



The Retreat House News

The Spiritual Center of Maria Stein, 2365 St. Johns Road, Maria Stein, OH 45860

January, February, March, April, May 2016

Winter/Spring Edition 2016

"The Journey" by Robin Goettemoeller, Coordinator

Healing Mass

Schedule

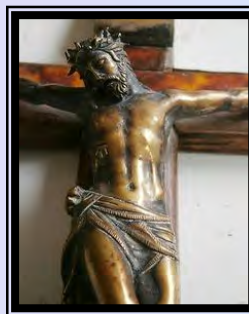
**All Masses begin at
7:00 p.m. in the Chapel**
January (no Mass)
February (no Mass)
March 8, 7:00 p.m.
April 12, 7:00 p.m.
May 10, 7:00 p.m.



**Looking for a little
something to do with
your time to help chase
away the winter?**

We are looking for more volunteers to help with housekeeping chores on our busy days. Volunteers help make beds, dust mop floors, vacuum, and do other small tasks as needed. We even provide snacks and lunch! Give us a call or stop by for more information!

We recently had a guest here at the Spiritual Center that asked if she could buy the crucifix from the bedroom where she was staying for the week. When she showed it to me, I was hesitant to sell it to her because it was so old and it was broken. Jesus' fingers were broken off on one hand and you could tell that it had hung in the same spot for years as it was discolored from age. It simply looked worn out and it needed replaced.



I offered to just give it to her because I was almost embarrassed by the shape that it was in, but she insisted on paying for it. She then went on to tell me what the crucifix represented to her. She told me how it made her think about her faith journey and how the broken fingers reminded her of how broken we all are. She told me that when she arrived at the Spiritual Center she was not in the best place spiritually, and how looking at that crucifix each night really helped her heal.


Over the five years that I've worked here, I've been so blessed to hear about the journeys of so many others while they are here on retreat.

The Bible is filled with journey upon journey. From Genesis to Revelation, Scripture is full of people on the move. It makes sense that the concept of "the journey" would be so central to Scripture, because we human beings are journeying people. We make sense of our lives by understanding them as journeys, as the unfolding story of who we are and what we do in the world. We think and talk and worry about our careers, our families, and our finances. In our better moments we think and talk and pray about our spiritual journeys. We think about our lives, our stories, about the journey that has been, and the journey that will be. Journeying seems to be an elemental part of who we are as human beings.

I feel very fortunate to serve at a place where people come to continue their faith journey. Whether it's a broken crucifix, the giant cross in the front of our building, or some other symbol of our faith that brings someone closer to God; I am constantly encouraged and uplifted by stories. I am continually reminded of my own journey, and that we never stop growing. More importantly I'm



VISIT OUR WEBSITE

EMAIL US 

CALL US AT 419-925-7625

OFFICE HOURS: MONDAY-FRIDAY 8:30 A.M.—4:00 P.M.

www.spiritualcenter.net

office@spiritualcenter.net



Events Listing: January, February, March, April, May 2016

Sunday, January 3, there will be no Rosary, Evening Prayer, and Benediction on this date.

Tuesdays, January 5 & 19, "Piecemakers Craft Group 9:00 a.m.– 3:00 p.m.

Saturday, January 9-Sunday, January 10 "Theology of the Body Youth Retreat". See page 3 for more information.

Saturday, January 30, "Pre-Cana" 8:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Register online for Pre-Cana at www.catholiccincinnati.org/ministries-offices/family-life/engaged-couple-programs/

Tuesdays, February 2 & 16, "Piecemakers Craft Group" 9:00 a.m.– 3:00 p.m.

Sunday, February 7, "Rosary, Evening Prayer, and Benediction" starting at 5:45 p.m.

Saturday February 13, "Evening to Celebrate Marriage" 5:00 p.m.– 9:00 p.m. See page 3 for more information.

Tuesdays, March 1 & 15, "Piecemakers Craft Group" 9:00 a.m.– 3:00 p.m.

Sunday, March 6, "Rosary, Evening Prayer, and Benediction" starting at 5:45 p.m.

Monday, March 7-8, Youth Ministry Retreat

Contact Tim Colbert for more info. at daytonoym@catholiccincinnati.org

Tuesday, March 8, "Healing Liturgy" 7:00 p.m. will take place in the Chapel.

Friday-Sunday, March 11-13, "Life in the Spirit" contact Kelly Horstman at 419-678-8649 to register or for more info.

Sunday, March 20, "RCIA Retreat" 2:00-6:00 p.m. see page 4 for more information.

Sunday, April 3, "Rosary, Evening Prayer, and Benediction" starting at 5:45 p.m.

Tuesdays, April 5 & 19, "Piecemakers Craft Group" 9:00a.m.– 3:00p.m.

Friday, April 8, "Sweet Comforts Women's Retreat" 6:00-10:00 p.m. See page 5 for more information.

Saturday, April 9, "Pre-Cana" 8:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Register online for Pre-Cana at www.catholiccincinnati.org/ministries-offices/family-life/engaged-couple-programs/

Tuesday, April 12, "Healing Liturgy" 7:00 p.m. will take place in the Chapel.

Wednesday, April 20, "Spiritual Survivor Junior High Event" 6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m. See page 5 for more information.

Thursday, April 21 "Spring Day of Reflection" 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. See page 4 for more information.

Sunday May 1, "Rosary, Evening Prayer, and Benediction" 5:45 p.m. will take place in the Chapel.

Tuesdays, May 3 & 17, "Piecemakers Craft Group" 9:00a.m.– 3:00p.m.

