

# 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

Spring/Summer 2023

Dear Friends, Summer is upon us again! Summer brings so much joy, so many fond memories and many things to look forward to for most of us. Family vacations, cold lemonade, patriotic parades, backyard adventures and so forth. Summer also brings with it HEAT. It is typical for the temperature to rise to the upper 90's here in Kentucky, often for days on end!

This presents such a problem in finding modest clothing. Our culture today tells us that we are only as good as we look- and after all, it's hot outside! It particularly targets women, telling them that if they don't wear trendy, revealing clothing, they will be rejected and shunned. Short Shorts, Tank tops, Leggings and Jeggings are everywhere. Most women don't even realize they are at risk of being objectified by men.



Have you ever wondered why modesty is important? A false opinion would tell you that our bodies are just occasions of sin for others, and that's why we have to cover them up. That's not it at all! Our bodies are *So Good* Scripture refers to them as temples of the Holy Spirit.

The Body has even been referred to as "The sacrament of the Person." Now, A Sacrament (upper case S) is "a visible sign of an invisible reality instituted by Christ to impart grace." But in a similar way, the human body makes visible the

invisible reality of the human person. This gives us a deep insight into why modesty is so important. For example, if someone looks at the Blessed Sacrament and just thinks of eating bread, we know as Catholics that this is wrong. It is wrong because they are not seeing deep enough. They are not recognizing *that this is a Person! This is Jesus Christ!*



This is one of the many examples of why the Church takes such care to reserve the Blessed Sacrament in utmost dignity and respect. Our Blessed Lord is only exposed at certain times and in certain ways so that we—the Church, His Bride- will not forget His Dignity, so that we will not just see bread but learn to recognize Jesus in disguise.

And in a similar way we know that a man who looks at a woman and just thinks of sexual pleasure is wrong. She is *so much more*. She is a *person* who deserves love and respect because of who she is as a daughter of the Most High, a daughter of the King. It can also happen that a woman might look at a man and only think of sexual pleasure or some emotional high. The same applies. This is wrong because he is a *person* who deserves love and respect because of who he is as a son of the Most High, a son of the King.

This calls to mind one of St. John Paul II's most mind boggling statements, "The problem with Pornography isn't that it shows too much, it is because it shows too little!" Think about it. Pornography

stops at the surface. It shows the outward appearance and ignores the fact that this is a Person who is willed and loved by God, a child of God who is not to be treated or used as an object!

And so you can see that by dressing modestly, you are upholding (and protecting) your own dignity. We are sons and daughters of God and we are to be treated as such.

At this point some of us may feel uneasy. Because of what we have done or things that have been done to us, we do not feel worthy to be thought of as a beloved child of God, or to be treated with that kind of respect. This is extremely common, especially among women, and this is where our culture steps in and whispers, "Did God really say *That?* No, If you do *this*, if you wear *this*, then you will be lovable."

Doesn't this remind you of the serpent's words to Eve? Let us never forget that the devil's original lie to Eve implied that God didn't really love her and was keeping something from her. And if God didn't love her, that meant no one would love her unless she tried to become someone else.

That lie has echoed down through the centuries in the hearts of all Eve's children and all of us, at one time or another, have tasted that most bitter fruit!

Please do not partake of that fruit any longer!

(continued on next page)





You must believe the truth—the truth that YOU are wanted and loved by God and that HE, Your Father, is greatly offended when others do not respect the child He loves so much! This dignity brings such peace and joy when we fully accept it. This dignity comes with responsibility, but also opens our capacity to receive and to give True Love, not just momentary pleasure.

With all this in mind, we would like to remind our volunteers to please dress modestly when you come to help us at the Rose Garden. On one of the center pages of this newsletter you will find guidelines for proper attire. We would also like to make special mention that tight fitting clothing, such as leggings and jeggin's, are just as revealing as short-shorts. Few woman realize this.

will not give it our neighbors. We also require that our neighbors who come to us for help wear respectful clothing that upholds their dignity and that of others. Everyone - men and women alike - who come to us dressed improperly is offered something to wear over their own clothing. They can even take it home if they like it! If they refuse to wear it, they are asked to leave.

To ensure even the Barbie dolls are we give away are dressed modestly, one of the sisters has a ministry to make beautiful dresses, including wedding dresses for them!

