



CHRISTMAS 2014



*In the beginning was the Word.
In Him was life, and the life was the
Light of humankind!
The people who walked in darkness
have now seen a great Light
and those who have walked in endless gloom, a Light shines upon them.
For a Child is born this day. Rejoice! Rejoice, all people of the earth.
The glory of God is born today!
He is called Counselor, Wonderful, Prince of Peace, Mighty God, and Savior of the world. 1Jn, 1s.*

Dear Friends and Family,

On August 30th, Sr. Ann's Golden Jubilee, dawned bright and beautiful. The Friars of St. John the Baptist Province, Poor Clares from Travelers Rest, SC, Sylvania Franciscans, family and a few friends joined the 8 of us at St. Anthony Shrine Church to celebrate this wonderful day.



L-R: Fr. Jeff Scheeler, OFM, Rev. Mr. John Gerke
Fr. Louis Bartko, OFM and Mr. Ed Sherman, OFS



Sr. Ann Bartko, OSC



Sr. Ann renews her vows

Sr. Ann's brother, Fr. Louis, OFM, was the presider and homilist for the Mass, Fr. Jeff Scheeler, OFM concelebrated, the Rev. Mr. John Gerke was deacon, Ed Sherman, OFS was acolyte and Maureen Gartner, OFSA, a close friend of Sr. Ann's, was Cantor. After Mass, all present were invited to a luncheon in the shrine hall. The celebration continued at the monastery where Sr. Ann enjoyed the company of her Sisters from our monastery in Travelers Rest, SC, her Sylvania Franciscan Sisters, her cousin Cathy, her brother Louis and some close friends.

In October we had our private Community Retreat. During these days we reflected on Pope Francis' Apostolic Exhortation "Joy of the Gospel." On four evenings we shared our reflections. We all found this document enriching and challenging.

Later in October, Sr. Dianne had the privilege, as President of our Federation, of visiting our two monasteries in South Korea. She traveled with the two sisters from our monastery in Minneapolis, the community which made the first foundation in Korea. They timed their visit to coincide with the Dedication of the new monastery in Jeju, but first they visited our sisters in Yang Yang, who live very close to North Korea. Sr. Dianne shared that there were 1300 people in attendance during the Dedication. In Seoul, they were able to meet Augustine Cheong, our Sr. Rita's brother, who graciously treated them to an exquisite dinner. Sr. Dianne is still telling stories of her days with our sisters, but words can't adequately express her experience.

We have had a wonderful response to the St. Clare Circle. We are grateful that so many of you are willing to be prayer partners with us. Prayer can bring about change in our lives and in our world.



Raking of Leaves



Visit with Fr. Rolly, OFM



Craft Sale at Corpus Christi Parish

We are taking time to reflect on the history of the past 25 years since our founding. We are looking at our photo albums, scrap books and videos. We will be taking a pilgrimage to St. Vivian's convent where the actual foundation of our Community took place.

Tom Bill, who organized the project, Lay Cistercians, Roger Bacon students and friends helped us to rake the abundance of leaves that surround the monastery. The grounds are looking mighty beautiful these days.

Fr. Rolly, a Franciscan Friar from the Philippines, came for Mass and a short visit to the delight of all of us especially Sr. Luisa. Fr. Rolly was Sr. Luisa's parish priest.

On a weekend of November 15-16 this year, we held our Craft Sale at Corpus Christi Parish. Our sincere gratitude to Fr. Jim Meade and the parishioners for their generous support of our community.

We are grateful to all of you who continue to help us in so many ways through your caring, loving, friendship and support. We hold you in our daily prayers.

*We wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year,
Srs Ann, Anna Marie, Dianne, Doris, Luisa, Pia, Rita, Vickie*

Prayer Requests: _____

Gift in Memory of: _____

Gift in Honor of: _____

Occasion: _____

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

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Website: www.poorclarescincinnati.org

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Join our St. Clare Circle!