



# OUR LADY OF THE PINES RETREAT CENTER

Newsletter, Fall 2017

E-Mail: [olprc@pinesretreat.org](mailto:olprc@pinesretreat.org)

Volume XXVIII

419-332-6522

1250 Tiffin Street - Fremont - Ohio 43420

[www.pinesretreat.org](http://www.pinesretreat.org)

## Retreat Center Staff

Sara McCoy, Executive Director

Marissa Mills

Office & Programming Coordinator

Judy Koebel

Finance / Human Resource

Sister Wanda Smith, RSM

Retreat Coordinator

Mindy Filiater, Gwenn Kramer,

Nelcy Elder, Guest Assistance

Barbra Depinet, Dietary

Bill Barbour, Maintenance

Lauren Koebel, Housekeeping

Lucas Hammer, June Rich

Night Security

## Retreat Center Board of Trustees

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*Dear Friends,*

The past few summer months at the Retreat Center have been amazing. We have welcomed a number of groups and hermitage guests who found our house and grounds to be just the place they needed for spiritual refreshment. With the energy of so many groups in the house it has been lively, reflective, prayerful, joyous, forgiving and merciful here at The Pines.

We are blessed to be busy with steady bookings and to navigate the challenges that come with that growth. Yes, blessed with challenges. Challenges that make us look at different, creative ways of accomplishing our work while keeping the integrity of retreat ministry and the Sisters of Mercy at heart and the Spirit of Hospitality at the forefront.

Embracing vibrancy is fun and easy. Embracing challenges for growth can be tiring as they consume mental, physical and emotional energy. This is true both in the business world and in our personal lives. Although change and challenge almost always lead to something better, being in the midst of it can make us feel unbalanced. With the coming of the fall equinox the length of day and night is almost equal, almost balanced. As the season continues nature becomes seemingly "unbalanced" with more dark than light.

But nature uses this time to shed the old so the new can emerge. Our lives on all fronts can mirror the natural shift from light to dark. Working through whatever challenge may present itself, one can release burdens, rest, accept impermanence and if necessary correct course. These things help us regain balance mentally, physically, emotionally *and* spiritually.

We at The Pines hope to help you find balance in any number of ways: joining us for our sponsored programs: hosting a retreat group in the Center, coming for an individual retreat day; spending a night or two in a hermitage; making our ministry possible for others by supporting the annual Evergreen Elegance fundraiser; or enjoying the last brilliant days of summer walking our beautiful grounds. Let nature's example of unburdening and paring down help focus your prayer so you can delight in the vibrancy God most assuredly wants in your life.

*Sara McCoy*

*Executive Director*

### *A Note of Congratulations to...*

Sr. Mary Jane Fisher, RSM and Sr. Mary Ann Brady, RSM who celebrated 60 and 70 year Jubilees (respectively) in August! Thank you for your dedicated service of making Mercy known to others.

# Our Lady of the Pines Retreat Center



## General Information

Our Lady of the Pines Retreat Center provides the perfect setting among 68 acres of beautiful pine trees, walking paths and a peaceful atmosphere for your retreat and conference needs. The Pines provides state of the art conference rooms, a variety of meditation/reflection spaces, a large and small dining room and a recently renovated outdoor pool. Call us today at 419-332-6522 and let us help YOU plan for YOUR retreat.

### Business Hours

Monday-Friday  
8:00am-4:00pm



*Our Lady of the Pines Retreat Center, sponsored by the Sisters of Mercy offers a 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.*



### *Relaxation Massage*

Please call 419-332-6522 to book a massage as they are by appointment only.  
...\$61 for 1 hr. ...\$42 for 30 min.

### Hosted Groups and Personal Retreats

Our Lady of the Pines Retreat Center is happy to host group and personal retreats! To schedule or for pricing, please contact Marissa Mills, the Office and Programming Coordinator at (419) 332-6522 or email [olprc@pinesretreat.org](mailto:olprc@pinesretreat.org)

### Event Registration

If you wish to attend an event sponsored by Our Lady of the Pines we request that you pre-register by calling our main office at 419-332-6522. For further information or for any questions in regards to a specific event please call ext. 104 for our Retreat Coordinator, Sister Wanda Smith, RSM.

