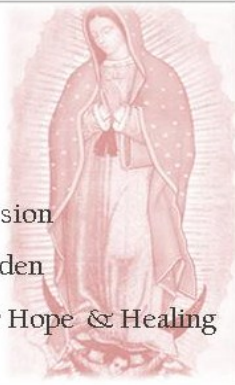


Franciscan Daughters of Mary



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Autumn 2012

Rose Garden Home Mission

Friends of the Rose Garden

Rose Garden Center for Hope & Healing

Requiem in aeternum

September 25, 2012, Sr. Mary Joseph of the Holy Face of Jesus went to her eternal reward. Originally from Tarrytown NY, now known as Sleepy Hollow, she came to the Franciscan Daughters of Mary February 11, 2004.

Sr. Mary Joseph, always so full of energy, was usually seen darting about doing two or three projects at once. "We often lovingly referred to her as the 'Energizer Bunny,' she would almost get nervous when we had an opportunity to relax." says Mother Seraphina, "Whether it was making rosaries, gardening or designing cards and bookmarks from pressed flowers, she liked to keep busy."

Sr. Mary Joseph also had a true gift of compassion for those who are handicapped and people who are in great need. She would go out of her way for someone who came to her with a story of woe and naively believe every story she heard. Her giving



nature is what truly endeared her to the sisters, volunteers and to all of our friends and neighbors.

Never sick a day in her life, Sister went to the doctor in April complaining of severe fatigue and a cough at night. The doc sent her for an x-ray, and before she left the tech called him - apparently her lungs were filled with tumors. In January a chest x-ray showed no sign of tumors, so they determined that this was a very fast-moving and aggressive cancer.

She began treatments and initially showed some improvement, but by September Sr. Mary Joseph realized that the cancer was getting the better

of her, so she decided to forego any more treatment. Two weeks later she passed.

Our constant prayer during her illness was that she be prepared as best as possible to meet her spouse when it was her time to go, and we are convinced that Our Lord answered our prayer.

The day before her passing, hospice was called in and Fr. Ryan Maher, pastor of St. Benedict's church anointed her, giving her the Apostolic Pardon.

The next morning, the sisters knelt at her bedside and chanted the Liturgy of the Hours, followed by the Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet. Mother Seraphina and Sr. Ann Mary sat with her as the other sisters went to Mass that morning, returning with Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament for them all. Less than an hour after receiving Holy Communion, Sister stopped breathing and was gone.

"Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on." "Yes," said the Spirit, *"let them find rest from their labors, for their works accompany them."* Rev. 14:13



I will pay my vows to the Lord

(Psalm 116:18)

On September 1, 2012, Sr. Catherine Mary of the Virgin Birth made her First Profession of Vows.

Sister, originally from Cincinnati, had been discerning her call to the religious life when she ran in to the sisters three times—one of those times in Washington, D.C. at the March for Life! This

is when she realized the Franciscan Daughters of Mary were in her own backyard.

The first time she volunteered at the Rose Garden, she had a very profound sense of peace that she had never experienced before. Her first official visit was at a Franciscan Experience, where discerning women live, pray and work with the sisters. It was during that visit that she felt as if she had come home. Praised be Jesus Christ!



Another laborer for the harvest

Audrey Joy Poulin comes to us from Springfield Massachusetts. Homeschooled in her primary years, she graduated from Franciscan University in 2009 while studying abroad in Austria.

“It was at 18, while studying at Franciscan, that I had a strong desire to be the Lord’s and the Lord’s only,” shares Sr. Audrey, “Even on home visits painting with my Dad there was a tug in my heart. It was as if Jesus was saying, ‘I want all of you.’”

“I first heard of the Franciscan Daughters of Mary when a friend of mine sent me a list of religious orders and the Daughters just popped off the page! Their community had everything rolled in to one: Franciscan spirituality, their apostolate to pray for priests, reaching out to outcasts (which reminded me of Mother Teresa of Calcutta) and most importantly, protecting the sanctity of all human life, and making that fourth Vow to uphold the dignity of every human person.

Sr. Audrey and Mother on her entrance day

“The first time I visited, it was very peaceful, like being at home. What struck me was the love the sisters shared toward one another—a real and practical love. The sisters speak the truth in love, true charity, not just telling people what they want to hear. The second time I visited, I just wanted to stay.”

Please pray for Sr. Audrey as she discerns her vocation with us.