Tuesday, May 10, "Healing Liturgy" 7:00 p.m. will take place in the chapel.



STAY CONNECTED

Office Hours:

Monday-Friday 8:30 a.m.—4:00 p.m.

419-925-7625 office@spiritualcenter.net

Please continue to stay connected with us through Facebook, Twitter and our website for more information on this and other events.

www.spiritualcenter.net

"RCIA, Preparing to Live the Faith"

R.C.I.A.
Retreat



Sunday,
March 13

2:00-6:00 p.m.

For R.C.I.A. Candidates, Spouses, Sponsors, Leadership
Teams, Deacons, Pastors. All are welcome!

Presented by: Scott Frey

\$15.00 donation per person

**Please register by March 7th
by calling**

The Spiritual Center of Maria Stein at

419-925-7625 or

emailing: office@spiritualcenter.net

Spring Day of Reflection with Fr. Al Naseman C.P.P.S.

Thursday, April 21 10:00-3:00 p.m.

DANIEL



Two thousand five hundred years before our American "Superman" there was Daniel, the Jewish Superman. He upheld truth, justice, and the Jewish way of life. He rights the wrongs, and even rescues the fair maiden, Susanna, in moral danger from two men.

Discover the origins of our expressions such as: "The Handwriting on the Wall", "Feet of Clay", and "Under the Table". Join the three young men in the Fiery Furnace in singing praise and thanksgiving to God for all that is holy, noble, and beautiful in life. A photo slide show full of warmth and wit by Fr. Al will accompany their song.

\$15.00 donation per person

10:00 a.m. Talk #1

1:00 p.m. Talk #2

11:00 a.m. Break followed by prayer

2:00 p.m. Mass

12:00 noon Lunch & free time

3:00 p.m. Final Blessing

Register by calling 419-925-7625 no later than April 18

Our Mission

We are Christians dedicated to serving the Lord, each other, families, parishes, and communities. We believe in God the Creator, His son Jesus Christ and the power of the Holy Spirit, who guides us through the magisterium of the Catholic Church with its scripture and traditions and through the intercessions of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Through the Spiritual Center of Maria Stein, we provide opportunity for spiritual growth, social development and community service. We will do this through facilities, staff, and programs.



Sweet Comforts - children being home - being surrounded by family & friends

2016 Women's Evening Retreat

"Sweet Comforts"

Friday, April 8

6:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.



Sweet Comforts - hugs - bread baking - church - prayer

Our evening will begin with dinner that will include comfort foods...

Homemade soups, breads, dipping sauces, drinks, and a dessert bar just to name a few!

Following dinner there will be a wine tasting class.

Father John Tonkin from Sacred Heart, McCartyville, will conclude our evening with an inspiring talk on "Sweet Comforts in our lives", as well as Mass.

There will be door prizes and other fun surprises throughout the evening! Check our website at www.spiritualcenter.net for all the final details as we plan this exciting event!

Join us for an evening of sweet comforts! Life sometimes gets in our way and we forget that we have such wonderful comforts in our lives. As Psalm 94 reminds us, we don't have to be overwhelmed or worried, or stressed out, or flustered, because

God is there to support us and give us comfort and joy!

\$20 donation/person Please register by Friday, April 1

There is a registration limit of 100 participants for this event so register early!

Register for "Sweet Comforts" by calling 419-925-7625 or emailing us at robin@spiritualcenter.net



Spiritual Survivor 2016

Wednesday, April 20

Registration begins at 6:30 p.m. Games begin at 7:00 p.m. and end at 8:30 p.m.

Join hundreds of other area junior high youth for a night of faith based games, prayer, food and fun! Dress for the weather—everything is outside! Contact your youth minister for more info.

The Spiritual Center of Maria Stein
2365 St. Johns Road, P.O. Box 95
Maria Stein, OH 45860

www.spiritualcenter.net

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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PERMIT #19

*No matter how long the winter,
spring is sure to follow.*

The Spiritual Center of Maria Stein

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**"If the axe is dull, and one does not sharpen the edge,
then he must use more strength; but wisdom brings success."**

- Ecclesiastes 10:10 (NKJV)

As I reflect on the season of Advent and Christmas and even our everyday life; a story came to me about a young man looking for a job chopping down trees. This young man approached a foreman of a logging company and asked for a job. "That depends," replied the foreman, "let us see you chop this tree down". The young man stepped forward and skillfully chopped down a great big tree. This impressed the foreman, and the foreman said, "You can start Monday."

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday rolled by, and Thursday afternoon the foreman approached the young man and said; "You can pick up your pay check on your way out today." Startled, the young man replied, "I thought you paid on Fridays?" "Normally we do", said the foreman, "but we are letting you go today because you have fallen behind. Our daily charts show that you dropped from first place on Monday to last place today." "But I am a hard worker," the young man objected. "I arrive first, leave last, and even work through coffee breaks." The foreman sensing the young man's integrity; thought for a minute and then asked; "Have you been sharpening your axe?"

Our lives can be the same way. We sometimes get so busy we don't take the time to sharpen our axe. Are we so involved in our everyday life that we allow stress, anxiety, and worry to take away our energy? Maybe we need to take the time to sharpen our axe, or in other words, take time to go on a retreat and be renewed through prayer and relaxation. Our completely remodeled retreat house offers us many opportunities to experience a greater presence of Jesus in our life, and be renewed so that we come to realize how life is such a blessing.

We hope to see you at the Spiritual Center of Maria Stein in 2016!

Deacon Jerry Buschur, President of the Board of Directors

A Message from the Board