

# OUR LADY OF PEACE RETREAT

*Franciscan Missionary Sisters of Our Lady of Sorrows  
Spring 2020 Newsletter*

Dear Friends in Christ,

This summer the Sisters and I have made two major adaptations in our retreat schedule to fit the present requirements for the gathering groups.

## *Cancellation*

It was with heavy hearts that the Sisters and the BBQ Planning Committee made the decision to cancel this year's Annual Fund Raising Family BBQ on the first Sunday of August. The Sisters will miss seeing all of you who faithfully come to this fun and lively event.

We are close to celebrating 50 years of such gatherings supported by the Knights of Columbus Councils and our super volunteers, and look forward to preparing for our gathering next year on Sunday, August 1, 2021.

## *Change of Venue*

Our Institute in Catholic Teaching this year will be held ON-LINE! We are excited to be able to provide a wonderful spiritual and educational opportunity for you. All of our speakers are looking forward to giving their talks on this year's theme: "*Living, Loving, and Defending the Faith*." Our presenters and their classes are:

**Steve Ray: Convert, Evangelist, Author**

*"Defending the Eucharist and Mary, Woman of Mystery"*

**Fr. John Horgan: Pastor, St. Pius X Parish, N. Vancouver, Speaker, Author**

*"Private Revelations – Visions and Messages"*

**Rolando Moreno: Director of Catechesis and Formation, Archdiocese of Portland in Oregon**

*"The Way of a Disciple: Witnessing to the Hope that is in you"*

**Julie Onderko: Catholic Speaker, Radio show host, Author**

*"Stories and Adventures of the Saints with the Eucharistic Lord"*

The dates for this great event will be July 13 to July 16. Each day from 8:45am – 4:00pm, there will be scheduled classes and a Eucharistic Holy Hour with the praying of the Divine Mercy Chaplet and the Rosary. You must register to attend. (Registration is free although donations are gladly accepted.) Please visit our website, [olpretreat.org](http://olpretreat.org), for more information, or call Sister Maria Benedicta at 503-649-7127.

Pax et Bonum,

*Sr. Anne Marie, OSF*

Sister Anne Marie, OSF



*Sacred Heart of Jesus. Pray for us! (Feast day: June 19, 2020)*

*Immaculate Heart of Mary, be our Salvation! (Feast day: June 20, 2020)*

# RETREAT HOUSE NEWS

## *Flood in Hall One*

In mid-December, the day began as usual with Mariza's arrival, who is on staff here at the retreat house and the first to arrive in the early hours of the morning to begin cleaning the rooms. She went down the main hall and stopped at hall one, as there was water standing on the carpet—it looked like a shimmering lake in the semi-darkness and the sound of gushing water could be heard from the far end of the hall coming from Room 6. The Sisters in the Convent were alerted. After a frantic call to Don, our maintenance person, Sister Agnes Clare was able to locate and turn off the main water line. Thankfully, we have good insurance and our capable agent Gibran Zogbi, came over right away to access the damage. We were responsible for the deductible and the remainder of the damage amounting to \$75,000 was thankfully covered. Our deductible and monthly payments have increased, however, due to the magnitude of the claim. After several months and several different crews, each responsible for a portion of the cleanup and repairs, we have opened hall one again with rooms 3,4,7,8 and 6 re-carpeted and freshly painted. Room 6 has a new bed, as well, purchased by a friend of the Sisters.



## *Divine Mercy Retreat – January 28, 2020* *A Little Taste of Heaven!*



Sr. Therese and  
Fr. Peter



Fr. Peter Prusakiewicz, CSMA, from Poland visited Beaverton for the first time to give a day-long retreat at the retreat house. One hundred persons attended and many were moved to tears during the healing service with the first class relic of St. Faustina and during the Individual Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. (Father Peter prayed over and blessed each person during this part of the retreat.) Many also received the scapular of St. Michael the Archangel. Five priests, including Fr. Peter heard confessions. Three of the priests from the Maronite Monks of Jesus, Mary and Joseph graciously agreed to help as confessors. Fr. Peter brought with him religious articles for sale, and our Sister Therese

Improgo spent the day taking in money for items and counting the proceeds that benefit the apostolates of the Congregation of St. Michael the Archangel.

The Sisters have invited Fr. Peter back to continue this blessed and much needed ministry of devotion to St. Michael and to Divine Mercy here in the Pacific Northwest. Fr. Peter will be returning March 26 to 29, 2021, to give a Divine Mercy weekend retreat. We “trust” that by that time we will have resumed our normal schedule.