### Please consider:

- ..... Remembering Our Lady of the Pines Retreat Center in your will.
- ..... Cash donations, pledges, stocks, or bequests in support of The Pines Ministry to those seeking a deeper relationship with God.
- .....A charitable planned gift during your lifetime or as an estate gift.

### We thank our donors for their heartfelt generosity.

In consideration for your contribution, Our Lady of the Pines Retreat Center acknowledges that, as of receipt of this contribution, our organization is an IRC 501© (3) status with the Internal Revenue Service. Our Lady of the Pines Retreat Center affirms that you received no material benefits, goods or services for this contribution.

### *Spiritual Direction...*

Please call 419-332-6522 to make an appointment with a Spiritual Director  
...\$40 for a 1 hr. session

*You are cordially invited to attend the*

# *Evergreen Elegance Gala*

*on Friday, October 27, 2017*

*at Our Lady of the Pines Retreat Center*

*\$65.00 per person*

*Early auction viewing begins at 6:00pm*

*Evening to be catered by:  
Ole Zim's Wagon Shed  
Cash Bar (Beer and Wine)*

*Proceeds from the evening to benefit  
Our Lady of the Pines Retreat Center*

*For tickets or additional information  
call 419-332-6522 or visit our website  
[www.pinesretreat.org/evergreen-elegance](http://www.pinesretreat.org/evergreen-elegance)*



## Sponsored Retreats at Our Lady of the Pines Retreat Center



To register please call 419-332-6522 or visit [www.pinesretreat.org/programs](http://www.pinesretreat.org/programs)

### Poems, Prayers and Praise

**October 18, 2017 12:00 P.M. - 2:00 P.M.**

Come and explore the link between poetry and prayer, and see how often a poem is really a prayer dressed up in fresh words and metaphors. You'll experience how your religious imagination is, in fact, a poetic gene that you may not have yet acknowledged! With Sr. Pat Schnapp, you'll look at some poems that look innocent, but explode into praise and petition to God.

Cost \$15 \*Includes Lunch  
Led by Sr. Patricia Schnapp, RSM

♥Books available in the Gift Shop of Our Lady of the Pines Retreat Center

### Why Have Advent At All?

**November 28, 2017 10:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.**

Explore the richness of Advent during this half day retreat including time for quiet reflection, Mass, lunch and two engaging presentations entitled "Why Have Advent At All?" and "What Makes ADVENT prayer different?"

Cost \$20  
Led by Rev. Charles Ritter  
Senior Status Priest, Toledo Diocese

### The Tree of Hope, a Memorial Tree Lighting Ceremony

**December 2, 2017 7:00 - 8:30 P.M.**

Join us Saturday, December 2, 2017 for the annual Tree of Hope lighting ceremony. Just as we celebrate that Jesus is the Light of the World, we invite you to honor those who brought light to your life with a memorial light on the Tree of Hope. The evening will begin in prayer as we recognize all those who hold a special place in our heart before we proceed outside to gather around the tree for the lighting, inviting all who attend to place an ornament on the tree. Music provided by the St. Ann / St. Joseph Combined Youth Choir. Homemade cookies, coffee and cocoa will be available after the ceremony.

For a light on the Tree of Hope honoring your loved one and inclusion in our prayer listing, go to [www.pinesretreat.org/treeofhope](http://www.pinesretreat.org/treeofhope)

### Take Time to Wait

**December 8-9, 2017 Begins at 7:00 P.M. Friday, ends at 3:00 P.M. Saturday**

In the middle of all the preparation for Christmas, take time to prepare your own heart by waiting in the stillness of the Advent Season. Join Sr. Wanda Smith, RSM, as she invites you to listen for the small, still voice of God during this season of hope.

Cost \$50 (original \$80)  
Priced as our gift to you!

### Centering Prayer is also held at the Pines the first Tuesday of the month

Centering Prayer is a method of silent prayer that allows us to rest in God's presence and consent to God's action within. Upcoming Dates: October 3, November 7, December 5, 2017 from 7:00 - 8:00 P.M. Open to the public. Questions? Please contact Fran Benlein at [fbenlein@woh.rr.com](mailto:fbenlein@woh.rr.com) or 567-201-2286.

Free will offering

Stop into our Gift Shop and check out our new **SALES!**

 Sept. 6, 2017 — It's National Read A Book Day!  
Enjoy 25% off ALL books through Sept. 16th!

