



Construction Begins on Our Lady of Guadalupe Shrine

The foundation has been laid for a new shrine to Our Blessed Lady.

Malvern Retreat House is known for our beautiful grounds, statuary and shrines. In 2016 we will be adding an Our Lady of Guadalupe shrine to our bucolic grounds. Once completed, Malvern will have the three major shrines to our blessed Lady; Lady of Fatima on Path A, Our Lady of Lourdes at our Grotto, and now, Our Lady of Guadalupe on the grass field behind the McShain-Horstmann Family Life Center.

It has been a dream of the retreat house's President Jim Fitzsimmons to build this shrine on Malvern's grounds.

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"Our Lady of Guadalupe is the patron saint of the Americas and the Pro-Life Movement," Jim said. "In addition, our Latino brothers and sisters have a strong devotion to Our Lady of Guadalupe. She is special to our retreatants and the Catholic Community. I am delighted that we have already broken ground on this wonderful shrine."

Designed by landscape architect and retreatant Joe Cairone of Cairone and Kaupp, Inc., the shrine is generating a lot of excitement. Many retreatants and friends have already provided support.

New Religious Artwork Enriches the Family Life Center



A new mosaic adorns the entryway of the McShain-Horstmann Family Life Center.

A beautiful Christ Pantocrator mosaic has been installed above the entrance of the McShain-Horstmann Family Life Center. Pantocrator is Greek, meaning "Ruler of All."

The Pantocrator icon is one of the earliest images of Christ developed in the early Christian Church. Although there are no words on the icon, like stain glass windows, Pantocrator icons are meant to be read, not just viewed. What is this particular icon saying?

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President Search Update

As previously communicated, our President Jim Fitzsimmons has notified the Board of Directors of his intention to retire in early 2016. In May of this year, the Board of Directors sponsored the creation of an Executive Search Committee to oversee the advertisement of the position opening, the development of the screening attributes for

(Continued on page 2)



James A. Fitzsimmons President

Dear Retreatants:

I pray you had a blessed and joyful Christmas with your family and friends. On December 8, 2015, Pope Francis ushered in the Jubilee Year of Mercy with the ceremonial opening of the Holy Door at St. Peter's Basilica. In that spirit of mercy I pray you commit yourself to further developing your faith and demonstrate your commitment to our neediest brothers and sisters around the world. In addition, in 2016, seek out those who can benefit from our retreat ministry here at Malvern. Open the doors of Malvern to them by inviting them to experience, with our fellow retreatants, those *Moments of Divine Encounter with the Lord*.

Recently I saw a few letters that children wrote to God. And yes, Art Linkletter couldn't top these. Nan writes: "I bet it is very hard for you to love everybody in the world. There are only four people in my family, and I can never do it." Joyce wrote a prayer after Christmas stating... "Thank you for the baby brother, but what I prayed for was a puppy." And even some advice from Larry for God... "Maybe Cain and Abel would

not kill each other so much if they had their own rooms. It works with my brother." In 2016, let's join with these children and raise our voices and hearts to God in praise and thanksgiving for all that He has done for us.

What a great year we had in 2015. All of the wonderful activities here at Malvern were complemented by the World Meeting of Families and the visit of Pope Francis to Philadelphia. Malvern hosted over 100

“**What a great year we had in 2015.**”

religious sisters and lay persons for the meeting and Papal weekend celebrations. We were so blessed to have the pilgrims with us on these holy grounds. These activities were filled with such joyful people of all ages and national origin. It was a blessing to be a part of this memorable event for our Church.

In the Spring, we hope to begin Phase 4-5-6 of our Capital Campaign projects. These projects include the installation of HVAC in St. Joseph's Hall, refurbishing the rooms, converting the former gift shop into a conference room and the installation of an

elevator in Assumption Hall. This would be a great move forward and complement our wonderful programs and facilities.

Shortly you will receive your membership enrollment form. Your membership dues provide us valuable support for our operational budget. Your participation, at any level, is appreciated and essential for us to continue to balance our budget. Please do your share.

Please look at the very diverse programming that has been developed for you and new retreatants. I am confident you will find areas of interest and need beyond your traditional weekend retreat. Please continue recruiting for our ministry and be assured you are in our daily prayers.

Prosit!

James A. Fitzsimmons

President Search Update (Continued from page 1)

the role, and the selection of a short-list of finalists for presentation and consideration by the Malvern Executive Committee and ratification by the Malvern Retreat Board. Former board member Francis Barrett heads a nine member Search Committee that is charged with representing the needs and interests of Malvern's retreatants, employees, spiritual, financial and executive committees, Board of Directors, religious, parish, diocesan and archdiocesan communities. Additionally, Malvern Retreat House Rector Msgr. Joseph Marino, President Jim Fitzsimmons, and Board Chairperson Joseph Nardi serve as advisory members of the Search Committee.