# RETREAT HOUSE NEWS

## *Annual Luncheon Tea and Silent Auction February 1, 2020*



*Our Lady of Good Success*



*Greg Lewis shares his mural design with a guest.*

With grateful hearts we wish to thank all those who made our Annual Tea and Silent Auction possible again this year: our Tea Committee, volunteers, donors and benefactors and their commitment of time, creative ideas and generosity! This year we honored Mary under her title "Our Lady of Good Success", the Church approved Quito, Ecuador, apparitions that occurred in the 1600s but were meant especially for our times. (Visit YouTube for a number videos available on this timely message.) At our tea, we enjoyed a shortened version of the video enumerating key points of the message.

Additionally, Liturgical Artist Greg Lewis gave a presentation during the luncheon of the Sisters' vision of the outdoor mural project, the 15th Station of the Cross, the Resurrection of Jesus Christ, that he is in the process of painting near the end of the Outdoor Stations. The project should be completed by mid-summer. And Lastly, our thank yous would not be complete without mention of Ken Canedo, who played the grand piano throughout the afternoon and to soloist, Raquel Naval. The net proceeds from the tea were \$34,105. Since then we have received an additional \$5,745.



*New flagstone and sitting area with mural prep begun.*



# COMMUNITY NEWS



*Social distancing, masks and gloves marked our Spring as we picked up refuse on the property.*

## May Crowning



*Before Mass on May 10, Mother's Day, Sister Cecilia, our centenarian, crowns the Blessed Mother from her wheelchair.*

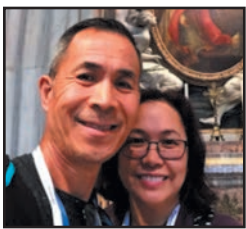


*Sr. Mary Peter, center, shares with Sr. Agnes Clare, right, and Sr. Maria Benedicta, left, the results of a recent science project at St. Pius X School. Eggs from the family farm went to Nancy French's virtual Kindergarten where they hatched on May 5th. Now the little chicks are back on the family farm where they live in the hen house. They were the only visitors we had seen in a while.*



*In May, the Knights of Columbus from Holy Trinity Parish in Beaverton, provided us with two days of cleanup on the property, under the supervision of Sr. Angela. Here they took a break and posed for the camera. Thank you Knights for your generous gift of time! We know your Saturdays are valuable.*

## — May the Road Rise to Meet You... —



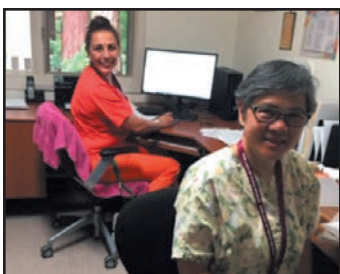
*Angel & Alecia*

Angel Garcia our landscaper and valued member of the maintenance team has recently taken a job with Tri-Met in Beaverton. Angel, was a beautiful example of patience, kindness and a hard worker as well: no tree too high to climb to saw off branches; any painting project in the 33,000 sq. ft. facility, no problem!! He was here at OLP for over 11 years. Angel and his wife, Alecia, pictured left, organize and run the Franciscan Store at the Annual BBQ every year.

Jerri Wagner, our infirmary nurse, retired at the end of December after working in the infirmary since July, 2005. She took very good care of our older sisters and we pray that she enjoys a well-earned retirement! We know her pets and garden will keep her happily occupied as well as her participation in American Legion activities.



*Sr. Maria Benedicta and Sr. Teresa, SSMO are ready to help Jerri cut her retirement cake.*



*Dorris & Elena*

## — New Faces at OLP —

Our new Lead Aide, Doris Angulo Palma, joined the Infirmary staff last summer. Doris was born in Lima, Peru and moved to Italy in her 20s with her two children, where she managed a coffee-shop (Italian bar) in Rome until moving here in 2015. Doris and her husband are parishioners at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, where Doris also volunteers in the St. Vincent de Paul Pantry. Elena David, born, raised and educated in Manila, Philippines, has five adult children. Most of her career has been as a surgical RN. Elena also belongs to St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish.

## *Our Irrepressible Sister Joanne Vaetz*

One of our favorite memories here at the retreat house: Sister Joanne would often be seen accompanying the retreatants to their cars with her holy water bottle. To ensure that everyone had a safe trip home, she would sprinkle liberally both cars and retreatants alike, while invoking the protection of the holy angels. (Sometimes, as one friend recalls, even the contents of the trunk were blessed!) We believe her ministrations were efficacious as we never heard of any on-the-way-home car accidents.

