

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

Summer 2021

A Reflection On One life By A Sister

I have come to realize that it is a miracle that I was ever conceived in my mother's womb. In the early years of their marriage, my parents used birth control to limit the number of children they had.

Then one day, my dad picked up "Humana Vitae," the papal encyclical written by Pope St. Paul VI in 1968. This document provides a beautiful and clear teaching about God's plan for married love and the transmission of life. After reading it, he turned to my mom and told her how he understood now that contraception was not a part of God's plan. After sharing what he had learned, mom agreed, and they began trusting in the Lord to decide when they should have children.

Right after that, I was conceived! What a gift, What an amazing miracle! If they had continued using birth control, I would not be here. If Humana Vitae had not been written, I would not be here!

Entrusting their fertility to the Lord, however, was not easy. Growing up, my family was very poor. At one point my Dad had to work four jobs at once to provide for our family. But through it all, they always



these have been great witnesses to the love of God—the love of Jesus Christ who has laid down His life that I might one day live forever in Heaven with Him, The One to whom we all owe our lives.

We are not some casual & meaningless product of evolution. Each of us is the result of a thought of God. Each of us is willed, each of us is loved, each of us is necessary!
~Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI



remained faithful to the Lord in their openness to life.

I recently listened to an audio by Archbishop Fulton Sheen, and I learned that Pope St. Paul VI suffered a great deal for writing "Humana Vitae." Bishop Sheen remarked that the Pope would read mail every night before falling asleep, and the letters he received were so full of anger and hatred that each one pierced his very heart like a crown of thorns. This was a man who carried a heavy cross so that he could bring the truth about love and life to the Church and the world.

I consider my very life a fruit of Pope St. Paul VI's sufferings. I am so grateful to be alive. I am so grateful my parents had a change of heart! I stand with all who have survived this culture of birth control and abortions and cry out "Thank you God for my life!"

I owe my life to these three men: Pope Paul VI, John Paul II, and my dad. All of



You Are Invited
First Profession of Vows for
Sr. Therese Marie of the Divine Child Rusciollelli, fdm

10:00 AM Saturday, October 2, 2021 at the Cathedral Basilica of the Assumption
Reception TBD



Public Witness

In response to the cancellation of the 2021 March for Life event in Washington DC, many pro-life leaders across the country organized “Local Mini Marches”

In our area—which is, in my opinion, one of the most densely saturated Pro-Life areas I’ve been to—there were three “Mini Marches,” two of which the sisters were invited to participate. So we split up to be present at both, One in Northern Kentucky, The other in Cincinnati.

With an inspiration on the morning of the Marches, the sisters decorated two of our images of Our Lady of Guadalupe with flowers and brought them to our respective Marches. At each of the locations, we were so blessed to be asked to lead the crowd of people marching for LIFE.

In Northern Kentucky, we began outside of St. Anthony’s church amidst large white crosses that displayed the total number of abortions last year for each of the states. The morning began with the recitation of the Rosary and short prayer service, then we proceeded to march through the streets 1.5 miles to Holy Cross church. At Holy Cross, we joined the students and Parishioners for a Holy Hour for Life, concluding with Benediction.

The Cincinnati March, organized by Cincinnati Right to Life, began at Holy Name Church where Meg DeBlase, Cincinnati RTL Exec. Dir. and Fr. Ethan Moore, Pastor of Holy Name, church, talked to the crowd of about 200 speaking encouraging words and leading us in prayer.

We then processed to Planned Parenthood a few blocks from the church, with groups of 10-20 at a time pausing in front of the abortion mill to offer a private prayer.



Our Lady of Guadalupe leading the Mini March for Life in Cincinnati



Praying in front of Planned Parenthood, Cincinnati



L. to R.—Meg DeBlase, Fr. Chris Komoroski, Our Lady of Guadalupe, Fr. Brent Stull, Mother Seraphina, Fr. Ethan Moore, Sr. Mary Elizabeth in front of Holy Name Church.

From a Friend,

“Every day life is good. But our society in 2021 has a tendency to make evil look good and good look evil, to make things appear the exact opposite of what they are.

For example, what people think of today as “empowered women,” supposedly because they can drink alcohol, smoke cigarettes, be promiscuous, and simply abort their children if they are inconvenient.

These are not the type of things any of you sisters would do— but you *can* keep the whole east side of a large city fed and clothed; you have free diapers for mothers with babies; you’ve assembled volunteer doctors and dentists to provide medical and dental care; you serve up meals to hungry people and give toys to children who don’t have any! Who are the real “empowered women?”