Interest and responses by candidates have been impressive and include internal, local,

regional and national candidates. From the list of qualified candidates, formal telephone interviews were conducted as a screen for selection of the shortlist of candidates. Shortlist candidates conducted site tours of Malvern's grounds, shrines and facilities followed by a formal interview with the Search Committee. The Search Committee completed these interviews in December and recommended a limited number of finalists for the Executive Committee to vet, identify and select the President-Elect for ultimate ratification by the Board.

The Malvern Board, and Executive and Search Committees are striving to complete the process to identify the President-Elect to allow a timely and balanced transition intended for the first quarter of 2016.



Monsignor Joseph Marino

Rector



Mercy & Witness Meet at Malvern Retreat House

The 2016 Malvern Theme is **WE BELIEVE, & THEREFORE SPEAK --- REJOICE & WITNESS**. In addition, this is a very unique year since Pope Francis has declared a **Special Jubilee Year of Mercy** (12/8/15 – 11/20/16). Therefore, Malvern has a blessed opportunity of integrating our theme with the fundamental message of the Gospel -- the infinite mercy of God given to us through Jesus Christ. So let us **Rejoice & Witness in Jesus Christ, who is the Mercy of God!**

For the last two years, our common prayer has been the *Prayer for the New Evangelization*. The prayer begins with words from the *Letter to the Romans*:

Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved. But how can they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how can they believe in him of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone to preach? And how can people preach unless they are sent?

Through this prayer we have become more conscious of the **call of Jesus** to proclaim the Gospel to all we encounter. We are **commissioned to Proclaim**; we are **sent to Witness!** We are to proclaim and witness to Jesus, the Mercy of God! We are the Witnesses of Jesus Christ who first proclaimed:

I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will, but the will of him who sent me. For God sent his Son into the world not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him (John 3:17).

Our 2016 Theme augmented by God's message of **Mercy** will help us better understand that we are to be **Evangelizing Disciples of Christ – Proclaiming the forgiveness of God!** From our beginning, Malvern's message has remained the same: **Malvern is not for saints, but for those who want to be saints.** For over 103 years Malvern's words have been the words of Jesus: *I have come to call not the righteous but sinners to repentance* (Luke 5:32).

2016 is the last theme of our three consecutive

years in support of the *New Evangelization*. In 2014 we concentrated on **Faith** rooted in God's Holy **Word**; in 2015 we stressed the vital connection between what we believe and how we pray and worship. Now with a firm foundation in **Word and Worship** we are emboldened to give witness to **Jesus Christ, the Mercy of God**.

Malvern has never deviated from its roots of providing retreat experiences founded on authentic Catholic teaching from enthusiastic retreat directors and prayerful opportunities for personal encounters with Christ through the Holy Eucharist and the Sacrament of



“Bring a friend to Malvern so he/she too may be touched by Christ!”

Penance. Every retreatant is given individual time in adoration before the Blessed Sacrament – truly private and personal time with the Lord. Catholic Life of *Word and Sacrament* is the way of life at Malvern. **Bring a friend to Malvern so he/she too may be touched by Christ!**

Our Scriptural hallmark for 2016 is *Saint Luke's Gospel 5: 1-11*. The following is a short summary of the longer text:

While listening to the word of God (Jesus) saw two boats along the lake ... Getting into one of the boats He said to Simon, “Put out into deep water and lower your nets for a catch.” Simon said ... “Master, we have worked hard all night and have caught nothing, but at your command I will lower the nets.” When they had done this, they caught a great number of fish.... When Simon Peter saw this, he fell at the knees of Jesus and said, “Depart from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man.” Jesus said to Simon, “Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching men They left everything and followed him.

The Gospel parallels so closely the retreat experience of Malvern: **Listening to the Word of God**, we are strengthened to go into **deeper water and fish for men on behalf of Christ**. With trust in Christ, miracles happen. Of course, realizing that God is working through us, **we too fall on our knees and confess our sinfulness**. Yet, **Christ lifts us up in mercy and sends us** to bring our brothers and sisters to Him. And, Malvern men and women are the best equipped to do this ministry for we have personally experienced His mercy.

2016 is the best of times. There is more reason than ever for taking forty-three hours and devoting them entirely to God on a retreat at Malvern. Christ invites us to more deeply experience His mercy so that we can more earnestly share our story with others. **We are the voice of Christ.** Christ wants us to fish for men and women, to invite them to Malvern to experience His mercy.

Blessed Paul VI expressed this eloquently: *We can imagine that each of our sins kindles in Him a more intense flame of love, a desire to bring us back to Himself and to His saving plan.... He loves us; He seeks us out; He thinks of us; He knows us; He touches our hearts and He waits for us.*

Let us: INVITE ... RECRUIT ... REJOICE AND WITNESS!



Michael Norton

Vice President of Institutional Advancement

Development News

Malvern Receives \$71,000 In Grant Awards

As a nonprofit, Malvern Retreat House depends on many different funding sources, including retreat revenue, annual membership dues, gifts to the Annual Appeal, and memorial naming opportunities to name a few. Another source is grant money that is given by charitable foundations for specific programs or projects. In 2015, Malvern was awarded \$71,000 from four different charitable foundations: The Connelly Foundation, Independence Blue Cross Foundation, Beneficial Bank Foundation, and First Niagara Foundation.

