

**Mini-Retreat February 7**

Mark your calendar for February 7, the date of our annual mini-retreat. Mass starts at 2:30 at St. Ann 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:	2:00PM	Ushers greet attendees
	2:10PM	Vesting—Please be robed/caped (with large decorations) by 2:15P
	2:20PM	Robed/caped members line up for the Procession
	2:30PM	Procession—Mass
	3:30PM	Break
	4:00PM	Retreat—Led by retreat master Robert Ritchie, 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**

Our first 1st Friday of the year was held on January 3, 2020. Father Ratzmann celebrated mass at St. Ann's. Fifty-six members and guests attended. Guests included Michael O'Rourke, our dinner speaker, guest of Rob and Claudia Amen, Mike and Pam MacDonald, guests of Jim and Pat Costello, Ben and Michele Maltese, guests of BJ and Lucia Barone, and Teresa Claugus, a member of the Federal Association who has moved to Naples and was a guest of Ave Bransford. One of our candidates for investiture in November was on hand, Lucia Barone.

**Prayer for the Health of Members and Family Members** - We began the evening with a prayer for the recovery of the health of several of our members and family members, including Tommy O'Reilly, son of Jo and Tom O'Reilly, Sue Dillon, Tom Redmond, Jeanne Murtaugh, Al and Kathleen Cinotti, Norene Centracchio and Steve Orr.

**Birthdays**— Claudia Amen, Jane Broughton, David Joyce, Edie Muraski and Joe Price celebrate birthdays this month, we all serenaded them with a rousing "Happy Birthday!".

**Special Thanks**—Pete Bewley, Naples Area Chair, gave special thanks to Steve Barrett, who stepped in as substitute choirmaster to lead our Christmas carols at December 1st Friday in the unexpected absence of Jim Dillon. Steve did a wonderful job on short notice.

**Request for Visitors**—Pete advised that Al and Kathleen Cinotti are getting out of the house less these days because of health issues and would welcome visitors. If you know Al and Kathleen and would like to visit them, please give them a call. If you don't know them, but would like to stop by, please contact JoAnne Kuehner at [joanne@hopeforhaiti.com](mailto:joanne@hopeforhaiti.com) or 239-777-7183 to coordinate visits.

**Logue Aprons**—Marcella and Dennis Logue have been regulars at the mobile food pantry on the fourth Monday of the month. Pete awarded them their well-deserved Order of Malta aprons.



**Organization News**—Pete announced that after five years of service Nancy Matthews is stepping down from the Area Hospitaller's role. She will continue to organize our annual Defense of the Faith Symposium. Pete thanked her for all of her work, and especially for substituting for him in his absences. She will be replaced by Michael Rothmeier, who has been leading our Alzheimer's ministry.

After more than six years as Area Membership Chair, Chadd Garcia is stepping down. He will be replaced by Gerrie Musicco, who has just finished her term as membership chair in Connecticut and is now a full-time Naples resident. Pete thanked Chadd for his successful term and especially for his behind the scene efforts to keep applicants proceeding through the application process.

**Annual Contribution**—Our annual contributions to the Order are due by January 31. Please make your contribution before then. Our annual charitable contribution allocation from the Order of Malta Foundation, which supports Community Pregnancy Clinics and the Power Pack ministry, is based on the number of dues paying members. In addition, payments made by the January 31 deadline garner a bonus payment to our area from the Association.

**Benefit Tables**—Pete asked that anyone who is attending any of the three major benefits supported by many of our members (Hope for Haiti on February 15, Celtic Ball on February 21 and Emerald Ball on March 7) and who wants to sit at a table with other members of the Order let him know so that he can coordinate seating with event chairs.

**American Association**—The American Association Spring Retreat is being held at Bethany Retreat Center in Lutz, FL on the weekend of January 31—February 2. Bishop Caggiano from Bridgeport, Connecticut will be the retreat master. Several of our members will be attending. For more information see the American Association’s website [orderofmalta.org](http://orderofmalta.org).

**After Dinner Speakers**

**Malta House**—Rob Amen introduced Michael O’Rourke from Connecticut, who spoke about Malta House in Fairfield, a home for single pregnant women. The goal of the house is to help every resident become self-sufficient through education and introduction to work. After doing a survey, Malta House is currently undergoing an expansion to respond to the unmet need. Michael asked for our prayers for the successful completion of the capital campaign to support the expansion. The dinner engendered discussion among Michael and Community Pregnancy Clinics representative Gary Ingold and David Joyce about potential synergies between CPCI and Malta House, possibly in Naples.

**Notre Dame Club Communion Breakfast**—Steve Barrett announced that there is a Communion Mass and Breakfast coming up sponsored by the local Notre Dame Club at 9:30AM on Sunday, January 19, at the chapel at St. John Neumann Catholic High School. The speaker at the breakfast will be Julia Szwed from Community Pregnancy Clinics. The cost is \$35. If you would like more information, contact Steve at [barrettjr.rs@gmail.com](mailto:barrettjr.rs@gmail.com).

**Christmas Gifts**—BJ Barone bought a number of the Christmas ornaments that Charlotte Williams was selling on behalf of the Auxiliary to support the Holy Family Hospital in Bethlehem. BJ is giving the ornaments as gifts to heighten awareness of the works of the Order. Here is a photo of the staff of CPCI’s Gainesville clinic with their Christmas ornaments.



**Ongoing Ministries**

We have three ministries that we conduct on a regular basis.

**Respect Life**—We say the Rosary at 8:45AM every Monday morning (except legal holidays) in front of Planned Parenthood at the corner of Goodlette-Frank Road and Creech Road in Naples. Please contact BJ Barone [BJB@barone.com](mailto:BJB@barone.com) or 239-825-9259 to participate.

**Power Pack**—We pack weekend food bags at 8:00AM every Wednesday while school is in session for Naples elementary school children at Catholic Charities, 3174 Tamiami Trail East, in Naples. Please contact Tom O’Reilly ([toriiinap@aol.com](mailto:toriiinap@aol.com) or 239-451-0015 to participate.

**Mobile Food Pantry**—We distribute fresh food to over 100 families at River Park Community Center, 10th St. N. and 3rd Ave. N, in Naples on the fourth Monday of every month. Contact Courtney Price at [ckmprice@comcast.net](mailto:ckmprice@comcast.net) or 202-744-0514 to participate.