Sister Joanne's father Jacob Vaetz was born in Germany and emigrated to the United States at the age of 28, where he was introduced to the lovely Helen Tracy, aged 26, at a family gathering in Portland, Oregon. Soon they were married.

Sister Joanne opened her eyes to the world in the Old St. Vincent Hospital on the hill in Northwest Portland. And five minutes later came her beautiful identical twin, Mary. The date was December 24, 1937. Joanne and Mary were blessed with a younger sibling four years later, Barbara. The three girls had a rather idyllic and happy life living on 15 acres in Milwaukie, Oregon, where they always had a number of animals to entertain them and other interesting adventures. Sister recalled the "Blackberry Wine Story" that happened when the girls' father, Jacob, took them to a friend's house where homemade Blackberry wine was being bottled. The twins passed between themselves several small cups and by the time they went home, they were very merry, indeed!, riding their tricycles up and down the drive way, singing gaily and falling from time to time off the bikes. Sr. Joanne recalls their mother saying wryly to Jacob the father, "And this is what happens when you watch them for two hours?"

Speaking of blackberries, another fond memory is the goat family—the idea of needing a goat generated by the overrun blackberry vines at one side of the property. The solution was to purchase a goat that the family named Sally. She was soon joined in her demolition mission by the offspring she was carrying. A surprise!, four goats for the price of one. Sister Joanne remembers they named the new arrivals: Nancy, Billie and Janice.

Asked when Sister Joanne had her first inkling of a religious vocation, she remembers that in first grade at St. John the Baptist Elementary, she had a "cranky" Sr. Mary C. for her teacher. She recalls thinking to herself at the time, "When I grow up I am going to be a sister and not be cranky." Sister attended St. Mary of the Valley High School and then two years at the University of Portland, then two years at Portland State for a degree in education. After teaching for a number of years in the public school system, she entered the community in 1975. Since then she has taught in California at St. John the Baptist Elementary in King City and at St. Dominic Elementary, Benecia. Sister Joanne then moved to St. Paul Parish, Richmond, BC and after that to the retreat ministry at St. Clare's in California. Coming full circle, Sister Joanne is now residing in the Infirmary but makes the rounds with her walker "Molly" quite frequently visiting the book store and picking up stray, half-consumed cups of coffee from the front office. She keeps the hot water dispenser filled with water, dries dishes in the Retreat House kitchen and is the unfailing keeper of dates for the Community's birthdays and feast days. Most importantly Sister visits the chapel to pray for all the needs that come to her mind. We usually know where she is by her hearty laugh as her Irish sense of humor gets the best of her numerous times a day and gets the best of us as well - it's so infectious! We are grateful for this trait, especially in the current "restrained" climate where laughter is sometimes our best medicine!



*Sr. Joanne, Gracie and Fr. Andrew Thomas*



*Twins, Mary and Sr. Joanne*



## *Importance of True Devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary*



We were pleasantly surprised recently to discover quotes from Blessed Gabriel Allegra, OFM, in *The Marian Vow* by Fr. Stefano Maria Manelli, OFM, published in 2010, several years prior to Fr. Gabriel's beatification. Blessed Allegra was a Father to our Community, the Franciscan Missionary Sisters of Our Lady of Sorrows, in its fledgling years in China and Hong Kong. He gave us spiritual conferences and prayerfully nurtured the new vocations to the community. Our Sister Cecilia, who grew up in China and entered the community in the 1930s there remembers him well, his marked holiness and his prodigious intellect (he translated the entire Bible into Chinese). We share below several excerpts from Fr. Manelli's book:

### **The Immaculate Heart: The Mystery of Mary**

In its most personal and intimate aspect, the Heart of the Immaculate contains the entire transcendent mystery of Mary. This mystery is expressed by Her ineffable love towards God and neighbor: towards God, Father + Son+ Holy Spirit, and towards the Mystical Body of Christ which consists in the Church militant, suffering and triumphant. This is the plentitude of love in the Immaculate Heart

which incommensurably surpasses the love of all the hearts of Angels, Saints, and men put together.

