

Fiat Lux

July August 2009

Our Lady of the Holy Spirit Center News



From Fr. Joe

The Power of Words

So often words are given a hard time. People say, "I'd rather SEE a sermon than hear one any day." They say, "actions speak louder than words." Eliza Doolittle in "*My Fair Lady*" says, "DON'T SPEAK OF LOVE. SHOW ME!" Words don't always get the job done. There comes a time in every relationship when words are not enough. We want visible or tangible proof of people's affections or intentions. Otherwise, we are ready to call it quits and look for someone who does more than talk a good game. In one sense, talk is the easiest thing in the world to do. You can promise the moon and describe the cosmos without having to do a thing. You can declare unbounded love and wage unrelenting war never leaving your chair. At times, talk is cheap and words are empty.



For all of that, we must never underestimate the power of words. Words carry more weight than we realize. Think what it means and how we feel when a child says, "I LOVE YOU," or when an adult says, "YOU ARE MY DEAREST FRIEND." Imagine the experience of hearing the doctor say, "THE TUMOR IS BENIGN." Remember when you have said, "LORD I BELIEVE, HELP MY UNBELIEF." Such words are not just marks on a page or sounds in the air. They are bearers of life, messengers of love, givers of hope. Words like seeds carry a whole world within them ready to burst into bloom. Words are powerful beyond our capacity to measure. Seen in this light, remember St. Peter's response to Jesus: "TO WHOM SHALL WE GO? YOU HAVE THE WORDS OF ETERNAL LIFE."

Those who say the least often say the most.

A good word is as easily said as a bad one.

Don't speak unless you can improve on the silence.

Fr. Joseph Bruemmer

From the Director

I can't believe it's time for the July issue already! Weren't we just shoveling snow two weeks ago?

I was tallying the estimated number of folks the Center served in the last six months for the Board of Trustees meeting. When you are counting fifty, one

or two hundred at a time, it doesn't seem like many but when you add them together it starts getting impressive. Almost 15,000 people visited the Center for programs, retreats, conferences or the sacraments in those six months not including adoration! Adoration is difficult to quantify since many folks who visit are not signed up for a specific hour but come as they are able. As I said, an impressive number.

Historically, summer is a time of year when donation levels are at their lowest. Combine that with the economic scares and the outcome becomes downright concerning. Would you please consider the Center in your charitable giving plans this summer? We are constantly finding ways to cut costs but there is only so much we are able to trim. The staff, volunteers and the people we serve certainly thank you in advance.

Just a reminder, June 19th commenced the "Year of the Priest." Don't forget to let the priests of your parish know how much they mean to you. Let them know you are praying for them and maybe even do something extra special for them. They deserve it!

Lastly, why not be trendy and "go green?" Instead of recycling or throwing this publication away when you are finished reading it, why not give it to a friend or acquaintance. They might find something for which they've been searching.

As always, blessings and prayers to you and your family.

Tom Leibel



Deacon Gerry Flamm presides at the Memorial Service for deceased volunteers

From the Development Office

This issue of the Newsletter includes a letter from our President, Fr. Joseph Bruemmer. As always, we are dependent on all of you for our continued operation of the Center. It never ceases to amaze me that we have come so far in the renovations and uses of the building. This is truly a faith journey and venture as we move into the future.

Julie Nerl, Development

Help Needed

Volunteers are needed at the Center. There are many opportunities and areas to fit your talents. We could use adorers, gardeners, retreat room readers, library workers, telephone office helpers, and event support. Volunteers have been the backbone of the Center. Without volunteers Our Lady's House would not be a haven for spiritual growth. gardening helpers, retreat preparations, phone office assistants, and library personnel. Volunteers are the backbone of the Center. Without volunteers, we never would have Mary's House as a place to grow in our relationship with Christ.



Father Bruemmer exercises his priestly functions in the broader community by catechizing confirmation students from St. Andrews and St. Elizabeth Ann Seton. The students came to the Center to do some volunteer work as well as to have their questions answered.



Fr. George Schommer, O.P. celebrates Mass at the Center



Pray and Play Preschoolers learn and practice the rite of Baptism

Please Join Us As We Celebrate
The 17th Anniversary of
**Our Lady of Light
Days of Prayer and Mercy**

Monday, August 31st
Tuesday, September 1st, 2009

Come be with us to give thanks
for the blessings
of Our Lady of Light.
Come and pray with us for our families, friends,
our city and country.
Come be with us at Mary's House,
her House of Prayer and Refuge.
of Prayer and Refuge.
Come be with us in friendship and love for
Our Lady and Our Lord.

Our Lady's Farm welcomes visitors. To schedule a visit call (859.654.2379) a few days in advance so the chapel can be open. On the 8th of each month, the Rosary is said at 11 a.m., followed by Mass at 11:30 a.m.

From the Events Office

Be sure to check our website for events which may come up too quickly to meet our newsletter deadline. If you would like to share an email address (we NEVER share them with anyone else) for event updates, please send it to events@olhsc.org.

We had a busy spring here at the Center! Our Divine Mercy Sunday celebration was attended by about 200 worshippers who were blessed with a wonderful homily by Fr. Benedict O'Cinnsealaigh. There was a Eucharistic Procession through the halls and Benediction.

Johnnette Benkovic gave a one day Conference on Saturday, May 9, to more than 100 women. The women were awestruck with her powerful presentation on Spiritual Motherhood.

