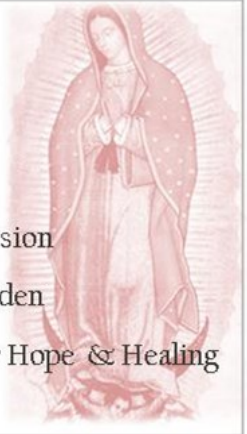


Franciscan Daughters of Mary



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Rose Garden Home Mission

Friends of the Rose Garden

Rose Garden Center for Hope & Healing

Spring 2013

R equiem in Aeternum

Sunday, August 25, 2013, Sr. Ann Mary of the Sacred Heart of Jesus went Home to God following complications related to Congestive Heart Failure, an illness she battled for several years. She was a true example of God's joy. Her face radiated the love she felt for Jesus as well as the peace she found within herself and in God. She was a beacon of light to those who struggled in life through her joyfulness and charity. Her experience was a testament to how a relationship with the Lord can change your life.

Becoming a sister was a second vocation for Sr. Ann Mary. As she tells it, the Lord called her three times; the first time was when she was about 18 years old, but she told Him, "No."

The second time she felt called she once again said "No," then married her husband. After her husband died and her children were



grown she moved in to the same neighborhood where the Franciscan Daughters of Mary live and once again heard, "Come follow Me." This time she thought she should see what God wanted.

After befriending the sisters, she began volunteering at the Rose Garden and became a permanent volunteer. A while later she requested to enter the community. After taking it to prayer, Mother Seraphina believed that it was God's Will and Our Lady's desire that she be one of our sisters.

The past few years she developed multiple health issues, and would offer her physical sufferings to the Lord for others. As her health continued to decline, her prayer life deepened, and toward the end found peace and joy in carrying other people's crosses for them so they could be free.

Sr. Ann Mary will be remembered for her great love for

Jesus and desire to carry His Cross, as well as her sense of humor and compassionate love for others.

Y ear of Faith & Human Dignity



Sister having fun playing sidewalk tennis with the neighborhood children.

In observance of the Year of Faith, our community has been reading together the documents of Vatican Council II. One thing that we noticed right away is how the Council Father's continually stressed the importance of human dignity. This is of particular importance to us because as many of you know, the Franciscan Daughters of Mary were

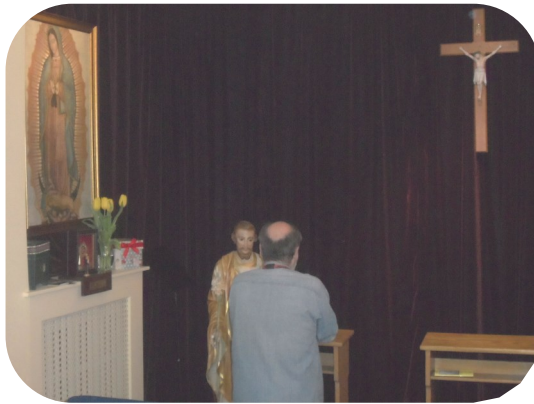
founded to uphold the dignity of every human person from the moment of conception until natural death as is reflected in the Vows the sisters profess to Jesus. We have come to identify the charism of our community woven in many of the Council documents.

In the final document of the Council, Gaudium et Spes. The Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World. the first chapter entitled *On Human Dignity(!)*, we read, "*The root reason for human dignity lies in man's call to communion with God... For man would not exist were he not created by God's love and constantly preserved by it; and he cannot live fully according to truth unless he freely acknowledges that love and devotes himself to His Creator.*"

Ad Gentes, The Decree on the Mission Activity of the Church tells us, "*As God loved us with an unselfish love, so also the faithful should in their charity care for the human person himself, loving him with the same affection with which God sought out man, just as Christ ... is one with men of every condition, but especially with the poor and the afflicted. For them, (the Church) gladly spends and is spent, sharing in their joys and sorrows, knowing of their longings and problems, suffering with them in death's anxieties.*"



Spending time with our neighbor in the Prayer Room of the Father's Love



One of our neighbors spending time in prayer

This is what the Franciscan Daughters of Mary strive to achieve in all that we do. By upholding the inherent dignity due to all of our brothers and sisters in Christ and by communicating to them the Love of God through our words and actions, they come to a greater

knowledge of the abundant love the Father has for them.

In Cardinal Raymond Burke's keynote address to members of the Dignitatis Humanae Institute, the cardinal called for a movement "toward a New Evangelization regarding human life," and said the "Magna Carta" for such a New Evangelization is Blessed John Paul II's encyclical *Evangelium Vitae* (The Gospel of Life)!!

