

## Please Join Us

Saturday, August 21, 2021 at 11am

**Memorial Mass for**



*Serafino "Fino" Giordano*

September 8th 1936 - April 14th 2021

**Beloved Founder, Our Mother Queen of Peace Betania XIII**

— St. Francis of Assisi Church —

29 Northgate Drive - (Corner of Clay Pitts Road) - Greenlawn, NY 11740

Principal Celebrant:  
Concelebrating:

Father Peter Kaczmarek, Pastor  
Father Paul Driscoll  
Father Joseph Habila  
Father Charles Gnanapragasam

Music by:

Al Barbarino and Catherine Lau

Light Refreshments to follow downstairs

Information:

631-651-2619  
516-903-6830

Live stream service:

<https://tinyurl.com/kdztc4w2>

# Our Romance Story



By Carole



I was in third grade, at North Side School in East Williston, when I met Fino. He and his younger brother Jack had moved from Reading, PA to Mineola and entered North Side Elementary. When we reached 7th and 8th grades, dancing classes were offered on Friday evenings twice a month. We learned the Fox Trot, Jitter Bug and Waltz. One night after the class, Fino asked if I would go to the, now famous, Hildebrandt's in Williston Park for an ice cream cone. I was thrilled and said yes, but I needed to go back into the school to get my sweater. When I came out to meet him, he was not there, so I asked some of his buddies if they saw him, and one answered "he left without you", and they all burst out laughing. I was crushed and walked home in tears. I never spoke to him until many years later.



Fino now went to Mineola High School, and my freshman year was at Our Lady of Mercy Academy for Young Women in Syosset. I transferred to Mineola High in my sophomore year. When I would see Fino in school, he avoided me like the plague. I think he felt guilty about the time he left me after dance class.

After high school, Fino attended St. Johns University and majored in Pharmacy for 2 1/2 years. He felt the calling to become a Brother at Son's of Mary Seminary in Framingham, Massachusetts for 2 years. I became a secretary for Cornell University Extension Services 4-H department. I switched jobs and was hired as an order information person for Tomson Industries executive office in Plandome on the John B. Tomson's Estate, overlooking Manhasset Bay.



Fino and my love story begins after 12 years of knowing him. Fino's brother Jack became a hair dresser and he had a full salon in the basement of his family home, after they moved from Mineola to my hometown of East Williston. On Sunday afternoons I would go to Jack to get my hair done. Then, one Sunday, I noticed Jack had an

electrolysis machine and I asked him if he became an electrologist. He said "no, my brother Fino became one". He had left the seminary months ago. I told him that my father manufactures the machine. He was surprised and said he would tell Fino, and Fino would probably want to talk to my dad. I went home and the phone rang with the voice of Fino on the other end, asking if he could come by that evening to meet and talk to my father. After they talked business and machines, mom and I got a few words in. She asked Fino where his office was located and he said it was in the Great Neck Medical Center. I said "my office is just across Manhasset Bay from yours." He said that maybe we could meet for lunch one day and I said that would be nice (remembering his last invite, nearly a decade ago, I wasn't holding my breath for this one!).

Well, the following day, my phone rang at my office, and it was Fino asking if I would like to go to the Roosevelt Racetrack. I had never been, so I said "yes". He really kept his word this time and we had so much fun, betting and cheering the trotters on to win. I was glad I brought money to bet. I didn't win, but we had a great time. He brought me home and said he wanted to tell me something. He proceeded to say that I was the only girl he took to the racetrack who bet with her own money. I guess I was in good standing?



I volunteered to help him advertise his office by addressing envelopes to mail out for his Electrology Clinics of America. It didn't take long for him to become world renowned in his work. He also formed a nationwide organization, uniting all electrologists. Fino worked tirelessly, 16 hours per day, 5 days per week. Years later, he managed to write the only textbook named "Modern Electrology" for electrology schools throughout the world. Amazing.

Our dating began more often than not. Fino finally confessed and apologized for standing me up after dance class so many years ago. He made it up to me by taking me many times to Hildebrandt's for those ice cream cones.

