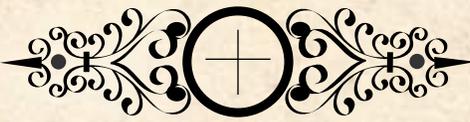


THE CREDO QUARTERLY

A Publication of the Credo Young Adults Catholic Community

Spring 2021



The Credo Young Adults Catholic Community is a multi-parish ministry dedicated to serving men and women from all backgrounds and vocations in Northern Westchester and Putnam Counties. In affiliation with St. Patrick's Church in Yorktown Heights, St. Augustine Church in Ossining, and St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church in Shrub Oak, Credo seeks to lead young adults (ages 18-35) to deeper relationship with the Catholic faith



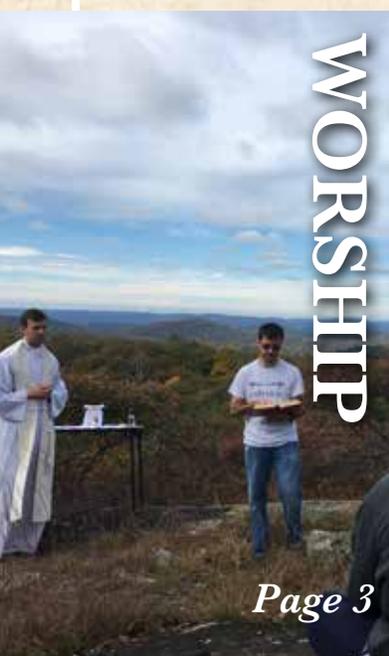
for the renewal of the Universal Church and the culture at-large. Through eclectic kinds of activities – worship, formation, service, and fellowship – the ministry provides ample opportunities for individuals to come to know, love, and serve God better through active Christian lives. This newsletter highlights our recent events and advertises upcoming ones, informing our involved members and inviting additional brothers and sisters in Christ to join us.

Credo Quarterly Personnel

Mike & Maribel Saccomanno, *Editors*
Julia DalCeredo, *Columnist*
Greg Di Roma, *Social Media Manager*

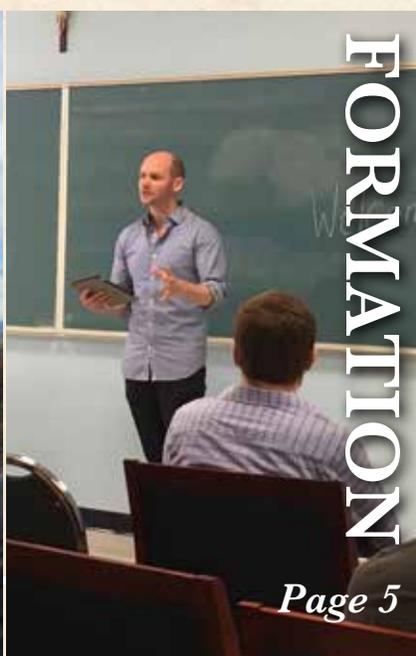
Credo Ministry Leadership

Mark Edelson, *President*
Fr. Jean-Pierre Seon, *Co-Chaplain*
Fr. Ryan Muldoon, *Co-Chaplain*



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From the Editors

Continuity over Coronavirus

Mike and Maribel Saccomanno met in 2016 through their mutual involvement in the Credo Young Adults ministry, in which they have each held leadership roles. Married in September 2019, they now serve as alumni advisors to the ministry team. Mike is a product design scientist with Duracell, Maribel is a graphic artist with Krasdale Foods.

The month of July marked the official end of Credo Young Adults' program year – we hope you were able to join us for our Field Day! It has been a year of adaptation and recovery, one for which we personally thank God for granting us endurance and perseverance. But we can say that the conviction of this faith community has brought us comfort and resolve, too. In spite of ubiquitous obstacles, Credo with His grace has delivered a consistent lineup of quality activities and in certain respects has led the charge to restore normalcy to this special ministry.

In this light, we would like to announce the release of our Summer 2021 Credo Quarterly online survey! We invite all of our readers – regulars and newcomers – to take a few minutes to share their thoughts and comments on the activities held throughout the past year (September 2020 – July 2021). Completing the survey enables the Credo leadership to understand what kind of program and activities are expected of a young adult ministry and where we can improve. Participants may choose to remain anonymous, but if you would like to offer praise we would be delighted to include your remarks in our year-in-review edition of the CQ, slated for early fall. The link to the Google Forms survey is listed on the back page of this newsletter and will also be shared in our e-mail and social media communications.

