

"The Open Window"

Bergamo Center for Lifelong Learning
Newsletter

Nov/Dec, 2015

<http://www.bergamocenter.org/>

Preparing All Students for Success

The Bergamo Center has again partnered this year with Beaver Creek High School Careers 3 Program in preparing students with special needs for employment opportunities with a weekly work shift in the Bergamo Dining Room on Thursdays. At Bergamo the students set tables, fold silverware, serve meals, clean tables and wash dishes, all skills that can help them find employment in a dining service setting.



Bergamo Staff members pictured with Beaver Creek students - Jacob Timmons, Justin Liles, Nathan Nevels and Javon Yokam

Marcy Harris, who leads the Careers 3 Program says social skills, like interacting with employers, co-workers, and the public are a critical component of the program. When they are able, Careers 3 Program students make the transition into workplace situations. According to Harris, her most recent group of students all found employment. "This program works. When the students become employed they begin making the successful transition to adult life; they can begin to support themselves."

Sponsorship Agreement "Roadmap for Success"

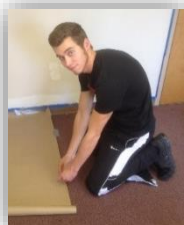
Marianist Retreat Centers and Schools have a unique Sponsorship Agreement that outlines their mutual commitment.

The Bergamo Center was presented with a commemorative plaque as a symbol of the collaborative work of the Bergamo Center with the Marianists to assist Mary's mission of bringing Christ to the world. The presentation was made at the recent Bergamo Board of Trustees Retreat, held at the Bergamo Center. Pictured is board of trustees member, Br. Victor Forlani, SM handing the new sponsorship agreement plaque to Exec. Dir. Brent Devitt.



Walls, Window & Seating Improvements

During November, Eagle Scout candidate Matt Kenney, a senior at Fairmont High School with a host of scout volunteers, completed painting in two offices and the Hoelle Conference room. Matt and his team did a professional quality job. The Bergamo



Center contributed the paint and Matt and his troop provided all the supplies, brushes, tape, drop clothes and most importantly the time to get the job done.

Thanks to funding from the Marianist Province of the United States the first phase of a 5 year project to replace windows in the Bergamo Center was also completed this fall. The windows are more attractive, easier to adjust and more energy efficient.

In response to another much needed improvement, an order has been placed for 185 new chairs for the Conference rooms. The chairs should be in place by Jan. 1 when guest begin to return to the Center after the Christmas Holiday.



Jubilee of Mercy Events

Pope Francis has declared 2016 to be a Jubilee Year of Mercy. A number of opportunities for reflection and recollection are planned at the Bergamo Center. A new web page has been added to the Bergamo website that has updates on [Jubilee Activities at the Bergamo Center](#).

Advent Evening of Recollection * Dec. 3 * 7--9 pm Si Lounge, Sieben Hall, Mount Saint John

An Advent Evening of Recollection focused on the Annunciation-Incarnation. An interconnection with our celebration of the Jubilee of Mercy comes from Thomas Merton who wrote: "Yet the best thing of all is the love of the Virgin Mother of God, who never offended Him, but who received from Him the greatest mercy of all: that of knowing her nothingness in the midst of the greatest perfection, and of being the poorest of all the saints because she was the richest" (*No Man Is An Island*, p. 209). Bergamo's Jubilee Retreat Guide Anthony Franchina, who was taught how to lead Ignatian meditations by the Jesuits while working at Georgetown University, will facilitate this prayerful experience complete with an Application of the Senses. You may register for this free will offering event at the [Jubilee Eventbrite Site](#):

* Dec. 8 * Feast of the Immaculate Conception, 10:00 am

Members of the Daughters of the Immaculate Conception will be gathering at the Bergamo Center to help celebrate the Feast of the Immaculate Conception and help christen the Lower Level Chapel with the name "Mary, Mother of Mercy Chapel." Daughters of the Immaculate Conception will be joining us for lunch. A prelude to the mass begins at 9:30.

