

ST. MARY OF MOUNT CARMEL / BLESSED SACRAMENT PARISH - SUMMER 2018

MORE

GOOD NEWS



**VIVA
L'ITALIA!**
A little tour of Italy
with Father Jim

PAGE 3

CELEBRATING THE SAINTS

Our Lady of Mount Carmel

Feast Day July 16

Hermits lived on Mount Carmel near the Fountain of Elijah in northern Israel in the 12th century. They had a chapel dedicated to Our Lady.

By the 13th century they became known as “Brothers of Our Lady of Mount Carmel.” They soon celebrated a special Mass and Office in honor of Mary.

In 1726, it became a celebration of the universal church under the title of Our Lady of Mount Carmel. For centuries the Carmelites have seen themselves as specially related to Mary. Their great saints and theologians have promoted devotion to her and often championed the mystery of her Immaculate Conception.

St. Teresa of Avila called Carmel “the Order of the Virgin.” St. John of the Cross credited Mary with saving him from drowning as a child, leading him to Carmel, and helping him escape from prison.

St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus believed that Mary cured her from illness. On her First Communion day, Thérèse dedicated her life to Mary. During the last days of her life she frequently spoke of Mary.

There is a tradition—which might not be historical — that Mary appeared to St. Simon Stock, a leader of the Carmelites, and gave him a scapular, telling him to promote devotion to



it. The scapular is a modified version of Mary’s own garment. It symbolizes her special protection and calls the wearers to consecrate themselves to her in a special way. The scapular reminds us of the gospel call to prayer and penance — a call that Mary models in a splendid way.

Source: www.franciscanmedia.org

St. Dominic

Feast Day Aug. 18

If he hadn’t taken a trip with his bishop, Dominic probably would have remained within the structure of contemplative life; after the trip, he spent the rest of his life being a contemplative in active apostolic work.

Born in old Castile, Spain, Dominic was trained for the priesthood by a priest-uncle, studied the arts and theology, and became a canon of the cathedral at Osma, where there was an attempt to revive the apostolic common life described in Acts of the Apostles.

On a journey through France with his bishop, Dominic came face to face with the then virulent Albigensian heresy at Languedoc. The Albigensians — or Cathari, “the pure ones” — held to two principles — one good, one evil — in the world. All matter is evil, hence they denied the Incarnation and the sacraments.

On the same principle, they abstained from procreation and took a minimum of food and drink. The inner circle led what some people regarded as a heroic life of purity and asceticism not shared by ordinary followers.



Dominic sensed the need for the church to combat this heresy, and was commissioned to be part of the preaching crusade against it. He saw immediately why the preaching crusade was not succeeding: the ordinary people admired and followed the ascetical heroes of the Albigenses.

Understandably, they were not impressed by the Catholic preachers who traveled with horse and retinues, stayed at the best inns and had servants. Dominic therefore, with three Cistercians, began itinerant preaching according to the gospel ideal. He continued this work for 10 years, being successful with the ordinary people but not with the leaders.

His fellow preachers gradually became a community, and in 1215 Dominic founded a religious house at Toulouse, the beginning of the Order of Preachers or Dominicans.

Dominic’s ideal, and that of his order, was to organically link a life with God, study and prayer in all forms, with a ministry of salvation to people by the word of God. His ideal: contemplata tradere: “to pass on the fruits of contemplation” or “to speak only of God or with God.”

Source: www.franciscanmedia.org

PARISH WEBSITE

Visit www.mountcarmelblessedsacrament.com for the latest parish news and announcements. There’s even a mobile version for your smart phone. You can donate online and check out our social media sites and more.

PHOTO GALLERIES



BULLETIN

A Community on a Journey of Faith April 2, 2017

**St. Mary of Mt. Carmel
Blessed Sacrament Parish**

648 Jay St., Utica, NY 13501 • www.mountcarmelblessedsacrament.com

Weekend Masses:
Saturday: 4:30 PM
Sunday: 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM
Reconciliation: Saturday 3:45 PM

Weekday Masses:
No. 7700th Street, Utica, NY
Friday: 8:30 AM. Mass of Communion Service.
Rosary for the unborn and Divine Mercy Chaplet - Thursday after Mass.
Holy Days Consult Bulletin.

