

# **Bloodlines**

## **Newsletter of the Atlantic Province**



Spring-Summer 2020

### **From the Provincial and Council**

The provincial council met via Zoom on June 8, 2020 with all members present.

#### **Approval of the Minutes of the Last Council Meeting**

The minutes were approved unanimously.

#### **Approval of Revisions to the Program of Formation**

Fr. Sam presented several revisions to the Program of Formation suggested by the Vocation and Formation Committee for approval. The members of the committee include Fr. Lui Santi, Fr. Alarey Abella, Fr. Sam D'Angelo, Fr. John Colacino, and Fr. Mario Cafarelli, *ex officio*. After carefully looking at the proposed items, the council gave its approval. Fr. Sam will see that the document is uploaded to the provincial website.

#### **Report on the House of Formation**

Fr. Mario reported that all is going very well with the renovations to the house. He was hopeful that all would be completed by the end of July and that people could start living there in August. It has remained on budget, though that has been a challenge at times.

#### **Vocation Inquiries**

Fr. Mario shared with the council that there are three priests looking into the community. Fr. John suggested that Fr. Mario get in touch with the Cincinnati Province and see what they have done in the past regarding formation for those already ordained.

#### **Personnel**

Fr. Mario announced that he has appointed Jerome Hologa as the Director of Development. Jerome has taken on this work with a lot of enthusiasm and creativity.

Fr. John stated that it is important that we place our newest members in work that will form the future of the province and not place them in situations that will just continue our past history.

A number of other personnel issues were then taken into consideration including the likely impact of the pandemic on our parish ministries.

### **Announcements**

Fr. Mario announced that the retreat tentatively rescheduled for August 31-September 4, 2020 is cancelled due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The Major Superiors Meeting would be in March or April via Zoom and that there might be some type of get together in the month of July.

Fr. John then shared the following dates with the council at Fr. Mario's request:

June 7-11, 2021 -- Business Assembly at the Carmelite Spirituality Centre

June 13-17, 2022 -- Community Retreat at the Carmelite Spirituality Centre.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 31, 2020, at 10:00 a.m. by Zoom unless notified differently beforehand.

## **Provincial Calendar**

### **JUNE**

- 3 - B – Mario Cafarelli (1956)
- 9 - B – Jeffrey Finley (1969)
- 20 – D - Mario Bufalini (2010)
- 21 - B – Luigino Santi (1961)
- 23 - B – Phillip Smith (1950)
- 25 – O – Michael Mateyk (2011)
- 26 - O – Ronald Wiecek (1971)
- 29 - O – William Mnyagatwa (1973)

### **JULY**

- 1 – SOLEMNITY OF THE PRECIOUS BLOOD
- 1 - O – Alarey Abella (2007)
- 3 - O – Dominic Jung (1995)
- 3 - O – Sam D'Angelo (1999)
- 12 - B – Augusto Menichelli (1973)
- 12 - B – Joseph Grasso (1955)
- 16 - B – James Reposkey (1946)
- 29 – B – Patrick Gilmurray (1963)
- 30 – O – Josephat Msuya (2002)
- 31 - O – Joseph Grasso (1992)

## AUGUST

- 3 - I – Anthony Canterucci (1949)
- 8 - B – Peter Nobili (1942)
- 15 - B – Missionaries of the Precious Blood (1815)
- 15 - I – Ronald Wiecek (1965)
- 18 - D – Sebastian Contegiacomo (1982)
- 24 – D – Francisco Dell Valle Milan (2016)
- 25 - I – Dominic Jung (1994)
- 29 - I – Joseph Grasso (1991)

### Voice of the Founder



Happy the person who is more and more enriched with the treasures we have in the application of the blood of Jesus Christ. To the extent that we apply it we shall advance in the ranks of heavenly glory. Observe then the industry of the saints in this heavenly commerce.

And what of us? We who perhaps have not yet begun to atone for the past or provide for the future. What shall we resolve? Jesus shows us his precious homeland. "Behold," he says, "at what price I have won it for you: *'You have been bought at a great price!'*" Let it therefore be our duty to make known its glories by offering it continually to the eternal Father.

