

# Franciscan Daughters of Mary

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Rose Garden Home Mission

Friends of the Rose Garden Mission

Rose Garden Center for Hope & Healing

Medical / Dental

Winter 2022

## Do not fear:

I am with you; do not be anxious: I am your God. I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with My victorious right hand. (Isaiah 41:10)

How often over these past 2 years have many good people been lead in to fearfulness about getting sick? About dying? In society-at-large we saw businesses shut down, churches shut down, families not getting together for holidays, all driven by fear, fear of becoming ill, with the possibility of death.

Now, we would always promote using all prudence to keep healthy! However, when it comes to upholding someone's Dignity—wanting to be with people, to smile at them, to hug or embrace them, treating them with kindness—how can we deny someone these basic human acts of love? These actions are vital for our spiritual, emotional and psychological well-being.



This is especially important for children, who need loving touches from their parents to know that they are loved - and who, by the way, have a great need to see your smile!

To illustrate how destructive this can be, the mother of a friend won't hug, or even touch her daughter or grandchildren for fear that they would pass some untold disease on to her. Now, this friend shared that at the time, she was not ill, didn't have leprosy, or any type disease for that matter.

We have a glorious patrimony in the Catholic Church! True **Heroes** and **Saints**, caring for the sick and suffering, even placing themselves at great risk or personal cost. Our Church has always been on the front lines during the most difficult times in history.



Look at St. Charles Borromeo, who cared for people dying of the black death. While he shuttered churches so not to spread the disease in enclosed spaces, he ordered outdoor altars to be erected for Mass. He walked the streets of Milan and brought Communion to those lying in the streets. He fed as many as 70,000 people per day.

St Aloysius Gonzaga cared for victims of the plague, carrying them to hospitals, tending to patients, washing and feeding them and tending to the dying.

Damien of Molokai cared for the lepers who were isolated from the rest of humanity without basic human necessities - with no roof over their head, no recourse to medical care, none to give them hope or love.

St. Francis gives us great example of how to love God by loving your neighbor. He would touch lepers out of love for Christ and for love of them. He would clean and bathe them, even as much as cleaning the puss from their sores. He was known to make the Novices of his order go to the Leper hospital to care for the pa-

*“That through death Jesus might destroy the one who has the power of death, the devil, and free those who through fear of death have been subject to slavery all their lives.”*  
*Hebrews 2:14-15*

tients so that the new Friars could learn humility! Does this look like fear? Or does this look like Love of God and love of neighbor?

St. Francis loved God with his whole heart, and trusted that He would take care of him. You see, “There is no fear in love, but perfect love drives out fear because fear has to do with punishment, and so one who fears is not yet perfect in love.” (1John 4:18)

But what if caring for people who are suffering *were* to make one of these Heroes ill? Well, they were likely very well aware of the truth that ***we are not meant for this world, we are meant for Heaven!***

Our sole purpose in living our life in this world is to come to know God, learn how to love and serve Him, so that we could be united with Our Heavenly Father for all Eternity! There is our homeland,



there is our final destination! We are pilgrims, exiles “in training,” so to speak, journeying toward our Eternal Home.

Fear can keep us from coming to know the Lord and all that is good, because fear is a lack of trust in God. For if we trusted in Him, we wouldn't have to worry.

*“Do not worry about your life, what you will eat [or drink], or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds in the sky; they do not sow or reap, they gather nothing into barns, yet your Heavenly Father feeds them. Are not you more important than they? Can any of you by worrying add a single **(Continued page 3)***





## Bride of Christ

This past October 2nd, Sr. Therese Marie of the Divine Child made her First



Profession of Vows to Jesus Christ in the presence of Bishop John Iffert and the whole Church of Christ.

“The Lord has given me so much love and I just want to give everything to Him,” said Sr. Therese. “It’s a response from the heart to His call, His love for me. I don’t desire anything else but to be His.”

During His homily, Bishop Iffert said, “I am pleased to preside at the Mass where you will profess your first vows as a consecrated religious and to give your life consecrated to the Lord, Jesus Christ — who is your love, he is your friend, he is the poor one for whom you pour out your life, he is your savior. I am very pleased that my first act as bishop is to share this moment of yours,” “Having been given the name of Therese, after St. Therese of Lisieux, and Marie, after Mary — the handmaid of the Lord, offers some indication. St. Therese wanted the fastest route — an elevator — to Christ. She found that elevator in the Gospel passage proclaimed today. ‘Whoever becomes humble like this child will be the greatest in the Kingdom of heaven.’”