I meet many people during St. Vincent de Paul visits and every single one, no matter how miserable, or beaten down, or even angry because of their circumstances will simply melt when we ask them if they know the sisters at the Rose Garden. Every single time! Then, they completely forget about their temporary situation and break in to a huge smile and say, “We love the sisters!”

I was sorry to hear that you all had gotten sick. But it’s great to see you back in action again! Northern KY is so blessed to have you here. Life is good! God is good!
Welcome back!”

Spare Time?

Ever wonder what Sisters do in their Spare Time?



Sister lengthened a pair of "Short Shorts" to make them more modest .



Sister rejoices as these Barbies forsake their worldly life of glamour for a simpler and more austere path.



The Sisters wove a blanket from strips of material from "rejected" clothing—too well soiled or ripped, etc.



Vestments made for the Infant of Prague



Sr. Therese takes some time on a nature trail to write in her journal



Sisters love to visit the horses on a day of prayer in the country



Decorating "Our Lady of Guadalupe" Cookies for a celebration





HOME MISSION

Prayer Time at the Mission

Each day, at Noon and 3:00 the sisters and volunteers pause whatever they are doing and pray the Angelus (Noon) and one decade of the Divine Mercy Chaplet (3PM).

At these times, most of our neighbors who come to us for help get quiet and pray along with us—some bow their heads reverently, some fold their hands, some remove their hats, at times we have heard faint crying and sniffles coming from people of all walks of life while we pray. We have even witnessed some of the High School teens bowing their head and even shushing their friends as we pray.

Our daily habit of prayer for Our Blessed Mother's intercession and for Divine Mercy—offered for everyone who's asked us for prayer, all of our neighbors who will visit us that day, the volunteers and everyone who donates to us - has proven to be a healing balm for many hearts.

Some of our neighbors visit us around Noon and 3:00 intentionally each time they come, and have even been known to remind us when the prayers are late!

We know that Our Lord pours out His grace in abundance for those who take time to recall His Incarnation and Divine Mercy daily. We are so grateful to the Lord to be able to share that with our neighbors and volunteers!



"Hi. I just wanted to come by here and say thank you. I used to come here all the time when I needed help. Now I'm doing well. I have a job and a car...I wanted to thank sister for all the little things."



Many people enjoy praying near the outdoor statue of Our Blessed Mother, even when the Mission is not open. Arriving at the Mission one day, Sister noticed that a man in a pickup truck pull up to the Statue of Our Lady in front of the garden, pray, then he left.



I used to come in here and think I was better than everyone else. I didn't believe in God then; I do now, and He is teaching me to be humble and remember where I came from—that I used to have nothing. You all talked to me about God and really helped me a lot! I really appreciate all you have done for me."

I just wanted to tell you, that without you all to help us, we wouldn't have eaten. Between the medical bills, rent, utilities, there is no money left over. I wanted you to know how much we appreciate you.



At the end of the season last year, our neighbor looked at the vegetable garden and said, "I see you chopped down the greens in your garden. Whose idea was that? Where are you from?" Then he smiled and said, "It was a commendable thing to do, though, your little nurturing, motherly hearts were like, 'O, we have to save those poor little greens from the frost before they die! Those poor little orphan greens!'"





Sr. Clare and Mother Seraphina standing with Boot Camp's Keynote Speaker, abortion survivor, Claire Culwell



Mary's Pro-life Bootcamp

is a newer ministry of the Franciscan Daughters of Mary and our "Special Forces" volunteers. This retreat style weekend is aimed at engaging and equipping teens in becoming pro-life saints and leaders. This year's bootcamp took place June 10-13 at Our Lady of Guadalupe Retreat Center in Peebles, OH. Our Presenters and Spiritual Leaders included, Rev. Ethan Moore, Rev. Bob Rottgers, Claire Culwell, Jacquelyn Smith, Rev. Chris Komoroski, Deacon Barry Henry, Eric Ritchie, John Brandenburg & the Sisters.



Campers kneel in front of Planned Parenthood & pray the Rosary

During the retreat, our 12 teens learned about the Dignity of each Human Person, Fetal Development, Abortion, Pro-Life Apologetics, Spiritual Warfare, etc.

The event was kicked off Thursday evening with Mass, a family picnic and a candlelight Rosary and procession to the chapel for Adoration. Everyone also had the opportunity for Confession.

Each morning we began with calisthenics, followed with Adoration and Morning Prayer.

The first day of Boot Camp was focused on prayers of intercession for the unborn children, Adoration and orienting everyone for the weekend.

The second day's focus was intensive learning about Pro-Life issues. Toward the evening, we all had fun making "Warrior Pace-counter Rosaries" that we all used at our Bonfire Rosary.