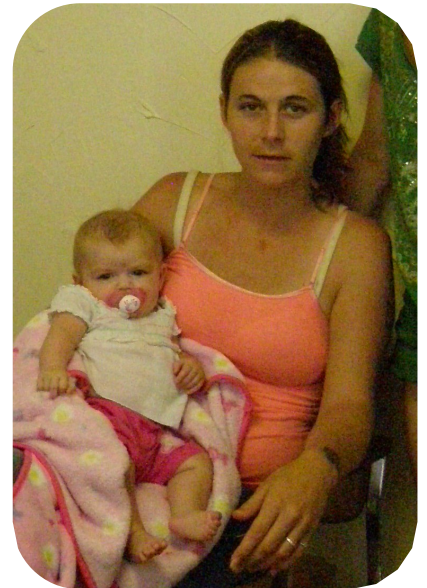
Parenting 101



One of the expectant mothers came back to visit us two months after she gave birth to a beautiful baby girl. She said she had so much more confidence in caring for her newborn because she learned so much in the parenting classes, especially the lesson on how to calm a fussy infant. Her baby was very fussy, but the techniques she learned really work and she is able to calm her baby without getting frustrated because she knows what to do. When her friends and family watch how well she does this they are amazed. She even got the opportunity to demonstrate while she was visiting because the baby got fussy while she was there. She did a great job!

From another Mom, “All of the classes were great and I learned so much. Knowing how to child proof my home really helped me because my two-year old is like Houdini. He still falls, gets into everything and keeps me hopping, but now my home is safer and I know what to do if he gets hurt. He got stung by a bee last week, and I didn’t panic because I knew just what to do. Parenting classes have helped me be a better mom.”

Our Essentials of Discipline Program teaches parents how to discipline their children with love, patience, and confidence. Many of our participants have grown up in abusive and neglectful homes. One of our parents said, “I love this class, and I want my children to have a better experience with me than I had when I was growing up.”



The Rose Garden is now a registered charity with Kroger’s supermarkets to receive rewards with their Community Rewards program.

To enroll:

- go to: www.krogercommunityrewards.com
- click on Cincinnati, Ohio
- enter NPO # 82777
- designate Rose Garden Home Mission for the rewards

Then, when you shop using the Kroger Plus Card, the Rose Garden will receive a reward check each quarter. This in no way interferes with the fuel points rewards. Any questions can be directed to Mother Seraphina.

Thank you! God bless you!

H arvest a plenty

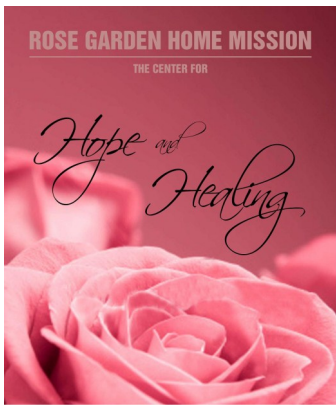
Thanks to St. Timothy Community Garden and the Giving Fields, the Rose Garden had produce-a-plenty this past summer/fall. The sisters even had opportunities weekly to pick veggies from the giving fields! What great fun we had!



Clockwise from upper left:

Picking crew at the Giving Fields • a bountiful harvest for the Rose Garden • Dave Perry brings us produce from St. Timothy's garden • the sisters stand with Doug Bray, owner of the Giving Fields • volunteers with a great yield of produce from St. Tim's • Sr. Catherine has help picking veggies • Mother Seraphina brings in a basket of cherry tomatoes • taking a break from picking with Sr. Mary Joseph • getting the whole family in to the fun • Sister Green Beans.





Goal: be the face of Christ

All of the medical professionals have come to see the Center for Hope & Healing as “God’s clinic,” where it is evident that the Gospel is lived out.

People who come are so glad that there is a place for them to get help with their medical conditions. There is a pervading spirit of kindness at the clinic among those waiting to be seen, so they strike up conversations with the other patients. One person may need to get cleaning materials and then someone else tells them a place to go. Another time someone brought



in a flyer telling you where to go and get free lunches in the summer.

You can see a change take place in the attitude of our patients. At the first visit they are usually hesitant and ready to be interrogated about their whole life. And because we make no

requests for proof of their income and ask only questions that concern their health issues, they are relieved to see that they were treated with kindness and respect and that someone really cares.

A woman who had several serious health issues came to be seen. After



connecting her with a specialist and helping her with the co-pay, she thanked us through tears and said, “Thank you! No one has ever cared enough to help me.”

