



Franciscan Daughters of Mary

P.O. Box 122070, Covington, KY 41012-2070

www.f dofmary.org

Our Newest Member

Spring 2011

After a few years of praying and visiting several communities I had formed a picture in my mind of what I was seeking in a religious community. When a friend sent me a link to the FDM website, it hit all of the points I was seeking in a community: a strong devotion to the Eucharist and Our Lady, active involvement in the pro-life movement, Franciscan spirituality, and commitment to praying for priests.

The pro-life issue was always a big part of my life, as far back as I can remember my family was involved in the pro-life movement. When I was young we would pray outside of the abortion clinic, and even though at that age I didn't know many of the details, I understood clearly that babies were being killed. Then when I got to High School, I was involved in the diocesan Youth for Life group and attended several of their "Boot Camps," where we learn a lot about "life" issues. Because of my constant involvement



Sr. Annette in brown, standing with Our Lady & the other sisters in our Convent Chapel after the Entrance Rite

the pro-life movement, understanding the fundamental importance of the issue, as well as the fact that 1/3 of my peers had been exterminated, I felt a responsibility toward those who are in such grave danger. So when looking for a community, I believed that God, Who put so much training and effort in to teaching and training me, would not have formed me in this way without an opportunity to use these skills. When I came to visit the sisters at their Franciscan Experience, the sisters were all very welcoming, helpful and patient. I felt I could be myself and didn't need to fit in to some kind of "mold." I also experienced a great sense of peace, which I had not found anywhere else. I really love being a Franciscan Daughter of Mary! Our whole way of living is focused on God, and we are always talking about how to become holier and more like Christ. We pray for one another and help each other to get to Heaven.



Our Lady of Guadalupe
Traveling Shrine

Many Blessings

As many of you know Our Lady of Guadalupe is very special to the Franciscan Daughters of Mary. Not only are the sisters consecrated to her, we consider her the Superior of the community. As a matter of fact, we are dedicated to promoting devotion to her, especially because she is the Patroness of the Americas and Patroness of Life.

Did you know that she is pregnant in this image? The Aztec culture in which St. Juan Diego lived used a black sash around the waist of pregnant women. Another Aztec image is a jasmine flower which was a symbol used to designate the center of the universe; this jasmine flower, with its four petals in the shape of a cross, is found over the belly of Mary, sending the message to this people that the babe in her womb was divine and the center of the universe.

The Aztec culture could have been entitled a "Culture of Death" because of their pagan religion's demand for human sacrifice, thousands each year! Human sacrifice came to an end almost immediately! Because of these and several other symbols hidden within the image Our Lady of Guadalupe, within seven years there were 8 million converts! One Franciscan Missionary Priest, Fr. Benavente, wrote that he and another priest baptized 14,200 souls in five days!

Also, when viewing this image of Our Lady, one cannot but help to recall Revelation 12:1, "A great sign appeared in the sky, a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars."

Two great articles describing the miraculous image can be found at: <http://www.maryourmother.net/Guadalupe.html> and http://www.catholicintl.com/catholicissues/New_Discoveries_on_the_Tilma.pdf.

Recognizing that more can be wrought through prayer than action and that with God, "all things are possible," we currently have two Traveling Shrines of Our Lady of Guadalupe circulating among our volunteers. We are looking for more families who would like to have Our Lady come and visit them. We ask that each family pray the Rosary (or with young children part of the Rosary) together every day that the Shrine is in their home, and while praying for their own intentions, they remember the Franciscan Daughters of Mary and the Rose Garden Home Mission. To have Our Lady of Guadalupe visit your family, send us an email at: rosegardenhelpers@yahoo.com.

What some have said about Our Lady of Guadalupe's visit:

"We always seem to get many blessings when she visits us."

"Our family experienced a great sense of peace when Our Lady came to visit."

"The whole time Our Lady was in our home, our family was more prayerful."

After praying the Rosary, I had to pick up homework for my son who was ill from his friend. When I got to the house, I had an overwhelming sense that I should go to the store to pick up some food for them. So I ran through the store, picking up random items and upon returning to the house with food, the Mom, with tears in her eyes, asked how it was that I knew exactly what she needed.

"It tears my heart to send the shrine away."

"I really feel her presence when she comes to visit."

What Our Friends & Neighbors Are Saying

You people have helped me *so* much!

I was stressed out and felt like I was at the end of the earth, I didn't know where to go or what to do. But when I talked to sister, she just lifted all my worries off of me. I felt so much better!



