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Centennial celebration begins for Pompeii

Oct 22, 2021



Bagpipes at rest during the Blue Mass on Oct. 17.

TIM LAMORTE/RIVERTOWNS ENTERPRISE

2022 will mark 100 years since the formation of the congregation that built Our Lady of Pompeii Church on Palisade Street in Dobbs Ferry.

To kick off the centennial celebration, a special mass was held on Sunday, Oct. 10, led by the Most Rev. Gerardo Colacicco, one of four active auxiliary bishops of the Archdiocese of New York.

On Sunday, Oct. 17, Our Lady of Pompeii's pastor, the Rev. Chris Monturo, presided over the church's annual Blue Mass, which was held in honor of law enforcement officers.

The Blue Mass was attended by Dobbs Ferry's current police chief, Rick Guevara, and one of its former chiefs, Kevin Costello. The attendees also included Deputy Inspector Andre Brown, the commanding officer of the NYPD's 28th Precinct, as well as members of the NYPD Ceremonial Unit, and a bagpiper from the NYPD's Pipes and Drums.

The Blue Mass was organized by Dobbs Ferry resident Randy Jurgensen, a parishioner of Our Lady of Pompeii and a retired NYPD detective who served in the 28th Precinct, located in Harlem.

Our Lady of Pompeii's annual Spaghetti Dinner, which was not held last year due to the pandemic, returns Sunday, Oct. 31, from 1-6 p.m. Tickets cost \$15 for adults and \$5 for children ages 12 and under. Purchase tickets online at sh-olp.com/spaghetti-dinner or at the parish office at 18 Bellewood Ave.

Italian immigrants formed the Our Lady of Pompeii congregation in 1922, at the suggestion of Saint Frances Xavier Cabrini, also known as Mother Cabrini, who opened an orphanage in Dobbs Ferry in 1914 at the current site of the Cabrini Nursing Home. Our Lady of Pompeii Church was constructed in 1925.