



Holy Cross Retreat Center Newsletter

65 YEARS OF RETREAT
MINISTRY!

AUGUST 2022

Franciscan Festival of Fine Arts

DONATIONS and VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

With the arrival of refugees we are in need of volunteers and donations of new packages of men's, women's, and children's underwear. We also need jean leggings (or skinny jeans) in all sizes and shoes for adults.

We are very grateful especially For Donna Hollis, Deanna Gibbs, and Lois Stanford who have given so much of their time in caring for immigrants!

Everything looks promising for the 2022 **Franciscan Festival of Fine Arts**. We have many artists and food vendors registered, advertisement is arranged and people seem ready to come out and enjoy themselves. Those who are using the rooms will find that the new windows enhance their displays. Linda Hagan, an artist for many years, is completing the new mural on the wall by the entrance. The enchilada dinner, silent auction for art, wine and beer garden, and musicians are all getting set up.



If you or someone you know would like to have a space as an artist or food vendor you can contact us and we can make arrangements. Many spaces are available!

Saturday 9:00 till 5:00 and Sunday Mass at 9:00, with the festival 10:00 till 4:00 when we have the drawing for the raffle. Come join us September 3rd and 4th for the Art Festival.



The Province Chapter for the Franciscans who serve at Holy Cross Retreat Center met here July 18-22th. They talked about plans for the future, elected leaders, and were pleased to see the activities and improvements at Holy Cross! We welcomed members of the Tigua tribe in El Paso as honorary members as well.



We are delighted with the artwork of Linda Hagan as she nears the completion of the mural depicting St. Francis of Assisi in a southwestern setting. The background, animals and birds are all native to this area and remind us to care for all creation



The retreat on Laudato Si! went well with a group studying the encyclical by Pope Francis and then talking about how we can work together to care for the earth and especially the people who are marginalized. We will continue to promote good ecological response in the coming years.



The Province of Our Lady of Consolation is hosting a vocation retreat the weekend of October 14-16th. This is a time for young men discerning their life direction to consider following St. Francis of Assisi. If you or someone you know would be interested please contact us. There is no cost for those who come to learn about religious life.

The Good Works Volunteers under the direction of Joe Foster are making good progress on the second hermitage. We are impressed with their dedication and skills!



Holy Cross Retreat Center

600 Holy Cross Road
Mesilla Park NM 88047



WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND THE RETREAT CENTER

A day of reflection was conducted July 16 by **Deacon Bob Angelich** for those who are dealing with the stress and issues that come after suffering through a **divorce**. The day was designed to help people gain a perspective on their divorce and understand some of the emotional responses that come with the death of their marriage. The day also demonstrated methods of coping that will hopefully lead to the eventual restructuring of their lives. The love of God was woven throughout the day to show their divorce does not mean they are now unholy or unworthy of God's love. Rather those who suffer through a divorce are still part of the family that is the church and God's healing presence is with them always.



Deacon Bob will also be offering a **5-week course for the divorced** designed to continue the healing process at a deeper level. Participants will meet weekly for 1.5 – 2

hours, **8/30 - 9/27 on Tuesday evenings at 6:30 pm**.

A two-session class will be conducted by Deacon Bob on bible basics and the origins of scripture. Topics covered will include the history of the bible and the how and when the bible was compiled. Will also study the role the bible has in the mass and outside of mass in the day-to-day Christian life. A comparison analysis of the Gospels will also be reviewed. The two-class session will be offered **10/26 - 11/2 on 2 Wednesdays at 6:30 pm**.



Seeking Asylum

Among the refugees who come to Holy Cross was Zhasim and Fatima. They arrived June 21, 2022 having traveled from Russia. After helping them make travel arrangements, Zhasim told me that he was required to serve in the army but resisted saying he didn't want to be a soldier. Instead they left their own country with their two children and his parents to seek asylum in the US. He was still worried about his parents when he left because he has become separated from them. We pray for this family and for many others from Brazil, Venezuela, Ecuador, Cuba, Turkey, Haiti, and elsewhere who still seek a safe place to live away from violence and the effects of climate change.

UPCOMING RETREATS IN 2022

Retreats are a wonderful way to enrich both our personal and our spiritual lives. We invite you to join us for some of the sponsored events listed below. A full brochure is on our **website at: holycrossretreat.org under the "Register for Retreat" tab. You can also consider a retreat that we host as well by looking under the "Calendar" tab. So many people have been uplifted by their experiences at Holy Cross Retreat since our beginning in 1957.**

(Most weekend retreats have check in at 6:30pm)

Aug. 12-14 The Healing Power of Forgiveness. Find the courage to forgive and be forgiven.

Tues. Aug. 30th Five Week course for divorced begins.

Sept. 3-4 [FRANCISCAN FESTIVAL OF FINE ARTS](#)
90+ artists, food booths, beer and wine garden, live music!

Sept 9-11 Grieving Retreat, to help cope with losses of all kinds, and how we can help one another.

Sept. 16-18 Recovering Alcoholics/Alanon retreat led by Fr. Tom Weston SJ. He is a fine speaker!

Oct 3 Transitus to commemorate the death of St. Francis of Assisi 7pm all are welcome

Oct 4 Blessing of Animals
6:30pm.
All are welcome.



Oct 14-16 Vocation Retreat for young men interested in Franciscan life

Oct. 21-23 Sacred Fire Retreat, based on the book by Ron Rolheiser. Considering how to live later year more richly.

Oct. 26 & Nov. 2 Course on the Origins of Scripture.

Nov. 11-13 **Men's Retreat, learn to pray and appreciate your faith in a new way!**

Dec. 2-4 Advent Retreat—Preparing our hearts and lives to welcome the Holy Family

There are prices or suggested donations for each retreat, however if finances are a concern we can make arrangements with you.

Individuals, couples and small groups are welcome to come for private or directed retreats. Call for availability.

TO REGISTER:

Phone: 575-524-3688

Email: programs@holycrossretreat.org