Thank you for your continued interest and loyalty to our young adult community. We pray that these summer months are restful and reenergizing, and we eagerly await the start-up of our activities schedule in September.

Con la pace di Cristo,
Mike & Maribel Saccomanno

Chaplain's Corner

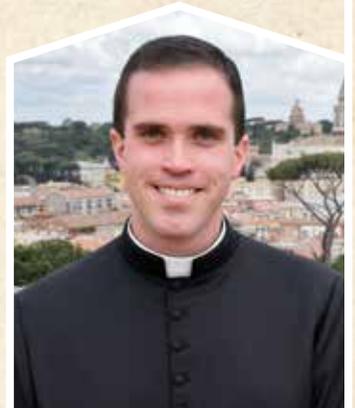
The Credo Young Adult Catholic Community is placed under the patronage of several saints and saintly intercessors, especially St. John Paul II, St. Teresa of Calcutta, and G.K. Chesterton. Last October, the Church gained a new Blessed who promises to be the heavenly friend of the young and those young at heart. Blessed Carlo Acutis was born in London to Italian parents, and he lived most of his life in Italy. He died in 2006 of leukemia at the age of 15 and is buried in Assisi. Carlo is the first of the Millennial generation to be declared Blessed.

Carlo had a deep love for Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament and for Our Lady. From the time that he received First Holy Communion at the age of 7, he wanted to receive Jesus in the Eucharist each day, so daily Mass was a priority in his life. He convinced his mother, who was not particularly devout, to make Mass a priority in her life, too, and Carlo's example led to a deep conversion on the part of his mother. Carlo frequently made a Holy Hour before the Blessed Sacrament, and he went to Confession weekly. From the time he was a child, he loved to pray the Rosary. He was fascinated with Eucharistic miracles, and he would ask his parents to take him on pilgrimage to the sites of some of these miracles.

Carlo was skilled with computers, and he built a website to catalogue and promote Eucharistic miracles. The information and photographs on his website are still used today to spread awareness of Eucharistic miracles from around the world. Like others his age, Carlo loved soccer and video games. However, as a spiritual discipline, Carlo only allowed himself to play video games for one hour a week, though he wanted to play much more. His saintly body is in a glass casket, and the jeans and Nike sneakers that he is buried in are a reminder that he was a young man, a saint for our times.

May Blessed Carlo Acutis intercede for our Credo Community!

Fr. Ryan A. Muldoon
Co-Chaplain, Credo Young Adult Community





Voices of Leadership

Let Us Play

Julia DalCeredo is a member of the Credo ministry team. In this capacity, her interests include fostering fraternity and educating high school youth on the importance of continuing faith formation after graduation. She is a recent graduate of the University of Scranton, where she studied journalism and electronic media. She currently works as an assistant editor at Sadlier and will be starting as the youth minister / youth group leader at Holy Innocents Church in Pleasantville in the fall.

I have always been mesmerized by orchestras. Each instrument, unique and dazzling on its own, lends its voice selflessly and fearlessly to something infinitely greater than itself— a breathtaking burst of melodies that blows away doubt and uncertainty. Seven notes, each with its own color, timbre, and intensity, come together in unending variations to birth extravagant symphonies and whimsical tunes. Wonderful on their own, these individual elements are only improved by their summation.

In an orchestra, each instrument is unashamedly itself; the trumpet is sassy and strong, the piano is playful and mischievous, and the cello is bold and brave. There is no fear— no embarrassment, no hesitation, and no regret. After all, why should the musicians be nervous? Their parts have been written out for them; they know the notes they are to play, and, using the instruments they've been given, they aim to pay homage to their composer, bringing his plans to life and doing his music justice.