Dressing modestly is such an important issue to the Sisters because we take a fourth vow to uphold the dignity of every human person from the moment of conception to natural death. Since modesty helps to uphold and protect human dignity, it has become a real priority for us.

Dear friends and beloved volunteers, we ask that you not be offended if you are offered something to wear while at the mission, we understand how difficult it is these days to find proper clothing that upholds your dignity. We just love you so much that we have made it a priority so to ensure that your dignity to be upheld, too!



We are not requiring more than what we ourselves practice. The sisters and volunteers go to great lengths to make sure the clothing we are giving to our neighbors is modest. If something is donated that does not uphold a person's dignity, we will try to modify it to make it modest. If it is not possible for us to do so, we will repurpose or recycle it, but we

**I** will espouse you to Me forever” -Hosea 2:21  
 Sister Veronica Mary of the Holy Face of Jesus made her profession of Perpetual Vows on March 25th, 2023, at the Cathedral Basilica of the Assumption. Bishop Iffert celebrated the Mass, concelebrated by Bishop emeritus Foys and several priests from both the Diocese of Covington and the Archdiocese of Cincinnati, Sister Veronica's home Diocese. During the rite of profession for perpetual vows, a crucifix ring is placed on the professed sister's right ring finger, and a crown of thorns is placed on her head— symbols of her relationship with Jesus Christ, her only Bridegroom. “Who else have I in Heaven but You? Apart from You I want nothing on earth. My body and my heart faint for joy; God is my possession forever” Psalm 73:25-26







**P**raised be Jesus Christ! Sr. Sara, whom we introduced in our last newsletter, has been accepted to novitiate! On May 13, 2023 Sr. Sara died to the world and Sr. Agnes Mary of the Precious Blood was born!

Novitiate is a 2 year period of intense formation in which a novice learns what it really means to be a spouse of Jesus, while continuing to discern and grow in her relationship with Him. Please pray for Sr. Agnes Mary as she embarks on this exciting and challenging new stage of her vocation.

Every school year, groups of students from many schools around the tristate area come to our mission to learn about our life and to help us serve the poor. This year, one group of 7th grade girls that visited us decided to send us cards sharing what they learned and their prayers for the sisters. While we regret that there is not enough room to share all of them, we'd like to share some highlights!

Dear Jesus, Please help the Franciscan Daughters of Mary with their Mission. Please help them to show other people that they are in the image and likeness of God. . . .

When I was mopping, it was like a second tour of the place. It was Huge!



I really liked your connection between the crucifix that someone threw away and the people that come to you for help.

I learned that not everything is always about me and what I want, it's about what God wants. . . .

I never knew that the clothing you wear has special meaning! It was interesting when you mentioned that the veil symbolizes consecration.

I like how your favorite part, about, being a sister is being married to Jesus.



I think it is really cool that everything you guys give is donated.

Dear God, thank you for putting the Franciscan daughters of Mary on earth at the same times as me. Please bless them with peace and carefulness. And lots of babies to hold. Amen.

Thanks so much for what you do and why you do it. I felt Jesus when I was sorting the clothes.

I learned that you guys love everyone!

Sr. Mary Elizabeth said that no matter how generous you are, God will always top you. It made me think that God is a blessing that keeps on giving. God will be with us no matter the cost!

The coolest thing I learned was that you help 200 families a day, which is so amazing and god is so proud.

Dear Jesus, . . . Help them to be the best person they can toward others. I pray that these daughters have a wonderful time here on earth, and one day make it to heaven with You. Amen!

Thank you for letting us come and opening our eyes to the plight of the poor.

Dear Jesus, help the Franciscan daughters of Mary to continue to do good in the world, and to help you people. Help them to reflect you in everything they do, and give them strength to always do good. Amen!!!



I love when you said that God will always provide. It made me realize that God will never leave us and will supply us with everything we need.

One thing that stood out to me was that God keeps blessing you through other people to help others. That's Amazing!





# 2022 in review

The Rose Garden Home Mission received about 41,512 Total Visits in 2022. This number includes visits for food and for baby items. There are about 833 Moms and Guardians whom we currently serve, who visited our Mission about 7,024 times last year. We have about 2,054 children registered with us. In serving these families last year, We gave away 10,172 packs of diapers, 8,421 packs of wipes, 450 cans of formula, 240 Baby Welcome Baskets, 114 Pack n Plays, 269 Car seats, and 147 Strollers!



