

Please Join us for the Celebration of Holy Mass on The Feast of  
the Annunciation St. Francis of Assisi Church

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

Friday - March 25th, 2022 - Stations of the Cross 7:30pm

Healing Mass 8pm

Main Celebrant - Father Gus Fernando

Music by - Al Barbarino & Catherine Lau

Our next Betania XIII Mass is March 25, 2022, The Feast of the Annunciation. Please mark your calendar! This is a very special feast day, especially for the Betania Communities. It is on this day, March 25, 1976, the Holy Mother of God appeared for the first time in Betania Venezuela, under a new title, Mary Virgin and Mother Reconciler of People and Nations. After this beautiful experience, Our Lady continued to appear in the following years, but it was only until 1984 when She appeared to one hundred and fifty persons, who testify to seeing Her clearly and distinctly. This was a very diverse group: children, college students, adults, military men, physicians, psychologists, psychiatrists, engineers, judges, etc. Please come join us for this special Mass. All are welcome. As a special guest, Father Gus Fernando will be celebrating Mass and there will be a healing service afterwards.



"What I want people to know is that prayer does work. And miracles are still happening today."

These are the words of Fr. Gus, repeated often in his sermons, in prayer groups, in counseling, and during healing Masses.

Born in India, Fr. Augustine Fernando came to the U.S. in 1991 as a diocesan priest in Rockville Centre. He was first appointed to St. Vincent de Paul in Elmont, NY. He'd had plenty of experience praying for people. In India, he'd taken part in a healing Mass for over 4,000 people. He had no idea how powerful his prayers would become on Long Island.

Through his devotion to Jesus Christ and His Blessed Mother along with his faith in prayer, Fr. Gus has a remark-

able history. Numerous people who have been prayed for by Fr. Gus have received astounding healing or graces.

Fr. Gus points out it is his firm belief that to receive a miracle from God, one must be in a state of grace. He encourages frequent reception of the Sacraments.

Fr. Gus retired in 2014 but continues the healing ministry through monthly healing Masses. He continues to remind everyone, "to trust in God, and to believe everything is possible with God! Miracles are still happening today! Never give up on God!"

## FINO'S CORNER

Anyone who knew Fino Giordano also knew of his devotion to the Blessed Mother. I believe it was this devotion to and love of Our Dear Mother that encouraged and developed the friendship between Fino and my late husband, Tony Ciuffo.

Fino and Tony were great friends and great leaders of Our Mother Queen of Peace and coordinators of the Betania XIII movement. As President and Vice-President, they worked tirelessly for this cause.

I have been so blessed and honored to know Fino, and to witness a friendship of such a Godly nature. My heart is full with memories of Masses and meetings filled with prayer and plans to honor both Our Lady and Servant of God, Maria Esperanza, and to bring others to Jesus thru Mary. Fino took this all on with great conviction and love. He was a special person to Maria Esperanza and to all of us as well, and we will miss him terribly.

About ten years ago, we discovered that Carole and Fino, Tony and I were actually married on the same day and the same year. That was September 23, 1961. So, on September 23<sup>rd</sup> of this year 2021, we would have been married for 60 years to our wonderful husbands, who have given us such great memories. To you, Carole, I send my love and deepest condolences, and I pray that you will feel the love and peace of Jesus in your heart to help you through this sad time.

With Love and Memories – Joan Ciuffo



## MARIA ESPERANZA, SERVANT OF GOD & JOAN'S CANCER

Taken from archived newsletter February – March 2011

[www.Ourmotherqueenofpeace.org](http://www.Ourmotherqueenofpeace.org)

Testimony by her husband, Dr. Anthony Ciuffo. Original Diagnosis: Carcinoma with Serous and Clear Cells. I will try to briefly relate the series of events leading up to what we pray is the final chapter to my wife, Joan's illness. We feel that due to deep prayer to Maria Esperanza, Servant of God, to intercede to Jesus and Our Heavenly Father to lift Joan from the depths of such a serious illness, a terrible event has become an amazing event. May I preface this article by saying that I intend to relate the facts as they actually occurred and you can draw your own conclusions. Joan had a battery of tests and a biopsy. On May 26, 2010 (my birthday), we received a telephone call from the doctor's office asking us to come to her office at 8:30 pm that evening to discuss the results of the biopsy. I recall thinking this was not good. Our children were over to celebrate my birthday and left early so we could keep the appointment. When we got to the office, the doctor clearly and bluntly started the conversation as follows: "I am afraid I have bad news. You have cancer of the uterus, and it is not the typical cancer which 85% of the affected women get. It is rather rare; only about 15% of the