Oh balsam of our souls! Oh font of every mercy, grant that my tongue reddened with this blood in the daily celebration of Mass might praise you now and forever. For this purpose I am a priest: to apply the merits of the divine blood. What a great thought this is for me!

What a great incentive to propose its veneration to the people, and on divine authority: *You have redeemed us for God [with your blood]. . .and have made us a kingdom and priests. ("In everything you have been enriched in him")*



*Business Assembly June 7-11, 2021  
Provincial Retreat June 13-17, 2022*

*Mt. Carmel Spiritual Centre  
Niagara Falls, Ontario*



*In your charity, please pray for the eternal repose of*

**Rev. Carlo Della Vecchia C.P.P.S.** (+April 15, 2020)

**Vicenta Olga Clarissa Valencia Laguartilla** (+June 2, 2020),  
mother of Gerardo Laguartilla,



In time for the month of the Precious Blood, the website [sanguischristi.com](http://sanguischristi.com) will feature the following items:

*A revised and expanded "Readings on the Precious Blood" for each day of the month modeled on the Office of Readings and now with three selections for each day according to the liturgical year;*

*A Scriptural Chaplet of the Precious Blood'*

*And the talk given at last year's August 15 celebration by Prof. Ada Prisco entitled "Song of the Hours of a Precious Life"*

### **History of the Atlantic Province (cont'd)**

*From Fr. Pollack's history:*

In the middle of 1928, the work among the Italian immigrants was limited to two parishes with three missionaries, namely, Mt. Carmel in Chicago where Fr. Angelo Della Vecchia was in charge; Mt. Carmel in Niles, Ohio, where Fr. Santoro was in charge. Fr. Martiniano was back in Brooklyn making his headquarters at Our Lady of Solace from where he helped out and went out to preach missions.

*(I am reproducing below a photostatic copy of a history of Mt. Carmel Church in Chicago with some relevant documentation important in the history of the Atlantic Province).*

## The History of St. Mary of Mt. Carmel Church

*"From a humble beginning there arose a great Temple to Honor God  
and Our Lady of Mt. Carmel."*



To establish the history of St. Mary's Church we must go back to the early part of 1888, when the first Italian immigrants settled in the South Side area of Chicago. Slowly but steadily the little colony began to grow in size. As their number continued to increase they found it necessary to unite themselves in a religious group under the patronage of the Blessed Virgin of Mt. Carmel. It was in the early part of 1891 that they founded a sodality, which they called, "Congrega di Maria Santissima Del Carmine," because of their special devotion for the Blessed Mother. The founders of this sodality were ten persons driven by initiative and Christian courage: Raffaele Scavone, Francesco Vece, Davide Vece, Emidio Vece, Paolo Margarella, Geraldo Calzaretta, Pasquale Rosalia, Vito D'Elia, Michele Senese and Luigi Vece.

United in one spirit, with one purpose, this small group began the work of laying the foundation for the organization of an Italian parish. They worked hard among the people, holding them together, arousing their enthusiasm and fostering the hope of establishing an Italian Church. It was the following year, 1892, that this group organized an outdoor feast in honor of the Blessed Virgin of Mt. Carmel. It was crowned with great success and the consensus of opinion among the people who participated in the celebration was that they should start work immediately toward the achievement of their ultimate goal — a Church of their own. Meanwhile services were held in a store situated at 68th and Page Street, which was later changed to Hermitage Avenue.

In 1895 five lots were purchased where the present rectory now stands, but the lots where the church was to be located, were donated. Now was the time to build their church, but this was a difficult task they undertook, because at this time the congregation was not large enough to raise the

necessary funds. In fact at one point they had almost given up the task as hopeless, when Paolo Margarella offered to loan \$500.00 to the committee composed of Raffaele Scavone, Francesco Vece, Davide Vece, Emidio Vece and the same Paolo Margarella, in order to purchase a Protestant Church belonging to a Baptist denomination. This church was 50 x 40 feet and was moved from 72nd and Peoria close to the site of the present rectory. As soon as the church was ready, Raffaele Scavone and Raffaele Cappetta made an appeal to the Resurrectionist Fathers for a priest who spoke their language. (These two men were later appointed the first trustees of the new parish.)

