### Franciscan Daughters of Mary

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Winter 2013

Rose Garden Home Mission

Friends of the Rose Garden

Rose Garden Center for Hope & Healing

### ear in Review



The sisters begin and end each day with prayer, from which all of their apostolates flow. Really, it is the work of Jesus Christ. The sisters and volunteers make an effort to know His Will and follow it accordingly

On October 8th, feast of Our Lady of Good Remedy, Sr. Audrey
Poulin of Springfield, Massachusetts entered our community. Sister wears the habit of a postulant, someone who discerns their call to religious life. In our community, Postulancy lasts between 6 months and 1 year.





Sr. Catherine Mary of the Virgin Birth makes her First Profession of Vows on September 8th, the feast of the Nativity of Mary. Rev. Ryan Maher, Pastor of St. Benedict Church, looks on as she signs her written Vows after professing them in to the hands of Mother Seraphina Marie



Mother Seraphina was honored with the Steel Magnolia Award, sponsored by AK Steel, who awards women in the community that "despite personal challenges, have made a significant difference in the lives of others." The Rose Garden also received \$1,000 in her honor.

At right, the sisters are pictured with volunteer "pickers" at the Giving Fields, which supplied our friends and neighbors with an abundance of fresh produce this year!



At left, Bishop Foys, stops for a picture with Sr. Catherine Mary, Sr. Clare Marie and Sr. Audrey at the March for Life in Washington D.C., who are holding our new community banner.









From top: New Baby Welcome Baskets
Mom receives Baby Basket
Sheila & Mother Seraphina put their heads
together at Christmas Give-Away
Santa visits our Give-Away
Center top: Sr. Audrey with young volunteers
Center bottom: Praying the Angelus at noon

# 2 012 By the Numbers

62,292 Visits to our Mission

77,660 Diapers given

4,305 Visits for Material Assistance for Children

2017 Babies helped from 1,054 Moms/Guardians

157 Pregnancy Tests

82 Welcome Baskets

800 Families received Turkey for Thanksgiving

855 Families received Fixin's for Thanksgiving

Over 1,100 children received toys for Christmas













From top: Expectant Mom receives Baby Basket

Mom shows son the Basket for baby sister

Line for Thanksgiving Give-Away Sr. Ann Mary & Andrew team up to help our neighbors

## arenting Discipling Classes (Age 2 to

Our First Year!!

323 Parenting Classes Given to:

- 8 Single Moms
- 2 Dads
- 3 Married Couples

Some of the classes we offer to parents include:

#### Preborn Classes

- Bond with Your Unborn Baby
- Safe Sleep for Baby
- Getting Ready for Baby
- Baby Crying, Colic & Sleeping Infant to Toddler Classes
- The Happiest Baby on the Block!/ Calming a fussy infant
- Emergency First Aid

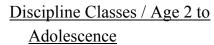




- Toilet Training!! Fatherhood Classes
- How to Calm a Fussy Infant
- Basic First Aid



- Taking an active role in Fatherhood
- Dad's vital role in pregnancy, birth, infancy
- Being a Role model for Your Child
- Why Dads are important for Child Development



- Action Instead of Anger, Hitting & Yelling
- To Spank or Not to Spank?



- The Healthy Way to Communicate to Your Child
- Being the Best Parent You Can Be!



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

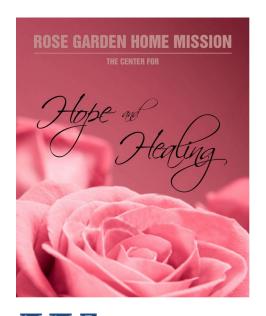
#### To enroll:

- 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!

\*\* Anyone who has sponsored us through this program must re-enroll during April\*\*



Ever since opening Northern Kentucky's first free clinic for uninsured individuals who are not homeless on January 24, 2012, we have called it



"God's Clinic" because He provides everything we need. For example, when we were preparing to begin our women's wellness, Sheila Carroll thought to herself, "We don't have any gowns to do the exams, how could we start without them?" The next day, sitting next to her desk was a box filled with exam gowns! (No one knows where they came from!)



