



Holy Cross Retreat Center Newsletter

Over 65 YEARS OF
RETREAT MINISTRY!

JUNE 2023

Earth Day-Retreats-Festival

As part of **Earth Day** events in April, a group attending offered to assist in planting bushes and trees around our new hermitage. **Jeff Anderson, the County Extension agent** (on right) gave suggestions for drought resistant trees and here is a picture as a Chinese Pistache tree was given a new home!



Deacon Bob Angelich has been offering evening sessions on **Scripture** as well as ministry to the divorced. This group came together to understand the mysteries of the Book of Revelation. He will lead a session on the **Samaritan Woman at the Well** on **June 14 at 6pm**. He will also be leading a weekend retreat June 23-25 largely for those near or in retirement, called "**Rediscover Your Godly Purpose**." Call 575-524-3688 or go to our website to register.



The Earth Day Ecumenical Service was held Sunday April 23. This was an opportunity for about 30 people of different denominations to come together to pray and

to learn about ecological issues. The 4 person panel included Fr. Jonathan Hanneman, Rev. Henry Atkins, Pastor Lyn Bussian, and Sr. Odile Coirier.



Sr. Margarita Armendariz will lead women in a retreat on "**Dreams: Parables of the Soul**." The weekend of **September 8 & 9**. **Note change of date...** promises to be refreshing and spiritually enriching as Sr. Margarita shares her wisdom and joyful approach to life.



Register for the **FRANCISCAN FESTIVAL OF FINE ARTS**. The new forms for Artists and Food Vendors are available for the Franciscan Festival of Fine Arts, Sept. 2 & 3. You can see them at HolyCrossRetreat.org under events, or call us at 575 524-3688

Welcome! to new **ACTS** groups from **Our Lady of Guadalupe** in El Paso and San Elizario and **San Lorenzo** in San Elizario and Clint. **Welcome back!** to **Queen of Peace** parish in El Paso. There has been a good response and the teams are pleased with the upgrades to the rooms, windows and grounds.

Holy Cross Retreat Center

600 Holy Cross Road
Mesilla Park NM 88047



The retreat center welcomes many youth and young adults. The 8th graders from St. Patrick school in El Paso came before graduation to enrich their faith and prepare them for coming years. Fr. Tom Smith led them and invited smaller groups to write down occasions



when people in the bible came to know God in a special way. Then they were asked to share a time in their own lives when they felt God's presence. Apparently laying on the floor helps them think better.....



The new hermitage has received the Certificate of Occupancy, been cleaned up, and we are ready to place the furniture inside. We already have someone scheduled to use it June 15th! Come see it sometime if you can, enjoy the fountain that welcomes birds and

small animals, and plan some quiet time or sabbatical time yourself.

UPCOMING RETREATS IN 2023

- June 14 6pm Samaritan Woman at the Well bible study Deacon Bob Angelich
- June 23-25 Rediscover your Godly Purpose: Retreat for retirees, Deacon Bob Angelich
- July 14-16 Franciscan Lectio: seeing God in all things, complements Lectio Divina.**
- July 24-28 Pilgrimage to the early Franciscan Missions in NM. Travel with Fr. Tom. (tentative, hoping the pueblos open.)
- Aug. 11-13 The Healing Power of Forgiveness
- Aug. 25-27 St. Francis and Pope Francis, Inspiration and Compassion**
- Sept. 2 & 3 Franciscan Festival of Fine Arts—artists, food booths, beer garden, live music!**
- Sept 8 & 9 Dreams: Parables of the Soul Women's Retreat** Sr. Margarita Armendariz
- Sept. 15-17 Recovering Alcoholics/Alanon retreat led by Fr. Tom Weston
- Sept 22-24 Grieving Retreat

There are prices or suggested donations for each retreat, however if finances are a concern we can make arrangements with you. Call 575 524-3688 or email programs@holycrossretreat.org for more info.



Part of our hospitality to immigrants is connecting them with lawyers who can help process their applications for asylum and eventually get a work permit. In the past few months many have come to Holy Cross Retreat Center and we are grateful for all lawyers and volunteers who came to assist.

Franciscan Lectio Retreat , July 14-16. Approach the ancient tradition of lectio divina from a fresh, Franciscan perspective. The author, Fr. Dan Riley comes alongside us in our own encounters with lectio and inspires our spiritual imagination through story, art, poetry, Franciscan mysticism, and Scripture—helping us to see that all of life is united and sacred. Led by Fr. Tom Smith, OFMConv. Call 575-524-3688 or visit our website to register.