PARISH STAFF:
Pastor: Rev. Jim Cella
Parish Administrator: Terri Brando, M.Ed.
Co-Director of Faith Formation: Jane Carlini, CMAA 7-10
Director of Music: Peter Blazek
Music Director: Peter Blazek
Business Administration: Jani Smith-Lalanne
Parish Publicist: Fran Perrino

CONTACT:
Office: 315-442-1423
Fax: 315-442-1423
Cell: 315-442-1423
email: mtc@stma.org

OFFICE HOURS:
9:00 AM - 5:00 PM Monday-Thursday
9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Friday
4:45 PM - 5:00 PM Saturday
All bulletins must be submitted in writing by 12:00 noon Friday two days before publication.

BAPTISM:
Catechism level. Please call the parish office to arrange a baptism. Two parents are encouraged to attend the planning class before the birth of your child.

ADULTS: or children, 7 or older who have never been baptized or confirmed or received the Eucharist are invited to call the Parish Office for information about this process.

WEDDINGS:
Couples must make arrangements six months in advance.

NEW SUBSCRIBERS:
Welcome to our parish family. We invite you to become an active participant in our parish community. Please be sure to register by calling the parish office.

Also listing is posted for hearing impaired.

... AND MORE

- Father Jim’s “Wise and Otherwise”
- History of the parish
- Lector, minister, altar server schedules
- Mass schedules
- Parish news
- Ministries
- Event calendar
- Weekly reflection on Sunday’s readings
- “More Good News” magazine
- Links to our social media sites such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and YouTube.

Back to the ‘Old Country’

Father Jim’s travelogue as he returns to land of our many ancestors

We all like to take vacations, and that includes priests who sometimes need to get away for awhile to re-energize – just like the rest of us. Father Jim has visited Italy often, but every time he goes he discovers something new. He last traveled to the “Old Country” in May.

Where did you visit this time?

The area of Lombardi in Northern Italy. I used a villa on Lake Como as home base.

What did you do while you were there?

I took day trips to Lugano in Switzerland, Venice and Milan. It’s different from Southern or Central Italy where most of our roots are. I actually enjoyed hiking, walking, reading – the restaurants and some amount of local wines. I enjoyed meeting tourists from all over.

How long were you in the country?

About two weeks, which goes by quickly.

What were some of the highlights?

The boat cruises on Lake Como with beautiful Italian and Swiss Alps circled all around with their peaks.

How many times have you visited Italy?

I’ve been in the “Old Country” many times. I used to lead tours with the Perillo Tour outfit.

When was your first visit and what did you do?

My first visit was with college friends some years ago. I did take a year to study Catholic liturgy at the ancient San Anselmo Benedictine School in Rome.

What have been some of your favorite attractions?

Of course, Rome and the Vatican. Also, the Amalfi coast and the town and area of my father’s birth in the Abruzzi region.

If you were a tour guide, where would you advise people to visit?

Everything in Italy is worth seeing — Florence for art and architecture, Rome and the Greek temples of Sicily for history, any town or city for the food and wine and music, any piazza for the people. My advice would be not to bite off more than you can chew, even for first-timers. Italy is large; get to know one area well. Visit another area another time.

You also met Pope John Paul II years ago. How did that come about and what were your feelings at the time?

While living and studying in Rome, my priest friend and I with small group of eight or 10 attended morning Mass in the pope’s private chapel, after meeting and mingling in pope’s library. I spent time with now-canonized St. John Paul II.

What are your feelings now that you met an actual saint?



PHOTOS BY FATHER JIM

ABOVE: San Giovanni is a city in the province of Foggia and region of Apulia, in southern Italy. **ON THE COVER:** Lake Como, in Northern Italy’s Lombardy region, is an upscale resort area known for its dramatic scenery, set against the foothills of the Alps. A villa on the lake served as Father Jim’s home base in May. **BELOW:** Another view of Lake Como.