"The transformation of hearts by which one truly believes in the dignity of all men, without boundary, is the most fundamental means of a New Evangelization," he said.

We have seen how profound an effect this can have on our friends and neighbors when they are treated with dignity.



Sr. Catherine brings this little child to Baby Jesus

One day a lady came to the Mission and asked for food, but then revealed the true purpose of her visit - she came in to thank us for helping her son.

Her son had lost his job, was out of work for 18 months, his wife left with the kids, he was thrown out of his apartment because he couldn't pay the rent and wound up on the street. So his Mom took him in.

Then, unable to deal with everything, he was thinking about taking his life. But he heard we had food, so he came to the Mission and we gave him food and were nice to him.

The next day we gave him food again and we were nice to him again. The third day the same thing. His Mom told us that he came home the third day and said, "Mom, maybe it's not so bad!"

He then cleaned himself up, shaved, got some good used clothing and began looking for a job. After a few weeks he found a job and was able to get out of his Mom's house into a place of his own again.

We still don't know who this man was, but only that the Lord, through our kindness to him, was able to give him the hope he needed to go on.

Development of a Mission

Being decidedly pro-life sisters, we thought we'd just be doing pregnancy center work, working with Moms and babies, when we first opened our Mission in Covington. But even before we opened people kept dropping off food. They probably figured that since we are Franciscan, we *must* be feeding the hungry!

We weren't in Covington a week when a generous soul came to the convent and dropped off 2 cases of frozen pizza. Now, the sisters get hungry, but that's a little much! So we began sharing it with our neighbors. The gentleman kept giving us pizza once per week, gradually increasing the amount when the Mission opened. We continued to get pizza until just a year ago when the distributor stopped giving pizza every week.

Then, 2 months after coming to Covington, a local businessman asked us if we could use 20 frozen turkeys for Thanksgiving. As is our custom, for the sake of

charity toward the one who gives, and understanding that they give to the Lord, we don't refuse gifts when they are given.

A few days later, a girl scout troop called wanting to do something for us. We told them about the turkeys and asked if they could give us 20 bags of "fixin's."

In their 8th month of pregnancy each of our Moms get a New Baby Welcome basket to encourage them and affirm their motherhood.



A joyful countenance for our friends and neighbors



Alec Mueller organized a yard sale and raised over \$600 for the Mission



In their 8th month of pregnancy each of our Moms get a New Baby Welcome basket to encourage them and affirm their motherhood.

So, a few days before Thanksgiving we loaded up the van with turkeys and fixin's and went door-to-door meeting our neighbors giving them a Thanksgiving meal.

Food continued to come. Through prayer we understood this to be God saying, "Feed my people." We saw this as a great good; after all, Moms and babies need to eat, and they usually have other family members at home.

Well, when word got out that we had food, we began seeing many others; the homeless, elderly, handicapped and general needy poor. They all found their way to the Mission door looking for food.



Noah, Adam and Anna Kolar raised almost \$500 making and selling "Survival Bracelets"

We came to realize that Our Lord Jesus was making known to us **His** intention behind our fourth Vow to uphold each person's dignity and loving them as Jesus loves them.

Being pro-life is very much about life at its beginnings, that's under great attack in our society, but it is also about **every** person in **all** stages of life. Each of us is made in the image and likeness of Our Heavenly Father. We are **all** very precious in His eyes.

It didn't take long before it became evident to us that in helping our neighbors get food for their bodies, we also have an opportunity to feed their soul!!

Parenting Classes & Natural Family Planning!

We are very pleased to announce the addition of Natural Family Planning Classes (NFP) at the Rose Garden!! Wendy Tobergte, an experienced NFP instructor, has agreed to partner with us in teaching our friends and neighbors the basics of NFP.

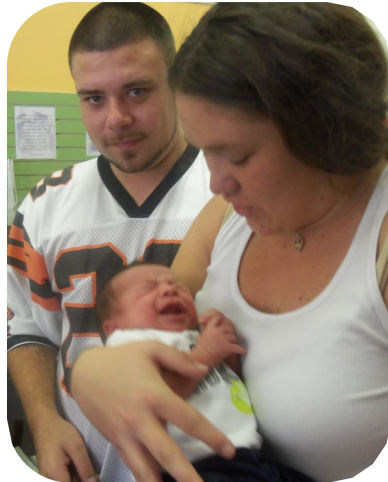
The classes have been very well received. We've initially integrated them in to our Parenting Class, making it a required part of the 12 week Curriculum.

100% natural, NFP is the general title for the scientific, natural and moral methods of family planning that can help couples either achieve or postpone pregnancies by observing what is going on in their bodies.

In respecting the loving (unitive) and life-giving (procre-ative) nature of the marital act, NFP reflects the dignity of the human person, promoting an openness to life and recognizing the value of a child.