## Novena Pilgrimage to Our Lady of Fatima

For 9 Saturdays in a row, the sisters and friends visited 9 different churches in Northern KY that celebrate Saturday Masses, which are traditionally offered in honor of Our Blessed Mother. After Mass we prayed 5 decades of the Rosary, followed by Novena prayers.

On the ninth Saturday, we prayed one decade of the Rosary at the Cathedral Basilica of the Assumption, then followed the statue of Our Lady of Fatima, which was surrounded by flowers in procession to 4 other local churches that bear her name. At the 5th church we completed the Rosary and all (about 30 cars in procession) had an opportunity to make a consecration to Our Lady.

Interestingly, it was a very rainy day, but the statue of Our Lady remained dry the whole day!

Bishop Iffert said, “We have an advantage in living this little way — living like children — because we have been children. We remember what it’s like and we know how to lead simple, childlike lives.”

Living like a child is “about living in the moment of every day and recognizing that the God who loves you is present to you, and is taking you by the hand and leading you graciously into the future that God has in mind for you.”

“After the pattern of the Little Way, fill every moment of this service with love and devotion to Christ,” Bishop Iffert said. “This will be the fulfillment of the dedication that you accept today. It will be your path for joy here and for all eternity.”



*Crosses formed in the sky during our procession to the churches!*



*(continued from page 1)*

*moment to your life-span? Why are you anxious about clothes? Learn from the way the wild flowers grow. They do not work or spin. But I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was clothed like one of them. If God so clothes the grass of the field, which grows today and is thrown into the oven tomorrow, will He not much more provide for you, O you of little faith? So do not worry and say, 'What are we to eat?' or 'What are we to drink?' or 'What are we to wear?' All these things the pagans seek. Your heavenly Father knows that you need them all." Mt 6:25-32*

Why should we fear whether we get ill, or live or die, so long as we are with the Lord! We will **all** meet Jesus one day -

when we die, and what a Glorious Day that will be if we have the faith to believe and trust in the Lord!

And it could come at any time...could be today.

This is the constant teaching of our Church. In the Catechism of the Catholic Church we learn, "Every action of yours, every thought, should be those of one who expects to die before the day is out. If you aren't fit to face death today, it's very unlikely you will be tomorrow..." (CCC 1014)

One may ask, "What if caring for someone with a disease were to make St. Francis sick, even sick enough that he might die?" Well, I believe that it would

be a moment of True Joy for St. Francis! He would see it as an opportunity meet the Lord, and would also consider it a privilege to carry this kind of cross for the love of Jesus. Giving compassionate care to his neighbor, even if that meant he could contract a mortal illness as a result could be a great gift of self-sacrificial love.

St. Augustine instructs us to care for the body as if you will live forever, but care for the soul as if you would be gone tomorrow.

So fear not! Love your neighbor. Uphold the Dignity of every member of our human family. Care for the ill and dying. Trust in God and He will greatly bless you...in this life and for all Eternity!



## Our Lady of Guadalupe Novena for LIFE

Partnering with Uptown Catholic and UC Bearcat, the Sisters and friends met at Holy Name Church in Cincinnati and processed with our 6 foot image of Our Lady of Guadalupe to Planned Parenthood (PP), praying the Rosary and the Divine Mercy Chaplet for the end of abortion.

Several of the days included Mass and other events: 2 Luncheons, 1 Pizza Party, Presentation on the Image, Tamale Making & "Guadalupana" Cooking, Our Lady of Guadalupe FIESTA!

**Pictures** (Clockwise from upper left corner): Seminarians Peter (Sr. Therese's brother) & Luke carry Our Lady - Mother Seraphina gives a presentation on the Image - Dan & Josiah Egan Carry Our Lady with Fr. Ethan Moore leading prayer - prayer in front of PP - Bishop Binzer celebrated Mass at Holy Name Church - Fr. Ethan holds the piñata at the Fiesta - Srs. Catherine & Clare proudly display the cooked tamales (not in picture is the Fiesta Taco Bar) - Ashlee Baker teaches us how to make - Guadalupana tamales - Praying at sunset in front of PP.







