

FRENCH PATRON CELEBRATION HONORS MARY, OUR MOTHER

Few Catholic priests have led a life as fascinating as our featured guest and keynote speaker, Father Leo Patalinghug. He studied Mariology (Mary, the Mother God) at the Pontifical University in Rome under Pope Saint John Paul II; not only did he have everyone filled with laughter and joy; he captivated the **SOLD OUT** audience with the reasons why he is “Mamma’s Boy!”

- “It is hard to capture the beauty and essence of the evening in words!” **Rosie Zatkulak**
- “The French Provencal Bistro dinner and candlelight rosary was a creative way to celebrate the 40th Anniversary of the founding of Saint Louis de Montfort” **Deborah Mader.**
- **Mary Owen** said, “I loved the French themed food, it was delicious and more tasteful than anything I have ever made at my house.”
- **Christopher Kennedy** said, “The rosary was the highlight, I felt an amazing warmth and sense of community.”
- Many people asked why are we celebrating 40 years? **Fr. Pat** said, “Why not?! Because I won’t be here in ten years and this is a momentous way to celebrate our patron, to Jesus through Mary.”

World renown chef, **Fr. Leo Patalinghug** celebrated the feast day Mass sharing “what binds us together and what binds God to us, is food.” The Gospel (John 15:1-8) came to life with a fruitful, energetic message about pruning so that we can all bear good fruit in our lives.

The **Knights of Columbus** chefs prepared the French menu with Fr. Leo while a photo collage wall highlighted the last 40 years, coupled with a video that introduced the life of Saint Louis de Montfort from his





birth in 1673 to his death at the age of 43. Known as the pioneer of Mariology, Saint Louis de Montfort was a priest for 16 impactful years.

Bishop Higi sent a letter of gratitude to Saint Louis de Montfort, while the historian and founder of the parish, **Dave Kinder** highlighted the tough times that brought us to where we are now. Prominent symbols of the evening were displayed at each place setting, a glow in the dark rosary ring and the Saint Louis de Montfort consecration prayer on a holy card



that was recited together. The candlelight rosary was an incredibly holy and sacred part of the evening, a replica of the candlelight rosary that takes place every night in Lourdes, France and Fatima, Portugal. Each person held a candle and joined in prayer for the prayer intentions names that were announced prior to each mystery, including family, friends, former St. Louis de Montfort priests, bishops and Pope Francis. The Joyful Mysteries were led by Fr. Pat, Fr. Leo, Fr. Derek Aaron (Our lady of Mount Carmel), and former Associate Pastor, Fr. Dave Hellmann (Saint Laurence in Muncie), one decade was spoken by a guest in French.

The real beauty was in Our Beautiful Blessed Mother watching over us and protecting us with her mantle from a pillar on the stage!