The competition for grant awards has increased threefold since the beginning of the new millennium. In 2000, there were just over 4,000 nonprofits in the five county Philadelphia metro area. Today, there are over 15,000 nonprofits seeking funding from charitable foundations.

In addition, many of these foundations have a very narrow focus as to which type of nonprofits they will fund and what type of programs/projects meet their funding criteria. Receiving four grant awards in one year is a grand slam for Malvern!

The Connelly Foundation awarded \$50,000 to install new sound systems and audio/video recording and streaming equipment in Saint Joseph's and Our Lady's Chapels.

Ministering to our veterans suffering with PTSD is a commitment that Malvern Retreat House made in 2014. Dan Hilferty, President and CEO of Independence Blue Cross, and Lorina Marshall Blake, President of the Independence Blue Cross Foundation, recognized how

valuable spiritual counseling is in the healing process. They awarded \$10,000 to help cover the retreat costs for 40 veterans to attend one of our Veterans with PTSD Retreats.

In keeping with their corporate commitment to reach out to the underserved communities, the Beneficial Bank Foundation and First Niagara Foundation awarded \$11,000 in grant money to our Pope Francis Bearers of Hope Scholarship Fund. Established In October, 2013, the Pope Francis Bearers of Hope Scholarship Fund helps cover the retreat costs for those struggling financially; the unemployed and underemployed, and people trying to stay positive in trying times, whose hope needs a shot of inspiration.

The Six-Three retreat group was happy to welcome a group of Hispanic men from New Jersey during their retreat.

In June of 2015, twenty of our Hispanic brothers benefited from the Bearers of Hope Scholarship Fund. These men received half scholarships to attend the Six-Three Retreat. The men of Six-Three were overjoyed by their strong faith and devotion to our Holy Mother Mary.

For their part, the Hispanic men were grateful for the warm welcome they received and the wonderful opportunity to spend 40 hours with the Lord and their patron, Our Lady of Guadalupe.

Malvern Retreat House's commitment to its mission of, "Providing a sacred place where men and women of all ages come to deepen their personal relationship with Jesus Christ through the retreat experience," is as strong today as it was the day our door opened 103 years ago.

With your prayers and financial support, combined with these grant awards from The Connelly, Independence Blue Cross, Beneficial, and First Niagara Foundations, we again were able to serve nearly 20,000 retreatants in 2015.



Lend us your time & talent.

We are always looking for volunteers to help with small projects and special events. Whatever your talent, we can use it. I guarantee if you volunteer for just one day, you will go home feeling a satisfaction that only comes from giving back.

For more information
call Jim Hall at 484-321-2541 or
email: jhall@malvernretreat.com

Helping Malvern Today and Tomorrow

You love Malvern Retreat House and no doubt support its mission of providing a sacred place where men and women of all ages come to deepen their personal relationship with Jesus Christ through the retreat experience. Did you know that becoming a member of The Good Shepherd Club is an easy way to provide financial support and ensure the sustenance of Malvern today and for future generations?

Including Malvern in your estate planning is easy. A gift can be a bequest made through your will or a revocable trust or a beneficiary designation of specific assets, such as a retirement plan or a life insurance policy. These types of gifts allow you to support Malvern in the future, while maintaining control of your assets and without affecting your cash flow today. These gifts are revocable, and you can adjust your plans if circumstances change, or you change your mind at anytime.

For more information, contact Michael Norton at
484-321-2539 or mnorton@malvernretreat.com





Young Adults Benefit from Retreat Options

Malvern's Young Adult retreat program is expanding to offer new opportunities for adults ages 20-35. This January the group has launched their first prayer series. The series is being hosted every Monday throughout January and aims to teach the fundamentals of prayer that the church has taught for thousands of years, along with the different styles of prayer and how to remain rooted in prayer. These prayer evenings are being streamed for those who are unable to drive to the retreat house for the sessions, and it is free for all thanks to the sponsorship of the Rocco and Barbara Martino Speakers Series.

In addition to shorter reflection opportunities, overnight retreats that run from Friday night through Saturday also are being offered for young adults. The next one will be held May 6-7 with Fr. Chris Walsh, a former school minister at Archbishop Wood High School and current pastor of St. Raymond of Penafort Catholic Parish in Philadelphia. Fr. Walsh last spoke to our Young Adult group in November when he joined renowned astrophysicist Dr. Rocco Martino to talk to them about

leadership and perseverance in their faith. This retreat was directed by Sister Janet Baker, a Sister of Mercy, who discussed how to communicate effectively in meetings and maintain a leadership role in young adult group networks in parishes and dioceses. At this retreat, Dr. Martino also emphasized the importance of using social media to evangelize to their peers.

Young adults also are being actively encouraged to attend retreats for men and women of all age groups. In one case, the reverse also occurred when an event originally intended only for young adults opened up to everyone. In December, Dr. Martino returned for a special evening of reflection. The retreat featured a viewing of the film *The Star of Bethlehem*, in which attorney Frederick A. Larson uses astronomical principles to explore the Bible story about the star. The event included a fascinating discussion on the topic, thanks to Dr. Martino's expertise on the subject and general interest about the timely Biblical topic that helped prepare retreatants for the celebration of Christmas.