patients get this type. It is very dangerous and it spreads quickly. It is hideous and unpredictable. You need to be operated on immediately. I set it up for Thursday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>, and I have made appointments for you to see an oncologist and have additional tests done. The oncologist will also be in the operating room and will perform certain aspects of the surgery." She also said that Joan would need chemo and radiation after the operation. Joan and I were bewildered and shocked at that moment. We decided to pray for assistance. We prayed to Maria Esperanza and to the Blessed Mother, asking them to intercede on our behalf. We also asked Jesus to intercede on our behalf with our Heavenly Father. Remembering that Jesus said, "Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest," (Matthew 11:28), we resolved to accept whatever our Heavenly Father willed. I prayed to Maria Esperanza and Jesus at 3:00am every morning. Joan was blessed by Father Timothy Byerley, Vice Postulator for the Beatification and Canonization of Maria Esperanza, with her relic. Joan was at peace with her situation due to the constant prayers and spirituality which surrounded her. She begged for Divine Mercy by praying, "Jesus, I trust in You." At 6:00am on June 3, 2010, Joan and I drove to the hospital, feeling the peace and calmness of Jesus, feeling confident that all would be well. Because of the praying over Joan and all the prayers, we both had the peace of Jesus in our hearts and we were calm. Joan had a radical hysterectomy including uterus, cervix, tubes, and ovaries; 15 lymph nodes were removed, and a bilateral salpingo-oophorectomy was performed. After the surgery, the two doctors came out, one at a time, and each said, "We cannot comment on how things look until we get the pathology report." This was a source for concern. Joan handled the operation well, and I prayed for her to be okay, to have a speedy recovery and be free from pain. Two days after having such a radical operation, the hospital wanted to send Joan home. I objected and she was sent home on the third day. I know I prayed for a speedy recovery but this was too speedy. After coming home, I noticed that my brother had sent flowers and on the flowers was a beautiful decorative yellow butterfly. Remembering that Maria Esperanza had told her family she would be near them and they would know that by the presence of a yellow butterfly, I called him and asked how he had come to send the butterfly. He said there was no special reason, he asked the florist to put an ornament on the top of the orchids and the florist said he had something really beautiful, a yellow butterfly. I told my daughter the story of Maria Esperanza and the yellow butterfly and she thought I was getting carried away. My daughter

asked me if I would go to the store while she stayed with Joan. I did, shopped for about an hour and came back. When I came back, she said “You are not going to believe this, but I was talking on the phone to Joe, looking out of your window onto the patio, and on the top of the chair was a beautiful yellow butterfly. It stayed on the chair for a long time, and then gently flew away, toward my yard (she lives next door).” With the appearance of this yellow butterfly, along with other occurrences, as well as Father Tim’s prayers, we were confident we were going to receive a good report. The following Wednesday we went to see Joan’s doctor. This time instead of saying she had bad news, she said, “I have very good news. While part of the tumor was the type of cancer originally diagnosed in the biopsy, a greater part of it favored the endometrioid type of adenocarcinoma, which is the type of cancer that most women get. The tumor had spread slightly into the cervix, but they got it all out. The 15 lymph nodes and everything else tested negative and were clear of cancer. No chemo would be needed, just radiation. As insurance, we decided to go to Sloan-Kettering for another opinion. The doctors there took their own tests and sent all slides of the tumor to their own pathology, and they downgraded her to a 1B, because they felt the spread was less than originally stated. Joan had radiation treatments as a precaution and is now following up with check-ups every three months. No signs of cancer after the radiation. Praise Jesus! Thank you, Our Heavenly Father, Jesus, Our Blessed Mother, and Maria Esperanza, Servant of God!

*Anthony F. Ciuffo, PhD (5/26/38-7/3/2016)*

## Father Paul Gerard Driscoll

April 18, 1938 - January 14, 2022

Where does one begin to explain the importance of the life of a true son of the church, whose love of the Eucharist, Our Lady, Sacred Scripture, and the Magisterium define his existence?