We fell in love, but many of our conversations were about his thoughts of returning to the religious life. I loved him so much, but was understanding of what may end our relationship. I always encouraged him to listen to God and our Blessed Mother, and to follow his heart. Many of our days together were a trip to NY City to go to confession and mass at St. Anthony's Church. We enjoyed praying in the beautiful chapel.

I have to tell you about my first Italian Sunday dinner with his family. We were all seated at the dining room table and Fino's mom served us heaping bowls of her spaghetti with homemade sauce and lots of Pecorino Romano cheese. It was delicious and I was stuffed. Then, mom G. placed roasted chicken, roast beef, veggies, salad and wine on the table. I was already filled to the brim with pasta. How could I eat another thing? I managed to eat a bit of everything because I didn't want to say no. She was an outstanding cook and made the most delicious dinners.



Christmas was coming and Fino asked me what I wanted. I told him I would like a pair of elbow length kidskin gloves (it was in fashion). He wanted to make sure he bought the correct size and color of the gloves, so he asked me if I minded going to Bonwit Tellers to pick them out. I went with him. The gloves were beautiful and he waited until Christmas Eve to give them to me.

My family tradition was opening our gifts on Christmas Eve. Fino arrived to join my parents and me. He handed me the pretty wrapped glove box to open and I said I really need to open my mom and dad's gifts first. So, I gently tossed the glove box under the tree, as I already knew what was in the box.

I finished opening my parents' gifts and retrieved the glove box from under the tree. I then proceeded to unwrap Fino's gift. I opened the box to see a beautiful diamond and platinum ring on the left hand ring finger of the glove. I was so shocked and asked him if it's real. He answered "yes, will you marry me?" I cried with love and joy- Yes!



Nine months after our engagement, we were married on September 23, 1961 at high nuptial mass in Saint Aiden Church in Williston Park. Our reception was held at the Westbury Manor. We honeymooned in Puerto Rico at the La Concha Hotel. The very first purchase we made for our married life was a beautiful crucifix.





When we moved into our apartment in Great Neck, our crucifix was the first to enter our home and each home thereafter.

We were honored to host 2 of the visionaries in our home.

Our first blessing, John, entered our lives on June 21, 1962. Eleven months after our first blessing, our second blessing, Maryann was born. Then, one day before our third anniversary, our third blessing James arrived. We were now living in a house in Roslyn Heights with three little children in diapers!

In 1993, Fino met Maria Esperanza from Betania, Venezuela. Maria was the primary visionary on March 25, 1984 that the Mother of Christ appeared to, along with 150 others in Betania. Maria met Fino in 1993 and named him her spiritual son. She chose him to start Betania XIII on Long Island. There are 21 Betania's around the world. Maria has performed many miracles and will be a saint in heaven.

After 11 years in North Park, Fino wanted to move to a house with more land and a swimming pool. So, we began house hunting. We looked at 275 houses and we could not find the old house with charm and land we wanted. We gave up and then one day we received a call from a real estate woman we worked with in the past. She said "I found your home. Meet me at my office tomorrow at 11AM". Fino had to go to work, so I had to go alone and see the house. The real estate agent drove me to Roslyn Harbor. We stopped at a stop sign and I looked up to my left and saw this beautiful old farmhouse on a hill. This was the house we had looked for, for so long. It was perfect. I called Fino and told him to meet us at 665 Motts Cove Rd. North. He so happened to have an hour off. We both loved the house and we bought it. Nine months later, our fourth blessing, Matthew was born. We lived in the old farmhouse for 30 blessed years.



Fino & Carol and all their children

I want to share with you a very special tradition that Fino and I started in our married life. We placed each memorial card throughout the years in a box that was placed on our table each night before dinner. Each night we selected 4 cards and prayed for those who have gone before us. There are over 500 names of those we knew and loved.

Fino retired from his office after 46 years of success in his field of electrology.

Our children are married. They added more blessings to our life- 3 daughters-in-law, 1 son-in-law and 7 grandchildren.

God blessed our marriage abundantly for nearly 60 years, but He also gave us many heavy crosses to bare.

Fino's deep devotion to our Blessed Mother came from his mother. The Blessed Mother guided and blessed us our entire married life.