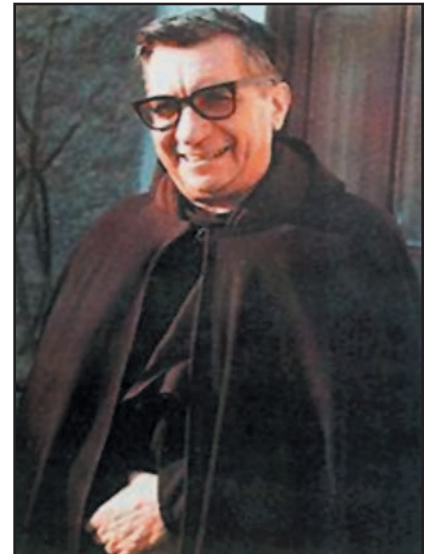
In a brief, but dense synthesis Ven [Blessed] Fr. Gabriel M. Allegra writes, *"Summing it all up: the Saints, ecclesiastical Authors and Mystics have seen in Mary's Heart the Paradise of God, the Eden of the New Adam, the Ark of the Covenant, the heavenly Ladder, the Throne of the Messiah, the holy Temple of God, the Fountain of grace...and therefore they called it: holy Heart, Sacred Heart, brightly refulgent Heart, virginal Heart, maternal Heart, royal Heart, and finally: Immaculate Heart, which seems to me to be the sweetest and most comprehensive title."*

### **Fatima and the Immaculate Heart**

The Immaculate Heart of Mary is the whole principle and vital wellspring of that saving and sanctifying love for humanity in need of salvation...Why? Because her Heart moves and carries everyone to Her Divine Son and Savior. Indeed St. Pio of Pietrelcina says that *"Only the Heart of our Heavenly Mother moves us and guides us to Jesus."*

Lucia of Fatima, who has been the primary confidante of the Immaculate heart, has further made known to us the sweetest predilection and promise made by Our Lady. Mary's words, which are most consoling were: *"For all those who will honor my Immaculate Heart, I will come to gather them like fragrant flowers at the hour of their death and I will present them before the throne of God."*

Ven. Fr. Gabriel writes that the devotion to the Immaculate Heart contained in the message of Fatima *"is a luminous, certain and sweet way, even if it be characterized by martyrdom, which leads to God; in a work, it is the via Matris (the way of the Mother), the path trod by the heavenly Mother and indicated by Her to Her children."*



*Blessed Gabriel Allegra, OFM*

Blessed Gabriel Allegra, OFM (1901 – 1976), Beatified September 29, 2012

Fr. Gabriel Allegra was also a friend of St. Joseph. Several of his quotations are included in Fr. Calloway's recently published book *Consecration to St. Joseph*. On page 11 we find this quote of Blessed Allegra, *"How hard he [St. Joseph] must have prayed to come to know and ever increase in love toward his immaculate wife."*

*We can't think how to say it better! Thank you, Blessed Allegra, for your heavenly words.*

# RETREAT SCHEDULE

## July 2020 ~ December 2020

To register for OLP-Sponsored retreats (highlighted in blue)  
phone the retreat house at 503-649-7127 or email sisters@olpretreat.org

### JULY

**July 13 - 17, 2020 (Monday - Thursday)**  
**INSTITUTE IN CATHOLIC TEACHING**  
**A VIRTUAL Catholic Education Retreat**  
**"Living, Loving and Defending Our Faith"**  
For registration, please email: Sr. Maria Benedicta  
at [srbenedicta@fmsolp.org](mailto:srbenedicta@fmsolp.org) or online at  
**EVENBRITE: <https://www.evenbrite.com/e/catholic-online-education-retreat-july-13-16-2020-tickets-106444883512>**

### AUGUST

August 14 - 16, 2020  
CATHOLIC ENGAGED ENCOUNTER  
Contacts: Tim & Mary Shamrell at 503-267-3605

August 21 - 23, 2020  
AVE MARIA RETREAT (Vietnamese)  
Contact: Tania Le at 503-579-3052

### SEPTEMBER

**Wednesday, September 2, 2020**  
**TWILIGHT TALKS - with Dina Marie Hale**  
**"Do Something Beautiful for God"**  
**6:30 pm - 9 pm (Free-will offering)**

September 4 - 6, 2020  
LEGION OF MARY RETREAT  
Contact: Penny Mock at 503-490-8777

September 18 - 20, 2020  
CATHOLIC ENGAGED ENCOUNTER  
Contacts: Tim & Mary Shamrell at 503-267-3605

**September 25 - 27, 2020**  
**WOMEN'S SILENT RETREAT**  
Retreat Master: Fr. Brian Mullady, O.P.  
Theme: "Growth in Prayer"  
\$172 Suggested Donation



