

Melissa Fasano

From: mail@flocknote.com on behalf of Notre Dame of Mount Carmel Church
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To: Melissa Fasano
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Beautiful Eucharist

"Despite my occasional frustrations with the machinations of the institutional Church and the misdeeds of her people, myself included, I remain fully, inexorably bound to the gift of Jesus Christ, truly present in the Eucharist. I fall short of having words adequate to describe this blessing, so I often turn to those of the saints. When friends of different faiths or those who have been separated from the Church question me or attempt debate, I simply ask them to pray for me that I may be worthy of the bountiful love God shares with me. And I share that I hope they, too, will experience this love." Lisa M. Hendey in Matthew Kelly's Beautiful Eucharist



Parish Pastoral Council

In the fall of 2016, guided by the Holy Spirit and supported by Divine Renovation Ministry, our parish embarked on a journey of renewal to move our faith community “from maintenance to mission” so that we could more fully and proactively embrace our call to be missionary disciples. Since then, the Parish Leadership Team has supported our Pastor in implementing various strategies to further our renewed vision and mission. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, the great works of our ministries, and our community’s generosity, we have experienced significant fruitfulness, including the further development and strengthening of leadership in our parish.



The **Synod on Synodality** has emphasized the need to be a listening church, one that listens to those who are part of the community and those who more closely represent the larger community.

To that end, during the past few months, Fr. Paddy has been working with our Parish Leadership Team and members of our Pastoral Council to renew the overall purpose and operational model for our **Parish Pastoral Council** moving forward.



The result of their review and discernment sessions is documented in the **"Notre Dame of Mt. Carmel Parish Pastoral Council Foundational Principles and Guidelines,"** also available on our parish website [HERE](#). Stay tuned for further updates regarding the implementation of this renewed model.

When we open our 'work-life' to the work of the Holy Spirit, powerful ministry can arise and bless the lives of many, including our own.

Scripture & Skills

By Deacon Eric & Debby Kispert

Fifteen months ago, we were inspired to blend Sacred Scripture with the relational skills that Eric has been teaching clients for decades. The result was our conference entitled "Scriptures & Skills." On Saturday, we were blessed to have 60 individuals share a journey of reflection, introspection, and sharing.



Throughout the day, couples listened to lectures, struggled with their shortcomings, and shared from their hearts about their relational experiences. The group laughed, cried, and dug deep into their feelings. The day ended with several couples sharing their plans for relational success with their partners and with the group. We were truly privileged and blessed to have had so many courageous Christians participate in what was not only an amazing day but also a true highlight of our 33-year marriage.... We are so grateful and so honored to have led this beautiful experience.



"The connection that Eric & Debby made between skill and scripture was nothing short of inspirational. In addition, the practical advice was extremely valuable and explained in such a way that the skills can be applied immediately in our marriage. The best part of the day was the moving nature of the participants sharing and the mutual respect displayed. Eric & Debby are talented presenters who make the time we spent with them absolutely worth it!"

"It was wonderful spending time with my wife to connect, learn, love, and be vulnerable. I laughed a ton today. Connecting, healing, and learning with others was meaningful. The information offered was very helpful."

"It is evident that Eric & Debby's life journey has led them to this program. They have found their voice and gifts to share with us to enrich our lives. They demonstrated God's love throughout today's session, and my relationship will be enriched as a result. They have my heartfelt thanks."

"Thank you for making difficult topics seem manageable to work on. God Bless you both."

"I feel blessed to have set time to invest in our marriage. The content was inspiring, challenging, practical, and encouraging! Looking forward to the next one, please God!"

Elementary Family Faith: Mary, Our Lady of Sorrows

By Diane Byrne, Elementary Family Faith Coordinator

At the Family Mass on Sunday, Cristina Folan spoke about the times in Mary's life when she experienced great sadness. These Seven Sorrows of Mary were presented with the assistance of children. Cristina had the sorrows written on teardrops and assigned children to read each one. After the sorrow was read, Cristina talked about the pain Mary felt.



When we go through sad times, we should always turn to Mary for comfort because she knows what it feels like to experience pain and sorrow, and she also helps us get closer to Jesus.



Family Faith: Mass Transit Conversations

(Comments reflect previous Sundays' celebrations)

What was one new insight the homily gave you?

"Love is about our actions."

"To take a break, breathe, and pray before making decisions."

"If someone is new at school, you can be friends with them and show love for each other like that.?"

"It's about sacrifices."

"We have to give everything to Jesus since He gave everything to us."

"To show love, to love and to share and show respect."

"A 17-year-old boy was sick with cancer. His parents gave everything to help him. We

Was there something special you noticed at Mass today?

"The people who hand out Communion are approved for 3 years.."

"I saw my teacher!"

"Fr. Alex did not have Mass today, but Fr. Paddy! What was Fr. Alex doing?"

