

# Christmas 2017

To Our Dear Families and Friends,

“We proclaim to you Good News and Great Joy! A Light has shone upon us this day, shattering the darkness” through Its littleness. Despite what we see in our world around us, the Light of Jesus and His love will always prevail.

As we celebrate the Birth of Jesus, we also celebrate new life in our community. On October 1<sup>st</sup>, Sisters Teresa and Felista (aka Assunta) arrived at CVG after a very long trip from Mwanza, Tanzania! They have jumped right into community life and are bringing us much joy, talent, and laughter. Two days after they arrived, we celebrated the Transitus of St. Francis, followed by his Feast the next day. We joked that Teresa and Felista were baptized by feast, instead of by fire. Though they both speak English and Swahili, in mid- November they began English classes so that they can learn to speak American English! We thank God for their presence in our midst!



On November 4<sup>th</sup>, we had our annual leaf raking event! Sr. Doris and Tom Bill coordinated the project and Sr. Luisa baked her delicious chocolate chip cookies and brownies. To our delight, this year we had even more generous volunteers, who worked very hard and very fast. We are very grateful to all of them for giving up their Saturday morning for us!

On November 8<sup>th</sup>, we united in prayer with our Archdiocese as we prayed for vocations. We were one of the places designated as a place of prayer on this day. We had a Holy Hour with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from 4:00-5:00, followed by Evening Prayer and Benediction. Deacon John Gerke graciously presided for us.



Prayer Requests: \_\_\_\_\_

Gift in Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

Gift in Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

Occasion: \_\_\_\_\_

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

e-mail: [poorclareprayers@gmail.com](mailto:poorclareprayers@gmail.com)

website: [www.poorclarescincinnati.org](http://www.poorclarescincinnati.org)

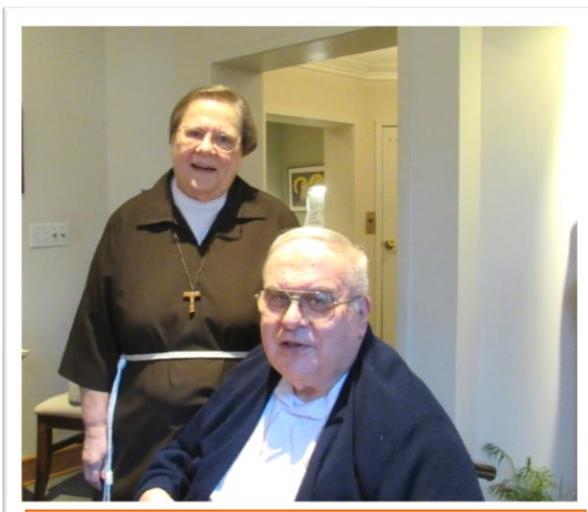
Please send a card announcing this memorial or honorary gift without mentioning the gift amount to:  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

- I/we support the Cincinnati Poor Clares in their ministries of prayer and evangelization.
- I/we join you in prayer and/or enclose this gift.

Come let us  
*Adore*  
Him



From L-R: Vickie, Luisa, Ann, Teresa, Rita, Anna Marie,  
Doris, Pia, Felista, Dianne



Sr. Ann with her brother, Fr. Louis Bartko, OFM

We celebrated another “first” in our community. On November 14<sup>th</sup>, Sr. Ann turned 75! She liked the poster Sr. Pia made: “I am 18 with 57 years’ experience!” Ann’s brother, Fr. Louis, OFM, presided at Mass for us that morning, accompanied by his faithful friend and driver, Ed Sherman, OFS. We are grateful to Ann for her loving service to us as Abbess these last three years.

As we draw this letter to a close, we want to thank all of you for your goodness to us. You show us the Word made Flesh in so many ways....responding so generously to our first Annual Appeal, praying for us and with us, presiding at our Eucharists, dropping off groceries, donating your time and talents. We could go

on and on! Truly, you are the Loving Face of God for us and we are touched and grateful. We wish you Jesus’ peace and joy during this Christmas season and throughout the New Year. Be sure we hold you and your loved ones in our hearts and in our prayers. Please continue to keep us in yours.

Your Cincinnati Poor Clares,

Ann, Anna Marie, Dianne, Doris, Felista, Luisa, Pia, Rita, Teresa, & Vickie

Please consider putting the Cincinnati Poor Clares in your will or other planned giving arrangements. Your goodness will allow us to continue our ministries of prayer and evangelization.

- I have remembered the Cincinnati Poor Clares in my will or in other planned giving documents.
- I would like information sent to me about how to remember the Cincinnati Poor Clares in my will and/or other planned giving arrangements.

All planned giving information is kept confidential.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
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\* All gifts are tax deductible.