Several Renowned Retreat Directors Prepare to Return to Malvern

Malvern Retreat House has several blockbuster retreats upcoming in the spring and summer that will be led by gifted retreat directors. Some retreats of note are listed below:

March 11-13 ► Women Afire is a unique women's retreat incorporating individual & group healing, prayer by the team, uplifting music, and inspirational teaching & preaching. It is directed by Anna Iatesta, Kathleen McCarthy, Anne McGlone, and June Piola with music by Marty Rotella, a three time Grammy nominee and Catholic Evangelist. This retreat sold out last year, so register early.

April 1-3 ► The Divine Mercy retreat will be celebrating the graces of the extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy. This retreat will be directed by Monsignor John Esseff, who serves in the Diocese of Scranton as a priest & exorcist. Padre Pio was one of his spiritual directors, and he also served as the spiritual director

for Mother Teresa of Calcutta. Fr. Steven DeLacy also will be in assistance on Divine Mercy Sunday.

June 10-12 ► Our Charismatic Retreat will look forward to 2017, which will be the 50th anniversary of the beginnings of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal. The retreat will be directed by Fr. Bob Hogan, the co-founder with Fr. George Montague of the Charismatic and Marian Religious Community, The Brothers of the Beloved Disciple.

June 24-26 ► The Catholic Singles retreat is open to singles of all ages. It will be directed by Fr. Michael Briesse, pastor of Holy Name of Jesus Catholic Church in Washington D.C.

July 8-10 ► Women of Grace will be returning to Malvern with the group's renowned Founder and President Johnnette Benkovic. More information will be posted as it becomes available.

July 15-17 ► Father Michael Gaitley will be returning this summer to direct another powerful retreat. He is the best-selling author of several books, including *33 Days to Morning Glory*, *Consoling the Merciful Heart of Jesus*, and *The Second Greatest Story Ever Told*. More details will be forthcoming. Fr. Gaitley's retreat sold out last year, so register early.



Johnnette Benkovic (pictured right) last brought her Women of Grace retreat to Malvern in 2014. We are happy to announce she is returning in the summer of 2016.

If you are looking for a spiritual event in the more immediate future, more retreats are listed on the back cover.

Retreatants Help Make the Pope's Visit Memorable

For Gus Sarno one of the greatest gifts he received during the pope's visit to Philadelphia was a business card. The longtime Man of Malvern unexpectedly received the card while doing what a number of our retreatants did during the event: play a special role during the World Meeting of Families and the papal visit to ensure their success. As owner of the 112-year old Isgro Pastries, Gus was asked to fill three important orders during the event: pastries and cookies for the Pope's dressing room and guest stars, including Andrea Bocelli, at the Festival of Families event, a birthday cake for Archbishop Charles Chaput, and dessert items for the Pope's plane ride back to Italy.

"It was challenging, but it was exciting," Gus said. "I can't tell you how proud I was doing that for the Pope. I would have loved to have met him."

Gus may get that chance. During the weekend, Gus said two monsignors who were with the Pope's entourage came into the bakery to use the bathroom.

"I told them I had never been to Rome," Gus said. "One of them handed me a card and told me to come stay with them at the Vatican and have dinner with the Pope. I'm trying to see if I can get away."

If he does make the trip, it won't be the first time Gus has overcome barriers to make a faith journey. When he first came to Malvern for the Our Lady of Fatima group retreat, he said unexpected circumstances made that first retreat rather unpleasant.

"There was a snowstorm, and I got horribly sick to the point I was hallucinating," he said. "I guess I was being cleansed!"

That was 29 years ago. Despite those challenges, Gus stuck with his Malvern weekend, which today he calls the "most powerful retreat of the year."

He is not alone in his love of Malvern and in playing a special role during the Pope's visit. Two other retreatants, who did not even know they both were Men of Malvern, helped with the papal coin.

Ben Maddesi, a 51-year retreatant with St. Blaise, handled the minting of the papal coin for Keystone Mint and Paul Kennedy, a 25-year retreatant with Our Lady Queen of Peace, organized the design of the coin packaging with his company SK Advertising and Design.

"Ben came to us and asked us if we were interested in designing the packaging," Paul said. "I said I would do it for free if I can get one autographed box. Needless to say I got a check, but it was a great honor doing something for the Pope's visit."



Paul Kennedy holds the packaging his company made for the papal coin.

Ben's part in the project began after a conversation with Malvern Retreat House President Jim Fitzsimmons, who gave Ben a Philadelphia contact to bid on the project. Ben also minted the 100th year anniversary coin for Malvern and makes the retreat house's annual St. Joseph the Worker awards.

"It's a difficult process to go from a sketch to a medal, but it's an honor for me to do it," Ben said.

