

PINES POST

Our Lady of the Pines Retreat Center Newsletter



1250 TIFFIN STREET, FREMONT OH, 43420

ISSUE 40 | FALL 2020



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A Letter from the Executive Director

Dear Friends,

"The tender mercy of God has given us one another." -Catherine McAuley

Recently, I was asked to reflect on the above quote from the foundress of the Sisters of Mercy. The statement struck me deeply, as the idea of God giving us each other – as though we are gifts meant to bring joy to other people (and them to us) – is a profound concept. As we find ourselves – our communities – torn apart by politics, masks, racial tensions, and conspiracy theories, are we viewing people with opposing views as gifts or as hindrances to humankind? Does it *really* matter what another person – a person who has been given to us by God – believes about the efficacy of wearing a mask, or which political issue is most important, or whether children should be in school or staying home to learn? If we view every person we come into contact with as a *gift*, then we should be able to find the goodness that each individual can bring to our lives. Isn't that a more joyful, a more hopeful way to look at life rather than scrutinizing the flaws of others?

More and more, it seems as if society's focus is centered on one word: 'ME.' What is best for MY family? How will this affect ME? While we have to be advocates for ourselves and those who depend on us, there is also the flip side of the coin. What is best for others in my community? How will this decision affect them? If we have been given one another, and if we exist in community, we must seek the full picture.

Since we have been given one another by God, we have been given the great gift of community. We do not – and cannot – exist well without others. Jesus taught that "where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them" (Matthew 18:20). Let us move through the days ahead with open hearts and open minds so that we can truly see the gifts each stranger/acquaintance/friend/family member brings to our lives.

Blessings,

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.

☺ O God,

help us to meditate on your mercy.

to remember your mercy

and to radiate your mercy.

Amen. ☺

-author unknown



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.



OTHER UNIQUE WAYS TO DONATE...

1

KROGER COMMUNITY REWARDS

Simply sign into your digital Kroger account at www.kroger.com and link your Plus Card to Our Lady of the Pines Retreat Center. When you are finished, simply SHOP and swipe your Plus Card when you make a purchase. Kroger will then donate a portion of that purchase to the Retreat Center *at no extra cost to you!*

2

PAYPAL.ME

Go to paypal.me/PinesRetreatCenterOH 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

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 Tuesday evening, September 8 - December 22, 2020 from 5:30 - 6:30 P.M.

It can be hard to find peace in the outside world, but that's not the case at Our Lady of the Pines Retreat Center. Join us for evening Vinyasa Yoga classes where you can not only find your center, but a quiet and peaceful atmosphere allowing you to come away feeling rejuvenated... mind, body, and soul.

All Levels Flow | Bring your own mat and water

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

To register visit: www.pinesretreat.org/yoga

Get-A-Way Days

Available: September 28, October 12, October 28, and November 20 from 9:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.

Are you looking for a respite from the pandemic, the politics, and/or the news reports? Come away for a day to Our Lady of the Pine Retreat Center and experience the wonders of just being. *Use of all amenities included.*

Cost: \$13.00 per person, per day | Lunch is available for an additional \$10; reservations must be made ahead of time.

To register visit: www.pinesretreat.org/get-away-days

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 at 7:00 P.M. | Concludes Saturday, December 12, 2020 at 3:00 P.M.

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.

Fall Fundraiser Update



Every year, Our Lady of the Pines Retreat Center holds its annual fundraiser as a way to offset operating costs. Back in February, we began planning an evening of great fun and fellowship; however, with the virus continuing to be a concern for in-person gatherings, we have shifted gears to a virtual platform.

From October 23-November 1

we will be hosting our

Annual Fall Fundraiser - Virtual Version!

Anyone – anywhere - can bid during those ten days on any personal electronic device!

*There is no need to dress up!
No need to register ahead of time!
No need to even leave your house!*

It's easy-peasy!

Please check out the following website during that time and bid, donate, and share with others!

<https://events.readysetauction.com/ourladypinesretreatcenter/fallfundraiser2020>

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

MARISSA MILLS | OPERATIONS MANAGER

Favorite Quote:

"Happiness can be found, even in the darkest of times, if one only remembers to turn on the light." - Albus Dumbledore

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

I feel like it would be a trilogy: *Overcoming, Becoming, and Sparkling*

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

A box of letters from loved ones that I received while on my Kairos retreat.

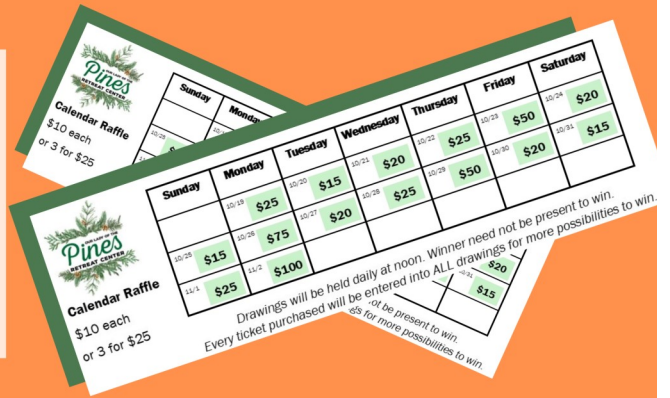


1250 Tiffin Street
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www.pinesretreat.org
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Enter to Win

OLPRC CALENDAR RAFFLE

As part of the Annual Fall Fundraiser – Virtual Version!, we are selling calendar raffle tickets. From October 19 - November 2, we will draw a random ticket at noon each day for a specified cash prize. Every winning ticket will be returned to the pot for the remaining drawings. Yes! You can win more than once! Tickets are \$10 each or three for \$25. Please call the Pines if you would like to purchase tickets – OR find them on our website: www.pinesretreat.org/raffle



15% OFF

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



**promo
 ends
 November 30
 2020**

MUST PRESENT COUPON AT CHECKOUT. PROMO MAY NOT BE COMBINED WITH OTHER OFFERS.