*Please remember  
in your prayers  
our beloved deceased:*

Leonard Bernhardt  
Mary Lynn Jones  
Laura Keitges  
Marie "Ellie" Locke  
Norma Mills  
Irene Milsap  
Vince Schile  
David Skidmore  
Sr. Wendy Mitchell  
Betty Wolf

### OCTOBER

October 2 - 4, 2020  
HOLY ROSARY SECULAR CARMELITE RETREAT  
Contact: Jocelyn Escudero at 971-998-5056

October 8 - 11, 2020  
TIGARD KNITTING GUILD  
Contact: Lou Travis at 503-806-0460

Tuesday, October 13, 2020  
ARCHDIOCESAN COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN  
RETREAT  
Retreat Master: Rev. Michael Vuky  
Theme: "ACTS"  
Contact: Sue Anker at 503-252-2574

October 15 - 18, 2020  
OPUS ANGELORUM RETREAT  
Contact: Sr. Maria Helena at 313-527-1739

October 22 - 25, 2020  
OPUS ANGELORUM RETREAT  
Contact: Sr. Maria Helena at 313-527-1739

### NOVEMBER

November 6 - 8, 2020  
CATHOLIC ENGAGED ENCOUNTER  
Contacts: Tim & Mary Shamrell at 503-267-3605

November 13 - 15, 2020  
GALILEA RETREAT FOR WOMEN  
St. Michael the Archangel Parish

November 20 - 22, 2020  
AMBASSADORS RETREAT FOR MEN  
St. Michael the Archangel Parish

### DECEMBER

**Wednesday, December 2, 2020**  
**ADVENT DAY RETREAT**  
Retreat Master: Bishop Peter Smith  
Theme: "Making Advent Meaningful"  
9:00 am - 2:30 pm; doors open at 8:30 am  
\$40 Suggested Donation, includes lunch

**Friday, December 4, 2020**  
**HOLY TRINITY KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**  
**CHRISTMAS DINNER**

**Saturday, December 5, 2020**  
**ST ALEXANDER MARRIAGE PREPARATION RETREAT**  
[sisterjuanv@gmail.com](mailto:sisterjuanv@gmail.com)

**Wednesday, December 9, 2020**  
**TWILIGHT TALKS - with Dina Marie Hale**  
**"A Trek to Tepeyac Hill with St. Juan Diego"**  
**6:30 pm - 9 pm (Free-will offering)**

**Saturday, December 12, 2020**  
**BENEFACTORS & VOLUNTEERS**  
**MASS OF THANKSGIVING & LUNCHEON**





# OUR LADY OF PEACE RETREAT

*A Peaceful Place to Rekindle Your Spirit*

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

3600 SW 170th Ave, Beaverton, OR 97003

## Upcoming Retreats

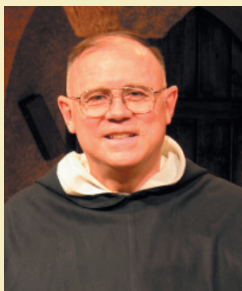
### WOMEN'S SILENT RETREAT

September 25 - 27, 2020

"Growth in Prayer"

Retreat Master: Fr. Brian Mullady, OP

The Retreat Includes:



- Conferences and Holy Mass each day
- Eucharistic Adoration
- Morning Prayer
- Time for Quiet and Reflection
- Opportunity for Confession

The retreat begins Friday with dinner and concludes on Sunday after a late-morning brunch.

Suggested Donation: \$172.00 for the weekend

Commuter Rate: \$112.00 (includes all meals)

### ADVENT DAY RETREAT

Wednesday, December 2, 2020

9am - 2:30pm

Doors open at 8:15 am

"Making Advent Meaningful"

Retreat Master: Most Rev. Peter Smith

The Day Includes:



- Holy Mass
- Conferences
- Opportunity for Confession
- Rosary
- Time for Quiet Reflection and Prayer

Suggested Donation: \$40 (includes lunch)

**TO REGISTER: Please email [sisters@olpretreat.org](mailto:sisters@olpretreat.org) or call The Retreat House at 503-649-7127**

Visit our website: [www.olpretreat.org](http://www.olpretreat.org)

E-mail: [sisters@olpretreat.org](mailto:sisters@olpretreat.org)

Phone: 503-649-7127

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View our videos on YouTube: Search "OLPRETREAT"