If you pay close attention, you may notice that a musician often marks his sheet music, changing dynamics, bowings, or phrasing. How can he do such a thing?! Interestingly enough, the musician is free to tweak the music that the composer originally intended for him to play. Using his knowledge, training, and talents, the musician can choose to receive what the composer has given him, accepting it as is, or to take matters into his own hands. He has the freedom to change the intricacies of the music and to stray from the original plans of the composer. Sometimes, his changes are slight, and he stays true to the composer's written melody. Other times, he deviates too far from the original score, and must erase his alterations. In the end, the musician knows that the notes initially intended by the creator of the piece are the most beautiful of all.

And what about the composer? What is his role? After his masterpiece has been written, the composer takes a seat in the audience, but he is far from passive. He watches proudly as the conductor, the head of the orchestra, guides the musicians through the piece and directs the instrumentalists as they navigate the notes. He smiles gently as the musicians offer advice to each other, pointing out missed notes and means of improvement. He hums peacefully as the instrumentalists give themselves wholly and completely to the music, using all seven notes to bring forth beautiful melodies. And, when the piece is finished, he claps louder than anyone else.

We are God's greatest symphony; we are God's prized musicians. Together, let us pray—and let us play.



Glory to God (*Worship*)

Luke 2:14

At the core of our ministry is reverence and adoration towards our Eucharistic Lord in the unity of the Blessed Trinity. Through our participation in the sacramental life of the Church we find strength, consolation, and joy in our various vocations.



Following a wintry weather postponement, Credo finally welcomed Auxiliary Bishop Gerardo J. Colacicco to St. Augustine's Parish (Ossining) to celebrate our April 13th Young Adult (YA) Mass. In his homily His Excellency spoke of finding peace in the gift of Easter, which the Church celebrated a week prior. He reflected on the day's reading from the Acts of the Apostles telling of the early Christian community being "of one heart and mind" (Acts 4:32) a reality which he reminded us can only be rooted in the heart and mind of Jesus. Just like Nicodemus in the Gospel, we must be drawn to unity in the teachings of Christ. Bishop Colacicco was able to stay for our post-Mass social and converse with us, during which he graciously praised the joy and faithfulness he perceived in our YA members.



Credo co-chaplain Fr. Ryan Muldoon (St. Patrick's, Yorktown) celebrated the May 11th YA Mass. In the first reading (Acts 16:22-34), St. Paul and Silas witness the conversion of their jailer when a sudden earthquake causes all the prison doors to open and the prisoners' chains to break. Reflecting on this supernatural event, Fr. Muldoon recognized how our hearts desire to see such amazing visions as the burning bush which was not consumed (Exodus 3-4), the pillar of cloud and fire leading the Israelites in the desert (beginning in Exodus 13), the turning of water into wine at Cana (John 2:1-12), and the many miracles of healing and raising from the dead throughout the Gospels. We long for magnificent signs, and yet Christ provides a most powerful manifestation in the Eucharistic sacrifice at every Mass. It is this sign which gives us confidence in the salvific might of God.



Our members met on the fourth Tuesdays of April and June at Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish (Shrub Oak) to pray the Rosary. This devotion can be difficult to pray alone, so we are always grateful to have folks join us. Indeed, “where two or three are gathered together in my [Jesus’] name” (Matthew 18:20), those prayers are amplified. Afterward we gathered across the street for dining and fellowship at 901 Wood Burning Kitchen, a custom which is now a fast-growing tradition!

In place of our regular fourth Tuesday activity, Credo hosted its second Holy Hour for Vocations of the program year on May 25th. Held at the beautiful parish of St Joseph in Somers, the event invited young adults from throughout the lower and mid-Hudson Valley to come together to pray especially for religious vocations but also for clarity in their own discernment journeys. Fr. Jean-Pierre Seon, Credo co-chaplain and parochial vicar at St. Augustine’s parish, presided and offered words of inspiration to those still seeking their vocations or even the courage to pursue them.

