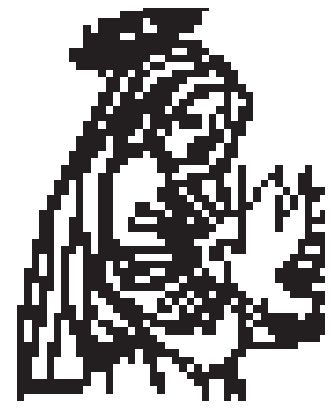


Fiat Lux

March April 2009

Our Lady of the Holy Spirit Center News



From Fr. Joe

Jesus and the Bad Guys

We are into another new year and April 15 is approaching. This date reminds us that tax collectors are not our favorite people. Someone has to do the job because a complex society cannot function without tax-derived dollars. This does not mean that people are happy to receive the tax collectors assessment. In Jesus' time, tax collectors among the Jews were even more unpopular. They were ostracized by their fellow Jews because they collected taxes for the Roman Empire. The Roman Emperors financed their magnificent building projects and far-flung military campaigns by taxing the nations they conquered. These taxes were levied and collected by local representatives of the people themselves. It is no wonder these tax collectors were despised by their fellow Jews.



The fact that Jesus included Levi the tax collector in the circle of His disciples is remarkable. Why would Jesus have chosen a person of doubtful virtue --- considered a traitor to his own people? Perhaps Jesus chose Levi as His disciple to teach us a memorable lesson. His choice of Levi showed for all time that God does not see all other people as we do, and welcomes "the rejected" as well as the "popular." God sees the good in the people we see as "the bad guys." The world is full of people who are looked down on by society. Some of them lack education and sophistication. Some have failed in marriage or in business. But Jesus calls and uses all kinds of unlikely people in His cause. If you are bogged down in failure or despair, remember LEVI ----

Fr. Joseph Bruemmer

From the Director

Ssshh, don't tell anyone but the person whose article appears above had a birthday last month. Fr. Bruemmer turned 12.29 in dog years, February 3rd. Happy Birthday Father!

Did you ever have one of those moments, when all you could say to yourself was, well duuuuhhh!?!?!? I had one of those in late January. As I was pondering our lineup of programs for 2009, I suddenly realized that we didn't have anything, other than May Crowning and the Days of

Prayer and Mercy (Aug 31 & Sept 1st), that had to do with the Blessed Virgin. How dumb is that? A Marian Center without any Marian events! It seems as though other folks around here had the same thought. The good news is we'll soon be having Marian events here revolving around the feast days of Our Lady. There's information regarding the first, March 25th, elsewhere in the newsletter. The Marian event that has me most excited will occur on October 10th & 11th. The working title is "The Theology of the Rosary." This will be a two day conference with Frs. Rob Jack, Benedict O' Cinnsealaigh, and others. Stay tuned for details.

As I was driving into work this morning I saw a car with bumper stickers that puzzled me. I couldn't quite make out entirely what the one on the left said but I knew part of it said "Save a Life." As my gaze shifted to the right, I saw the sticker of a very prominent Pro-Choice politician. Needless to say I was very confused. As I got closer, my bewilderment increased as I was able to read the rest of the sticker on the left. It said, "Save a Life, Adopt a Pet." Now, I love all God's creatures as much as the next person, but I think one of us was seriously missing something.

During the great ice storm of '09 I had another moment to pause and think. This time I was able to reflect upon His great works. While all of us were running around bemoaning the calamity we call weather, we sometimes failed to notice the absolute beauty He gave us to go along with it. Take a look at the photo opportunity God provided in our courtyard.

God bless you all, and have a Blessed Easter Season.

Tom Leibel



Garden of Joy & Happiness after snow & ice storm

From the Development Office

Thank you for your generous response to Father Joe's Christmas letter! Our goal was to raise more money than we did at Christmas 2007. We surpassed our goal by \$4,000 and realized 82 new donors. From a development stand point, that's phenomenal. We are thankful to have many faithful friends whose generous donations help us pay the ever increasing energy bills.

Our Lady of the Holy Spirit Center is blessed to have so many wonderful volunteers and supporters. You all play an essential role in making OLHSC what it is today. We have our ever loyal Tuesday volunteers who cook, clean, fix and repair, and paint all day long. We have our adorers, newsletter mailers and gardeners. We couldn't do it without you. To all of you...Thanks! As always, please keep the Center in your prayers. Have a blessed and holy Lent!

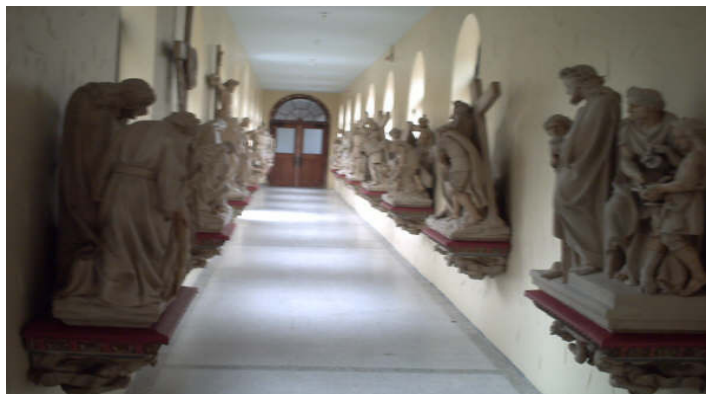
Julie Nerl, Development



Archbishop Schnurr addresses the March for Life Students at the send off...