We have some other exciting news to share! One of our long time neighbors -and dear friend- was just received into the Catholic Church! Melody had been visiting the Rose Garden for many years, but the last few years have been especially difficult for her. Witnessing the Love and care of the Sisters and Volunteers at the Rose Garden, she was inspired to learn more about where that love came from— their relationship with Jesus Christ through the Catholic Faith.

“When you come to the Rose Garden, there is a lot of love and peace surrounding you everywhere. . . . [They] showed me a lot of love and care, but mainly Jesus showed a lot of Love and Care to me.” To help prepare her to receive the Sacraments of the Church, Deacon Eric Ritchie met her at the Mission weekly as well as before Mass on Sundays at Holy Cross parish.

Melody was Baptized, Confirmed and received her first Holy Communion this Easter Vigil. “It’s been a joy being Catholic and really knowing Jesus.” Congratulations, Melody!!







# Thanksgiving Giveaway

On November 22, 2022 we gave away about 460 Thanksgiving meals to families in need. Each family received a Turkey and 5 bags of "Fixin's" including both perishable and non-perishable sides and condiments.



# Christmas Giveaway

On December 20, 2022, we saw about 300 families for Christmas Help. Each Family received a Ham or Turkey, along with a sack of toys for each child. We totaled around 862 children this year!



*"Give to the one who asks of you" ~Matthew 5:42*  
*"Without cost you have received, without cost you are to give" ~Matthew 10:8*



# Five First Saturdays

In Honor of Our Lady of Fatima

Dates: June 3rd, July 1st, August 5th,  
September 2nd, October 7th

Time: 8am

Location: Holy Name Catholic Church, 2422  
Auburn Ave, Cincinnati OH

The Franciscan Daughters of Mary invite you to join them for their third annual Fatima Devotional series. Each Saturday will include Mass and Rosary Procession. After the Mass in October, we will have our traditional Car- Procession pilgrimage to 5 local churches.



*"Look, my daughter, at my Heart, surrounded with thorns with which ungrateful men pierce me every moment by their blasphemies and ingratitude. You at least try to console me and say that I promise to assist at the hour of death, with the graces necessary for salvation, all those who, on the first Saturday of five consecutive months, shall confess, receive Holy Communion, recite five decades of the Rosary, and keep me company for fifteen minutes while meditating on the fifteen mysteries of the Rosary, with the intention of making reparation to me."*

-Our Lady of Fatima to Sr. Lucia, December 10, 1925

For more information e-mail us at [fdmsisters@gmail.com](mailto:fdmsisters@gmail.com)



In this most critical moment in America's Pro-life history, the Pro-Life generation needs to band together in prayer—now more than ever. Join Us,



## EVERY SATURDAY

for

Mass, Adoration, and Rosary Procession to  
Planned Parenthood to pray for the end of  
abortion!

- Time— 8am
- Location— Holy Name Catholic Church,  
2422 Auburn Ave., Cincinnati, OH

No experience or training is necessary. This is a family friendly prayer event—children are welcome and encouraged!

It is time for pro-lifers to unite -across Parish, Diocese and State boundaries- so that abortion will be made illegal in every state and unthinkable in every heart. If you are Pro-life and believe in the power of Prayer,

**WE NEED YOU!**



If you are a priest who would like to celebrate Mass for us, or a deacon who would like to assist, please e-mail [fdmsisters@gmail.com](mailto:fdmsisters@gmail.com) for more information





# ATTENTION!

## RECRUITING FOR PROLIFE TRAINING

### Calling all Catholic Teens to PT: "Pro-Life Training"

Mary's Pro-Life Boot Camp is a leadership training camp for high school students run by the Franciscan Daughters of Mary and their Special Forces team.



