

One Family in Mission

Called to Evangelize



Formation



Hospitality



Prayer



Service

Office of Parish Stewardship

July 2021

We are pleased to present our July issue of **ONE FAMILY IN MISSION** newsletter. We invite you - as part of that **FAMILY** - to share articles, best practices and any other items that you believe would benefit our community of Stewards. Please send them to tzalud@drvc.org.

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Called to Evangelize

On Saturday, June 19th, our Diocese of Rockville Centre was blessed with the ordination of three seminarians to the priesthood. Transitional Deacons Joseph Catafago, Michael Lombardi and Dominik Wegiel were ordained by Bishop Barres to the priesthood of Jesus Christ, for the service of God's people living here on Long Island.

As first-time Associate Pastors, Fathers Catafago, Lombardi, and Wegiel have been assigned to the parishes of St. Anthony of Padua, East Northport; St. Patrick, Smithtown; and, St. Mary, Manhasset, respectively. There, in their priestly roles as "other Christs," they will most profoundly use their anointed hands during the Mass and during the administration of the sacraments when they act "in the person of Christ," lending their hands to Jesus Who gives us His Body and Blood in Holy Communion, and His forgiveness and healing, for example, in the sacraments of Baptism, Reconciliation and the Anointing of the Sick.

We ought to be thankful and grateful for the priests in our lives, and we can use the Pillars of Stewardship as ways to showcase our gratefulness. Besides exercising our stewardship pillar of **Hospitality** by knowingly celebrating our priests' ordination anniversaries—not just the "big ones" but *every* one, each year, let us offer conscious **Prayer** for our priests every day. Let us support and dignify their responsibility to provide us with **Formation** by paying attention to their homilies and by ensuring that we and our children willingly participate in parish faith formation programs. And let us show our gratitude for the sacrifice of their lives by volunteering the **Service** of our time, talent, and treasure to support their ordained ministry.

Let's each make a personal commitment, too, to demonstrate by our respectful behavior before, during, and after Holy Mass that we value their priestly service. Let us do the same by our respectful reception of the sacraments through their hands, and by our refusal to participate in parish

gossip. In that way, we give them a hand in doing the work the Lord has assigned them to do for our eternal benefit.

May God bless the priestly journeys of Fathers Catafago, Lombardi and Wegiel!

July Stewards of the Month: The CMA Committee of St. Martha, Uniondale

This committee is certainly *Creating Pathways of Faith* for our diocesan family as it works diligently to raise awareness of the importance of supporting the Catholic Ministries Appeal to the St. Martha parish family. Although this parish has struggled with the Appeal for many years – never making goal, it is already at 78% of their goal and has increased its donors by 40% compared to last year.



How did they accomplish this? The CMA Goal had the full support of the Pastor. The parish formed a committee, led by Pat Edwards who is a highly active and visible church leader. The CMA Committee consists of other church leaders from various ministries. The committee was committed to launching a very aggressive 2021 strategy from the start to achieve their goal by increasing the donor base, striving for full parish participation (they stressed that no amount was too small) and conducted frequent CMA talks at the end of all Masses in multiple languages to update parishioners on the progress of the CMA and to stress the need for their support. The Committee held a zoom training with the parish's CMA Staff members; started promoting CMA at the Kick-off of the Appeal; showed the CMA video and committee members spoke at all the masses (on several occasions); utilized an enhanced version of the CMA Thermometer, updating totals weekly; wrote personalized thank you notes; keeps CMA in the forefront and uses multicultural CMA posters in strategic locations.

May God continue to bless these wonderful stewards!

Pictured above are the hard-working members of St. Martha's CMA Committee. From left to right: Pat Edwards, Martha Ann Brady, Kathleen Purchase, Father Rony Fabien, Cinthia Marudena, and Mira Dennis (not pictured: Esther Williams).

World Day for Grandparents and the

Elderly

Pope Francis has formally established **World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly** to be celebrated annually throughout the Church on the fourth Sunday in July—close to the feast of Sts. Joachim and Anne who, as the grandparents of Jesus, are the paragons for all grandparents.

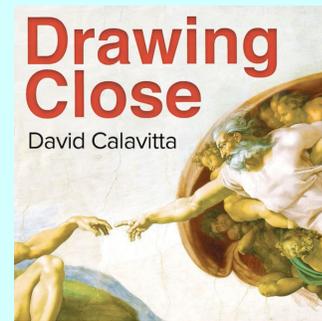
The purpose of this celebration is to remind us that advanced age is a blessing—a gift that should be both cherished and freely shared, most especially in passing on the Faith.

For this year, the theme is "*I am with you always*" to emphasize not only the Lord's closeness with the aged, but also the intergenerational bonds shared between young and old, and most especially characterized by the passing on of the Faith.

[Click here for more information!](#)

Formed Stewardship Content of the Month

Each month, our office suggests Stewardship content from Formed.org that will help you grow in the faith! If you are not signed up with Formed.org, check with your parish to see if they have a subscription. This month, we recommend an audio session titled "*Drawing Close*" by David Calavitta.



Office of Parish Stewardship
(516) 678-5800 ext. 285
May God bless you and your loved ones!

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