Third day was a day of action, beginning with a Pro-Life Mass in Cincinnati and Rosary Procession to Planned Parenthood, followed by a presentation by abortion survivor, Claire Culwell. Back at the Retreat Center, we cleaned up the existing Memorial to the Unborn, laid stepping stones to mark the path to the Memorial, and a listened to a presentation by



Jacquelyn Smith, who developed the first Pro-Life Boot camp in Dallas Texas. Campers then got to relax with popcorn and a movie, St. Damien of Molokai.

Sunday, the theme was apologetics and application. The campers had an opportunity to practice Apologetics with presenter, Eric Ritchie, and Paul Borchard - professional sidewalk counsellor from Texas.

To bring our retreat to a culmination, each of the teens and Special Forces Volunteers wrote Pro-life action commitments and presented them to Jesus during the Offertory at Mass.

Following Mass, the campers and their families gathered in front of the Memorial for the Unborn and prayed the Chaplet of Divine Mercy and wrote prayer intentions on white stones, placing them by the Memorial.

If you would like to learn more about Mary's Prolife Bootcamp, or if you are interested in participating in future bootcamps, you can visit www.prolifebootcamp.com or www.facebook.com/marysprolifebootcamp



Rose Garden Center for Hope and Healing

Health Ministry / Free Clinic

A History Lesson

By Sheila Carroll, APRN

On the same day in 2009 when Mother Seraphina and I started planning a free medical clinic to complement the pregnancy center services at the Rose Garden Home Mission, I saw Earlene Barker, APRN, at a Nurse Practitioner dinner. I asked her about her plans since she had also retired, and told her I needed her to volunteer with me. Her reply was an immediate “yes.” After dinner she came to me and said, “Now what did I volunteer for?” We started a Health Ministry the next week.

When the Mission changed locations, the Health Ministry continued. Along with Joan Ziegelmeyer, APRN, Earlene and I started seeing patients January 2012 in the Rose Garden Center for Hope and Healing. Joan eventually moved on to another ministry site, but Earlene has continued for 11 years.

In case you don’t know Earlene, she is a true country girl and gives her heart to those who need it. Although she will not be practicing as a NP anymore, she is still a registered nurse and plans to help in “any way I can.”

Starting a clinic from scratch has been an amazing process—with equipment , donations and volunteers coming from all directions – at the nudging hand of God. God can seem sometimes far off unless you see Him in another person, and I often see Him in our volunteers and in our patients (friends).

The person making appointments was EXTREMELY helpful!

only a short time is allotted for each patient, so that the office will run smoothly. Since we have no time constraints, we can listen as long as someone needs to talk.

She also said that in our clinic she feels like a person, and not just one of a group. Here she is treated with dignity as an individual. What a joy to truly serve God through service to His poor.

The staff went above and beyond the call of duty.

The Rose Garden Center for Hope & Healing received a Gold Rating from the National Association of Free & Charitable Clinics (NAFC) 2021 Quality Standards Program! The NAFC's mission is to ensure that the medically underserved have access to affordable



healthcare, and our Gold Rating confirms the highest level of achievement in policies and procedures as we serve the poor of our region, with respect and without charge.



*Left, Joan Ziegelmeyer, APRN
Right, Earlene Barker, APRN*



Earlene Barker, APRN with husband, Richard Barker over her left shoulder



Tamara Neculqued, RN interprets for a patient as Earlene checks his feet

Everyone gave me comforting words during one of the most embarrassing times in my life.

That means so much to me. The staff, doctors, everybody are very nice!



Sr. Catherine, Terri Hardebeck and Sheila share a song and a cake for Earlene's Birthday.

Grand Re-opening of the Dental Clinic!

Our dental clinic is up and running once again after a temporary closure due to COVID-19. So far, Colleen Smith, Hygienist, (pictured right) has sent our patients out with clean and shining smiles and Dr. Mark Glockner and his office staff spent a Thursday morning filling cavities and saving teeth.



The dentist saved a tooth that I was told by another couldn't be saved

One of our patients was so pleased with her care, she wanted to have her picture taken with the staff. In the picture to the left, listed from left to right: Dental patient, Dr. Mark Glockner, Shauna Biedenhorn, Dental Assistant, and Beckie Morrison, hygienist.

Just in time for the re-opening, a sophomore from Notre Dame Academy, pictured at right, arrived with

toothbrushes, toothpaste, and other dental items she gathered from local dentists she called on. Over 2,200 items were donated through her efforts!

