He became known as the "Apostle of Florence." In 1349, Pope Clement VI appointed him Bishop of Fiesole. Upon learning of this appointment, the reluctant Corsini went into hiding. An inscription on his tomb states that "he was snatched from the Carmel to the church and the miter of Fiesole".

It was reported that in 1372 or 1373, as he celebrated Midnight Mass on Christmas Eve, that the Blessed Virgin appeared to him and told him he would leave this world on the Three Kings' feast. It came to pass that he fell ill on Christmas night and died as foretold, on 6 January 1374.

Miracles so multiplied at his death that Pope Eugene IV permitted a public devotion to him. Pope Eugene IV beatified Andrew Corsini in 1440. Among the miracles attributed to Corsini's intervention was the Florentine victory over the Milanese at the Battle of Anghiari on 29 June 1440. Petitions were lodged in 1465 and 1466 to Pope Paul II requesting the canonization. Pope Urban VIII canonized Corsini on 22 April 1629. Feast Day: January 9.

**We invite you to celebrate St. Andrew with a presentation on Thurs., Jan. 9 at 10:15 am in the Edith Stein Conf. Rm. and a Feast Day Mass at 11:30 am**

**(4) Bl. Angelo Paoli (1642 to 1720):** was an Italian Carmelite priest who lived from. Angelo was a remarkable person who dedicated his life to helping others in need. He was born in a poor family and experienced many hardships and challenges.

Angelo moved to Rome in 1687 and spent the rest of his life there, visiting hospitals and establishing a convalescent home for the destitute. He was called "Father Charity" by the people of Rome and was praised by popes and cardinals for his work. He refused the offer of becoming a cardinal himself, preferring to remain humble and faithful to his vocation. He died on January 20, 1720, and was beatified by Pope Benedict XVI in 2010. Feast Day January 20.

**(5) Bl. Archangela Giralani (1460-1494):** Carmelite mystic. She was born in Trino, in northern Italy, in 1460, baptized Eleanor. Though planning to become a Benedictine nun, she was thwarted in her desire by her horse - the animal refused to carry her to the convent. She then became a Carmelite in Parma, Italy, taking the name Archangela, being professed in 1478. Named prioress of the convent, Archangela founded a new Carmel in Mantua. She was gifted with ecstasies and levitation and was reported to have performed miracles. Archangela died on January 25, 1494. Pope Pius IX confirmed her cultus and Beatified her on 1 October 1864. Feast day: January 29.



**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 & BENEDICTION**

**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

**JANUARY SHRINE EVENTS**

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

Únase a 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**

"Todos son bienvenidos"

**Sábado 4 de Enero 7:00 pm**

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

Join us at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Mount Carmel to celebrate

**The feast of St. Andrew Corsini**

A Carmelite Saint: 1402-1473

**Thurs., Jan. 9 Mass @ 11:30**

Michael Corsini, who shares the same family tree as the saint, will lead the worship & music service at the Mass.

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The Carmelite Spirituality series at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Mount Carmel with Fr. Gerard Tang Choon, O. Carm.

**St. Andrew Corsini**

**Thurs., Jan. 9th 10:15 am**

Fr. Gerard Tang Choon, O. Carm.

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Join us at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Mount Carmel for our Mass in Italian

**Santa Messa Italiana**

Gloria a Dio

**Saturday January 11 4:30 pm**

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

The Spanish Healing Mass at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Mount Carmel

**misa de sanacion**

**Sábado 18 de Enero 7 pm**

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The feast of **Santo Niño**

**Sat., Jan. 25 5:30 pm**

Filipino Mass at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Mount Carmel

Bring your Santo Niño Images & statues to be blessed at Mass

**7:00 pm coffee, snacks & dancing... Reception in Pilgrim Hall**

Please bring a dessert to share

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**Coming in the February issue**

- More details on Jubilee 2025
- An inside look at the Presepio display
- An interview with Fr. Maurice Cummings, O. Carm.