

Holy Cross Retreat Center

Mesilla Park, NM



2021-2022 ANNUAL REPORT

Puede leer en español www.holycrossretreat.org



“Where there is no vision, the people perish” Proverbs 29:18

For many years, Holy Cross Retreat Center was primarily a place for retreats led by friars and occasionally other groups. As times shifted, the hosted retreats became more prevalent and provided good income. We continue to offer retreats on a variety of themes as you will see in calendar and welcome

Fr. Sebastian Cunningham started accepting people without charging who needed medical treatment such as chemo and radiation therapy, but couldn't afford to pay for hotels and restaurants for extended periods.

In 2016 we began accepting refugees and immigrants who needed assistance with clothing, medical care, etc. and guidance in traveling to their sponsors. We also developed a description of Franciscan Hospitality to offer space for those needing sanctuary to avoid deportation.

During the time of the pandemic and since then we have donated space for local people who had no place to stay while they worked with a social worker to get stabilized.

We have an outreach to two prisons to provide confessions and mass and retreats there for those who are incarcerated.

We are also offering training for liturgical ministries in various parts of the diocese.

Our *Laudato, Si!* committee continues to organize events, retreats, and education about the importance of caring for the earth and all its inhabitants..

What is the vision for the next years that helps us enrich the spiritual and personal lives of people, and respond with compassion to those in need, on the margins? Without a vision the retreat center just repeats what we have done and people could perish. Please pray, reflect, and let us know if you have a sense of where God is leading us from here. *Fr. Tom Smith OFM Conv.*



Priests from El Paso Diocese came for the annual retreat.

UPCOMING RETREATS IN 2023

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.

(new retreats and events are in bold)

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|------------------------|--|
| Jan.18 (Wed.) | Interfaith Prayer Day 10-3 |
| Jan 18 | Prayer Service for Christian Unity 6:30pm |
| Jan 31-Feb.1 | “Ways to Pray & Serve” Midweek retreat |
| Feb. 3-5 | Married Couples Retreat |
| Feb. 22 | Ash Wednesday 6:30pm Mass and ashes |
| March 3-5 | Secular Franciscan Retreat: Greccio |
| (date unknown) | Retreat at Otero Prison |
| March 13-15 | Silent Directed Lenten Retreat midweek |
| March 24-26 | Young Adult Retreat 18-35 Intergeneration |
| April 6-8 | Silent Holy Week Retreat |
| April 21-23 | Recovering Alcoholics/Alanon Retreat, by Fr. Tom O’Neil |
| April 22 Sat. | Earth Day Commemoration |
| May 5-7 | Retreat on Scripture |
| May 19-21 | Laudato Si! retreat |
| June 16-18 | Dreams: Parables of the Soul Women’s Retreat with Sr. Margarita Armendariz |
| July 14-16 | Franciscan Lectio: seeing God in all things. |
| July 24-28 | Pilgrimage to the early Franciscan Missions in NM. |
| Aug. 11-13 | The Healing Power of Forgiveness |
| Aug. 25-27 | Toward a Spirituality of Joy --from Heaven to Mirth |
| Sept. 2 & 3 | Franciscan Festival of Fine Arts—artists, food booths, beer garden, live music! |
| Sept. 15-17 | Recovering Alcoholics/Alanon retreat led by Fr. Tom Weston |
| Sept 22-24 | Grieving Retreat |
| Oct. 3 Tues. | Transitus ceremony to commemorate the death of St. Francis of Assisi 7:00pm, |
| Oct. 13-15 | St. Clare—A Light for our time |
| Nov. 3-5 | St. Francis on Care for the Earth |
| Nov. 10-12 | Men’s Retreat |
| Dec. 1-3 | Giving and Receiving Graciously: What does Scripture say? |

Financial Report

New Fiscal Year

You will note that our fiscal year has changed. Previously it was September through August, in this transition year it was September through June, and going forward it will be a traditional July through June fiscal calendar. This transition year is only 10 months long as a consequence of the change. Please keep that in mind as you read the report.

We are very grateful to those who have sent general donations or additional funds during our raffle and appeal. We had cancelled retreats through the end of July and the donations we received helped carry us through the end of last fiscal year.