Fr. Bruemmer & Archbishop Dennis Schnurr



Legacy of OLHSC

The Stations of the Cross displayed in the Center hallway overlooking the Garden of Joy and Happiness came from St. George Church in Corryville. They are more than 100 years old and were cast in Germany. They are made of zinc, wood and plaster. The life-sized images are placed on the original ornate shelves which came with the Stations. They may be prayed at anytime.

Historically, the Stations commemorate the walk of Christ from His passion to His death. People went to Jerusalem to walk in the footsteps of Christ. They strode the Via Dolorosa, the way of pain. People, known as pilgrims, would stop and reflect on what happened to Jesus along this path. With the spread of Christianity throughout the world, distance made it nearly impossible for people to make the journey to Jerusalem. By the twelfth century, the fervor of the Crusades and a heightened devotion to the Passion of Jesus created a demand in Europe for replicas of the last events in Jesus' life. The chief promoter of the "Stations of the Way of the Cross" was Franciscan Leonard of Port Maurice who set up more than 500 sets of stations, the best known being the one in the Coliseum of Rome.

The Season of Lent is a natural time for this devotion. Many Catholic Churches have the Stations of the Cross along the walls of their worship space. There are many publications to help us reflect on the stations. Sometimes, parishes schedule a time for people to gather and pray the stations together as a community. This prayer, or devotion, may be public or private. If one is unable to walk the path of the stations, a booklet may be used. There are even simulations online for the sedentary.

Sister Lawrence Sickman, O.S.U.

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.

On Sunday, March 15, we are blessed to have Father Greg Bramlage and his healing team here at the Center. The Healing Service will take place in the Holy Rosary Chapel at 2 p.m. The service will include praise and worship music, prayers of intercession, a Eucharistic procession and laying on of hands.

On March 19, Mr. Bobby Schindler, brother of the late Terri Schiavo will discuss his experiences of end of life issues after the 7:15 Mass.

Wednesday, March 25, is the Solemnity of the Annunciation. OLL ministries and the Center's Healing Team invite you to a special program.(details are outlined elsewhere)

A Life in the Spirit Seminar will be held at OLHSC on Tuesdays, beginning April 14 through June 2. It will be held in room #116 from 7:30 - 9 p.m. Call Rhonda Geil at 513.351.9800, ex. 339 to register. The Seminar will provide effective tools to foster spiritual growth.

On April 19 there will be a Divine Mercy Sunday prayer service from 2-3 p.m. in the Holy Rosary Chapel.

From the Retreat Office

The Retreat floor had a very busy month in January with three weekends of the month occupied. We also received our first private retreatant. The individual retreat program offers time away for prayer and devotion to the Blessed Sacrament in a sacred setting here at the Center. In our lovely facility, one can take advantage of the spiritual CD's and retreat books and staying on the retreat floor with meals provided. Stay for one or two nights as your schedule permits.

Call Linda Tracy at 513.351.9800 ext. 305 for more information or a brochure.



Young retreatants striking a pose

Fr. Kyle Schnippel

Why am I involved with Our Lady of the Holy Spirit Center? It certainly is not because of a lack of things to do! Working as Vocation Director for the Archdiocese of Cincinnati, I am constantly on the go. Yet, I consider it a joy to be active and involved with the Center for two primary reasons. First, my own vocation to the priesthood was fostered here. Second, I see vocations continuing to flourish from this Center.

When I was in High School, the Center was first being established and experienced its first growth. During these years, my family and I would make occasional pilgrimages to the Center on the 8th of the Month for Mass and visits to the Farm in Falmouth. While I never saw anything in particular, I always appreciated the quiet and the prayerfulness of the Center. Walking the halls, I felt something calling me which I did not understand at the time but what I now recognize as the initial aspects of my call to the seminary and priesthood, how fitting since this used to be a seminary.

My calling is not the last from here. Of the three men that entered Mount St. Mary's Seminary for the Archdiocese this past fall, two made weekly Holy Hours in the Adoration Chapel here at the Center. One of the men, in particular, experienced a very deep and profound reversion to the faith of his childhood here, which ultimately led him to pursue the option of the priesthood. He admitted that when he first walked into the Center, he felt Our Lord's presence in a way that he had searched for since college and finally felt at rest.

In a short time, this Center has produced numerous vocations to the priesthood and religious life, more than I could name in this short column. How does this happen? Simply by providing a space that is centered in prayer and quiet while being surrounded by a bustling city, it allows the Spirit to truly move in the hearts of those who come through these hallowed halls. Plus the Center's own history as a place of formation and the prayers of those who have come before us and are now serving across the world as priests provide a framework and encouragement to those who arrive in our day and age.

Please continue to pray for those in formation, as well as an increase in vocations to the priesthood and religious. Your prayers are being heard and God will respond generously to the call of the faithful.

Mark your Calendars

Mar 4 - The Faith Unplugged
Mar 6 - Noon First Friday Mass
Mar 7 - First Sat. Rosary & Mass
Mar 14 - Apologetics Series
Mar 15 - Healing Service
Mar 20 - Noon Right to Life Mass
Mar 25 - Annunciation Program
Mar 27 - Noon Mass for Priests
April 1 - The Faith Unplugged
April 3 - Noon First Friday Mass
April 4 - First Sat. Rosary & Mass
April 17 - Noon Right to Life Mass
April 19 - Divine Mercy Sunday
April 24 - Noon Mass for Priests

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 Mar. 26&Apr.23 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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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

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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

Chaplet of Divine Mercy:

Weekdays at 3PM