# 2021 By The Numbers

Total Visits in 2021—23,560



## Babies & Families

- Children served—1,487
- Moms/Guardians—612
- Visits—5,034
- Baby Baskets—212
- Diapers—6,317
- Wipes—3,995
- Car Seats—194
- Pack N Play/ Crib—75
- Children's Coats—126
- Blankets (non basket) - 237



The Diocese of Covington's Pro-Life committee honored the Rose Garden Home Mission this year at their annual "Life's a Ball" dinner. The Rose Garden was one of three local pregnancy centers to be honored this year. In her remarks at the ceremony Mother Seraphina said "This Award really belongs to you, our volunteers and benefactors. Many of you present here have helped us."



"Because we are a 100% volunteer run Pregnancy Center, This award really does belong to you. Your love and generosity, whether in time, talent, treasure or prayer, makes the Mission possible. You are truly a gift of God to us! Thank you!"

(pictures and quotes taken from the diocese of Covington's Messenger newspaper)





## T hanksgiving

400 turkeys  
5 bags of fixin's each



## C hristmas Toys

833 children  
327 families  
Additional 85 families without children received food alone



Above:

- Fr. Ethan Moore worked along side Linda Sawma, Mark Koch & Mother Seraphina

Upper right and descending :

- Bishop Iffert bags up toys for kids with Lisa
- Mother shows Roger & Diane Keller the new Barbie line of Missionaries of Charity clothes that the sisters make for immodest dolls.
- Kate Iadipaolo prays with a neighbor at our new Prayer Table



Upper left and descending:

- Sr. Clare—too skinny for Santa
- Santa and his Elves
- Joe Martino plays Christmas songs on his Sax while Sr. Therese and Debbie Feist sing along







Strengthening hearts for Christ

# Candle Light Mass and Rosary Procession

Scripture tells us that upon hearing about a “Newborn King”, Herod issued a decree that all male children under the age of 2 were to be killed. (Mt 2:16) This tragic event is commemorated each year on December 28th with the Feast of the Holy Innocents.

The feast of the Holy Innocents has always been dear to the heart of the pro-life movement because of the similarities between the murder of these little boys and the murder of the unborn through abortion. Perhaps Herod feared that this Newborn King would ruin his career, his plans, his future. These were innocent children murdered through fear of the unknown, which is similar to many of the excuses for abortion today.

Who better to intercede for the unborn than the Holy Innocents who were also murdered out of fear and, albeit unknowingly, gave their lives for Jesus—The Newborn King.

With this in mind, Mary’s Pro-life Bootcamp hosted a Candlelight Mass and Rosary Procession on the Feast of the Holy Innocents this year.

Students and families gathered for Mass at Holy Name Church in Cincinnati, then processed with candles, an Image of Our Lady of Guadalupe and a Manger with Baby Jesus - to the Planned Parenthood just a few blocks up the street, all-the-while praying the Rosary. The prayer vigil closed with Christmas Carols at the Church.



Northern Kentucky Right to Life honored Mary’s Pro-Life Boot Camp with a check for \$1,000.



At Right: Mother Seraphina with Keynote speaker and Author, Austin Ruse.



**Now recruiting Catholic youth, ages 14 -17 for Mary’s Pro-life Bootcamp 2022!**

July 7-10

St Anne’s Retreat Center

Strengthen your heart for Christ!  
Be empowered to uphold the dignity of every human person from conception to natural death

To enlist in this year’s bootcamp, for more information and to find other opportunities to help, please go to <https://www.prolifebootcamp.org/events> or e-mail us at [marysprolifebootcamp@gmail.com](mailto:marysprolifebootcamp@gmail.com)



# March for Life 2022

Wednesday, January 19th, 2022, 6:00 am, the troops departed for Washington, DC. Their Mission: to attend the annual March for Life and learn as much as possible about pro-life issues and Human Dignity.

Six adventurous Boot-Campers embarked on the five day expedition, joined by the Sisters and a few additional adult leaders. For most of our campers, this was a new experience.



Thursday began with a pro-Life rally in front of the DC Planned Parenthood, led by Priests For Life. Later that day, the Campers participated in the Vigil Mass for Life with many bishops and priests from around the country at the National Basilica of the Immaculate Conception, which was followed by a Holy Hour for Life, with a very moving reflection by Bishop Robert J. Brennan from Brooklyn.