GIVING BACK:

- Discounts were given to 2 Recovering Alcoholics retreats, 3 groups, several private retreatants, for a value of \$3,738.00.
- 13 temporarily homeless, 239 refugees and one person fearing deportation were hosted for a total of 1113 days at a value of \$47,695.00 (we use a discounted rate to calculate value which is about half of what we would normally charge for a room.)
- 7 Medical patients were hosted for a total of 142 days at a value of \$6,390.00 (discounted rate)

GIVING THANKS

We received volunteer service by way of the Good Works Volunteers totaling 500 hours, 184 hours for stuffing envelopes, and 2089 hours from Dee, Frank, David, Fred and Betsy, Kat, Jorge and refugee volunteers for various projects. Value of these volunteer hours was approximately \$36,214. Holy Cross Foundation was instrumental in hosting RA retreats, purchasing new windows, HVAC and software. **THANK YOU ALL SO MUCH!!!**



NMSU Students enjoying the end of an Aggie Awakening!

FINANCIAL REPORT

September 1, 2021—June 30, 2022

INCOME	FY 2021-22	
Retreat Income	\$327,587.68	#1
Holy Cross Retreat Foundation Grant	\$41,910.10	
Art Festival Income	\$29,668.31	#2
Return on Investments	(68,461.19)	#3
General donations, cancer donations and Annual Appeal	\$161,695.57	
Other (Gift shop, soft drinks, etc)	\$17,898.94	#4
Grants	\$4,482.50	#5
TOTAL INCOME	\$514,781.91	#6
EXPENSES		
Salaries and Benefits	\$298,876.47	
Meals and Kitchen	\$63,559.85	
Utilities	\$27,074.69	
Insurance	\$2,877.00	
Maintenance, Administration, Housekeeping, etc	\$62,401.03	
Capital Improvements & Renovations	29,610.97	#7
Hermitage construction	\$16,527.64	#8
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$500,927.65	#9
NET INCOME	\$13,854.26	

NOTES:

- #1: Retreat income was up by \$225,088.55 this year
- #2: General donations \$107,349.04; Annual Appeal \$50,940.63; Medical patient donations \$700; chapel donation box 2,705.90.
- #3: This year we lost most of what we gained last year.
- #4: Net for gift shop was \$5,617.10
- #5: Emerg. Food & Shelter grant
- #6: total income was up 55k from last year despite 10 month fiscal year and 68k losses in investments
- #7: Includes part pmt for new windows, bathroom windows, etc
- #8 Hermitage construction began this year
- #8 Expenses up because of hermitage, more groups
- #9 Expenses down by \$176,523.42 from last year

Checking account balance as of Aug 31, 2020:	\$ 35,134.18
Savings:	\$130,000.00
Long term investments:	\$346,042.66

Holy Cross Retreat Center
Conventual Franciscan Friars
600 Holy Cross Road, Mesilla Park, NM 88047
575 524 3688 www.holycrossretreat.org

With over 65 years of Retreat Ministry!

Advent 2022

The phrase **“Where there is no vision, the people perish.” Proverbs 29:18** seems to guide me since I saw it recently. Some people have lost the hope of a stable faith life and seem to be dying spiritually. Others struggle with personal concerns and need an attentive person to care. Listening to the refugees who endure so much to travel to the United States seeking asylum to escape the chaos of their home countries, or to a woman who needs surgery but can't have it because she and her husband were living in a car makes me feel like we have resources to share with our Franciscan hospitality. Others are engaged in their local churches yet are seeking a renewal that brightens their hearts and eyes through reconciliation and retreats. We also need air conditioning in the kitchen!

Holy Cross Retreat Center has been an oasis in the desert for 65 years now and you can help us continue to sustain the vision that brings new life and hope! Keisy is a little girl who traveled overland from Ecuador in spite of many dangers, yet was sick with RSV when she arrived at Holy Cross. She was taken to a medical volunteer and then immediately to the hospital where she stayed 8 days with her parents till she was strong enough to be discharged. Patricio and Maria thanked us profusely for saving her life. A woman was troubled in many ways, yet after an extended confession she felt relieved, renewed, and full of the Spirit. Your financial support helps us continue our retreat ministry and outreach. Thank you!



Fr. Tony Smith OFM Conv.

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Yes! I would like to help support the vision Holy Cross Retreat Center!

☐ \$2,500.00 ☐ \$1,000.00 ☐ \$500.00 ☐ \$250.00 ☐ \$100.00 ☐ \$50.00 ☐ \$25.00 ☐ other _____

Credit card, if used: Name on the card: _____ card number: _____

Full billing address: _____ Expiration Date: _____ CVS(on back): _____