

PINES POST

Our Lady of the Pines Retreat Center Newsletter



1250 TIFFIN STREET, FREMONT OH, 43420

ISSUE 39 | SUMMER 2020



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A Letter from the Executive Director

Dear Friends,

When we published our last newsletter in February, clouds were heavy with the threat of snow, perhaps an ominous sign of what was ahead. Little did we know that winter weather advisories were the least of our worries. Here at the retreat center, my biggest headache was a new copy machine that was not playing nicely. It seems that was a lifetime ago.

The world that we live in now is united – and divided – by a virus, by racial tensions, by politics. It's difficult to absorb the news reports each day. Keep praying. God is with us; we have to keep trusting that He will help us through these confusing and scary times. When Saint Pope John Paul II began his papacy in 1978, he stated "Do not be afraid! Open wide the doors for Christ." We need to hear – and live – those words every day, even now. Especially now.

The hermitages, retreat center, and gift shop are all OPEN! What a gift to return to these holy grounds and continue the retreat ministry started by the Sisters of Mercy almost 100 years ago. Retreat groups are slowly returning. The hermitages continue to accommodate those looking to get away for a few days – or even a week or more. Now, more than ever, people are looking for spiritual rejuvenation.

If you are searching for new ways to enhance your spiritual life while still at home, check out the virtual ministry listings on our website; all have been recommended by friends of the retreat center.

Many of you have reached out and asked about the staff at Our Lady of the Pines Retreat Center, as well as the staff and Sisters at St. Bernardine Home. We have been quite fortunate that no one here has contracted the virus. You have also asked how you can help us.

First, keep the prayers coming. We feel them! Secondly, like so many other organizations, our financial outlook has drastically changed from three months ago; please consider a monetary gift. (The easiest way to do this is via our website <https://www.pinesretreat.org/give>.) The IRS has set forth new incentives for donating money during the pandemic; check with your CPA for the details.

In the short time I have been at OLPRC, I have repeatedly seen how God has blessed us and guided us so we can continue to provide a welcoming space to all, in the Mercy tradition. Thank you for your prayers and warm thoughts. You are our greatest blessing.

Peace,

Heidi

Heidi Chew Osborne
Executive Director

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The Power of Prayer

Prayer lives at the heart of all that is said - and unsaid - between us and God. It is the best - and sometimes hardest - conversation we can have. Sometimes, all it takes is one prayer to change everything.

A Prayer for Uncertain Time by Sister Cynthia Serjak, RSM

In this time of bewilderment and fear, we ask you to give us the courage to take care of one another as Jesus did. For those who are ill, especially those who are frightened and alone, for those who cannot access healthcare, for those who are homeless and lost; Risen Lord, **Hear our prayer.**

In the midst of our sadness and grief, we ask you to give us words to comfort one another. For those who are dying, and for those who have already died from this virus, for those who care for them and for those with no one to care for them; Risen Lord, **Hear our prayer.**

In the midst of our own anxiety, we ask for the courage to support one another as you would. For those who are poor, hungry, and homeless; for those who have lost their employment; those who fear the present and the future; for our government and financial institutions and those who lead them; Risen Lord, **Hear our prayer.**

In the midst of our struggle to ensure a healthy future for all people, we ask you to give us the hope that surpasses our current understanding. For healthcare workers, spiritual leaders and our faith communities, for artists and poets, for prophets and teachers; Risen Lord, **Hear our prayer.**

In the midst of our family and friends, we place the needs of our hearts and the thanksgivings of our lives before God. Risen Lord, **Hear our prayer.**

Our Mission

Our Lady of the Pines Retreat Center, a sponsored ministry of the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas, offers space for all seeking a deeper relationship with God, self, others, and all creation. The spirit of hospitality, a Mercy charism, pervades the place, welcoming all who come.



Host Your Retreat At Our Facility

Are you looking for the perfect place to host your retreat? Whether you're a group of 10 or 20, or 50, we are here to help! Just check out our mission; [we offer space for all!](#)

With our quiet halls, rich history, and 65 acres of evergreens, once you set foot at Our Lady of the Pines Retreat Center, you will feel right at home.

And while you are here, enjoy delicious, fresh cooked meals, charming bedrooms, numerous conference spaces, and the warm Mercy hospitality that pervades our holy space.

For more information, or to book your retreat today, email olprc@pinesretreat.org.



CAN YOU HELP MAKE OUR
wishes
COME TRUE?

Our Lady of the Pines Retreat Center is in need of several items to improve the experience of all who join us in quiet retreat and to make their time with us fulfilling and enjoyable. All you have to do is go to our [WISH LIST](#), choose an item you would like to contribute to our ministry, complete the purchase, and voilà! It will ship directly to our door.

Please also consider using Amazon Smile and selecting Our Lady of the Pines Retreat Center as your charitable organization of choice.

Amazon Smile is the same Amazon we all know and love with just one difference; Amazon Smile donates .05% of all eligible purchases to Our Lady of the Pines Retreat Center at no extra cost to you! It's fast, easy, and very much appreciated.

amazonsmile

TO DO...