"There was no music. It was strange."

"There are backpacks for veterans in the Gathering Space."

"There were adults singing up there instead of kids." [Family attended 11:30 Mass]

"I noticed that parents were singing."

"I saw a lot of kids I know at today's Mass."

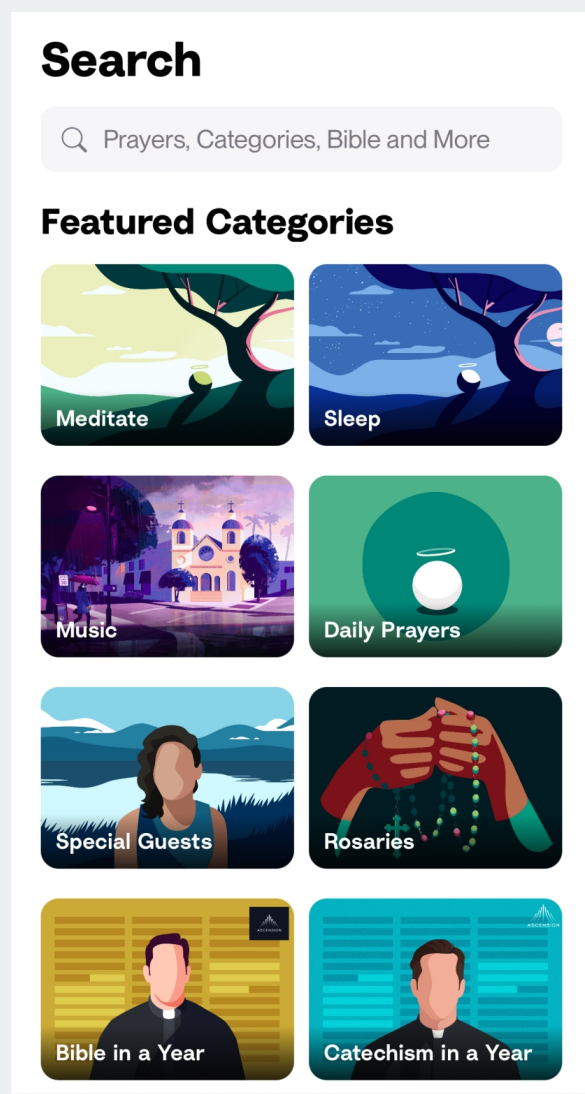
should give everything to God and love one another."

"The Mass was said for my Grandma in memory of her."

"The pews were full."

Hallow App: Tell me more...

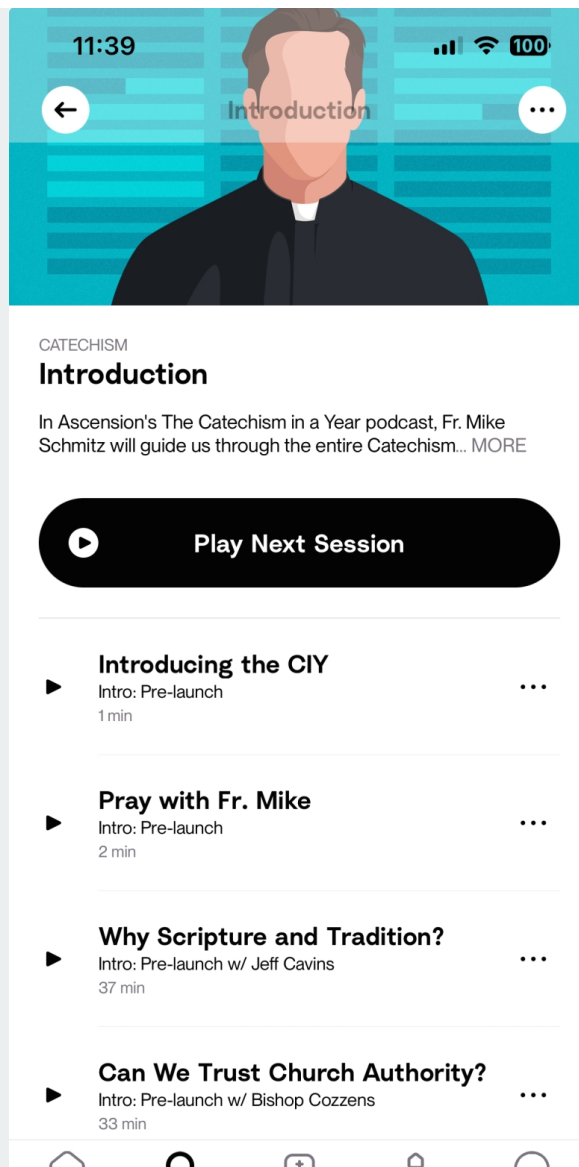
The number of folks connecting to the Hallow app seems to be rapidly growing! A few folks share below about the app's content they are exploring and how it is impacting their faith journey.



