



**SACRED
HEARTS
RETREAT
CENTER**

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November 13, 2018

Dear Friends,

In memory of Stan's second anniversary, I reprint his message from the last newsletter he wrote. I often reread his messages; I find them inspiring. I share this one with you.

"Time and seasons both on the earth, in life and as church surely go by so fast. The Retreat/Spirituality Center has continued to go at a very fast pace with many people coming and going. The experiences that can only be described as miracle have been many and can only have come from the Holy Spirit. The love that flows from the Hearts of Jesus and Mary has flowed so visibly among so many.

This year too has been a change of seasons for me personally with more cancers becoming a part of my body and so many wonderful doctors and medical people attending to keeping me alive AND functioning as best as I can. I continue with treatments (none of which have really been a "treat") and they keep me going. At the same time, living in The Spirit keeps me of good mind and spirits so that I may continue to the "works" of the Lord which themselves increase The Spirit within me. So, please pray for me AND for all the wonderful people who help me on this journey. Naturally, Sr. Claire has and continues to be the best.

But, as The Congregation of the Sacred Hearts, this is who we are, really brothers and sisters and with all the brothers and sisters who come in and out of these doors, more healing comes in and goes out.

God is a part of all of life, even the parts that seem or even do, threaten it. It is always to focus on the Lord who is with us in everything. Mary, His Mother and our Mother stands by us too even as she stood by her son in everything, even the things she didn't understand...even to the foot of the Cross and to the tomb.

We have so many blessings even when some of them seem to change form. We have so much life, even when some of it is transformed into so much less than we are accustomed to. And, it is all ours if we stay focused on what really and always will matter and, that is in the love of God and ALL God's people before anything else, and in the world today, that is a real challenge.

Join us here for the beauty of the liturgical seasons, the seasons of life in and as church. Join us here and show us God's face in you as we share especially in the Eucharist the face of the most beloved."

Memorial Mass for Fr. Stan Kolasa

Fr. Columban Crotty will celebrate the Mass for Fr. Stan on **Monday, December 3rd at 9:00 AM**. All are welcome. Refreshments and fellowship will follow.

Upcoming Retreats

Fr. David Reid, ss.cc. author of **The Grace of the Rosary** will lead a weekend retreat of the same title in December 7-9, 2018. Friday after dinner through Sunday lunch. Cost \$190.00. Fr. Reid lives in Rome and will be here only for a brief time. Take advantage of this special retreat. Flyer with more information is attached.

Praying with Icons retreats led by Sr. Madeleine Tacy, O.P. has one more session on Tuesday morning December 11. Coffee 9:30; Session 10:00- 12:30. Cost: \$25.00

The Power of Kindness is Peggy Patenaude's mini-retreat on December 12th. Her mini retreats will continue in the new year on the second Wednesday of the month. Coffee 9:30; Session 10:00- 12:30. Cost: \$25.00

Sr. Cynthia Bauer, O.P. postponed her last 2 mini retreats "**Praying with the Mystics**". Sister will resume on Wednesday March 20 with Saint Teresa of Avila, and April 17 with Saint John of the Cross.

Sermon on the Amount

Sermon on the amount is a way of sharing with you the financial situation, in good times and in lean. In the previous newsletter I reported that we were financially in the black. Since that time we have had to put a new roof on the youth center for a cost of over \$26,000 and the hot water storage tank rusted out and that had to be replaced and the connected plumbing upgraded for a cost of \$6,000. Ouch! With the new roof we may now be able to make some improvements to the interior and make it suitable for adult groups on days the youth are not using it. This will generate some additional income in the future.

A special thanks to all of you who have renewed your support team donations. Your generosity is your participation in the valuable ministry for the thousands who retreat here. Thank you for your support. If you have not renewed your support donation, now might be a good time to do so.

OPEN HOUSE

Our annual Christmas Open House is December 16, 2018 from 1PM-5PM. It is going to be a great event and we are preparing for lots of guests. Come and enjoy the fabulous decorations, live music and munch on homemade goodies while sipping a hot chocolate or apple cider! Bring family and friends, bring someone who has never been here and watch their amazement.

A flyer is attached. Feel free to make copies and pass them on to your friends or put them in places where you shop.

As in the past we are in need of volunteers to decorate and to bake goodies. Stan's favorite thing was decorating the house for Christmas. In his memory we will be his hands, feet, and eyes as we beautify the house for Christmas. Decorating is planned for Dec 3-5, 9:00am to 4:00pm. To volunteer please call Sr. Claire at 508-295-0100 or email cbouchard@sscc.org.

A blessed Thanksgiving to you and your loved ones.

Sr. Claire

Sr. Claire Bouchard, ss.cc.

This newsletter update was sent only by email. Please pass the info on to all your friends.