Meeting a saint? I had been prepared by knowing my mother!

Why do you go back on occasion? What is the draw?

The draw is that not even in one lifetime can a person get their fill of Italy, especially for those who are 100 percent of Italian lineage.

For those that never have traveled overseas, tell us about your flight, where you stopped and how long it takes?

I flew from Boston to Munich (German) to Milan (Italy) on a German airline. Very well done. It’s about six hours if flights are on time.

Have you ever visited the place or places from where your family originated?

Family origins are in the mountains of Abruzzi about 45 miles from Rome, and the Naples area on mother’s side. In other words, brains and food.

Do you plan to go back some day?

I plan to go back, probably. You have to tour when you can walk ... there’s lots of it.

What kind of advice would you give to would-be travelers?

Would-be travelers should plan well, not changing places too often. Enjoy, relax and build in time to do nothing.

Is there one lesson you’ve learned about traveling to Italy?

You really don’t need to speak the language. The young people speak better English than some people here, that I know. Another lesson, sometimes what isn’t planned can be as rewarding as the most well-planned excursions. Just take a random turn and discover places and people.

IN HIS OWN WORDS ... PAUL HANLEY

Marriage & Tuesday dinner

Paul Hanley has been a fixture in the parish for many years. You'll often seem him cantoring at the 10:30 a.m. Sunday Mass. He's a retired educator who taught for years at Notre Dame Junior-Senior High School. He's also written scholarly publications, given more than 200 adult education and conference presentations, traveled extensively and is a member of Mensa, the largest and oldest high IQ society in the world. But for Paul, the simple things in life — such as his marriage — are what matter the most. Here, in Paul's own words, is what he and his life are all about.

Two items that are very important to me over the past 17 years — things that center my life — are my wonderful wife and the Tuesday night dinner.

I did not ever see myself as being married. I was 52 years old when Rosemary and I were married at the 5 o'clock Mass at Mount Carmel. We had been the cantors at the Saturday night Mass for a couple of years as part of the Music Ministry and realized that most of the people who we wanted to be at our wedding were members of Mount Carmel. It was our family.

We wanted to sing at our wedding, because that is what we do — sing and pray and creatively hang about. Father Joe agreed with us and we did it.

There were two groups of people at the Mass that evening — the parishioners (the usual Saturday night crowd) who knew we were getting married, and those who were attending Mount Carmel that evening because they were involved in the Boilermaker on Sunday morning.

We were the cantors for the Mass. Bishop Tom Costello was the celebrant (a friend of mine because of my work in the Syracuse diocese for many years). After the homily we went to the middle of the altar, said our marriage vows before everyone and then returned to our places on either side of the altar. It was a unique wedding ceremony.

Tuesday night dinners came into play because Father Joe and I would have dinner together at the rectory on Tuesday nights every week. I was teaching adult classes for Mount Carmel on Tuesdays and we agreed that Tuesday night dinners were a way of taking a break for both of us.

It continued after our wedding at our home and includes a number of friends. It is a match made in heaven. Rosemary likes to cook, I like to eat (and clean up after the meal) and a number of friends who are single have a chance to



Paul and Rosemary Hanley are cantors in the parish Music Ministry. It was only natural that they sang at their own wedding at the then-5 p.m. Saturday Mass. "Bishop Tom Costello was the celebrant (a friend of mine because of my work in the Syracuse diocese for many years)," Paul said. "After the homily we went to the middle of the altar, said our marriage vows before everyone and then returned to our places on either side of the altar. It was a unique wedding ceremony."

get together each week for table fellowship. We have been doing this for the past 17 years. We cherish the "Tuesday night crowd."

The music of his life

I started singing and leading the congregation in junior high at St. John the Evangelist grade school. The father of a good friend heard me singing with his daughter in their living room, came to me and told me that I should join the choir. Then he told me to come to Mass a little bit early and meet him in the sacristy before Mass. I did.

He handed me a book of songs, told me that

Please see PAUL HANLEY Page 7

Paul Hanley

Resides: Utica.

Age: 69.