I first met Fr. Driscoll when as a priest at Our Lady Queen of Martyrs in Centerport, he was conducting a meeting at the home of Gerard Crosson. Father was informing us of the efforts of a small, financially motivated lobby exerting influence on the NY State legislature to change the 1880’s protective abortion law to an unprecedented six-month law, which far surpasses the abortion limits in Europe today. Despite heroic efforts at many of our churches and visits to Albany, June 1970 saw the devastating NY State abortion law promoting the killing of our unborn brothers and sisters up until the sixth month of pregnancy. Thus, NY became the abortion capitol of the world.

Bishop Kellenberg, seeing the need for genuine knowledge and leadership, appointed Fr. Driscoll as the first full-time priest to coordinate pro-life activities in the Diocese. His new assignment brought him to many parishes,



Reverend Paul G. Driscoll

teaching, organizing and praying for the protection of our babies, the sanctity of our families, and the establishment of critical care for mothers in need.

As a retired priest in the diocese, Fr. Driscoll continued to labor for the good of our souls as Spiritual Assistant for two of our Lay Carmelite communities, as Spiritual Director for Betania XIII since its inception in 2010, by faithfully serving our First Saturday Devotions, as moderator to many Legions of Mary, and celebrating evening Mass for our All Night Vigil for Life these past 40 years.

When one considers the scope and depth of his life’s work, it is no wonder that our own Fr. Peter has always referred to Fr. Driscoll as “the Professor.” But this Professor was not only embraced by the Lord because he “instructed the people in goodness and will shine like the stars for all eternity.” He was welcomed by Our Lady because he sung her praises. And owing to the uniqueness of this Professor’s charism, all the infants whom he saved will greet him and say, “Fr. Driscoll, when our biological fathers abandoned us, and our mothers feared us and no one was there for us; your prayer, your work, your love for us was heard by God and you became our father. Let us take example of this cherished priest activist and become the mothers, fathers, the sisters and brothers of our babies.

–Ellen Lobasso

## Our Lady of the Rosary

On October 7th, 2021, we were blessed to have a beautiful Betania XIII Mass for the great feast of Our Lady of the Rosary.

It was a very special Mass concelebrated by the late Rev. Fr. Paul Driscoll (1938-2022) and Rev. Fr. Joseph Habila, who also blesses us by joining us most weeks for our weekly Betania meetings and rosary.

Father Driscoll’s homily reflected Our Lady of the Rosary’s special feast day, and Father spoke of several Marian apparitions citing Our Lady’s requests to pray, pray, pray -- especially the rosary in our daily lives. Father detailed how the rosary is our greatest weapon in these challenging times, and how the rosary has even stopped wars. Making it part of our daily prayers brings many graces.

After the Mass, Mr. Bob Walsh, Lay Evangelist, who has many healing gifts, spoke to us about the power of prayer. Mr. Walsh spoke of many instances of healing and miracles and answered prayer, as well as common “roadblocks” to healing. People then came forward to be prayed over by Bob in front of Jesus in the Tabernacle. One couple later testified to healing from infertility. After many years, they conceived a child just days after Bob prayed with them. Bob Walsh has authored many books, and they can be purchased on Amazon. We hope to have him back in the future.



Please join us in person or on zoom on Thursday evenings at 8pm for our weekly Rosary prayer meetings. We have had so many miracles and blessings that our beloved founder, Fino, dubbed us, "Our Mother Queen of Peace Betania XIII Miracle Rosary Prayer Group." We also have a daily Betania XIII email that goes out each day. If you would like to join, email us at the below email address. May God bless you.

**For more information:**

Tom and Anne  
631-651-2619 h  
631-339-2217 c  
Zoom Master Ed  
631-988-7255 c

**Daily emails, send request to:**

Gmrd7@aol.com

## ALLEGED MESSAGES OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY – MEDJUGORJE

December 25th, 2021



Dear children! Today I am carrying my Son Jesus to you, for Him to give you His peace. Little children, without peace you do not have a future or blessing; therefore, return to prayer, because the fruit of prayer is joy and faith, without which you cannot live. Today's blessing which we give you, carry to your families and enrich all those whom you meet, that they may feel the grace which you are receiving. Thank you for having responded to my call.

January 25th, 2022 Message

Dear children! Today I am calling you to return to personal prayer. Little children, do not forget that Satan is strong and that he wants to attract all the more souls to himself. That is why you must be vigilant in prayer and resolute in the good.

I am with you and am blessing all of you with my motherly blessing. Thank you for having responded to my call.

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