

"Top of the Line"

Bergamo Center for Lifelong Learning
Newsletter

Nov. 1, 2014

In Thanksgiving

This time of year naturally is a time to thank God for our many blessings. We thank the many guests, organizations and schools who have chosen to have their retreat or conference experiences here at the Bergamo Center. Special thanks to Marilyn Schwieterman for contributing three framed pictures of Mary & John at the foot of the cross. We thank the Marianists for their support of the Bergamo mission and for the annual endowment of \$180,000 that helps support the ministry.

Staff Retreat

We also thank **Marilyn McCrate**, former religion/theology teacher at Chaminade Julianne High School for guiding our staff through a day of reflection on the Bergamo mission in light of the Marianist Mission. We thank special guest speaker **Bro. Jack Somerville** for his words on Marianist Charism. The theme of gift was celebrated by activities leading to affirmations from other staff members.

Unfortunately the day was abbreviated a bit by the sudden needs of one of our cooks, Kim Patterson who was rushed to the hospital after a 911 call by the staff. Kim is now at home and recuperating from her fall in the lobby. In this crisis it was gratifying to see all of the staff come to her aid - from flagging down emergency vehicles to supporting her at her side.

The Three O'clock Prayer

The Bergamo Center desires to continue the Marianist tradition of *The Three O'clock Prayer*. A contemporary version of the prayer has been found and new prayer cards, complete with the artwork of Bro. Joe Barrish, will soon be available at the front desk.

Lord, Jesus,
You were lifted up on the wood of the cross
To draw people to yourself;
You shed your life's blood
So that sin might be forgiven
and we might have life to the full.
By embracing this holy mystery of our salvation,
May we become your beloved disciples,
Accepting from your outstretched arms
Your gift of Mary as our mother.

May we learn from her,
To treasure and ponder
your Cross and Resurrection
So that one day,
with you as our Lord and God,
With John our patron and model,
And with Mary,
our joy and our hope,
We may all be gathered together
Around the Tree of Eternal Life.
And may the Father and the Son
and the Holy Spirit be glorified
in all places through the
Immaculate Virgin Mary. Amen



The Three O'clock Prayer is from *The Marianist Family Prayer Book* (2001) by Robert Bouffier, SM. Art by Bro. Joe Barrish, SM.

Bergamo Shadow

The next shadowing experience for Director Brent Devitt will be Nov. 10-11 with **Kevin Kozlowski** – Dir. of Youth Formation for the Mount Notre Dame HS Retreat. High School retreat groups represent the heart of the work of Bergamo with over 50% of our guests who are part of youth hosted Senior Kairos retreats and sponsored junior retreats. It will be an opportunity for the Director to observe and participate in youth talks - Child Protection measures, work with some of the 50 facilitators Bergamo contracts with. This continues to be a weekly learning experience for all and an opportunity to work as equals with co-workers at Bergamo.

Prayers

- For **Kim Patterson** (one of our staff cooks) recovery
- For **Nikky Leasher's** mother recovery
- Please pray for our high school retreatants and guests through the month of November that they find comfort and inspiration during their visits to Bergamo.

Prayers are a regular feature of this bulletin. If you would like to share a prayer or ask for prayers just send a note or email to Brent Devitt – brentd@bergamocenter.org.

Invitation to contribute topics and articles...

Next publication of the *Top of the Line* will be Dec. 1. If anyone has anything to contribute to this communication please submit items by the 25th of the month to: brentd@bergamocenter.org



Marianist Feast Days in November

Bl. Miguel Leibar & Companions – Nov. 6
Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary – Nov. 21

November Birthdays

Connie Chatterton - November 13



Upcoming Retreats/Events and (Approx. # of Participants)

Chaminde Julianne HS Board of Dir. (15) – Nov. 1
Pre Cana (100) – Nov. 1
Hartley HS Retreat (55) – Nov. 2-3
Villa Madonna HS Retreat (50) – Nov. 3-4
Moeller HS Kairos (55) – Nov. 4-8
St. Patrick's Women's Retreat (50) – Nov. 7-8
SONKA UCC Leadership Retreat (20) – Nov. 7
SW Classical Conversation (6) - Nov. 7-8
ISP Ignatian Spirituality Project Women (20) – Nov. 8
Incarnation Confirmation Retreat (100) – Nov. 9
Mount Notre Dame HS Retreat (55) – Nov. 10-11
Ohio River Group (25 – Nov. 10-13
Miami Valley Quilters (25) – Nov. 14-16
Yoga Workshop (30) – Nov. 14-17
ISP Follow-up Men (20) – Nov. 15
St. Maximilian St. Stephen Ministry (51) – Nov. 15-16
Incarnation Confirmation Retreat (100) – Nov. 16
Moeller HS Kairos (55) – Nov. 17-18
CJ HS Kairos (55) – Nov. 18-21
Villa Angela, St. Joseph School (25) - Nov. 21-22
Matt Talbot Group (50) Nov. 21-23
Summit Country Day (75) – Nov. 23
Hartley HS Kairos (80) – Nov. 23-26

Quote

*For something great to happen, there must be a great dream.
Behind every great achievement is a dreamer of great dreams.*

Robert Greenleaf