



February 2021

Holy Cross Retreat Center Newsletter

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With over 60 years of Retreat Ministry!

RETREAT CENTER OPEN FOR PRAYER

UPCOMING FRANCISCAN EVENTS

We realize that it is difficult to do planning for the retreat schedule since we don't know when it will be fully safe to gather as we usually do. In the meantime we have experience and equipment for online or hybrid retreats. You are welcome to **come overnight** for these retreats if you feel comfortable. Each person will have a private room, unless you are with someone in your household. We provide the spacing suggested and require masks when with others. We will also provide the **online option with cameras to hear and see each other.**

(Please check the dates for each retreat because some have changed.)

Feb. 17 Ash Wednesday—mass at 6:30 pm, bring your old palms to be burned if you wish.



Feb. 26-28 Married Couples retreat—prepare your hearts and spirits for a richer marriage. Guillermo and Veronica Martinez will be with Fr. Tom as leaders. (note change from Feb. 5th weekend)



Mar 12-14 Silent Lenten Retreat—Open your soul to the Lord in the quiet of the season. Presentations then space to pray

Mar 19 Feast of St. Joseph, Eucharist & presentation for an Indulgence during the Pope's Year of St. Joseph 7:00 pm in the Chapel



April 23-25 Recovering Alcoholics Retreat led by Sr. Linda Fischer. Those involved in AA or Alanon will find this enriching. Sr. Linda will be here.



Apr 30-May 2 Retiro Contemplativo
Puede experimentar varias formas de Oración contemplativa, en español, con Padre Tomás Smith

May 21-23 Fratelli, Tutti This is a review of themes from the encyclical by Pope Francis and how we recover from the pandemic with a sense of Fraternity



June 18-20 Women's Healing Retreat with Sr. Helen Santamaria. This is a thoughtfully planned weekend in a very holy space where women can feel cared for, where they can share and listen to other women's experiences and feel a connection to one another, to oneself and to their God.

June 25-27 Desert and Mountain Spirituality a time to find peace and faith in our local environment. Explore the Scriptures and spend time at Dripping Springs as part of the retreat.

You can view and download a brochure at our web site: www.holycrossretreat.org under tab "Register for Retreats" or call us at 575 524 3688 to register.



The Hermitage has been well used during the time of the pandemic. Those who come have a sacred space, with a full bath and kitchenette, and a wonderful view through the large windows. Give us a call and consider this safe, comfortable place for prayer and creativity.

When thinking of gifts consider going to our online Festival of arts page at:



<https://franciscanartfestival.org/>

Please patronize our artists!

New opportunities

Within the past few months we have improved our technology. There is a larger and better TV in the large conference room, with cameras, tablets, and tripods for most any kind of virtual or hybrid gatherings to include people online with those in person.

The wi-fi in the Chapel is much better now and can handle video conferencing easily.

A large TV and a shelf for an amplifier with speakers nearby, or a laptop are now mounted in the

dining room for people to use for words for music, videos, or interactive calls.

Teri Neff

Teri Neff is a medical patient who will be with us for three or four months, or more. She needed radiation treatment first, and is now receiving chemotherapy. As is the case, she is sometimes sick and weak while getting the chemotherapy and it takes awhile to recuperate. She seems to be making progress and hopes to be finished with the major treatment in March.

“I didn’t know where I was going to stay when I came from the Ruidoso area to Las Cruces for treatment. Actually it looked like I might be camping out, until I was welcomed at Holy Cross Retreat Center. I was very malnourished when I arrived because of the cancer, but the retreat center has graciously allowed me to use the kitchen to prepare special meals for myself and am now much better. I have always prayed for other people, and now God is taking care of me with good medical care and a wonderful place to stay.”

Teri



We have been washing our own sheets, etc from the retreat rooms for a number of years. Just before Christmas a donor named Mary Bartelt offered to buy us a new high capacity washer and matching dryer. This will make it easier to care for bedspreads and blankets as well. Tom Brumbaugh here is preparing to hook them up and they are now ready. Many thanks!

The Friars at Holy Cross



This is a picture of the Franciscan friars living here at this point. Fr. Valentine Jankowski, front left, is pastor of Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish in Tortugas and has lived in New Mexico for over 30 years. Fr. Camillus Gott, on right, just moved here in October from the cold of Minnesota. He was an army chaplain for many years and a teacher, and at 89 is still getting on well. I am in the back left and have been here for 10 1/2 years now and truly enjoy the ministry and the state. Fr. Chuck Henkle, middle, is the chaplain for Hospice of Mesilla Valley. Fr. Peter Damian Massengill is the guardian, leader, of the friary community and assists at San Jose Parish in Picacho. And in the center Fr. Ivan Rohloff has been a missionary in four countries, and is now living at the Heritage Assisted Living House.