In the end 15,000 smaller coins with the packaging from Paul's company and 2,700 larger coins were made for the event. These tangible treasures though may not match some of the memories that were created in the process.

"... it was a great honor doing something for the Pope's visit."

— Paul Kennedy

For John Givnish, a 30-year retreatant with the Immaculate Conception group, his participation in the World Meeting of Families is mainly measured in new friendships. John is among the parishioners of St. Helena parish who helped Pastor Msgr. Joseph Trinh house and care for more than 100 religious men and women from Vietnam during the World Meeting of Families.

John took in eight clergymen. Every morning around 5:30-6am he drove them to St. Helena's Church, and every night he picked them up around 8pm. In between he did their wash and made lots of snacks.

"They loved peanut butter bagels and chocolate bars. They wiped me out of Snickers and Butterfingers," John said. "I got the better end of deal though since I was enriched while they were here."

One priest named Fr. Vincent, who spoke English, created such a friendship with John that John jokingly started calling him his uncle. After their stay, John received a text from Father, and sure enough the text demonstrated what the World Meeting of Families meant for many retreatants who weren't biologically "family." John said the text had a wonderful twelve letter signature that simply said it was from "Uncle Vincent."



One of Gus Sarno's challenges was the request to incorporate specific Philadelphia images on the side of Archbishop Chaput's birthday cake.

Captains Updated on Plans for 2016



Retreat captains relax as they listen to various speakers during the Annual Captains Conclave.

St. Joseph's Library was filled to capacity on Tuesday night December 1 for the Annual Captains Conclave. The meeting was in the library as all other meeting spaces were taken by weekday retreat groups. Retreat Committee Chairman Michael Rigolizzo welcomed the captains and thanked them for coming out on a rainy, dismal December night.

The evening began with Mass in St. Joseph Chapel celebrated by Monsignor Marino followed by dinner in the main dining room. Chairman Joseph Nardi opened the meeting with an update on the progress of the Search Committee in identifying candidates to replace President Jim Fitzsimmons, who had earlier this year announced his plans to retire. Chairman Nardi also discussed increased board member involvement in various League committees and shared recent board actions. President Fitzsimmons reported on the status of various projects including the installation of a new mosaic at the entrance of the McShain-Horstmann Family Life Center (FLC) and the start

of the construction of the new Our Lady of Guadalupe Shrine behind the FLC. The new shrine will hopefully attract more Latino Catholics to Malvern. He also said the space that previously housed the St. Jude Gift Shop is being converted to meeting room space for groups at St. Joseph Hall.

Monsignor Marino stressed the important role of the captain in leading a quality retreat and not just a quantity retreat. By quality retreat he asked the captains to select strong readers for retreat prayers and to provide a silent atmosphere for their retreatants. In reviewing the theme for 2016 "We Believe and Therefore Speak: Rejoice and Witness," the rector stressed the important role of the captains in leading the witness

and evangelization efforts to bring more new people to Malvern. He updated the captains on the progress and direction of the "pilot groups" and the role these groups have in testing various Schedule of Exercise changes for the future.

Recruiting Manager Patrick Benner closed the meeting by reporting his progress in recruiting new retreatants with his Parish Sunday talks throughout the Archdiocese of Philadelphia and in the Dioceses of Allentown and Camden. He invited the captains to join him in his outreach to these fertile recruiting grounds. Handouts to the captains included the new 2016 retreat materials and key action dates.

New Captains

Malvern Retreat House thanks several captains who are stepping down from their duties this year and welcomes the appointment of our new retreat captains:

***MATT TALBOT #57**

Ronald Miller replaces Sean Mooney. Ron has made 50 retreats in his 26 years as a retreatant with the original Matt Talbot #34 and Matt Talbot #57. He has been an integral part of the success of Matt Talbot #57.

***SIX-THREE**

Each year the Six-Three group selects a new captain from its leadership succession plan. This year they have selected **Mark Angelo**, a 16-year retreatant from the Allentown Diocese. Mark replaces Donald Nicholson Jr. as CA Captain.

***L.J. FERDINAND-HAZLETON**

Rick E. Nuss has already served as an interim captain and now is taking the role of CA Captain for the group. He is a 23 year retreatant with the group, and he replaces former Captain Brian Woratyla.

***MATT TALBOT #34**

Walter Higgins is replacing James Sigg as the CA Captain of this group. Walter is a 25-year retreatant with the group.

*Congrats
Captains!*

Catholic Business Leaders Gather for a Special Event

How do you get 95 of the Area's Catholic business leaders into one room? Offer a nice hardy breakfast and a riveting keynote speaker. At least that's how we did it. On October 16th, 95 Catholic business leaders attended our 5th Annual Catholic Business Leaders' Breakfast at the Union League in Philadelphia.

The guests enjoyed a buffet breakfast while Tim Abell, President and CEO of Firsttrust

Bank, spoke about the role his faith plays in his professional and personal lives. Tim was quick to point out, "The Lord blessed me with a beautiful wife and family and professional success beyond my wildest dreams. I am very thankful for my Catholic faith. It is the guiding light in my life."