Reverend Father Serafino Cosimi was chosen as their first Pastor. In the year 1900 tragedy struck when the church burned. Father Serafino then thought of having a church which would be more suitable for worship of God. The parish was no longer in need of temporary provision but needed permanency. So plans were made and in the same year a second church was built at a cost of \$6,000 on the old site. The new building had a seating capacity of about 450 and was of Romanesque architecture designed by the pastor. Father Serafino also realized the importance for the pastor to remain constantly among his people, so with the same eagerness and enthusiasm he started to raise funds for the building of a rectory. It was not until the year 1903 that he could start excavating for the foundation for that beautiful rectory. The progress of the parish under the administration of Father Serafino was gradual but steady. At a time when his young parish was assuming greater proportion, his health became seriously impaired and on June 8, 1906 he was called by Almighty God to his eternal reward. "He was loved by God and man whose memory is in Benediction." (Ecclies. XLV-1)

The Rev. Edward Ricciardelli, C.P.P.S. was appointed to succeed Father Serafino. At the time of his appointment, he was Assistant Pastor of Guardian Angel Church, where Monsignor Dunne, the late Bishop of Peoria, was Pastor. He remained here until October, 1923, when he returned to Italy because of ill health.

After his departure another Missionary of the Precious Blood Congregation was appointed its new Pastor. This man was to play a vital role in the development of St. Mary's as one of the greatest parishes servicing the Italian people. He was to foster Catholic Education at its best and show true signs as the Shepherd of his flock. He was none other than Rev. Angelo Della Vecchia, later affectionately known as Father Angelo.

When he assumed this appointment the material and spiritual conditions of the parish were anything but normal or encouraging. Father Angelo did not falter in the face of such disheartening conditions but with a deep confidence in God and with infinite patience, for which he is noted, he faced the situation bravely and successfully.

Only a few years passed when under Father Angelo's direction a school containing eight classrooms was erected at the corner of Wood Street, South of Marquette Road. This was officially dedicated in 1927 and was staffed by the Sisters of St. Dominic. The school also served as living quarters for the Sisters. Too much credit and praise cannot be given to the Sisters of St. Dominic, who pioneered in the first days of St. Mary's School. They gracefully and kindly accepted conditions as they found them, willingly suffering many inconveniences in their efforts to be a source of encouragement to their faithful friends and Pastor.

In May of 1933 a three story building situated at 1754 W. Marquette Road was purchased for the sum of \$12,000 and moved to 6715 S. Wood. At the expense of \$6,000 it was remodeled into a convent, with accommodations for the ten nuns.

With the continuous growth of the parish the Pastor was confronted with the serious problem of looking ahead to building a larger church. The present church could no longer accommodate the crowds who came to hear mass or attend evening devotions. Since 1935 he started to raise funds for the building of a new church giving particular interest and concern to the annual carnival conducted exclusively by the men and women of the parish. For years to come the annual carnivals were to be a main source of income for the parish.

Quite a few years had to pass before his dream became a reality. He has just built the school, just finished the convent for the sisters, just paid a debt of \$9,000 and he knew another debt of almost \$50,000 on the school had to be paid but Father Angelo did not despair — a man of great faith and courage; he had confidence in his parishioners and he was sure that they would continue to give their moral and financial support.

The parish continued to grow and it was no longer possible for one priest to administer to its needs. In December of 1928, Rev. Valentino Nardoni arrived in Chicago from Rome. In August, 1937 Father Valentino was transferred to Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church in Cincinnati, Ohio. After his departure Reverend Guido Nardoni was transferred from Niles, Ohio, to carry on the work. He remained at St. Mary's until February 5, 1942 when he was sent to Cincinnati to take over the duties of his uncle, Father Valentino, who became seriously ill. He was then replaced by Rev. Oreste Cerbara.