While speaking to a nurse who wanted to volunteer, we explained that we simply trust in the Lord to send us whatever we need; God moves to hearts of people to donate just when there is a need. Ten minutes later, after telling us that she is not skilled at drawing blood, she witnessed a live example of this very thing. A lady came in with some do-

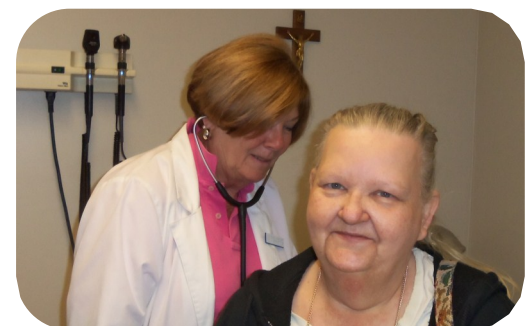
nations and told us that she draws blood and asked if we could use her help!

We recently began doing women’s wellness, i.e. breast and pelvic exams, and we realized that we didn’t



have any paper disposable gowns and didn’t know where to order them. One week before we began, a bag was lying next to our office desk—a small stack of paper and cloth gowns!

We have been treating “Joe” for three months for anxiety and hypertension. When first began coming to our clinic, he was skeptical about our motives and kept asking why we were doing this and doing it without charging. After gaining some trust, we referred him to our Psychologist, Dr. Richard Meyer. Last week he told us that Dr. Meyer asked him why he doesn’t go back to church. He thought about it and went to see a priest, who talked with him for an hour, heard his Confession and gave him Communion! Joe told us that he went to church on Sunday and plans to continue going!





Franciscan Daughters of Mary Friends of the Rose Garden Mission

Dear Friends of the Rose Garden,

Peace & all good! With the approach of the Christmas season, we write with gratitude to our Friends of the Rose Garden Mission for your generous ongoing support. Because of you, much has been accomplished at the Mission this past year, most notable the continued reduction of the building bank note. In just two years, this note (originally \$525,000) has been reduced by over 50%! Praise God!

Much was contributed from this past spring's inaugural fundraiser, **Partners in Hope for the Poor**. Not only did this event raise \$40,000 in cash, but an additional \$40,000 was pledged over the next four years. Along with the sisters, we are very grateful for the gifts-in-kind, prayers and financial support that help us to give a home to the Rose Garden Mission in the Northern Kentucky/Greater Cincinnati area.

As we continue to move forward, we still have a balance on the mortgage and we provide the financial support for the ongoing utility costs at the Mission. Please consider the making a gift to the Friends of the Rose Garden Mission this Christmas season.

God's blessing in this wonderful season of Jesus' birth.

Greg Jenna

&

The Friends of the Rose Garden Mission

* Save the Date - Thursday, May 16, 2013, the second annual fundraising dinner has been planned. Please join us for this special celebration

Daughter's Helpers

You are such a great witness to God's love. We loved coming out and would love to do it again, THANK YOU! Gabriel



Getting ready for Turkey Give-Away

Thank you for having us help you. It was really, really fun! I look forward to seeing you again some day! Love, Clare
P.S. **Disinfecting** was my favorite part!

We are so grateful to all of our volunteers, without whom we could not offer so many programs for our friends and neighbors!

The letters are from school children who volunteered.

Thank you for doing what you do. Thank you for your vocation! Hopefully when I am older I will join you! Love, Your Friend Emma



Hospitality Crew



Sorting and stocking for Thanksgiving



Work for even the smallest of volunteers



Multi lingual check-ers give tickets for a turkey

Rose Garden Cuties!!



Mission Needs

- * Diapers
- * Toiletries for Mom & Baby
- * Newborn Onesies
- * Receiving Blankets, Binki's, Bibs & Burp Cloths
- * Newborn-Safe Toys & Stuffed Animals
- * Baby Food—all stages

*The Lord bless you and keep you!
The Lord let His face shine upon you
and be gracious to you!
The Lord look upon you kindly
and give you His Peace!
~ Numbers 6:24-26*

*We are so grateful to God for the gift
you are to us. It is through your
prayers and donations that the Franciscan
Daughters of Mary are able to serve God in
the Northern KY, Greater Cincinnati area!*

*In addition to our daily prayers for you, once
per month Mass is offered in our convent chap-
el for your intentions.*

*May God bless you for all the ways you love
Him through your kindness to us.*

Mother Seraphina & the Sisters

Please keep us in mind as you consider your year-end giving