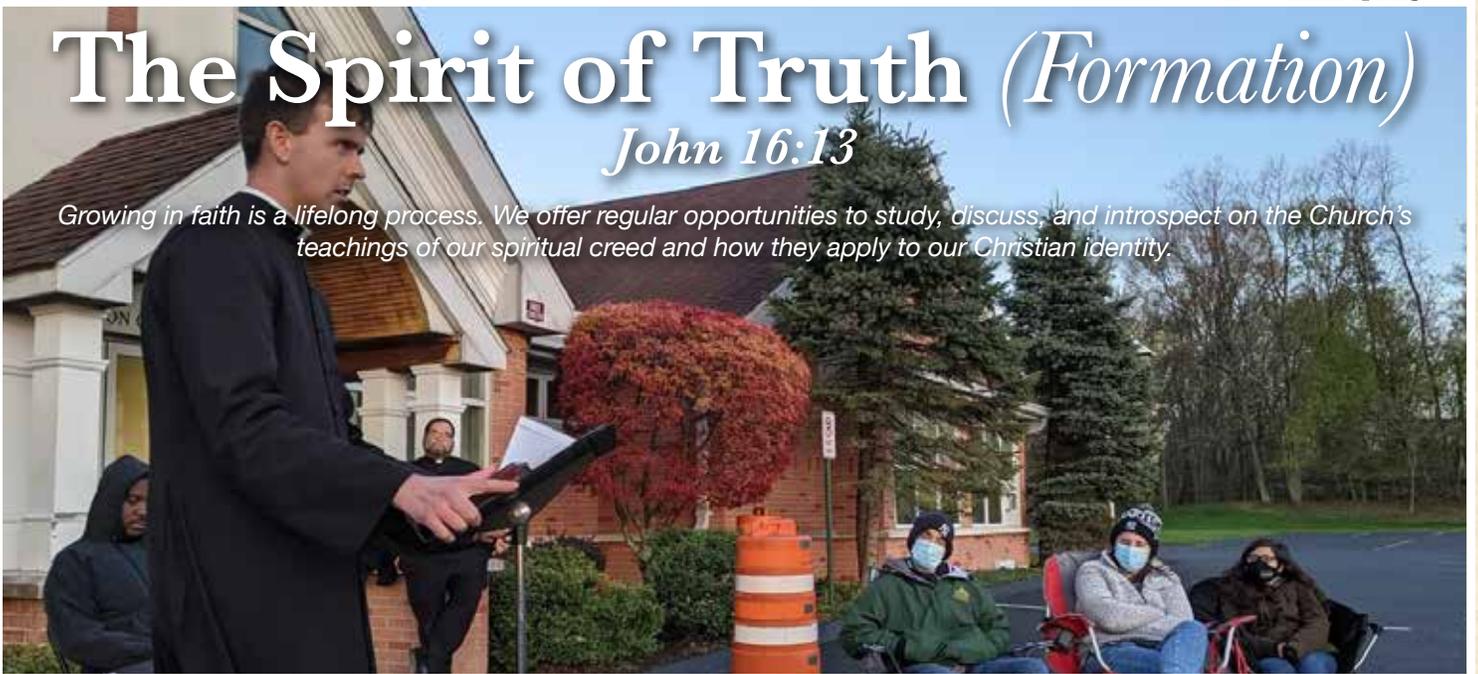


With much anticipation we received newly ordained priests Frs. Matthew Breslin (left) and Bobby Carolan (right) for our YA Mass on June 8th. An eager crowd took great pride in Fr. Carolan’s dignified celebration of the liturgy and Fr. Breslin’s vibrant homily on Jesus’ “salt of the earth” discourse (Matthew 5:13-16). Following the Mass both priests bestowed first blessings, which carry the graces of a plenary indulgence. Frs. Breslin and Carolan have since started their first parochial vicar assignments at St. Joseph’s (with part-time chaplaincy at John F. Kennedy Catholic Preparatory School) and Annunciation-Our Lady of Fatima Parish in Crestwood, respectively. We pray for fruitfulness in their ministry and look forward to working with them in building the Catholic YA regional community.

The Spirit of Truth *(Formation)*

John 16:13

Growing in faith is a lifelong process. We offer regular opportunities to study, discuss, and introspect on the Church's teachings of our spiritual creed and how they apply to our Christian identity.



The Credo community received a double dose of nostalgia for its April 23rd Formation meeting, returning to its roots at St. Patrick's Church and welcoming as a guest speaker former chaplain (2017-2020) Fr. John Wilson, now serving at St. Kateri Tekakwitha Parish in LaGrangeville, Dutchess County. Despite the brisk evening, members listened attentively to Fr. Wilson's meditation on the "Eucharist and the Resurrection," focusing on the integral connection between these two tenets of our Catholic tradition in directing the faithful towards God. Making for a timely topic for the Easter season, the evening's lessons resonated in a manner characteristic of Fr. Wilson's journalistic prowess.



