



Christmas 2020

Our
Savior
is
Born!

Dear Friends and Family,

In 1252 St. Clare was not well enough to go with the sisters to Christmas Midnight Mass. The friars and her sisters left her alone in the dormitory of San Damiano. Alone and sad, she cried out to the Lord. "Lord God, here I am, left alone with you in this place." Her honesty is so refreshing. What does this say to us in these days of Covid, when so many are left alone.... As Clare prayed, suddenly she saw and heard the Midnight Mass in the Basilica of St. Francis. In her illness, she was unable to attend Mass, but God's loving tenderness brought Mass to her. Today, St. Clare is the Patroness of television.

During this pandemic, we have experienced loneliness and sadness. Many of us cannot meet face-to-face, and we are grateful for the technology that allows us to connect with each other in other innovative ways. We pray that St. Clare will intercede for us, providing us with comfort during this difficult time, and bring healing to our world. We pray that this letter finds you and all your loved ones well. We continue to pray that a vaccine is ready soon and that distribution of the vaccine goes swiftly. The year 2020 is one we are not likely to forget. May the year 2021 be a year of good health and the end of the pandemic.

In October, we were blessed to have our community retreat with Fr. Tom Hartle, ofm. It was our first "virtual" retreat because of the pandemic. Through Zoom and Facebook Video Chat, Fr. Tom was able to take us into various "garden" experiences as he shared his reflections on Jesus' life, death and resurrection. We found his reflections both insightful and inspiring.

For National Vocation Awareness Week, Sr. Vickie participated in some virtual events in the Archdiocese, including a Facebook Live Vocation Panel and a YouTube video about Poor Clare life and her vocation. We are also very blessed to have two women currently discerning with us.



Prayer Requests: _____

Gift in Memory of: _____

Gift in Honor of: _____

Occasion: _____

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

e-mail: poorclareprayers@gmail.com

website: 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.

We have been limited in our ability to have candidates visit because of the pandemic, but we are using Zoom, Skype, Facebook Video Chat, etc. and implementing protocols so that these women may visit and continue their discernment with us. We are grateful for your continuing support and prayers for more vocations to our Poor Clare way of life here in Cincinnati.

As we approach Christmas, many of our Covid-19 restrictions are still in place. We regret that we will not have a public Christmas Eve Mass and reception this year, but we are grateful for the ability to stay in touch with you in other ways. Although our Chapel is closed due to the pandemic, you are welcome to come and visit our monastery grounds. We have trails in our woods and Stations of the Cross along the main trail. Our trails also connect to one of the Great Parks of Hamilton County - Winton Woods (a 2,555 acre park).

This summer, we broke ground for our St. Clare Memorial Garden. Our Annual Letter first introduced this project to you, and many of you have already reserved memorial stones. We are blessed to have so many of you be a part of this project! There is still space available to remember your loved ones. A Memorial Stone Reservation Form is included with this letter. We hope to have the Cross installed soon.



Due to Covid-19, there will be no public Mass or celebration for Christmas Eve this year. We hope to see you in 2021.

We are grateful for your generous support. Our life of prayer and contemplation is possible because of your ongoing support. May our loving God bless you and keep you safe.

We wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year!

Your Cincinnati Poor Clare Sisters:

Alma, Ann, Anna Marie, Anthony, Dianne, Doris, Luisa, Pia, Rita, 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: _____
Address: _____

e-mail: _____
Telephone: _____
***Gifts are tax deductible under IRC §501(C)(3)**