Deacon Gerry Flamm presided over the Memorial Service for our deceased volunteers in May. Benediction concluded this event.

The American Heritage Girls had a May Crowning Ceremony here at the end of May. They are pictured below.

August 31 and September 1 are the annual days of prayer and mercy. See the invitation on page 2 and the flyer insert.

On Saturday, September 5, we will have a celebration of the feast day of Mother Theresa of Calcutta. It will begin with the Rosary at 9 a.m., Mass at 9:30, and a talk on Mother Theresa at 10:15. There will be a light Indian lunch. The afternoon will include a DVD on the life of Mother Theresa and will end with the Chaplet of Divine Mercy at 3 p.m.

A Marian Conference is scheduled for September 12, the Feast of the Holy Name of Mary. "Do You Know Mary?" will be presented by Fr. Elias Mary of Mt. Carmel of the Franciscan Friars of the Immaculate.



American Heritage Girls took part in the annual May Crowning at the Center

From the Retreat Office

Summer is upon us, and with it is the slowing of our retreat season. But the good news is that we may now accept more individual retreats. Do you have a day or two to spend with the Lord? We can accommodate you on our retreat floor for a donation of \$60/night including three meals. Call Linda Tracy a few weeks ahead of your intended stay to check availability or for more information or a brochure about a private retreat at 513.351.9800 ext. 305.



Johnnette Benkovic speaks to women at the Center



Rejoice, All Those Who Seek Jesus!

As a followup to the last notice concerning "Little Audrey," the Days of Prayer and Mercy in August/September will include a presentation on DVD. It will be a celebration of her life and an update on her canonization process. Printed here is the prayer for her beatification.

Eternal Father, I thank you for the gift of Audrey Santo and for her extraordinary witness to the world that all life, no matter how small, broken, or wounded, remains forever precious in Your eyes. Grant that she may be venerated as a Saint for the Glory of God.

Hear the requests of all those who seek her intercession, especially the grace for which I now ask (mention here the favor you wish to pray for)

I ask this through Our Lord, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Say one Hail Mary, one Our Father, and one Glory Be.

Sister Mary Evelyn, RSM

Mark your Calendars

July 5 - Basic Catechism Course
 July 11 - Women of Grace
 July 14 - Women of Grace
 July 17 - Noon Right to Life Mass
 July 22 - Mass and Healing Service
 July 24 - Noon Mass for Priests
 July 25 - Women of Grace
 July 28 - Women of Grace
 August 1 - First Sat. Rosary & Mass
 August 2 - Basic Catechism Course
 August 8 - Women of Grace
 August 11 - Women of Grace
 August 21 - Noon Right to Life Mas
 August 22 - Women of Grace
 August 25 - Women of Grace
 August 26 - Mass and Healing Service
 August 28 - Noon Mass for Priests
 Aug 31 & Sept. 1 - 17th Anniv. Days

Adorers

Anyone interested in a one hour commitment to Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, please contact Keith Merz at 513.574.4522

Cord Rosary Lessons

Anyone interested in learning to make cord rosaries, please join us on July 30 & Aug 27 from 10 - 11:30 AM in Room 113. Materials supplied. Parts are needed and can be brought to the Center. Contact: Ruth Ann 513.922.5756

Board of Trustees:

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 Fr. Michael Cordier, Secretary
 Mr. Ken Hinchey, Treasurer
 Fr. Andrew Athapilly, CMI
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 Mng. Director: Thomas R. Leibel

CONTACTS:

OLHSC Hours: Telephone/Info. Office
 Mon.-Fri. 9am - 4pm, Sat. 10am-2pm
 513.351.9800

To schedule an Activity/Event Ext. 335
 or email events@olhsc.org. **Retreats** ext.
 305 or email retreats@olhsc.org

The Catholic Shop and Library Hours:
 Mon.-Thurs. 10am-4pm. ; Fri. 10am-7pm,
 Sat. 10am to 2pm.

Our Lady of Light Foundation: for Books
 contact Ken Hinchey 859.341.5232; for
 Our Lady of Light Prayer Cards and
 Medals, call 859.331.9393

Our Lady's Prayer Line: 513.793.3829
 or for requests for prayer to Melody
 Osbourne, 7020 Fowler Ave., Cincinnati,
 OH 45243 or email: prayers@olhsc.org

Development/Donations: Julie Nerl
 Ext.334, Mon.-Wed. 8am-4pm. email:
Julie@olhsc.org

Mission Statement

The purpose of Our Lady of the Holy Spirit Center is to foster a deeper faith in God and love for Him and for our neighbor through the Holy Spirit and the Hearts of Jesus and Mary with obedience to the Magisterium of the Church under the authority of the Holy Father, Pope Benedict XVI.



Our Lady of the Holy Spirit Center
 5440 Moeller Avenue
 Norwood, Ohio 45212
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 Fax: 513.351.9885
www.olhsc.org Email: info@olhsc.org

Mass Schedule:

Sorrowful Mother Chapel
 Mon. - Fri. 8:30AM

Mon. - Thurs. 7:15PM

Holy Rosary Chapel

Friday Evening Services
 Rosary: 6:30 PM

Mass: 7:15PM

1st Sat. Mass: 9:30AM

Confessions:

Mon. and Tues. 3- 4PM

1st and 3rd Fri. 6:15-7:45PM

Rosary:

Every Tuesday

11:30AM-12:00 noon

Weekdays 6:20 pm

Chapel of Divine Mercy:

Weekdays at 3PM

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