We never questioned God's plan. In our hearts, those crosses were blessings for when He calls us up to our heavenly home.

Forty years ago, our Blessed Mother appeared to 6 children in Medjugorje. Fino knew he had to go there. He was privileged to be in the apparition room when the Blessed Mother appeared to the visionaries.

Sharing our love story brought happy memories and tears of sadness. It also brought to mind Fino's lifelong motto....."Make someone smile today". He did that for me while writing our love story. I felt his smile in mine.

When Fino came home, he started a prayer group- Our Mother Queen of Peace, on Long Island. There are over 4,000 prayerful members. Many prayer groups were formed. The members meet weekly to pray the rosary together. Fino also wrote a monthly Our Mother Queen of Peace newsletter, during the 37 years he was president.

Love forever,  
Carole





Dear Betania Family,

Our day begins marked by the heartbreaking loss of a brother who is much loved and admired by everyone, Fino Giordano, a man dedicated to his beautiful and beloved family. His great love for his wife Carole, his children and grandchildren make him a wonderful role model of what a christian family means.

Our brother Fino was a man devoted to the unconditional service of our beloved Catholic Church and a faithful son of the Blessed Virgin.

He worked for the Church with dedication and unwavering willpower, through the organization "Our Mother Queen of Peace - Betania XIII", which he founded. By means of this foundation he prepared multiple Marian Conferences, which were attended by thousands of faithful, who undoubtedly found relief from their sorrow, and left renewed and nourished, by the presence of Our Lord Jesus and his Blessed Mother.

In 1993, he met the Servant of God Maria Espeanza Mr. Geo Bianchini and their family, and immediately invited the Servant of God to Saint Paul Church, in Long Island, NY. A beautiful friendship that grew in affection and mutual admiration began on that first meeting, which was crowned on March 25, 2010 with his appointment as representative of Betania XIII, in Long Island.

We bid farewell to this dear brother in Jesus Christ, with a "see you soon", and with the full certainty that one day, in God's timing, we will all be joining the ranks of the triumphant Church, meeting him and all our loved ones once again. Your window in the daily Betania Rosary by Zoom will always remain open in our hearts.

Dear brother, we love and miss you,

Your Betania Foundation Family

I just see him so happy and joyful because he found himself with the light of the world and mama Mary who he served his life complete!!!  
-Coromoto



I want to thank God for having had the gift of having known more deeply, in this year of the Rosary, our dear friend and brother Fino. All together with the daily prayer of the Holy Rosary, we were able to support each other, to collaborate together with heaven, to refine and prepare even more the soul, full of much love from him, to that call to eternity that came from the Lord. It made me really want to cry and pain in my soul knowing that he had left, since we took great affection for him and his voice comes to mind when he said a prayer and thanked at the end in Italian: "grazie". Dear family of Bethany, may we continue to persevere in prayer without ever failing and feel that happiness and consolation that Fino must feel that by starting from this plane, we are resurrected to the true life that is to feel and have love face to face eternally of God beside us by the grace of His infinite Mercy. Peace to the soul of our Fino and supernatural comfort to his wife Carole, his children and the community of Betania XII on Long Island. We love you very much.  
-Jim and Esperancita and children.



Dearest Carole and family, we are so sorry for your loss. Our hearts go out to you. Fino was such a beautiful soul and will be missed by all who got to know him and love him. He took so many people to God through his love and devotion to our Lady we are sure She took him by the hand to meet Her Son in tender embrace. He always was a ray of sun to all who met him. Everyday in the Betania rosary seeing his face, his greetings made everyone smile. Maria Esperanza loved him very much and we are sure she was with him moment to help him pass to the real life and is with him in heaven. Receive our love. Elias and Kathy Chebly and kids, Katherine, Juan -Elias and Mariam



I want to extend to you our condolences for passing of Dear Fino, All the Betania family will miss him very much. He was such a joyful, humble and loving person. We grew fond of him during all this year praying the rosary. Please, extend our condolences to Carole, his family and all the members of Betania XIII  
Love and prayers  
Percy and Julie



Fino and his granddaughter



Carole, Fino and grandson



Fino and Carole with their daughter and son-in-law



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