VIEW OUR WISH LIST
<https://a.co/9kRQNM1>

SIGN UP FOR
AMAZON SMILE
smile.amazon.com

OTHER UNIQUE WAYS TO DONATE...

1

KROGER COMMUNITY REWARDS

Simply sign into your digital Kroger account at www.kroger.com, link your Plus Card to Our Lady of the Pines Retreat Center, and then SHOP! Swipe your Plus Card when you make a purchase, and Kroger will donate a portion of that purchase to the Retreat Center.

2

PAYPAL.ME

Go to www.PayPal.Me and you can conveniently donate directly at any time! Great for donations in honor of birthdays, jubilees and anniversaries.

3

DONATE DIRECTLY

Donate directly to the Retreat Center by visiting our website www.pinesretreat.org/give and choose between giving a one time gift, or becoming a monthly contributor.

Day Retreat Opportunities

Wise Guys and Wise People

Tuesday, September 15, 2020 | 12:00 P.M. - 2:00 P.M.

Does wisdom come, as many cartoons show, from a bearded guru sitting cross-legged on a mountain-top? If not, then where? Let's kick this around together!

Cost: \$20.00 per person, includes lunch

To register visit: www.pinesretreat.org/0915 | Registration Deadline: Sunday, September 6, 2020

Joy and Happiness

Thursday, November 5, 2020 | 12:00 P.M. - 2:00 P.M.

Is there a difference between joy and happiness? If so, what is it? Some may claim joy is more "spiritual". But what does it mean to us earthlings?

Cost: \$20.00 per person, includes lunch

To register visit: www.pinesretreat.org/1105 | Registration Deadline: Monday, October 26, 2020

Drop-In Vinyasa Yoga

Held every Saturday, June - August, from 9:00 A.M. - 10:00 A.M. **No class the 4th of July*

Feeling a little overwhelmed lately? Find your center among nature with drop-in Vinyasa Yoga Classes held at Our Lady of the Pines Retreat Center.

All Levels Flow | Bring your own mat and water | In the event of inclement weather, class will be indoors

Cost: \$ 12.00 per session or \$60.00 for a 6 class pass

We are always adding new retreats so be sure to check out www.pinesretreat.org for up to date information on all our offerings.

Overnight Retreat Opportunities

The Soul in Autumn, a SoulCollage® Weekend Retreat

Begins Friday, October 9, 2020 at 7:00pm | Concludes Sunday, October 11, 2020 at 1:00pm

Join us for this Fall weekend that invites you to tap into your inner wisdom and spirit by creating, exploring and playing with thousands of amazing images using your own imagination and intuition. In this season of letting go we will explore praying in new ways using this delightful and fun process.

Cost:

\$240.08 for a Standard Room

\$250.38 for a Select Room (room with a bath attached)

\$160.00 to Commute

To register visit: www.pinesretreat.org/SoulCollage-Fall | Registration Deadline: September 28, 2020

In the Fullness of Time, an Advent Overnight Retreat

Begins Friday, December 11, 2020 | Concludes Saturday, December 12, 2020 *Times to be determined*

In the busyness of the season take time to reflect on the wonder of the Incarnation, God with Us.

Cost:

\$60.52 for a Standard Room

\$63.87 for a Select Room (room with a bath attached)

\$35.00 to Commute

To register visit: www.pinesretreat.org/Advent-Overnight | Registration Deadline: December 1, 2020

Featured Retreat

And if you are unable to make any of our scheduled retreats, don't worry, we've got you covered!

Our Lady of the Pines Retreat Center offers private day retreats where you can

come away to God on your own time

Simply call our office at 419-332-6522 when you're ready to book and we'll be happy to help.



Or you can check out our virtual ministry at www.pinesretreat.org/spiritual-resources and get access to all sort of tools and links to help you on your faith journey.

HERE'S THE DEAL...

you're invited

TO MONTE CARLO NIGHT



AT OUR LADY OF THE PINES RETREAT CENTER
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2020

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT WWW.PINESRETREAT.ORG/FUNDRAISER

Staff Spotlight

The Retreat Center is blessed to have such wonderful employees. They are all essential pieces of our glorious puzzle; offering their kind smiles and warm hearts to all those seeking a deeper relationship with God, self, others, and all creation. This is our tribute to them. They all shine like stars.

Getting to Know

HEIDI OSBORNE | EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Favorite Quote:

"It's nice to be important, but it's more important to be nice." -Sir John Templeton

If you were to write a book about yourself, what would you name it?

Chaos Coordinator (I have a t-shirt with this on it; it's fitting for life with four kids.)

If your house was burning down, what is the one non-living thing you would save?

My birthstone ring which has an amethyst from my parents, and a diamond from each of my grandmothers.





1250 Tiffin Street
Fremont, Ohio 43420
www.pinesretreat.org
Ph: 419-332-6522



ARE YOU STRUGGLING TO HEAR GOD'S
VOICE ABOVE ALL THE NOISE?

LEARN HOW TO OPEN YOUR HEART TO HIS WORD ON PG. 6

20% OFF

with purchase
of **\$75** or more



promo
ends
August 31
2020

MUST PRESENT COUPON AT CHECKOUT