We find it very significant that our opening coincided with the Presidential mandate which would force all Americans to have health insurance or pay hefty fines. It requires virtually all private health plans nationwide to provide coverage of sterilization and contraception including abortifacient drugs. Because of our commitment to uphold the teachings of the Catholic Church without exception, we receive no government funding. This new ruling confirms us in this choice. In our avoidance of governmental funds, we also feel that we are voicing an opposition which is supporting life and the dignity of every person.

Our clinic has greatly impacted the lives of our friends and neighbors. Mol-



2,850 Health Ministry Visits

718 Patient Visits at the CHH

150 Influenza Vaccines

1,348 Prescriptions Paid

178 Co-pay assistance for friends with insurance

ly, in her mid-40's, came to the clinic in July for hypertension. Before she left, she said, "By the way, I had an abnormal PAP a couple years ago." Molly has an associate degree and lost her job to downsizing. She lost her insurance, too. Sheila could feel large tumors in her abdomen, so we arranged an appointment with a gynecologist and helped with the payment. The abnormal PAP was actually five years earlier and now is metastatic invasive cell carcinoma, too large for surgery.

Why did she wait so long? Depression. She had no money, no job, no help and was sick and did not have energy to find help. She had no hope. At the Rose



Garden Center for Hope & Healing she found some hope. When she came in to

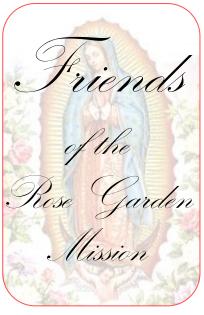


thank us, through tears, she said, "No one ever cared enough to do anything before."

There is such a great need here among the medically uninsured, that we have opened a second day each week, and on the second Thursday of each month we perform women's wellness.



Just like all of the programs at the Rose Garden, all our services are 100% free to all who are seen at the Center for Hope & Healing - we ask for no payment from any our patients. We also offer our friends and neighbors in need our assistance in paying for their prescriptions.



Friends of the Rose
Garden, we have been
able to expand the programs
that the Mission offers.

In addition to free pregnancy testing, chastity education, pregnancy support, material assistance to Moms and Dads, and the St. Francis Food Pantry (for which we were recently donated a walk-in refrigerator!!), our new location enables us to house the Prayer Room of the Father's Love, which provides many of our neighbors with a place to sit and talk with God, to join in Praise & Worship with

the sisters each Wednesday, and to include their prayers in our intentions book.

We now offer Parenting Classes for single Moms, Fathers and Couples, and are in dialogue with Natural Family Planning Counselors to teach our neighbors an all natural, holistic approach to child spacing, and the value of personal dignity through chastity.

Through our Center for Hope & Healing, we are able to offer free primary medical care to unin-



sured individuals, as well as prescription and co-pay assistance to the needy, free diabetic education, smoking cessation and dental hygiene classes.

Our neighbors are now able to talk privately with a Professional Psychologist or have a one-on-one with our Certified Alcohol & Drug Dependency Counselor.

The Friends of the Rose Garden allow us to use the property rent-free and utility-free. In addition, they have rallied an abundance of quality professional help to volunteer their skills in repairing, improving and maintaining the property.

God bless the "Friends!" Without them there would be no Rose Garden.

### olunteer Profile

I am so blessed to have found the Rose Garden Home Mission, rather, God matched us.

My life and my career were going well. I was able to retire with a wonderful part time job in substance abuse counseling after 15 years, doing group chemical dependency counseling. Truly, God seemed to have blessed my life: wonderful family, good health, good career where I could make a difference.