After 10 years of unceasing efforts, Father Angelo received a letter from the Archbishop giving permission to build his new church. His dream was finally becoming a reality. Plans had been drawn since 1940. In November, 1941, with \$65,000 in cash raised through social doings and carnivals and with a loan of \$60,000 from the Bishop of Chicago, the actual work was started. The remaining funds were to be raised through donations and subscriptions from the parishioners in order to reach the sum of \$175,000 to complete the Church. The building of Romanesque style was designed by Gerald A. Barry, Architect. The contract was given to Federici Brothers and John Vaci — the cornerstone was laid on May 14, 1942 by the Rt. Rev. Msgr. George Casey.

The dedication of this magnificent church was held on Sunday, November 29th, 1942. It was a day of great pride for all the parishioners of St. Mary's. It marked an even greater event. It was the Golden Jubilee of the parish — and the dedication of their new church. It completed another chapter in the history of St. Mary's.

In the years to follow other assistants were sent to serve. Msgr. Rotondi, Rev. Raoul Sabattini, Rev. John Zywolewski, Rev. Albert De Pascale, Rev. Joseph Gentili, and Brother Anthony Canterucci. Father Angelo realizing that the old rectory was too small for three priests started a campaign to raise funds for a new rectory. This was realized in the spring of 1949 when the present rectory was completed.

Growing pains continued, and before long twelve classrooms were in use and the old convent was too small. The sisters once again moved into the school for a year, while a new and modern convent was built on the site of the old building. This was completed in 1953.

Father Angelo remained as pastor for 47 years and on September 20, 1970, retired as pastor. Father Angelo now resides in his home town of Segni, Italy.

On September 20, 1970, Rev. Joseph Gentili, a long time assistant at St. Mary's assumed the responsibilities as pastor. He set out to stabilize and settle the area that was beginning to change.

His first concern was to renovate the sanctuary, making it acceptable to worship in line with the new liturgy.

Father Joseph and his assistant, Father John, worked to keep St. Mary's alive but with the continuing change and people moving to other parts of the city it wasn't long before it was necessary to close the school. This was done on June 8, 1975.

The closing of the School certainly didn't help the efforts to keep the Church alive. We have come to the End! The last chapter of a wonderful book written not with words, but with patience, love, suffering and hard work, had to be expected.

June 13, 1976, the end of the book. As humble was its beginning, Glorious is the end.

Thousands and thousands of parishioners and friends shall never forget St. Mary's. For them, the life of St. Mary's shall go on forever, and the final chapter of the Wonderful book shall never be written . . .

\* \* \*

#### STATISTICS

Baptisms .....	9,539
Marriages .....	3,221
Deaths .....	3,767
Confirmations .....	5,813
First Communions .....	7,124

#### ST. MARY OF MOUNT CARMEL SCHOOL

1927 - 1975

Graduates .....	1,928
Principals at St. Mary of Mount Carmel School	
Sister Mary James, O.P. ....	1927-1933
Sister Marie Magdalen, O.P. ....	1933-1939
Sister Catherine Patricia, O.P. ....	1939-1945
Sister Marie Magdalen, O.P. ....	1945-1951
Sister Mary Ruth, O.P. ....	1951-1954
Sister Geraldine Marie, O.P. ....	1954-1960
Sister Elise Marie, O.P. ....	1960-1966
Sister Margaret Ringle, O.P. ....	1966-1975

St. Mary of Mount Carmel Church staffed by:	
Resurrectionist Fathers .....	1892-1906
Precious Blood Fathers .....	1906-1975

# PRECIOUS BLOOD FATHERS

Atlantic  Vicariate

65 HIGHLAND AVENUE • ROCHESTER, NEW YORK 14620 • PHONE 244-1926.

June 1, 1976

Saint Mary of Mount Carmel Church  
6722 South Hermitage Avenue  
Chicago, Illinois

My dear Parishoners of Mount Carmel,

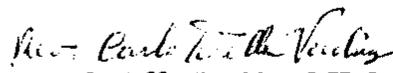
With the closeness and warmth of a parish community, the job of closing a parish is never an easy thing to do. Although the parish of Mount Carmel has somewhat disintegrated over the past few years, the spirit of the dedicated people of Mount Carmel and the work of the Precious Blood Fathers, especially Father Angelo, still lives on and will continue to live on for many more years.

