

Merry Christmas



Jesus is The
Reason for The Season

Christmas 2013

*“O God-centered poverty, whom the Lord Jesus Christ
Who ruled and still rules heaven and earth,
Who spoke and things were made,
Came down to embrace before all else.” (1Lag 17)*



And the Word became flesh, and made His dwelling among us, and we saw His glory... John 1:14

Dear Family and Friends,

Today we celebrate Christmas, the Word becoming one of us. This choice which Christ made changed everything. God's choice to make His home among us brought us the Christ who showed us the love of the Father and He continues to show us that love each day. This knowing that God is with us every moment of everyday gives us a future full of hope. This knowledge brings joy and gives us the reason to rejoice and celebrate this great feast of Christ With Us!

October 3rd found us celebrating the Transitus, the passing over, of St. Francis of Assisi. We gathered at St. Clement Parish, along with our Brother Friars, Third Order Regular Sisters and Brothers, and our brothers and sisters of the Order of Franciscan Secular. The service was truly beautiful and up lifting. It is a wonderful experience when the four Franciscan Orders can gather to pray and celebrate as one family.



Sr. Luisa professing her vows



Sr. Luisa with her sister Magdalena



During Solemn Blessing

October 12th was the highlight of the past months. On this day Sr. Luisa made her Solemn Profession in the Order of St. Clare. Over 160 of God's people were witnesses to Sr. Luisa's Solemn Vows. The profession Mass was held at St. Clement Parish. Special guests included Poor Clare Sisters from our monastery in Travelers Rest, SC, Poor Clares (PCPA) from Canton, OH, our Brother Friars, Sr. Luisa's sister Magdalena, who came from the Philippines and represented the family, a friend from California, friends from Michigan, Maryland and Chicago, the Filipino community, and many friends of the monastery. A luncheon followed in the school cafeteria.

We were greatly saddened by the destruction in the Philippines that was caused by the typhoon. We waited with some apprehension until we knew that the families of our Sr. Luisa and Sr. Pia were safe. We ask you to join us in holding our brothers and sisters in the Philippines in prayer.

We have been blessed with volunteers to help with the outdoor maintenance. Tom Bill kept the grass cut all summer and when the leaves started falling, arranged for some friends and the Boy Scout Troop 471 from Glendale, OH to help with the raking of leaves supervised by Dr. Bob Limardi. We are very grateful for their joyous and generous assistance.



We lost our electricity several times in the past few years and this has affected our Heating/AC system. We were recently informed by our Heating/AC Company that our system is now obsolete and there are no longer parts available for repairs. Wanting to lessen our carbon footprint, we elected to put in a geothermal heating/AC system when we built our monastery 17 years ago. Because our heating/AC system is now obsolete we will need to upgrade the entire system. We are hoping to do this in phases. At the moment we are simply gathering bids for the upgrade and praying that the system holds.

It is by your generosity that we are able to continue our mission in the Church which is our life of prayer for the people of God. We thank you for your giftedness to us in your love for us, in your prayers for us, in your volunteer work for us, and in your support of us. Each of you, in your own way, helps us to step closer to God. We invite you to continue to be instrumental in our mission in the Church as we begin another year.

We wish you all a Very Blessed Christmas and a Grace-filled New Year!

Your Poor Clare Sisters: *Ann, Anna Marie, Dianne, Doris, Luisa, Pia, Rita, Vickie*

Prayer Requests: _____

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Occasion: _____

(Memorial, Anniversary, Birthday, Baptism, Confirmation, etc.)

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