- Family picnic at drop-off
- Retreat style weekend
- National and Local Speakers
- Praise and Worship
- Daily Sacraments
- Hands on experience
- Plenty of chow

**June 29-July 3, 2023**

Holy Cross Church  
Latonia KY

Registration: \$100

Online Deadline: June 15

Complete registration packet mailed to you  
for completion and payment  
**Scholarships available**



"Nor shall you stand by idly when your neighbor's life is a stake." Lev 19:16

### ENLIST ONLINE

[www.prolifebootcamp.org](http://www.prolifebootcamp.org)

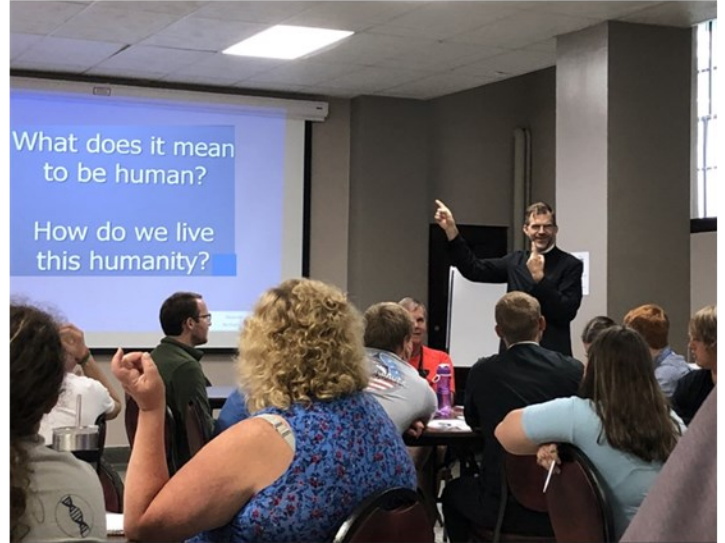
Ages

14-17

- Event details
- Camper Registration
- Speakers

Ages 18-25 may apply as Special Forces

Questions/donate/volunteer: [marysprolifebootcamp@gmail.com](mailto:marysprolifebootcamp@gmail.com)



## To safeguard everyone's Dignity, Proper Attire is required for all volunteers

### Men & Women



-Shirts must have sleeves

-Shorts must be "bermuda short" length



-No low cut necklines



-Skirts must be BELOW the knee



-Underclothes must be covered

-No low rise or dropping pants

-"Leggings" must be covered by a appropriate length skirts or shorts



"Modesty protects the intimate center of the person. It means refusing to unveil what should remain hidden. It guides how one looks at others and behaves toward them in conformity with the dignity of persons. Modesty protects the mystery of persons and their love."

~ Catechism of the Catholic Church 2521-2



# Rose Garden Center for Hope and Healing

Health Ministry / Free Clinic

## 2022 Medical Clinic Statistics

This year our Clinic received a total of 653 visits. We saw 219 individual patients from all walks of life –one month old to 83 years old! We supplied 51 eye exams, 25 pairs of glasses and 17 mammograms. Many of our patients are diabetics, whom we provided with about 150 diabetes supplies and medications.

Our Health Ministries program received 775 visits– 249 new patients and 426 repeat patients. Once a week, our Health Ministries team provides simple services such as blood pressure and glucose screenings to anyone who walks in, in an effort to get patients interested and involved in their health.



Great job!!! The staff, doctors, everybody is very nice!



Thank you for being wonderful and caring. I love all of you and wish you all the best. Thank you for helping me get on track with my health. God bless all of you.



Everything is great, the doctor, nurse. The woman on reception is so nice and polite.”



“No other doctors give you a cake for your birthday.”

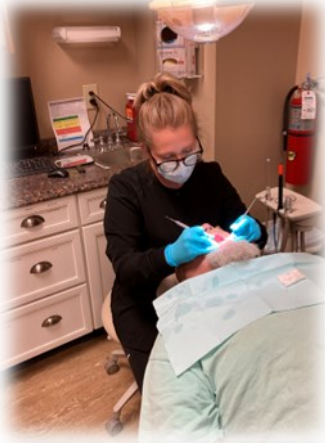




# Dental

## 2022 Dental clinic statistics

In 2022, our dentals clinic received 84 total visits, from 50 individual patients. Many smiles are shining once more after being cleaned by our hygienists! We also provided 33 X-rays, 26 fillings, and 65 extractions. April 2023 marked the 6th anniversary of our dental clinic!



