



Newsletter—January 2018

Mini-Retreat February 2

Mark your calendar for February 2, the date of our annual mini-retreat. Mass begins at 2:30 at St. Ann's in Naples. Our regular 1st Friday dinner will finish the day at the Naples Sailing and Yacht Club. The cost is \$105 per person (\$20 for the retreat and \$85 for dinner). Formal invitations will be coming shortly. The order of events is as follows:

2:00PM	Ushers greet attendees
2:10PM	Vesting—Please be robed/caped (with large decoration) by 2:15PM
2:20PM	Robed/caped members line up for the Procession
2:30PM	Procession—Mass celebrated with Father Ratzmann and Father Jeremiah
3:15PM	Group photo with Father Ratzmann and Father Jeremiah
3:30PM	Break
4:00M	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

January 1st Friday Mass and Dinner

Our first 1st Friday of the year was held on January 5, 2018. Fifty-seven members and guests attended. Maria Joyce, one of our candidates for investiture in November, was on hand. Tim and Kathleen Gunderman, guests of the Mezzalinguas, joined us, as did Erika Pineros, our speaker from Catholic Charities, and her colleague Daniel.

Al Cinotti, David Joyce, Edie Muraski and Joe Price celebrate birthdays this month, so we serenaded them with a rousing "Happy Birthday!"

A Special Thanks

Pete Bewley, Naples Area Chair, expressed special thanks to Jo O'Reilly, our Area Events Coordinator, who handles the arrangements for all our activities including First Friday masses and dinners. Along with her other duties, she does the seating assignments, an idea she developed and which has been extremely well received. This year has been particularly challenging as we have had to move locations and have been impacted by venue constraints. Through it all, Jo maintains her equanimity and gets the job done. Please help Jo out by sending in your reservations (including menu choices) by the due date in the invitation, and, if you have to cancel, please let Jo know as soon as possible. Late cancellations cost the Area money because we have to pay for the meal.

Backpacks for Victims of Human Trafficking

The evening ended with a presentation by Erika Pineros, coordinator for the Human Trafficking Program at Catholic Charities. One of our ministries, led by Chris and Tom Kroeger, provides re-entry backpacks for victims of human trafficking in the Diocese of Venice. Members donate all the contents of 25 backpacks a year. The backpacks are the first possessions of victims who show up at Catholic Charities with only the clothes

on their backs. Erika painted a graphic pictures of the wretched state in which these victims appear, including showing a video featuring one of the participants in the re-entry program. Her presentation so moved us that spontaneously a number of members offered to fund additional backpacks at \$130.00 each. **If you wish to participate in this ministry in this way, please send a check made out to the Order of Malta in any amount to Pete Bewley, 2174 Miramonte Way, Naples, FL 34105. Note on your check that it is intended for the Victims of Human Trafficking Program.** Your contribution is tax deductible.

Annual Defense of the Faith Symposium

Mark your calendars for our annual Defense of the Faith Symposium to be held on March 18 at 4:00PM at St. John Neumann High School in Naples. Our speaker will be Bishop Frank Dewane, our bishop in the Diocese of Venice. He will be addressing current issues in the Church. The event is open to the public, so please invite friends who may be interested. Refreshments will follow.

American Association Spring Retreat

The American Association Spring Retreat is being held at the Bethany Retreat Center in Lutz, FL on the weekend of March 2-4. The retreat master is Bishop Caggiano from Bridgeport, CT. He was the retreat master last year and was invited back because of his excellent reviews. Several of our members and candidates will be attending.

For more information, see the American Association website at orderofmaltaamerican.org. If you plan to go and would like us to consider arranging a bus to take a group of us, please contact Pete at pbewley@alumni.princeton.edu or 510-759-5912.



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Ongoing Ministries

We have two ministries that we conduct on a weekly basis and one on a monthly basis during the season.

Respect Life: We pray the Rosary at 8:45AM every Monday morning in front of Planned Parenthood at the corner of Goodlette Road and Creech Road in Naples. Please contact BJ Barone at BJB@bjbarone.com or call 239-825-9250 to participate.

Power Pack: We pack weekend food bags at 9:00AM every Wednesday while school is in session for 275 Naples elementary school children. The location may change, so please contact Tom O'Reilly at toriinap@aol.com or 239-451-0015 to participate.

Ronald McDonald House: Once a month, our Lee County contingent cooks dinner for families staying at Ronald McDonald House in Fort Myers. Pictured below are Anne and Wayne Godsey and Chris and Tom Kroeger cooking on December 21st.



Annual Contributions

Annual contributions to the American Association are due. The Association rebates to the Area a portion of those contributions for grant giving, based on the number of members who have made their contributions, Those who have not yet made their contribution are encouraged to do so now, so that we maximize our local grant making capability. Last year we were able to donate over \$15,000 to Community Pregnancy Clinics, an amount that enabled CPC to save more than 20 babies from abortion.

Naples Area 2018 Activity Calendar

2-Feb-18	Friday	2:30PM	Naples Area Mini-Retreat Dinner to follow at NSYC	St. Ann Church
9-Mar-18	Friday	5:30PM	First Friday Mass and Dinner Dinner to follow at NSYC	St. Joachim Chapel
18-Mar-18	Sunday	4:00PM	Defense of the Faith Symposium Speaker: Bishop Frank Dewane	St. John Neumann School
27-Mar-18	Tuesday	10:30AM	Mass of the Holy Chrism	Epiphany Cathedral-Venice
6-Apr-18	Friday	5:30PM	First Friday Mass and Dinner Dinner to follow at NSYC	St. Joachim Chapel
7-May-18	Monday	8:40AM	Respect Life Ministry	Planned Parenthood
11-May-18	Friday	5:30PM	First Friday Mass and Dinner Dinner to follow at NSYC	St. Joachim Chapel
1-Jun-18	Friday	5:30PM	First Friday Mass and Dinner Dinner to follow at NSYC	St. Joachim Chapel
22-Jun-18	Friday	12:10PM	St. John the Baptist Feast Day Mass	St. William Church

SUMMER HIATUS