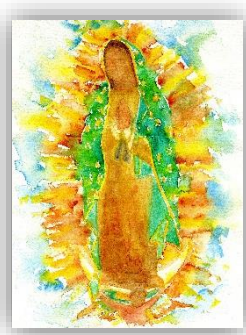


Advent Day of Recollection * Dec. 14 * 9 am -- 3 pm. Si Lounge, Sieben Hall, Mount Saint John

An Advent Day of Recollection focused on the Visitation of Mary to Elizabeth (morning) and the Canticle of Mary also known as the "Magnificat" (afternoon). Saint Ambrose tells us: "Elizabeth was the first to hear the voice but her son John was the first to feel the effects of grace. She heard as one hears in the natural course of things; he leapt because of the mystery that was there. She sensed the coming of Mary, he the coming of the Lord — the woman knew the woman, the child knew the child. The women speak of grace while inside them grace works on their babies. And by a double miracle the women prophesy under the inspiration of their unborn children." This day will also include a wholesome lunch enjoyed in sacred silence.

Charism Luncheon

The Bergamo Center will be the site of the annual Mount Saint John Charism luncheon on Tuesday, Dec. 15 at noon. Social begins at 11:45. *Los Reyes* a local Mexican restaurant has been invited to cater the event so that all employees can enjoy the meal. The luncheon this year will have a fiesta theme in tribute to Our Lady of Guadalupe whose feast is on Dec. 12.



Invitations have been sent to all employees of Marianist entities on the property: Marianist Mission, Marianist Environmental Education Center, Meyer Hall Residence, Novitiate, Queen of Apostles staff, Mount Saint John Facilities, and the newest returnees to Mount Saint John – the North American Center for Marianist Studies who are in the midst of settling into the new Chaminade Center.

Guadalupe Breakthrough, with permission, by Bro. Brian Zampier, SM



Marianist Feast Days in Nov. & Dec.

Bl. Miguel Leibar & Companions - **Nov. 6**
Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary – **Nov. 21**
Thanksgiving - **Nov. 26**
First Sunday of Advent - **Nov. 29**
Our Lady of Guadalupe – **Dec. 12**
St. John the Apostle (*Patron of Mt. St. John*) – **Dec. 27**

November & December Staff Birthdays

Connie Chatterton - November 13
Tommy Parker - Dec.18
Launa Eby - Dec. 31



Nov. & Dec. Retreats/Events (Approx. # of Participants)

Incarnation Confirmation Retreat (100) – Nov. 1
Jubilee Evening of Contemplation (35) – Nov. 2
Seton IN HS (22) – Nov. 2-5
Moeller HS Kairos (70) – Nov. 3-6
Miami Valley Knitting Guild (40) – Nov. 6-8
RCIA in the Parish (29) - Nov. 6-7
Pre Cana (70) – Nov. 7
Incarnation Confirmation Retreat (100) – Nov. 8
Hartley HS Retreat (55) – Nov. 8-9
CJ HS Kairos (65) – Nov. 10-13
Province Formation (25) – Nov. 12-15
Augsburg Women Retreat (20) – Nov. 13-14
New Day Church (130) - Nov. 15
Moeller HS (45) – Nov. 16-17
Seton Cincinnati HS Kairos (55) – Nov. 17-20
Matt Talbot Group (50) Nov. 20-22
ISP Coed Reflection (20) – Nov. 21
Summit Country Day (75) – Nov. 22
Hartley HS Kairos (80) – Nov. 22-25
Bergamo Center Closed for Thanksgiving – Nov. 26-29
Mount Notre Dame HS Retreat (55) – Nov. 30-Dec. 1
Alter HS Kairos Retreat (60) – Dec. 1-4
Advent Evening of Recollection (20) – Dec. 3
LIFE (4) – Dec. 4-6
Lalanne Program Teachers Retreat (21) – Dec. 4-6
Soul Collage (15) – Dec. 5
Alter HS Retreat (65) – Dec. 6-7
Daughters of Immaculate Conception (20) – Dec. 8
Lehman HS Kairos (79) - Dec. 8-11
Deacon Retreat (4) – Dec. 11
St. Albert the Great Confirmation (90) - Dec. 12
ISP Men (20) – Dec. 12
Neuro Yoga (20) – Dec. 12
Advent Day of Recollection (20) – Dec. 14
Mount St. John Charism Luncheon (100) - Dec. 15
Bergamo Center Closed for Christmas - Dec. 18-31

Quote

The mysteries which were announced to Mary were accomplished because she believed.

– Blessed William