"Here are three of the biggest reasons I love the Hallow app:

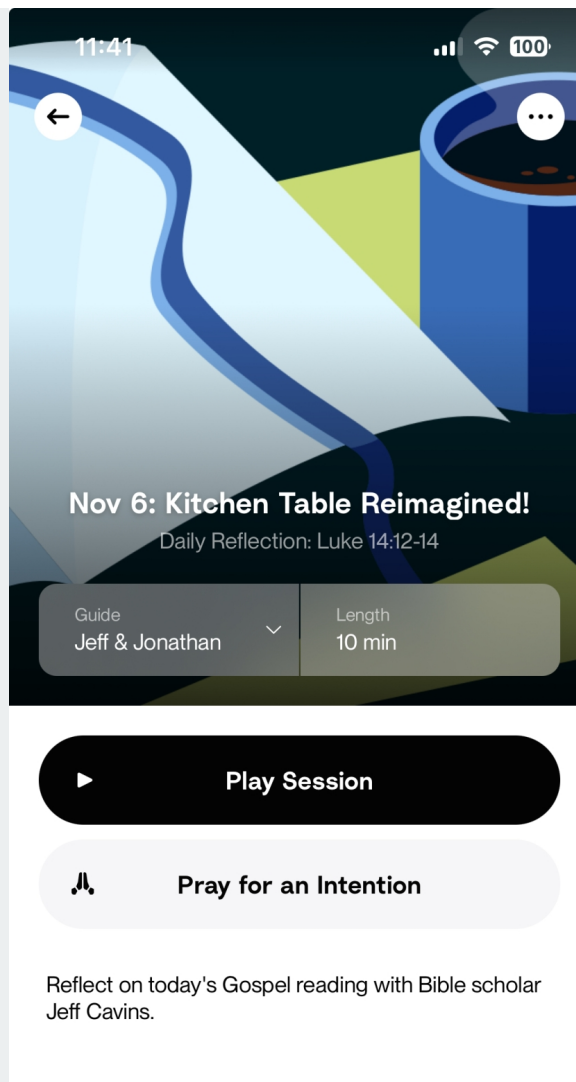
- 1. As prayer on the fly. If I don't have the availability to sit in prayer, this app is always with me. It takes my commute time to prayer time with God.*
- 2. I love using the **Rosary** and **Divine Chaplet** devotionals. No prayer cards or Bible needed; the app simply guides you through your time in prayer.*
- 3. Amount of options within the app, from prayers to reflections to homilies, the opportunity to peacefully pray and be with God is in the palm of your hand."*
Stephen Deehan

*"Since January, I've been listening to **The Catechism in a Year with Fr. Mike Schmitz**. This is a wonderful resource, especially for those of us in faith formation. However, most people may feel too intimidated to attempt to read it on their own. Fr. Mike's format is helpful since it chunks out the material each day, so it's not overwhelming, and each episode is only 15-20 minutes long. After he reads through the designated section of the day, Fr. Mike puts the teaching in his own words and provides life examples, which increases understanding. The experience is enriching my faith life. I have brought to prayer any obstacles in my own heart that I encounter in understanding Church doctrine. After each episode, I also ask the Holy Spirit to help provide me with the words to help explain Church teaching to our families here. Definitely recommended!!" Laura Balogh*



*"I have been using the Hallow app for a few years now. There are so many activities available, and they keep coming up with more. I listen to **Jeff Cavens Daily Reflections** as a way to start my day; he is always good for a chuckle and incredible insight on what really matters most. My son and I have been "playing" the **Daily Trivia** every morning; we have bonded over this and had some excellent discussions. The **Sleep Bible Stories** have gotten me through many sleepless nights.*

This app is so beneficial for my prayer life. I never thought I had the time to pray, but as Fr. Paddy reminds us, there is ALWAYS time. It doesn't matter that I'm listening in an app; I'm still praying and reaping the benefits." Melissa Fasano



*"My mom and I started playing the **Daily Trivia** on the Hallow App last year while waiting at the school bus stop. We've had a lot of fun with it. When we finish the five questions, we look to see how well we did against everyone else. I have to say, we do pretty well. Sometimes, if a question really trips us up, we'll look up information about it. We've learned a lot and have been able to use our new fun facts in conversations." John Demyanicz*

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In the Church, the month of May is dedicated to what?

Mary

The Precious Blood of Jesus

The Eucharist

St. Joseph

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

**Parishioner
Announcements**

Memories that share our story...

Missionary of Charities Outreach



*Wine & Cheese: Special thanks to our
Men's & Women's Cornerstone
ministries for hosting!*







5 pm Mass





Family Mass





6 pm Mass Contemporary Worship



Sent by Cristina Folan - Communications

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