The message about faith was well received by attendees who represented a broad cross section of the business community. Many of the guests are leaders



in their churches and in work fields ranging from the media to finance. The event gave them the opportunity to share their common experiences and to show their support for Malvern

Retreat House, where numerous community leaders often take a break from their busy lives to have time to strengthen their faith.

MEMBERS WANTED

Groucho Marx is quoted as saying, "I would never join a club that would have me as a member." It is a funny line, but a line that does not work if you are talking about being a Man or Woman of Malvern. Malvern Retreat House is not a club. It is as Archbishop Chaput said, **"A gem in the crown of our Catholic Community in Philadelphia."**

As a Man or Woman of Malvern, you are part of a 103 year legacy of *bringing people closer to Christ*. Since opening its doors in 1912, Malvern Retreat House has hosted over 1.3 million retreatants. This milestone could not have been achieved without your support. Your annual membership dues help keep Malvern strong.

In a few weeks, you will receive your 2016 Membership Dues request. Please take a moment to reflect on what Malvern has meant to you, and then please prayerfully consider participating in our 2016 Membership Campaign. We invite you to join a "club" that would be proud to have you as a member.

New Payment Options for Retreats are Now Available

Group Captain Loves the Pre-Pay Option

Most Blessed Sacrament Group C.A. Captain Mike McCarthy is a believer in the pre-pay opportunity offered to retreatants to help spread out the expense of their annual retreat.

"I love the option," says Mike. "I usually pay for myself and my son and coming up with \$500 is not always possible. With the pre-pay option, my credit card is charged about \$40 a month, and I don't really miss it. I did it for the first time last year, and it was quite a relief to me knowing that our retreat was paid in full before we even walked through the door."

Retreatants can register and begin to pre-pay for next year's retreat by signing the blue card offered on Sunday morning of their retreat. For more information on how to sign up for this option, call Patrick Benner at MRH 484-321-2521 or email Patrick at pbenner@malvernretreat.com.

Board Approves Family Discount in Traditional Group Retreats

At their December 2, 2015 meeting, the Board of Directors approved a policy allowing fathers, mothers and grandparents to bring their high school age children and grandchildren to retreat at MRH at no cost. The change applies to traditional "green envelope" groups and is in response to concerns voiced by some retreatants that they could not afford to bring their high school age children on retreat. In his September visit Pope Francis reminded parents and grandparents of their duty to pass on the faith in their families. In recent years the father-son, mother-daughter retreat attendance at Malvern has declined, and the board wants to eliminate cost as a reason. The policy change asks parents and grandparents of college age children to consider a free will offering of one hundred dollars.



Our Art Jury vetted dozens of artists this past fall to pick the best of the best for Malvern Retreat House's 2016 Art Show. This year's show will be held from February 3-7, and it will include a special focus on glass art. Other art forms will range from painting to jewelry.

One change this year is that the complimentary wine and cheese reception, where you can meet the artists, will be held on Thursday, February 4. There will be plenty of parking with this change to a Thursday evening.

This annual show has become one of the largest fine art shows in the region, bringing scores of people to the McShain-Horstmann Family Life Center. Hundreds of pieces of art will be available, and all proceeds from the sales benefit Malvern Retreat House. More details about the event can be found at malvernretreat.com/artshow.



Various forms of glass art will be featured including stained glass by artist Claire Marie Saponaro (top) and blown glass by artist Dan Burstein (above).

Don Gallagher Memorial Golf Outing



Golfers Graham Legge, Dr. Joe Breslin, Mary Kay McMullin, and Frank McMullin enjoy the beautiful fall weather during Malvern's golf outing.

Malvern Retreat House had the best turnout to date for our annual Don Gallagher Memorial Golf Outing. There were 88 golfers who took to the course at Sandy Run Country Club in Oreland, PA to benefit the retreat house. That included 9 priest guests, who were able to participate due to the generous donations of some of our golfers.

The outing included chances to win prizes in contests, ranging from the longest drive to the putting contest. It also included a sit-down dinner, silent and live auctions, and a presentation by Matt and Joe Steven.

Matt, who is a talented athlete who was born



Matt and Joe Steven

blind, drove golf balls at one of the tees for each foursome, giving teams the option of using this drive to help their score. At the dinner, he and his brother Joe shared their inspirational story about how their faith helped them overcome life's challenges.

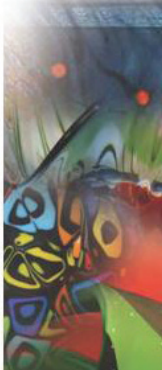
We thank them and all our golfers for participating in this event, and hope you will join us in for our annual Golf Classic on Monday, May 9 at Cedarbrook Country Club.



Art Show

Wednesday, February 3-
Sunday, February 7

McShain-Horstmann Family Life Center
Complimentary Wine & Cheese Reception
Thursday, Feb. 4 from 5pm-8pm



MALVERN RETREAT

Golf Classic

Monday, May 9, 2016
Cedar Brook Country Club

Call 610-644-0400 for more information.