 Oct. 21-26, 2017 — Receive a Trick or 'Re' Treat bag with every purchase over \$20

 Nov. 27 - Dec. 4, 2017 — It's our Stocking Stuffer Sale!

## Save the Dates!

May 17 - 20, 2018:

Landscapes & Soulscapes: A Camino Divina Adventure into the Divine with Gina Marie Mammano

Cost: \$285.00 (Standard Room) or \$300.00 (Select Room) ♥ Books will be available in the Pines Gift Shop

July 7 - 14, 2018:

Annual Directed Retreat Cost: \$535.50 (Standard Room) or \$571.55 (Select Room)

June 1 - 3, 2018:

SoulCollage® Card Retreat Cost: \$215.00 (Standard Room) or \$225.00 (Select Room)

October 19 - 21, 2018:

SoulCollage® Card Retreat Cost: \$215.00 (Standard Room) or \$225.00 (Select Room)

# A Hermitage...



**Reserve one of our charming log cabins for a wonderful, private retreat among beautiful Pine trees, walking paths and a peaceful atmosphere.**

The Pines currently offers (2) cabins featuring one bedroom, private bath (with shower) and a small kitchenette. The area possesses a peaceful and natural setting that is calming and relaxing from the minute you step foot in the door. Each cabin has a porch area with seating that allows a close up view of the small pine forest that surrounds the building.

For pricing information or to inquire about availability call Our Lady of the Pines Retreat Center at 419-332-6522

OUR LADY OF THE PINES RETREAT CENTER INVITES YOU TO

# A Tree of Hope

Prayer Service &  
Lighting Ceremony

Saturday,  
December 2, 2017  
at 7:00pm



Join us Saturday, December 2, 2017 for the annual Tree of Hope lighting ceremony. Just as we celebrate that Jesus is the Light of the World, we invite you to honor those who brought light to your life with a memorial light on the Tree of Hope. The evening will begin in prayer as we recognize all those who hold a special place in our heart before we proceed outside to gather around the tree for the lighting, inviting all who attend to place an ornament on the tree. Carols to be sung by the St. Ann / St. Joseph Combined Youth Choir.

Homemade cookies, coffee and cocoa will be available after the ceremony.

*For a light on the Tree of Hope and inclusion in our prayer listing please complete the form below or go to [www.pinesretreat.org/treeofhope](http://www.pinesretreat.org/treeofhope)*

My donation is...(please check one)

\$25.00 (Green Light)  \$50.00 (Red Light)  \$100.00 (Blue Light)  Other \$ \_\_\_\_ (Yellow Light)

My light is... (please check one)

In Memory of...

In Gratitude for...

Please  list their names: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_ # of people attending: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

*\*Please return the form by November, 27, 2017 to Our Lady of the Pines Retreat Center  
1250 Tiffin Street, Fremont OH, 43420 or email [olprc@pinesretreat.org](mailto:olprc@pinesretreat.org)*



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419-332-6522 olprc@pinesretreat.org

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### Wish List

If you can assist with our wish list items (either by donation or purchasing) we are grateful!

- A portable dehumidifier for use in various areas of the Retreat Center
- (6) Beige or cream color light blocking/filtering curtain panels for our kitchen windows to help keep the temperature down when stoves and ovens are on. If purchasing they should measure at least 36" wide by 52" long.

### Previously at The Pines...

SoulCollage® Card Retreat \* Conference Retreat featuring Fr. John Quigley \* Silent Directed Retreat \* Centering Prayer \* Lunch & Learn with Donna Thatcher from Habitat for Humanity presenting \* St. Paul Lutheran Church Women's Retreat \* Winebrenner Theological Seminary \* Moms In Prayer \* St. Patrick Catholic Church (Providence) \* Pathways for Healing \* Water in the Wilderness \* BGSU H2O Campus Ministry \* TRR Ministries \* Mercy College Student Leaders \* Ordained Deacon Retreat \* Seminarian Retreat \* Deacon Candidates and Catholic Charities staff.

*We offer prayers and well wishes to the 20 Deacon Candidates in the Diocese of Toledo, to be ordained September 16, 2017. Our Lady of the Pines Retreat Center hosted these men and their instructors for four years as they prepared for this ministry. God's blessing on each of them!*