Dental care is truly a crying need in our community. We have along waiting list of patients to be served by a few dental teams. If you are a dental professional and have any interest in joining our clinic, please call and come for a tour! We have a pleasant working environment, state of the art equipment and extremely grateful patients.

The staff was very professional, kind and extremely thoughtful

A "Drive-thru" Clinic Window?

One Sunday afternoon this past January, we had a rather amusing incident. While many places were implementing "Drive-Thru" windows due to the pandemic, ours was put in by accident.

No one was hurt, thank God! This window had been leaking for quite some time and we were finally taking steps towards getting it replaced when an impaired driver drove right in. When God wants something done, it gets done! This is just one of the many, and often funny, examples of how God just takes care of things.



Dental Hygienist, Colleen Smith,



Dental hygienist, Pam Riedinger



High School Sophomore Bella Marita

Very great teamwork!





Friends of the Rose Garden Mission



House of Formation For the Sisters

When Mother Seraphina shared with the Board Members of the Friends that the sisters were actively looking for a second convent to instruct new sisters in their way of life, without hesitation the Friends wanted to help. So on March 25, 2021, we purchased a new property for them to do just that.

This new convent will serve the sisters as a House of Formation, teaching women how to live as a Franciscan Daughter of Mary. The sisters are especially excited about the opportunity to host Vocation Retreats for young women who are discerning whether God is calling them to be the spouse of Jesus Christ.

We are currently under construction to make the House of Formation a fitting place for the sisters to live, such as making space for a chapel where the sisters can pray, bathing facilities where there were none, a working kitchen, etc.

Please pray for the sisters as they begin this new chapter in their lives.

A view from one of the upstairs windows looks toward Covington's beautiful Cathedral Basilica of the Assumption



L. to R.: Former owner, Learning Grove CFO, James Hood, Greg Ionna, Chairman of the Friends of the Rose Garden, Mother Seraphina, Joe Bessler, Friends Board Member, Patrick Reynolds, Broker



Pictures represent a progression in making space for a new chapel



SAVE THE DATE

2021

Partners in Hope

FOR THE POOR DINNER

Keynote Speaker ADDIA WUCHNER
Honorees ERIC RITCHIE & AMY RITCHIE

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2021

6:00PM SOCIAL HOUR—7:00PM DINNER



RECEPTIONS, INC. | 1379 DONALDSON ROAD | ERLANGER, KY



Sr. Clare looking over what will be the new shower room

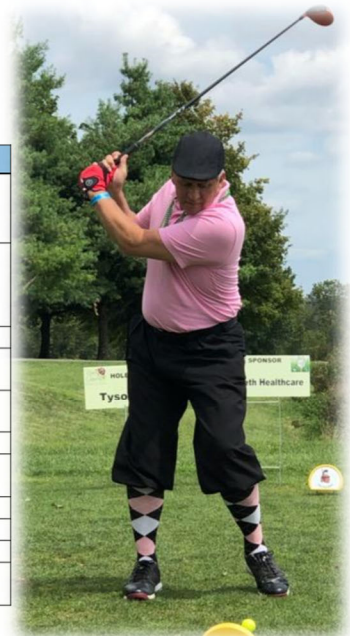


THE FRIENDS OF
THE ROSE GARDEN HOME MISSION
invite you to the
SEVENTH ANNUAL
GOLF OUTING

FRIDAY, AUGUST 27, 2021
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

www.RoseGardenMissionGolf.com



Sponsorship Opportunities:						
Level	# = Foursome Of Golf	Name on Sponsor Board	Name on golf outing website	Name on outing program	Name in newsletter	Other benefits
Diamond (\$10,000)	##	x	x	x	x	Golf shirts for 8 golfers with Rose Garden Mission Logo
Gold (\$5,000)	##	x	x	x	x	
Dinner (\$5,000)		x	x	x	x	Name at dinner station
Drinks (\$5,000)		x	x	x	x	Name at drink stations
Silver (\$2,500)	#	x	x	x	x	
Lunch (\$2,500)		x	x	x	x	Name at lunch station
Bronze (\$1,000)	#	x	x	x	x	
Birdie (\$500)		x	x	x	x	
Par (\$300)		x	x	x	x	
Hole (\$100)				x		Name on a tee box on both courses

questions, email RoseGardenMissionGolf@gmail.com or call 859-653-3823



You 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



*The sisters kneel in prayer at a Corpus Christi procession in
Hamilton Ohio*



The easiest & cheapest way to donate to the Rose Garden Mission: Kroger's Supermarkets
The Mission receives Rewards when you use your store card

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

To enroll:

- go to: 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!