When you were at 18th Street I used to take advantage and wasn't grateful. But it's so different here, I feel that you genuinely care about me and I'm thankful for everything you help us with, diapers, baby stuff, food, seeing the nurses...I even pray sometimes when I'm here and I don't take advantage anymore...I feel like I'm part of a family.

The Rose garden has changed my whole life! I never prayed before, now I pray and thank God for my blessings.



Every time I leave here I feel like God is with me. They are so wonderful, and I don't know what I'd do without them sometimes.



I thank God up above that there are people like the sisters to help me. They make you feel like you're not all by yourself in this world.

You feel real comfortable here, the sisters are like my family. I love it!



"No matter how bad I feel or if I feel like the world has dumped everything on me, I can come here and see a smile on sisters face and it just lifts me up and I know my day is gonna be alright."



The sisters pray for us! They been praying for my son since he was 1 year old. He has autism and I really believe their prayers have done a lot for him. He went from not talking at all to talking and talking where you can't get him quiet sometimes.



Coming here brightens my day!



Seeing us down the aisle at the food store, "I love you sisters!!"

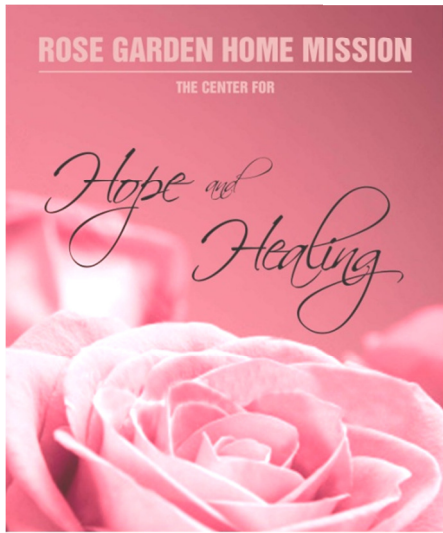
I feel so good here. When I walk in that door, I'm like a different person.

I walk 20 blocks one way to get here, but it's worth it. I come for the food, but that's not the only reason, I get prayer, I get hope...I can keep going no matter how tough it gets.



When you come in the Mission, it's like a family atmosphere. You can get a cup of coffee or a cup of juice and sit and get to know your neighbors.

Blessing Our Clinic



On May 8th, Mother's Day, Bishop Foys came to the Rose Garden Center for Hope and Healing, and blessed our newly donated ultrasound machine that was given to us by the Knights of Columbus of Northern KY, and the soon to open free medical clinic for the uninsured. Bishop Foys had some very nice words for the Franciscan Daughters of Mary, of how they are a blessing to this diocese and that he is grateful for their presence and the work they do through their Mission.



Some of Our Volunteer Medical Staff



In trying to follow Jesus' footsteps, they lead me to volunteer at the Rose Garden Mission and Center for Hope and Healing. Each time I come in, I find Him here, so I keep returning.

Sheila Carroll, ARNP
Director
Rose Garden Center for
Hope & Healing



I love the Rose Garden and the people I work with. I get a lot more from the friends and neighbors we see than I could ever give to them. It gives me great satisfaction being able to help.

Earlene Barker, ARNP

I help at the Rose Garden to help the underserved in the area. While many people are discussing the need for healthcare for underserved, I am using my skill to do something about it. I believe that everyone should have an opportunity to get medical care—whether they can afford it or not.

Joan Ziegelmeyer, ARNP



I love working at the mission because it is WHY I became a nurse. I love taking time to care for people that just need someone to care. What an honor to share in their lives and have the privilege to be there for them. We can make a difference and the only credentials you really need is to care. I do.

Deborah A. Truesdell RN BSN CCRN

I was always impressed with the love at the mission. God asks us to build the culture of life, the life given us all by Him. Volunteering at the Mission, I am aligning my will to His and helping those who need what I can offer

Kelly Kelso



Wish List

We are so grateful to each of you for the way
you love God through your kindness
and generosity toward us.
We pray for your intentions each day.

*May Our Lord bless you and keep you;
may He let His face shine upon you
and be gracious to you.
May the Lord grant you His peace!
Mother Seraphina & the Sisters*



Diapers—Sizes 4 and 5
Baby & Adult toiletries
Toddler Clothes—2T to 5T (new or like-new)
Newborn friendly toys
Bibles & religious jewelry
Candy for kids
Cleaning supplies

A Franciscan Experience

July 12-17

Open to young adult women age 18 and
older, who are interested in
experiencing the life of the
Franciscan Daughters of Mary.
Share with the Sisters' in their prayer
life, daily responsibilities and
pro-life Mission.

Space limited

Call 859-491-3899

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

*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

