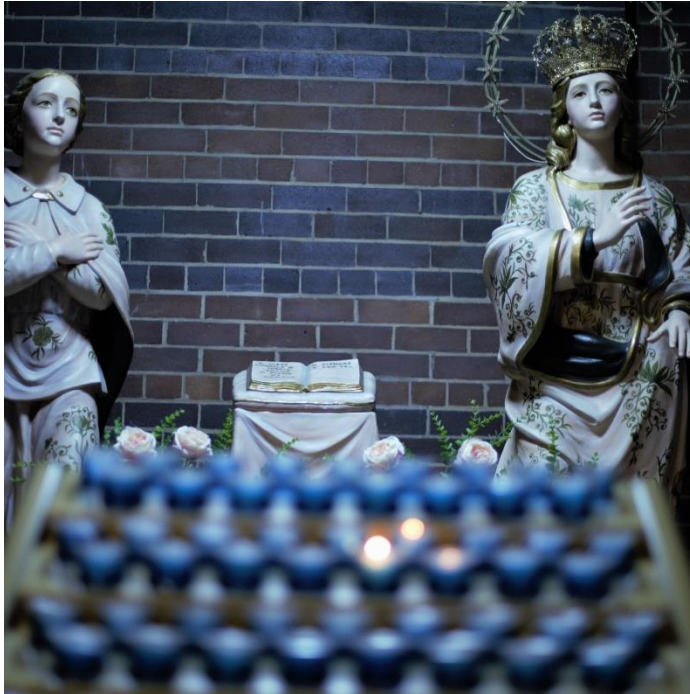


DEVOTIONS AND CUSTOMS – VOTIVE CANDLES

A long Christian tradition has linked lighting a candle to prayers of petition. When we pray for a particular intention or for someone who has died, lighting a candle often provides a visible expression of our prayer. That is also why we give a donation so that it becomes “our candle” that we are offering as a sign of our prayer.



The candle is consumed by the flame and becomes a visible expression of our offering to God. For safety reasons many churches have moved to electric votive candles.

We have two electric votive candle stands to give parishioners an opportunity to “light” a candle. You simply need to touch the button in front of the candle.

In 2018 we also added a new votive candle stand in the shrine of *S Maria Vergine Annunziata* at the back of the church.

It offers an opportunity to light a specially designed candle that fits into a glass holder. Please do not lift the glass holders out of the stand, simply place the candle into the cup and use the lighter that is provided. A donation can be placed in the box at the front of the stand.

Paul Crowley

Published in St Mary's Parish Concord Bulletin