A Legacy IN TIME

Anniversaries

The Laymen's Retreat League congratulates the following Men of Malvern on having achieved these anniversary milestones. Our prayer is that they return year after year to Malvern Retreat House.

YEARS	FULL NAME	GROUP NAME
60	Mr. Stephen J. McCarrick	THANKSGIVING I.H.M.
50	Mr. Nicholas E. Basilio	CHESTER COUNTY
50	Mr. Stanley J. Nattle, Jr.	CHESTER COUNTY
50	Mr. William J. Miller	FUREY MEMORIAL - ST. GABRIEL
50	Deacon Daniel N. DeLucca	L. J. FERDINAND-HAZLETON
50	Mr. Charles M. Litzelman	NATIVITY B.V.M.
50	Mr. Charles F. Unger	OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP
50	Mr. Alfeo A. Conte, Jr.	PROSIT
50	Mr. Eugene P. Flanagan	ST JOSEPH GROUP
25	Mr. Edward Fallon	ATLANTIC CITY K OF C AUTO CLUB
25	Mr. Clarence A. James	ATLANTIC CITY K OF C AUTO CLUB
25	Mr. Kenneth Romanowski	ATLANTIC CITY K OF C AUTO CLUB
25	Mr. Scott J. Kieser	AVE MARIA
25	Mr. William J. Rice	AVE MARIA
25	Mr. Stephen K Weaver	AVE MARIA
25	Mr. Thomas Cugini	CAENACULUM
25	Mr. Nicholas DiProspero, Sr.	CHESTER COUNTY
25	Mr. Nick Frederick	CHESTER COUNTY
25	Mr. Donald M. Whipple, Sr.	CHRISTUS REX
25	Mr. Robert J. Bellerby	EDWARD J. FRIEL, SR. MEMORIAL
25	Mr. Robert B. Moultrie	EDWARD J. FRIEL, SR. MEMORIAL
25	Mr. Nino A. Gargiulo	FUREY MEMORIAL - ST. GABRIEL
25	Mr. Dan T. Walker	FUREY MEMORIAL - ST. GABRIEL
25	Mr. John J. Donahue	L. J. FERDINAND-HAZLETON

YEARS	FULL NAME	GROUP NAME
25	Mr. James J. Palushock	L. J. FERDINAND-HAZLETON
25	Mr. John P. Rodgers, Jr.	L. J. FERDINAND-HAZLETON
25	Ms. Joanne M. Bauer	LEGION OF MARY
25	Sr. Christine M. Baltas	EILEEN GEORGE RETREAT
25	Mr. Kevin G. Byrnes	MATT TALBOT #34
25	Mr. Walter Higgins	MATT TALBOT #34
25	Mr. Charles Shoemaker	MATT TALBOT #34
25	Mr. Robert R. Palmer	MATT TALBOT #57
25	Mr. Thomas Moran	NATIVITY B.V.M.
25	Mr. Jose R. Fernandez	OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP
25	Mr. Victor M. Frederick IV	OUR LADY QUEEN OF PEACE
25	Mr. Paul Kennedy	OUR LADY QUEEN OF PEACE
25	Mr. James Lemma	OUR LADY QUEEN OF PEACE
25	Mr. James M. McMonagle	OUR LADY QUEEN OF PEACE
25	Mr. Thomas J. McParland	POPE JOHN XXIII
25	Mr. Anthony Conte	PROSIT
25	Mr. John V. DePaul	PROSIT
25	Mr. Robert J. Lance	PROSIT
25	Mr. Michael Maio	ST BLAISE-CURRAN MEMORIAL
25	Mr. Joseph Foster	ST JOSEPH GROUP
25	Mr. Michael K. McDevitt	ST JOSEPH GROUP
25	Mr. Mark J. Noonan	ST JOSEPH GROUP
25	Mr. Gerald E. Ryan, Jr.	ST JOSEPH GROUP
25	Mr. Daniel C. Clancy III	THANKSGIVING I.H.M.
25	Mr. John R. Walker, Sr.	THANKSGIVING I.H.M.

Construction Begins on a Third Major Shrine to Our Blessed Lady (Continued from page 1)

John Taddei of the Caenaculum Men of Malvern group generously provided in-kind construction management services. He utilized his three partner companies Verna Associates, Out of Site Infrastructure Inc. and Mainline General Contracting to clear the land and set the foundation.

"It's very emotional for me to do stuff like this because Malvern has been such a big part of my life," John said. "My grandfather was a 50-plus year retreatant. My father was a 50-plus year retreatant and I'm at 27 years. I want to keep the legacy of my grandfather and father, who were both builders, alive."

One way John plans to do this is to connect paths from his father's meditation garden on the other side of the Family Life Center to the new shrine. He also wants to include walkways from the main retreat buildings to the shrine.

The hope is to have phase 1 of the project completed in Spring 2016. In all, Malvern needs \$100,000 to finish the shrine. We also need volunteers to help.

For information on how you can assist with Our Lady of Guadalupe Shrine, please call Michael Norton at 484-321-2539 or email at mnorton@malvernretreat.com.