I cannot help but think of the thousands of people who have gone through the parish and have carried the spirit of the parish to all parts of the country. It is this very spirit that we want to engender in the hearts of all those who were brought closer to the Lord through the parish of Mount Carmel.

It is with much regret that the end of an era has had to come, but these are the times in which we live. It is my prayer that the faith of the people and the spirit of love and co-operation will live on long after the physical structures have passed.

On behalf of the Precious Blood Fathers, may I thank you for all the good things that have been done for the Fathers, and for the encouragement that you have given to us over the years.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

  
Rev. Carlo Della Vecchia, C.P.P.S.  
Vicariate Director

May 24, 1976

To My Dear former Parishioners and Friends:

To write a letter such as this, is not easy or pleasant, after spending 47 years as pastor, among you.

Although life had its ups and downs, happy and unhappy events, in a short time I received great help to build a model parish, with school, convent, church, rectory, playground and parking lot.

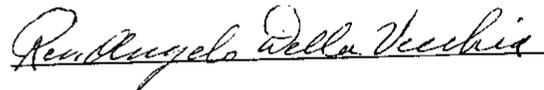
The credit for the success of St. Mary's goes to the good parishioners now and in years gone by; and in a special way to my faithful assistants, the lay helpers in the rectory, and our good Sisters who imparted a solid education to our children with great personal sacrifice, the men and women of our many parish organizations and the Knights of Columbus.

As the final page of history of St. Mary's is written, one cannot help become aware of the thousands of people who have gone through the parish and of the great contributions made to the church and the community.

It is with much regret that this era comes to an end. However, let us keep St. Mary's alive-even though the door closes-the seeds planted will grow, live prosper for many generations.

May Our Lord and St. Mary of Mt. Carmel grant you health and peace.

Sincerely in Christ,



Rev. Angelo Della Vecchia, C.P.P.S.  
Pastor Emeritus  
Via Cavour, 76  
Segni, Italy

**Some humor and a recipe from the Web found by Fr. Lui @ Catholic Cuisine;**  
<https://catholiccuisine.blogspot.com/2016/10/buffalo-hot-wings-st-gaspar-del-bufalo.html>

Born (and baptized) in Italy on the Feast of the Epiphany, January 6, 1786, Gaspar Melchior Balthazar del Bufalo was named after the three Magi who visited the Christ child. The feast of the Epiphany is celebrated as a manifestation of Christ to the Gentiles, represented by the Magi. This was a perfect name for a man who would spend his life to bring the Word of God to others, constantly on the move as a missionary. St. Gaspar was the Founder of the Missioners of the Precious Blood and his feast is observed October 21.

I confess... whenever I see the name of St. Gaspar del Bufalo, I always think of the bison that roam America's plains or the hot wings originating in Buffalo NY. So I like the idea of actually having Buffalo hot wings (or buffalo burgers?) on his feast even though St. Gaspar's family name has nothing to do with either of those "buffaloes".

I have included a typical hot wings recipe or you can cheat like I did and just buy them ready-made from your favorite wing stop.

### **Buffalo Hot Wings**

#### **Ingredients**

20 -25 chicken wings  
2 cups vegetable oil  
1/4 cup melted butter  
1 (3 ounce) bottle Louisiana hot sauce (Frank's)

#### **Directions**

Disjoint and cut the chicken wings into two pieces and discard the tips. Rinse and pat dry. The wings must be completely dry in order to fry properly, since there is no batter or breading.

Preheat the oil in a deep fryer or a large deep pan to 350°F.

Add the chicken wings a few at a time to the hot oil. Do not allow the oil to cool as the chicken is added. Deep-fry for 10-12 minutes or until crisp and golden brown. Drain well by shaking in the fryer basket or place on metal rack to drain.

Blend melted butter with 1/2 bottle of hot sauce for medium-hot wings. Add additional hot sauce for hotter wings or additional butter for milder wings.

Combine the wings and the hot sauce in a large container. Let stand, covered. Serve.



**St. Gaspar del Bufalo, Pray for us!**