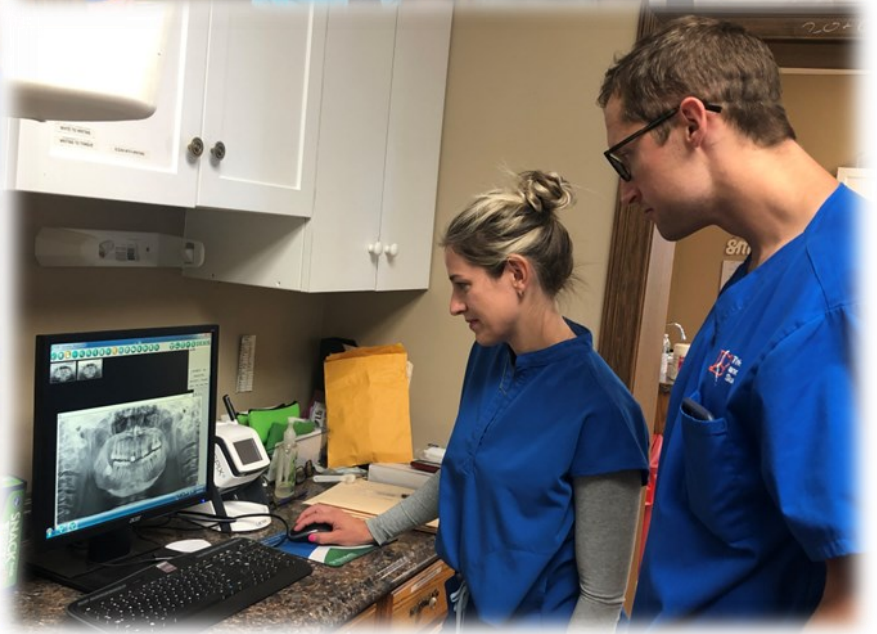
The dentist was wonderful—great—the best! Thank you!

“The dentist saved a tooth I was told by another couldn’t be saved!”

What I liked best was the professionalism, I like everything, all the people.



“Everyone is very professional, I received excellent care”





# Friends of the Rose Garden



When we first moved into the current Rose Garden building complex, we all wondered what God had in store for us— it seemed we would never fill the space provided. But now, Thanks to the abundant generosity of God working through so

many of you, The Mission has grown exponentially over the years! So much so, that we often struggle to find room to store new donations until someone requests them.

In light of this happy problem, The Friends of the Rose Garden Mission have decided to expand the building. The new building will provide us with much needed storage space, as well as an area more tailored for our Pregnancy Care services. It will include private areas for pregnancy testing and informal counseling for our Moms, and even a classroom area where we could hold Parenting classes and more. Due to some technical issues with the city, construction was put on hold for most of the winter and is still moving very slowly. Please continue praying for the continued progress of this exciting project!



3-D rendering of new building







THE FRIENDS OF  
THE ROSE GARDEN HOME MISSION  
invite you to the  
TENTH ANNUAL  
**GOLF OUTING**

Friday, August 25, 2023

REGISTRATION 8:00 - 9:30 AM

Announcements 9:30 AM

SHOTGUN START 9:45 AM

4 Person 18 hole scramble

**KENTON COUNTY GOLF COURSES**

3908 Richardson Road | Independence, KY

859.371.3200

**T**enth Annual Friends of the Rose Garden Mission Golf Outing is coming up quick! We are still looking for individuals and companies to sponsor this event. Sponsorship opportunities can be found at [RoseGardenMission-Golf.com](http://RoseGardenMission-Golf.com). Or scan the QR code at right.



**We are in need of Gift Card Donations & Silent Auction Items.** If you would like to donate please mail it to the Rose Garden Mission P.O. Box 122089, Covington, KY 41012

**Or** stop by the Mission, 2040 Madison Avenue, Covington Ky, 41014 Monday-Thursday, 10am-4pm. Please include a note **“ATTENTION Golf Outing”**



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





*We are truly grateful for you! Your prayers, support and volunteer work are what make the works of the Franciscan Daughters of Mary and the Rose Garden Mission possible. You are always in our prayers.*

*The Lord Bless you and keep you!  
The Lord set His Face upon you and be gracious to you!  
The Lord look upon you kindly and grant you His peace!  
-Mother Seraphina and the Sisters*



Due to PayPal's hostility to Pro-life issues and recent policy changes, the Franciscan Daughters of Mary, the Rose Garden Mission and the Friends of the Rose Garden no longer utilize their services.

If you would like to make an online donation, please see our Vanco account at:  
<https://secure.myvanco.com/L-Z8CN/home>  
or scan the QR code at left.  
Thanks for your support!