Family: Wife Rosemary

Occupation: Retired; former teacher at Notre Dame Junior-Senior High School and St. Joseph's College in Bennington, Vermont.

Education: Bachelor's degree in mathematics at Stonehill College in Massachusetts, master's degree in religious education at Boston College, associate degree in computer science at Mohawk Valley Community College. Also attended Manhattan College and Long Island University.

'I rely on God for everything'

At age 16, Fallon knows the way

Fallon Siniscarco comes from a close-knit family with an older brother and sister and a supportive mom and dad, but she is making her own way in her young life. She says that whatever she's doing, she always knows God is there for her in good times and in those troubling times. Fallon is not afraid to share her faith and tries to live it every day.

Your family has been involved at Mount Carmel / Blessed Sacrament for quite a while. What does belonging to this parish mean to you?

Being part of Mount Carmel / Blessed Sacrament makes me feel closer to God. Going to Mass with my family every Sunday also makes me feel closer to my family, too.

What is the first thing you remember about coming to church?

I remember going to religious education classes. I loved doing art projects in Mrs. Panuccio's class and I remember making my chalice for my First Communion. I also remember all the times I went to breakfast with Santa.

You are an altar server. What do you like most about serving Mass?

I have been an altar server for the last eight years and it makes me feel like I am doing what I was called to do, especially serving for Holy Week. That is my favorite time of the church year. After I make my Confirmation, I would like to continue to serve. I am not sure just yet what I want to do as far as lecturing or being a Eucharistic minister.

What is your relationship with God like?

I rely on God for everything. Before every soccer game or track meet, I say a prayer to God to ask him to keep me safe and I always say a prayer of thanks afterwards as well. I pray that God gives me the strength to do the best that I can with whatever I do.

Is there anyone who has helped you the most in that relationship?

My mom. She always makes sure I go to church and she has always assured me that God is always there for me no matter what. My mom also just gave me my own copy of "Jesus Calling: Enjoying Peace in His Presence" by Sarah Young. Each day of the year, there is an inspirational quote which has an exact quote from the Bible. I find that it is very relatable and it gives me a different perspective on life.

Most young people generally don't like to talk about their faith with their friends. Do you ever have the opportunity to talk to your friends about faith, and what do you



Fallon Siniscarco sometimes gives her friends some good advice when they need it. "Whenever my friends are struggling, I tell them that everything happens for a reason and that God has a plan for them. I think that helps them look for the good in every situation."

say to them?

Whenever my friends are struggling, I tell them that everything happens for a reason and that God has a plan for them. I think that helps them look for the good in every situation. Although not all of my friends are Christians, I still share that message and I feel that they still appreciate the advice.

I know you're only a teenager, but how do you cope with life's disappointments?

Please see FALLON, Page 7

Fallon Siniscarco

Age: 16.

School: New Hartford High School.

Year in school: Entering junior year.

Family: Father John, mom Mary, brother John (21), sister Shaelin (18).

Favorite movie: "Phantom of the Opera"

Favorite TV show: "Impractical Jokers"

Favorite music artist: "Train"

Things you like to do in your spare time: Play soccer and play with my dog.



After the Resurrection ...

Following the Ascension, here's what happened with apostles

As we sit in church, we hear snippets of the Old Testament and passages of the New Testament.

We learn about the prophets of old and of the life and teachings of Jesus. We all know that Jesus was accompanied by 12 disciples, one of whom (Judas) eventually betrayed him and in a fit of guilt hangs himself.

But what was the fate of the other 11 who struck out after the Resurrection to spread the word of the new faith?

Peter

He was chosen by Christ as the leader of the group. Upon the betrayal and death of Judas, one of his first tasks was to lead in the apostles' selection of a replacement of their disgraced colleague. The group chose Matthias. Peter was sanctioned by the Sanhedrin, imprisoned by Herod. Tradition says Peter founded the church in Rome with Paul and was later crucified there. It is said he insisted he be crucified upside-down as he felt unworthy to perish in the same way as his Savior. His remains are beneath the high altar of St. Peter's Basilica in Rome.