We see this as extremely beneficial to the women who come in for pregnancy tests as well. It

is first and foremost an opportunity to witness to them about the value of chastity and self-dignity.



And many of the women we see are greatly deceived in to using contraceptives, not knowing the harm they are doing to their bodies or of their abortifacient nature (having the potential to cause an abortion).

But the worst part of taking contraceptives is what it says about their relationships. It is like saying, "Honey, I love you. But I don't want your baby!" Now tell me, is that true love?

Absolutely not!! True love is a total, mutual gift of self. Meaning to be completely other-person interested. One should be looking only for the greatest good for the one they love, even to the point of laying down their lives for the good of their beloved.

Are they interested in a greater good for their beloved if they encourage them to use something that is a known carcinogenic (all chemical contraceptives)? Or could be the cause of aborting their child (the abortifacient nature of these chemicals)? Or something that could render them infertile (a known risk)? Or that could perforate their uterine wall (mirena)? Or something that can cause irreversible bone-loss and is illegal to give to dogs (depo-provera)?

NFP also opens up lines of communication with couples that

wouldn't normally be there, talking about intimacies that most people avoid. And it encourages times of self control, which assists couples in appreciating each other's worth, upholding each other's dignity—loving them for the person they are, not just for what they may get out of them.



Wendy & her son Kevin



Studying hard at Parenting Class



Three recent Parenting grads

Partners in Hope for the Poor Dinner a Success!



This year Joe Bessler, a founding member of the Friends of the Rose Garden, receives our Servant of the Poor award



Board Members of the "Friends" with the Franciscan Daughters of Mary. Left to Right (excludes sisters): Dennis Miceli, Gloria Ionna, Kim Lampi, Ed Franchi, Kelly Kelso, Sheila Carroll, Adeldo Adrianza, Shawn McCormick, Joe Bessler, Greg Ionna and Duane Froelicher

LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Dear Supporters & Friends,

The Friends of the Rose Garden Mission celebrated another successful fundraiser with our second annual "Partners in Hope for the Poor Dinner."

With almost 300 guests in attendance, the "Friends" and I thank you for the much needed support of the Rose Garden Home Mission, run by the Franciscan Daughters of Mary. We are all very grateful for the incredible work the sisters and volunteer helpers do for the poor of Covington and the surrounding areas.

Our honoree this year was Joe Bessler whose tireless efforts on behalf of the Mission have resulted in repairing and maintaining the buildings and property with countless volunteer workers and donated goods and services.

This year the Partners in Hope for the Poor Dinner raised over \$40,000, enabling the "Friends" to pay down the principal on our mortgage by another \$25,000, leaving the balance to assist the Mission with utilities and other operating expenses.

This could not be accomplished without the continuing generosity of each of you, our wonderful Partners and Friends.

To become a "Partner in Hope for the Poor" go to the website, www.fdfomary.org and click on "Friends of the Rose Garden."

If you haven't had the opportunity to "Partner" with us, please consider helping the Friends continue assisting the Sisters and the tremendous work they do at the Rose Garden. The Lord give you His peace.

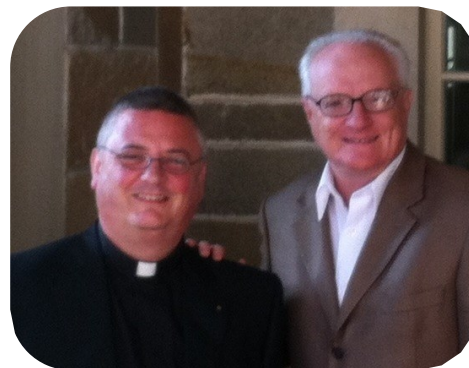
Respectfully,

Greg Ionna

Chairman of the Board



Fr. Rey Taylor from St. Joseph Church in Cincinnati was one of our distinguished guests



Greg Ionna, Chairman of the Friends, stands with Fr. Benedict O'Cinnsealaigh, Rector of Mount Saint Mary's Seminary of the West, who offered the invocation at our Dinner



(Left) Mother Seraphina and newlywed Sheila Carroll, APRN, Clinic Director, share a moment of joy with everyone at the Dinner

(Right) Sisters Mary Elizabeth and Clare Marie were pleased to be at table with our friends from the Mission, Danielle and Gabby Castillo, who are regular attendees of Wednesday Nights of Praise at the Mission. This September Danielle and both of her children will begin RCIA classes at St. Benedict Church



Finding Meaning

Several months ago I (Sue Mills, APRN) was paging through the daily newspaper and came upon an article about the Rose Garden Center for Hope and Healing. What really caught my eye was the picture it included; I recognized Sheila Carroll, an acquaintance of mine from long ago.



