



Newsletter December 2017

Our December 1st Friday Mass and Dinner was held on December 1. Forty-nine of us attended. We were delighted to acknowledge three of our candidates for investiture in 2018, Jeff Hayes, Maria Joyce and Ken Peach. We sang Happy Birthday to Kathleen Cinotti and Noreen Centracchio, our December celebrants.

We gave special thanks to Tom and Chris Kroeger for their hospitaller efforts in Lee County, noting in particular their Re-entry Backpack Program for victims of human trafficking, which was meeting to pack the backpacks the following Monday.



Jo O'Reilly made a special presentation to BJ Barone, giving him a monogrammed towel to use in Lourdes, since BJ insisted on bringing his own towel to the baths this year



Lourdes Pilgrimage Introduction Dinner

Betsy and Mike Cogburn host an annual reception and dinner for people who may be interested in the Lourdes Pilgrimage of the Order. It is a wonderful way to expose potential candidates to the Order and its works. Many of our recent new members have been guests at previous dinners. This year, the dinner will be on the second Sunday in January. If you know someone who would be a good candidate, please inform Pete so he can issue an invitation. If you identify a guest, you will also get an invitation.

We also announced that **Hope for Haiti** needed volunteers the following morning to pack food. Joanne Kuehner informed us after packing that the response from our members was overwhelming, allowing them to pack thousands of additional meals. Thanks to all who were able to participate.

Our dinner speaker was Courtney Price who described the Order's **Prison Pen-Pal Program**. She noted that the program is a way for most of us who cannot visit prisons to nevertheless minister to our incarcerated brothers and sisters. The program involves writing an anonymous letter every 4-6 weeks to an inmate. Several of our members indicated an interest in participating in the program. Contact Morgan Baker at 202-331-2494 or his email at mbaker@orderofmalta-federal.org.





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We received a message from Rob Amen that his son, Rob, Jr., was benefitting from our prayers and had returned home to continue his treatment for leukemia. Rob thanked those who were offering prayers.

We also thanked Nancy Stec, our newsletter editor, for her work with St. Ann School that resulted in St. Ann adopting the Holy Family Hospital of Bethlehem Advent Program. The program provides an educational experience for students and generates a nice donation to the hospital.

Mini-Retreat

Please mark your calendars for our Annual Mini-Retreat, which will be held on Friday, February 2.

The order of events is as follows:

2:00PM	Ushers greet attendees
2:10PM	Vesting—Please be robed/caped (with large decorations) by 2:15PM
2:20PM	Robed/caped members line up for the Procession.
2:30PM	Procession
3:30PM	Break
4:00PM	Retreat—Led by retreat master Father Ian Jeremiah, with two 45 minute sessions separated by a short break
5:45PM	Travel to the Naples Sailing and Yacht Club for dinner

Defense of the Faith Symposium

Our annual Defense of the Faith Symposium will be held on Sunday, March 18 at 4:00PM at St. John Neumann High School in Naples.

Our speaker will be Bishop Frank Dewane. He will be addressing a topic of current interest in the church. A reception will follow.

Future Dates

January 1st Friday Mass and Dinner will be on January 5, 2018.

American Association retreat at Bethany Retreat Center in Lutz, FL (just north of Tampa), will be March 2-4.

March 1st Friday will be on March 9, the second Friday (to avoid the American Association retreat the preceding weekend).

Ministries

Our regular ministries are going strong on a weekly basis.

Respect Life prays the Rosary in front of Planned Parenthood on Creech Road in Naples every Monday morning at 8:40.

Contact BJ Barone at BJB@bjbarone.com for more information.

Power Pack fills nearly 300 bags with food for the weekend for needy school children in Naples every Wednesday morning at 9:00AM. We are usually done by 10:00AM. Contact Tom O'Reilly at toriinap@aol.com for location and more information.