Andrew

He was Peter's brother. He traveled far from the Holy Land during his mission. It is said that he preached around the Black Sea arriving as far north as the Ukraine, Romania and Russia. He established the See of Byzantium. He was martyred on an X-shaped cross in Patras, Greece, after being flogged. Stories say

he continued to preach for two days before expiring on the instrument of his destruction. His remains have been divided among churches in Patras, Amalfi, Edinburgh and Warsaw as well as many other places.

James

The son of Zebedee, this James was the brother of John and the first of the apostles to be martyred. Tradition says he was decapitated by Herod himself. It is said he preached in Iberia (Spain) as well as the Holy Land. Upon his death his followers took his remains back to Spain where he was buried at Santiago de Compostella. The Catholic Church does not necessarily ascribe to the notion that James ever actually worked in Spain, but the legend has persisted since 700 AD.

John

Often referred to as the "disciple whom Jesus loved," John was the youngest of the apostles. He is the only one of the apostles to die of old age, though stories abound of the many times he was persecuted and tortured. It is believed that it is he who authored several books of the New Testament, though there are those that say some were written by another John. John was banished by the Romans to the island of

Patmos. John's tomb is in the remains of the Basilica of St. John in Ephesus (near modern Selçuk, Turkey).

Philip

He went on to preach in Greece, Syria and Phrygia. Having converted the wife of the proconsul of Rome in Hierapolis (an ancient city in Turkey), the angry official condemned Phillip to torture and crucifixion (upside down). Another story says he was beheaded. Though it is agreed his relics are in the crypt of the church of Santi Apostoli in Rome, a 2011 archeological dig in Hierapolis unearthed his original tomb.

Bartholomew

Also known as Nathanael, Bartholomew is said to have gone to India, Ethiopia, Mesopotamia, Parthia, Lycaonia and Armenia. He is considered to be one of the patron saints of the Armenian Apostolic Church. Tradition says he was flayed alive and beheaded in Albanopolis, Armenia, but another account places his martyrdom in India. His relics are found in the Cathedral of St. Bartholomew in Benevento, Italy. Another relic is in San Bartolomeo all'Isola in Rome, the site of a hospital, as Bartholomew is a protector of medicine and hospitals.

Matthew

As a tax collector, Matthew was literate in Aramaic and Greek. Though the Gospel that



A.J. VALENTINI

PAUL HANLEY

Continued from Page 4

what I had to do was to stand up and tell the congregation where in the book the music was, and then lead the people in singing the music. I told him that he was crazy. He told me that he heard me singing a number of times at his home. He mentioned the fact that when he asked me to see him before Mass started, I responded to him, "OK, Mr. R. Whatever you need me to do." He would not take no for an answer. So, I did what he told me to do. For the next six years, I was the cantor for the Sunday morning liturgy.

I was involved in the school choir for four years of high school, and then went to Stonehill College and lived in the Holy Cross Seminary for four years.

After graduation from Stonehill, I went to Bennington, Vermont, for the novitiate year, learning about the Congregation of Holy Cross, and about my relationship with God. A time of prayer, quiet and discernment. After seven months, I came to the conclusion that I was not supposed to become a priest, and I returned to Utica.

I got a job at Upstate Computer Center and then found a job with General Electric.

'Creatively hanging about'

I guess that the best way to describe what I do with my time — "creatively hanging about."

I have been a teacher since grade school — helping friends with school work, especially in math. I loved working one-on-one with classmates who were having difficulty in school. In high school, a group of five classmates would gather in the cafeteria to help each other with homework. We met at 7:30 each day — all of our group would be in school real early in the morning because our parents would drop us off on their way to work.

I was involved in many different after-school activities: theater, choir, basketball announcer, paper route. On weekends, I would go to the Knights of Columbus to help teach swimming to the younger kids who did not know how to swim. I played basketball at the K of C, but could not sink a basket to save my life. However, I was really good at defense. That was the only reason why the coach let me play.

I learned how to play tennis, golf, handball, swimming and diving, and card games. (My family did not spend much time watching television. We had so many other things to do.) I spent lots of time reading mystery novels: the complete Sherlock Holmes, and all the Nero Wolfe novels. I still read two or three books a week. (Barnes and Nobles loves me.)