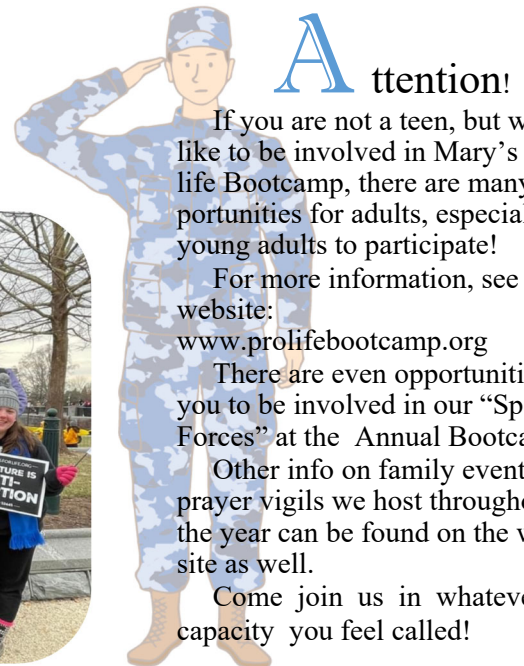
*The sisters met up with a few seminarian-volunteers from the Athanaeum at the National Basilica*

On Friday, the Campers rallied with thousands of Pro-Lifers from around the country, marching through the streets of DC as witnesses for the Dignity of every human child conceived in their mother's womb.

As part of their training, the Campers also went to Arlington national cemetery and witnessed the Changing of the Guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. There they witnessed our country's heritage of giving great honor and dignity to one of its unknown heroes.

Our Campers visited several of the Nation's major historical monuments, toured a Franciscan Monastery and the attended "The Summit," a pro-life conference hosted by Students for Life.

Sunday evening, January 23rd, the troops finally arrived home safe and sound, weary from travel but on fire for Life!



## Attention!

If you are not a teen, but would like to be involved in Mary's Pro-life Bootcamp, there are many opportunities for adults, especially young adults to participate!

For more information, see the website: [www.prolifebootcamp.org](http://www.prolifebootcamp.org)

There are even opportunities for you to be involved in our "Special Forces" at the Annual Bootcamp.

Other info on family events and prayer vigils we host throughout the year can be found on the website as well.

Come join us in whatever capacity you feel called!



# Rose Garden Center for Hope and Healing

Health Ministry / Free Clinic

At Left: CHH Planning Committee / Board of Directors 2011



Below: CHH Board of Directors 2022

2012

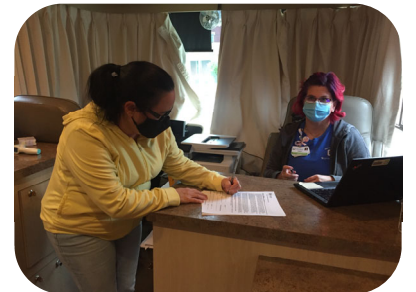


## HAPPY TENTH ANNIVERSARY!

Over the last ten years, we have served about 2,966 individual patients during 10,679 visits to our Clinic!



2022



A man came to the clinic on a totally unrelated manner. We talked privately for a short time. He then told me that he had been in the clinic about 5 years ago when he was "really struggling." He did-n't know if he would have a home and/or a job. He couldn't afford his blood pressure medication and was afraid with all the stress he would have a stroke at a very young age.

He went on: "I came here and found welcoming and knowledgeable help. You got medications for me and took care of me and didn't judge me."

"Now I am doing well, I have my own business and I would like to donate to your work." And he did – very generously.



The Clinic received the 2021 National Association of Free & Charitable Clinics' GOLD STANDARDS award

### 2021 Statistics

Total Visits ~ 536

Individual Patients ~ 166





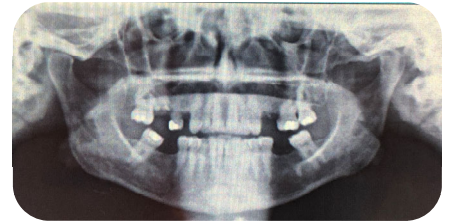
*"... Very helpful and polite. Everyone was more than happy to help me get an answer to my dental problem."*

## 2021 Dental clinic statistics

55 Total Visits,  
31 Extractions  
44 Fillings

*"I am very grateful for the help. I had not had the opportunity to find someone to assist me for more than 3 years. I appreciate your kindness and all who make this service possible to all of us."*

*Happy Anniversary, too. I did not know. May there be many more in your beautiful work. "*



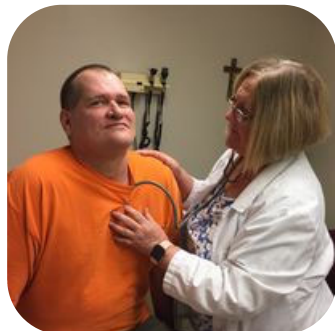
**Help  
Wanted!**

The Rose Garden Center for Hope and Healing is looking for more Medical and Dental volunteers. We are especially in need of additional Doctors and RNs, Dentists and Dental Assistants, Ultrasonographers, as well as Medical office staff - even someone to mop the floor!

