



# Holy Cross Retreat Center Newsletter

Over 65 YEARS OF  
RETREAT MINISTRY!

AUGUST 2023

## Franciscan Festival of Fine Arts

There is still time to 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](http://HolyCrossRetreat.org) under events, or call us at 575 524-3688. Pass the word!



The Franciscan Festival of Fine Arts provides a wonderful way to spend part of your Labor Day weekend. You can enjoy a wide variety of artists both in airconditioned rooms as well as outside in booths.

An enchilada dinner prepared by our wonderful cooks, paella, and a variety of other food booths along with the beer and wine garden make for a pleasant eating. Live music on two stages, a silent auction, and a raffle supplement the atmosphere. Free parking, and entrance by donation. **Saturday Sept. 2, 9:00 till 5:00; Sunday mass at 9:00am and the festival is from 10:00 till 4:00.**

The "Sr. Water Hermitage" is now complete and in use.

A colorful interior and a gurgling water fountain make this a prayerful and restful place. Try it out!



*After some engaging discussions and two visits, we have invited Fr. Henry Beck OFM to join us as a full time staff member. Here is his introduction to us!*

"I have been deeply enriched by our Franciscan theology and spirituality which offers us a Gracious and Loving God who is deeply connected with all in the human family and all of creation. This is a precious heritage which I know is at work at HCRC, and I look forward to joining with all of you there to deepen and strengthen this Franciscan vision and action for justice in the human family and care of creation.

I am very grateful for Pope Francis and his guidance to us through his letters of "Laudato Si" and "Fratelli Tutti." I am also very grateful for his initiation of the "Synod for Synodality." We have been promoting the Synod here at St. Francis Retreat House, Easton, PA, and I look forward to exploring the words and actions of the Synod with you at HCRC as it develops.

I enjoy accompanying others in our common psychospiritual journeys into greater wholeness, meaning, and faith; and I enjoy teaching about our journeys toward our "true selves." I also hope to reach out to others in the area and strengthen a network of support for others through linking together those who offer spiritual direction, pastoral counseling, and clinical counseling.

I look forward to joining you all in early August, and I wish you many blessings,

Fr. Henry Beck OFM

**Deacon Bob Angelich** has been a part of our staff here for over a year. During that time he had a serious health scare, but regained his strength and continued to offer Scripture study and other services. However, he has decided to return to Indiana to be closer to his sons and their families. Thank you, Bob, for your gifts and may your days go well.

# Holy Cross Retreat Center

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Fr. Camillus Gott OFM Conv. came to live at our friary about two years ago. He often assisted with confessions, joined in on retreats, and shared his faith with people in the area. Recently he found out that he had cancer and chose not

to seek treatment. He died peacefully on June 20th, shortly after his 91st birthday. We had a memorial mass in the Chapel with a nice group, and a funeral and burial at Mt. St. Francis in Indiana. Let us promote vocations to continue our spirit!



Each year we have several groups of high school students from around the country who join here for World Leadership School. It is a chance to get a personal experience of the Southwest and immigration issues. One of the requirements is that they turn in their phones so they can focus on new experiences. Here they are playing a very active game of **Egyptian War**, instead of spending time on phones.....

### Immigration Update

We have been welcoming immigrants who need longer stays at times. Some were unprocessed, and others have more complications than can be resolved in two or three days. In one case, the immigrants were assisted by both retreatants and our staff, after singing the **Posada** song, “En el nombre del Cielo hemos pido posada.” Others have stayed for longer times to get their status updated or to earn money for travel. It is a challenge at times but a real service to those who have struggled so much to find a safer place to live.

## UPCOMING RETREATS IN 2023

- 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** led by **Sr. Margarita Armendariz**. She will lead women in a retreat on “promises to be refreshing and spiritually enriching as Sr. Margarita shares her wisdom and joyful approach to life.”
- Sept. 15-17 **Recovering Alcoholics/ Alanon retreat** led by Fr. Tom Weston. Apply early
- Sept 22-24 **Grieving Retreat** *This is a time to connect with our sense of loss, which can come in many ways. The interactions and input will renew and refresh you.*
- Oct. 3 Tues. **Transitus ceremony** to commemorate the death of St. Francis of Assisi 7:00pm, all are welcome
- Oct. 13-15 **St. Clare Light for our time** **Contemplative Prayer—Taize, Centering**, with Fr. Henry Beck OFM
- Nov. 3-5 **St. Francis and the Incarnation, 800<sup>th</sup> ann. of Greccio event**
- Nov. 10-12 **Men’s 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](mailto:programs@holycrossretreat.org) for more info.



Participants in the Pilgrimage to Franciscan Missions.