One high point in my life in college involved the musical productions by The Greasepaint Players of Stonehill College.

We started the Greasepaint Players because

the theater group at the college would not do musicals. The head of the drama department did not consider musicals to be real theater.

So a group of us decided to start our own show. I worked with this group for three seasons. In my senior year we chose "The Fantastics" as our musical for the year. I decided to try out for a part in the show and was chosen to be the girl's father in the show. It was an awesome experience. I sang, danced, remembered my lines and had a wonderful time.

After college, I joined the Newman Center at Utica College and became one of the leaders of the music ministry for Sunday Mass.

At about the same time, I had the pleasure of meeting Flora Elacqua. She invited me to teach some adult education classes at Mount Carmel. I became a good friend of the Elacqua family. At one point, Vincent Elacqua invited me to come to Mount Carmel to sing with them at Mass. I was awestruck by what I experienced. I decided to join Mount Carmel and became a part of the music ministry. I have been here ever since.

The music ministry still is vibrant and involves so many different people - from school age to senior citizens (I guess that I am in latter group now). I am in awe of the sense of community which exists throughout the parish.

OUR CATHOLIC HERITAGE

Continued from Page 7

bears his name is anonymous, his authorship has been ascribed since the second century. Most scholars agree that he preached in the Holy Land but cannot come to consensus on where else in the world he traveled. It is interesting to note that Muslim texts place his missionary work around the Caspian Sea. There are conflicting stories about his martyrdom, but his relics are found in the Cathedral of Salerno.

James

The son of Alpheus, this James is only mentioned four times in the Gospels. One account of his martyrdom has him thrown from the Temple wall in Jerusalem (the same one where Satan took Jesus during the episode of the Temptation), surviving and then beaten to death with a fuller's club. Another story has him crucified in Egypt.

Thomas

He traveled to India about 20 years after Christ's death. He established seven churches in Kerala (southwest India) and descendants of those he baptized there proudly trace their lineage to those first converts. He is known as the "Apostle of India." He was martyred during his mission in southwestern India. Some scholars believe he might have traveled to Indonesia. His remains were brought to Edessa

in Mesopotamia but have been divided and moved several times. In 1258, a portion made its way to the city of Ortona in Italy.

Simon

To distinguish him from Simon Peter, he often is referred to as Simon the Zealot. After working in Egypt, he joined Jude in Persia and Armenia. Different legends say he was crucified as the Bishop of Jerusalem, sawn in half in Persia, died peacefully in Edessa — and others say he was martyred with Jude.

Jude Thaddeus

Usually pictured with the flame of Pentecost over his head, Jude preached in Judea, Samaria, Idumaea, Syria, Mesopotamia, Beirut and Libya. He was martyred around 65 AD in Beirut with Simon the Zealot. His body was later brought to Rome and lies in St. Peter's Basilica. He is known as the patron of lost causes and, of course, is the patron of the famous children's hospital and research center in Memphis, Tennessee.

Matthias

He is unique because he wasn't personally chosen by Jesus but by the other apostles upon the death of Judas Iscariot. He went on to preach in Cappadocia and the area of the Caspian Sea. He was stoned to death in what today is the country of Georgia.

FALLON

Continued from Page 5

I try to follow my own advice, as I mentioned earlier. I believe that the bad times in life will not last forever.

Do you have a hero or someone you look up to?

I have two teachers that I look up to — Mrs. Hill, my Spanish teacher, and Mrs. Hamilton, my Global History teacher. Both have had their own personal struggles in life but both are very happy, positive and inspirational. They are both loving, giving people who always make the time to show that they care.

What is the best advice anyone has ever given to you?

Life is short and you need to treat as if every day is your last. Make the most out of life by always being positive.

What do you hope the future holds for you?

I hope I have a family some day with a loving, supportive husband. I hope that my children are healthy and happy. I also hope to become a successful occupational therapist someday. I would love to work with both the elderly and children. I want to be able to change people's lives for the better.

FACES AT THE FESTIVAL