Wednesday Clinic Staff. Left to Right: Clinic Director, Sheila Carroll, APRN, Sue Mills, APRN Joan McDonald, RN, Jen Sandmann

I was immediately interested in what the article had to say, because Sheila is very highly regarded in the nursing community, and I knew that if she was involved, this had to be good!

The concept of a clinic that was founded to serve the uninsured and staffed by nurse practitioners was very appealing to me. I had been praying and searching for some way

to utilize the knowledge and skills God had given me in service such as this. I didn't call right away – I had to pray a lot! I was so full of fear that I might not be able to learn this type of practice. But God kept nudging me, and after about two weeks I contacted Sheila and in short order had arrived for my first day.

And I was “hooked”! For a long time I had been looking for an opportunity to do “real nursing”, and I had found it! I found these patients to be so grateful for the smallest thing I did or said; I saw the hope, the “light” come on in the eyes of those I was privileged to serve. And I keep coming back.

I am so very grateful that I have been given this opportunity to use the knowledge and skills God has given me to serve His people. The Rose Garden has given me a purpose that had been missing in my life.



As we are expanding our clinic, Center for Hope & Healing Director, Sheila Carroll moves in to a new, larger office

Ten Star Rating

As far as Marvin Mukes is concerned, the uninsured can't put a price tag on the healthcare provided at the Rose Garden Center for Hope and Healing. “If you could give (the clinic) stars, it wouldn't be five stars. I'd give them 10,” he said. “I will get my insurance card soon, but I'd like to stay here.”

Marvin Mukes is a patient who was terrified when doctors informed him a few months ago that he had diabetes. “I cried,” admits the 54-year-old husband, father and grandfather who lives in Newport. “I don't have insurance. I didn't want to die.”

Although Mr. Mukes was used to suffering from an unhealthy heart, several of his relatives had died from diabetic complications. One relative had a leg amputated.



Theresa Furnish, APRN and Sue Mills, APRN prepare to test Marvin Mukes' glucose level

“I knew something was wrong with me one day at church,” Mr. Mukes said. “I stood up to talk and when I sat back down, I couldn't see the pastor's face. The minister was standing right in front of me, but he was blurry. I told my significant other (Barbara) I needed to get to the emergency room.”

Barbara drove Mr. Mukes to St. Elizabeth Medical Center, Ft. Thomas, where he was told his blood glucose level was extremely high. Doctors prescribed Insulin and medicine to control his blood sugar level. The unemployed man worried how he would be able to afford the medicine and the price of monitoring his blood glucose level.

“A woman named Cathy Sherron, RN (Mission volunteer and Nurse Navigator for St. Elizabeth Healthcare Regional Diabetes Center) made me promise before I was dismissed from the hospital to come to the Rose Garden Center for Hope and Healing,” Mukes said. “I kept my promise.”

“I don't want to leave this place, even when I get my insurance card. I told the nurse practitioner here to give me a call and I'll be down to take out the trash or anything,” said Mr. Mukes. Becoming very emotional, “I didn't know people could care like this for people,” he says, wiping the tears as they flow down his face. “I love this place.”

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The Rose Garden is a registered charity with Kroger's supermarkets receiving rewards with the 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.

Community Rewards Contribution this quarter—

\$410.42

Thank you! God bless you!



Vows & Investiture

(Left) Sr. Clare Marie of the Holy Eucharist after making her First Profession of Vows on June 8.

(Right) On April 8 Sr. Mary Elizabeth of the Holy Family (formerly known as Audrey) received her new name, consecrated herself to Our Lady of Guadalupe and was invested in the Holy habit of our community.



Precious Treasures



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 chapel for your intentions.

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

Mother Seraphina & the Sisters

Mission Needs

- Baby Basket Supplies
- Baby Formula
- Baby Food (stages 1&3)
- Toddler Clothing!!! (12mo.-6X)
- New Roof
- Elevator
- Electric washer/dryer
- Adult Toiletries

You are invited:

*Rose Garden
Nights of
Praise & Worship*

*7pm Wednesdays at the Mission
2040 Madison Ave., Covington*

*Come praise the Lord
with the Sisters!*

Refreshments & Fellowship following prayer

*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*

*You and Your Family
are Invited to Join the
Franciscan Daughters of Mary
for*

Prayer & Reflection

- * *Vespers in the Presence of the Blessed Sacrament*
- * *Spiritual Reflection*
- * *Holy Hour for Priests*
- * *Devotions*

*2nd & 4th Fridays of Every Month
7pm—9pm*

Convent Chapel

336 East 16th St., Covington

RSVP: 859-491-3899