New Religious Artwork Enriches the Family Life Center (Continued from page 1)

Malvern Retreat House's Rector, Msgr. Joseph T. Marino explained the deeper meaning revealed in the mosaic "You will notice that Christ is holding the Gospels or Book of Life in His left hand. The book represents hope and life. The right hand is raised in blessing or teaching. The right eye is slightly closed, said to be stern looking, representing the judgment of man. Jesus' left eye is opened wider, showing kindness, representing the mercy and love of God. This mosaic tells of the mercy and justice of our Lord Jesus Christ."

It seems fitting that after years of planning and fundraising, this mosaic was put in place just as Pope Francis opened the Holy Door for the Jubilee Year of Mercy.

"The Pantocrator Icon proclaims that divine mercy and justice meet in Jesus Christ, the Savior and King of Kings," Monsignor added. "However, all should know that Christ's divine mercy always surpasses justice because without His mercy we cannot be saved!"

Next time you are on the grounds, stop down to see, or better yet, read this beautiful mosaic.

A Spirit of Prayer and Thanks Fills the Air at the Annual Communion Mass & Luncheon

About 160 people, including numerous retreatants and guests, celebrated the Malvern Retreat House ministry during the annual Communion Mass and Luncheon in November. The event gave attendees the opportunity to pray for the retreat house's future and to honor the recipients of the St. Joseph Worker Awards. This award is given to individuals committed to the highest professional standards, who have reached significant achievements and have a strong moral compass that reflects his or her Catholic faith. The 2015 recipients were:

-Lou Baldwin is a former staff writer for Philadelphia's *The Catholic Standard and Times* and current writer for its online successor Catholicphilly.com. Lou has also written several books, including *Malvern Retreat House 1912-2012*.

-Martie Gillin is nationally recognized as the founder of SpeakUp! - a powerful movement to create a culture of communication in our homes and our schools. SpeakUp! was inspired by Bob Gillin Jr., Martie's oldest son who died of AIDS in 1992 at the age of 30.

-James A. Nolen III has been active in numerous Catholic organizations, including Catholic Charities, the Stewards of St. John Neumann, the Stewards of St. Peter, Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary's Board of Trustees, the Heritage of Faith - Vision of Hope Campaign, and the Papal Foundation.



Back Row: Msgr. Joseph Marino, Jim Nolen, The Most Reverend Robert P. Maginnis, Martie Gillin, Jim Fitzsimmons Front Row: Bob Sims and Lou Baldwin

-Robert J. Sims is a 66-year member of the Malvern Retreat League and the past president of the Catholic Philopatrian Literary Institute. Over the years, he also has been a member, director, or president of many organizations and boards either in finance or related areas to the Catholic Church.

We congratulate our award recipients, and thank everyone who attended the events on this special day.

St. Joseph Hall Construction Update

The renovation of St. Joseph's Hall is ready to move into the next phase. The committee overseeing the plan has been accepting bids for the next projects. These will include the installation of air conditioning, the renovation of the bedrooms in the historic building, and the addition of a conference room. Down the line committee members are also looking into adding an elevator in Our Lady's Hall as well. The elevator added in St. Joseph Hall in an earlier phase has been a welcome addition to a number of retreatants.

Christmas decorations replaced construction workers in December as St. Joe's Hall got a break from renovation projects. More work will begin again soon after the latest round of bidding is complete.



MALVERN'S UPCOMING RETREATS



January 21
Praying with St. Therese
of Lisieux
Brother Joseph F. Schmidt,
FSC



February 10
Ash Wednesday Day of
Reflection
Fr. Matt Guckin



February 26-28
Philadelphia Electric/
Good Shepherd
Fr. Len Peterson



March 11-13
Women Afire



January 22-24
Ss. Peter and Paul
Fr. Michael Mullan &
Fr. Philip Lowe



February 12-14
Retrouvaille for
Married Couples



March 3
Praying with St. Therese
of Lisieux
Brother Joseph F.
Schmidt, FSC



March 18-20
Palm Sunday
Fr. William Gaffney, CSSR &
Fr. Michael Callaghan



January 29-31
Holy Spirit
Deacon Michael Pascarella
& Fr. Michael Shea C.M.



February 12-14
St. John Neumann
Fr. Stan Krzyston &
Msgr. Joseph Marino



March 4-6
Domenica
Women's Retreat
Ann Koshute



March 19
RCIA Day of Reflection
Msgr. Joseph Marino



February 5-7
St. Blaise
Deacon Schaffer &
Fr. McBurney



February 14
Valentine Evening
of Reflection
Fr. Charles Zlock



March 4-6
Pope Pius XII
Fr. Matt Guckin



March 21-26
Holy Week Quiet Retreat
Msgr. Joseph Marino



February 7
Women's Afternoon Tea
Marie Joseph



February 19-21
Matt Talbot #19
Recovery Retreat for Men



March 11-13
Holy Family
Msgr. Joseph Marino &
Fr. Michael Shea C.M.



March 24-26
Christ's Holy Passion
Fr. William Gaffney, CSS