On May 21st we were again at St. Patrick's but this time with our co-chaplains in the "hot seat" for our annual Stump the Priest night. Frs. Muldoon and Seon faced an inquisitive audience and did their very best to (successfully!) answer a myriad of tough questions about doctrines of the faith, Catholic traditions, moral dilemmas, and fearlessly living out our beliefs in the challenging – and sometimes persecutive – spheres of our human existence. We thank our chaplains for their wisdom and witness to the beauty of the Church's teachings, and would like to also acknowledge seminarian Collins Ashu's willingness and confidence in responding to several of the crowd's queries.



Fishers of Men *(Fellowship)*

Mark 1:17

All men and women are members of the Divine Body and as such are called to community. We host a variety of social functions which build and strengthen these communal bonds. These fun events especially welcome new arrivals and serve as introductory activities for those who may not be as firmly established in their faith.



On June 18th we gathered at Okinawa Sushi Hibachi Restaurant in Yorktown to commemorate the successes and blessings of the past program year. We enjoyed the company of many friends from near and far, enough to overflow to a second hibachi table! Folks seated at both tables got to experience impressive and lighthearted culinary showmanship while filling our bellies with delicious food and our hearts with good cheer. Jesus taught that meals are not only good for our bodies but also for our souls; consider the many lessons He gave (e.g., Luke 10:38-42) and miracles He performed (e.g., Luke 9:10-17) around food. In that spirit, our communal participation in meals brings us closer to the oneness of God.



A few days later, on June 21st, we faced YAs from around the Hudson Valley in a fun and competitive glow-in-the-dark dodgeball tournament held at St James the Apostle School in Carmel. In an upset the Credo team came out on top, defeating teams from Ignite Young Adults (Dutchess County), Made4mor (Yonkers), the Universal Church (mixed bag), and even the dastardly Team Inquisition (chaplains and priest friends)! Response to the event was overwhelmingly positive, and the YA communities are in talks to establish a series of sports tournaments meant to bring us together as we progress through the waning days (we pray) of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Schedule of Events



Young Adult Masses

every 2nd Tuesday

- **Tuesday, Sept. 14, 2021**
7:00pm, *St. Augustine's Church Ossining, NY*
- **Tuesday, Oct. 12, 2021**
7:00pm, *location TBD*
- **Tuesday, Nov. 9, 2021**
7:00pm, *location TBD*

Formation Meetings

every 3rd Friday

- **Friday, Sept. 17, 2021**
 - **Friday, Oct. 15, 2021**
 - **Friday, Nov. 19, 2021**
- 7:00pm
Location TBD

Rosary & Fellowship

every 4th Tuesday

- **Tuesday, Sept. 28, 2021**
Special Holy Hour for Vocations
7:30pm @ *Seton Church*
 - **Tuesday, Oct. 26, 2021**
 - **Tuesday, Nov. 23, 2021**
- 7:00pm
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church, Shrub Oak NY

Tell us how we're doing!

Credo Quarterly Summer 2021 Survey

<https://tinyurl.com/3htzd25s>

Subscribe to our mailing list and follow our social media accounts for the most up-to-date information and multimedia content!



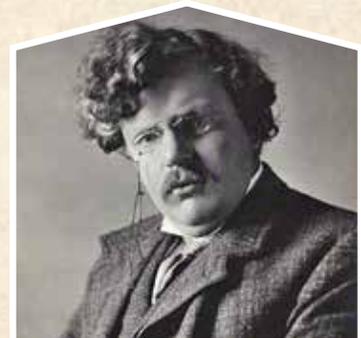
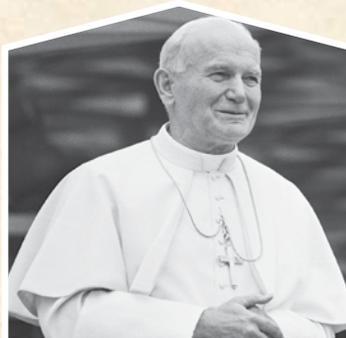
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Saint Mother Teresa of Calcutta, Pope Saint John Paul II, and Gilbert Keith Chesterton, pray for us!