Suddenly, though not unexpectedly, my son died of a heart attack. He had a congenital heart problem since birth. God blessed me with so many more years with him than the best specialists predicted. I was with him when he passed.

One of the most important roles a man can have is being a father – at least it is an important role in my life. That role seemed extinguished in a second. Life, I felt, had lost so much meaning.

With the support of my wonderful wife, I found some footing devoting my life to her and doing my very best in the work I was doing. But something was missing. I missed meeting with my son every Friday at various restaurants just to kick around what was happening in our lives, joking

around, and simply being connected as father and son.

Around that time, I had read an article in the Messenger, our diocesan newspaper, about the Rose Garden Home Mission. There was a brief blurb about chemical dependency assessments, or the like. For



Jim Bailey, Certified Alcohol & Drug Counselor

some reason I saved that issue of The Messenger. Something, probably God, kept nagging at me about the article.

After several weeks, I felt a need to volunteer my services, so I wrote to them, and after a week or so, Sheila Caroll called and invited me in to talk with her and Mother Seraphina. After I arrived at the Mission, the very first thing I noticed was the prayer room off to my left. It felt so warm inside, I too felt a warmth in my heart. It had been a very long time since I had seen a prayer room outside of a church.

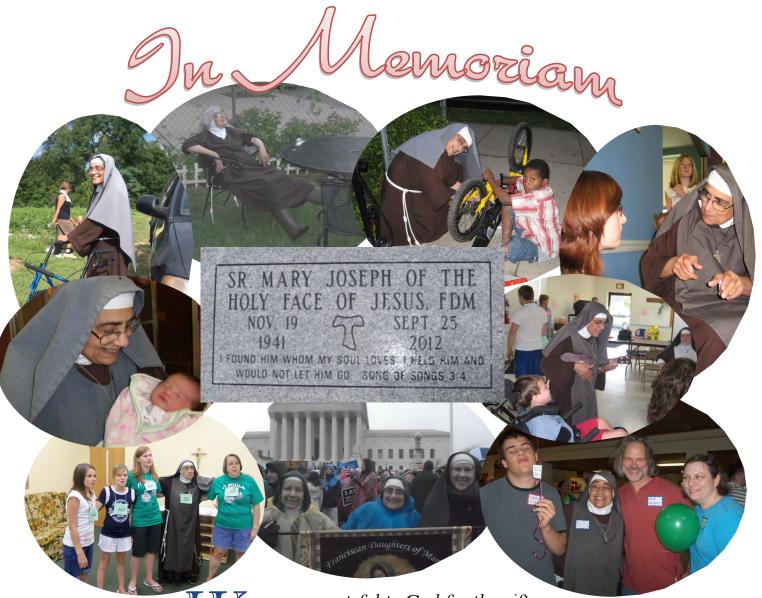
I was greeted by Sheila Carroll, Nurse Practitioner and Director of the Mission's Center for Hope & Healing.

When Mother Seraphina walked in in full habit, my heart picked up several beats. God knew exactly what I needed – a touch of my "old school" Catholic upbringing. Surrounded by so many holy images, you could feel the love of God for you. And there was the reassuring and soul comforting feeling of Christ and His Church all around – The Catholicism I love.

I was very excited to begin right away, so every Friday I come to the Mission to give back, although, I find every week Jesus gives me back so much more. It seems so unfair - I want to give, and it seems I'm always given so much more.

God reconnected me with His Church that I have missed so much working in the secular world. And, He answered my personal prayer, in His way. Friday was always one day my son and I would meet. Friday was THE day. In some spiritual way Jesus helped to fill that void in my life since my son died.

I am so grateful to God for the opportunity to serve Him each week at the Rose Garden Home Mission.



Grateful my sirth mother chose LIFE!

Sr. Catherine Mary makes a friend at the March for Life in Washington D.C.

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

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

## Save the Date

Sr. Clare Marie's First Profession of Vows Saturday, June 8, 2013 St. Benedict Church, Covington, KY