Whether you are retired or just looking for a new way to serve the Lord, come join our amazing team of compassionate and caring healthcare professionals.

If you are interested, call (859)261-0323  
or e-mail: [rosegardenmisson@gmail.com](mailto:rosegardenmisson@gmail.com)  
Come and serve the Lord with us!

*"All of my questions were answered! Everything was perfect!"*



*"They were so professional and courteous and sensitive to my needs!"*

*"Your clinic makes me feel like a person, and not just one of a group. I like being treated as an individual."*





# Friends of the Rose Garden Mission



Congratulations to our 2021 Partners in Hope for the Poor Dinner Honorees: Eric and Amy Ritchie! (Eric was unfortunately out of the country at the time of the Dinner)

Pictured at the far left is a close up of the beautiful Sculpture presented to the Ritchie's at our annual dinner.

Below: Bishop John Iffert—the new Bishop in the Diocese of Covington— receives a welcome gift from Mother Seraphina



Our 2021 Golf Outing was another “Swinging Success!” We had an amazing number of golfers and everyone had a Ball.

Please see the information at right to register for the upcoming 2022 Golf Outing.

Thank you for your continued support of this great event!



**THE FRIENDS OF  
THE ROSE GARDEN HOME MISSION**

invite you to the

**EIGHTH ANNUAL  
GOLF OUTING**

**FRIDAY, AUGUST 26, 2022**

REGISTRATION 8:00 AM

SHOTGUN START 9:45 AM

4 Person 18 hole scramble

**KENTON COUNTY GOLF COURSES**

3908 Richardson Road | Independence, KY

859.371.3200

Now Accepting Registrations & Sponsorships

[www.RoseGardenMissionGolf.com](http://www.RoseGardenMissionGolf.com)







# House of Formation

The new Formation House, currently under construction for the sisters, is just a few months away from completion!

The Formation house is where young women will come to visit and discern with the sisters whether God is calling them to religious life, and where those who are in initial stages of formation will continue to deepen their relationship with Jesus Christ, and where Novices will be formed into brides of Christ.

This new convent will give newest members of the Franciscan Daughters of Mary a place apart from the busy-ness of the Mission convent, a place to Pray, Discern and Study. This will be where young women discover what it really means to uphold the dignity of every human person as a Daughter of Mary in the Franciscan tradition.

Please continue to pray for the Formation House's completion and that it be a great blessing to the sisters!



*Above: The newly acquired Altar.*



*Detail from one of the doors acquired, depicting Our Eucharistic Lord above a Chalice.*





**SAVE THE DATE**

*2022*  
*Partners in Hope*

FOR THE POOR

ANNUAL DINNER

*Thursday, June 9, 2022*

*6:00 p.m. Social Hour*  
*7:00 p.m. Dinner*

*Receptions Inc.*  
*1379 Donaldson Road*  
*Erlanger, Kentucky*





**Y**ou are a great blessing to the Sisters and the Rose Garden  
in your generosity to us!

**YOU** make all of the works of the Franciscan Daughters of Mary  
possible with your prayers, volunteering and all of the gifts you  
bring to the Rose Garden for the neighbors we serve.

You are constantly in our thoughts and prayers, and once per  
month we offer up Mass for your intentions.

*Our Lord bless you and keep you!*

*Our Lord set His face upon you and be gracious to you!*

*Our Lord look upon you kindly and give you His Peace!*

***Mother Seraphina & the Sisters***



*On retreat praying as the sun sets, sister receives the gift of  
the cross in the sun.*



The easiest & cheapest way to donate to the Rose Garden Mission: *Kroger's Supermarkets*

*Last Quarter \$782.46 received from 159 households!!! THANK YOU!!!*

**To enroll:**

- go to: [www.krogercommunityrewards.com](http://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!*