

Our Lady of Guadalupe Dedication

RAINY WEATHER did not stop the festive dedication ceremony for Malvern Retreat House's new Our Lady of Guadalupe shrine on October 22. Parishioners from St. Mark's Church in Sea Girt, New Jersey came to the event in busloads to help the retreat house mark the occasion. They were joined by many local retreatants.

The event began with music by the band Mariachi Flores, which sang many traditional Mexican songs. Then Archbishop Charles Chaput processed into the shrine area to offering his blessing. The Archbishop's assistant Fr. Thomas Viviano provided Spanish interpretation for the bilingual crowd to convey a message about the love for Our Lady and the need to share that devotion amidst the increasingly diverse Catholic population in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia.



The group Mariachi Flores performed many traditional Mexican songs at the Our Lady of Guadalupe shrine dedication ceremony.

After the Archbishop's blessing, the St. Mark parishioners performed folk dances and a re-enactment of the Our Lady of Guadalupe story. It centers around a poor Aztec Indian, named Saint Juan Diego, who was walking

(Continued on page 11)



Art Show 2017

More than 100 Artists from the Tri-State Area Prepare for the Malvern Retreat House Art Show

DOZENS OF MILES separate the homes and workplaces of various well-known artists, who will participate in the Malvern Retreat House Art Show this February 1-5. The show organizers cast a wider geographic net this year to attract not only some of the best artists in Chester County and nearby suburban counties, but also a large variety of artists from Philadelphia, New Jersey, Delaware and the rural towns of Pennsylvania.

More than 80 of these artists will participate in the general show that will include art forms ranging from paintings to jewelry to sculpture. The remaining artists, including a number from Philadelphia, will participate in a special exhibit that is included each year in the show. This year's focus will be figurative art with a particular emphasis on the human body

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If you would prefer to receive an email edition of this newsletter rather than a print one, please send a message to mail@malvernretreat.com.



Mark J. Poletunow President

Evangelize Joyfully

Every Christian is challenged, here and now, to be actively engaged in evangelization; indeed, anyone who has truly experienced God's saving love does not need much time or lengthy training to go out and proclaim that love.
—*Evangelii Gaudium*

"Consequently, an evangelizer must never look like someone who has just come back from a funeral! ... And may the world of our time, which is searching, sometimes with anguish, sometimes with hope, be enabled to receive the good news not from evangelizers who are dejected, discouraged, impatient or anxious, but from ministers of the Gospel whose lives glow with fervor, who have first received the joy of Christ". —*Evangelii Gaudium*

Mark's Musings from Malvern

Dear Friends,

I am excited about 2017! As we embark on this New Year, it's a great time to look ahead with determination about what the year should be. Here at Malvern Retreat House, we are inspired by Pope Francis in his Apostolic Exhortation *Evangelii Gaudium* (Joy of the Gospel) to **evangelize joyfully**.

About 20,000 people come here every year to encounter Christ, and that is precisely where evangelization begins. Pope Francis reminds us that if we have truly experienced God's saving love, then we don't need a lot of time or training to go out and proclaim that love. As God heals us and forgives us, we are compelled to make him known. Saint Paul puts it this way, **"Woe to me if I do not preach the Gospel!"** (1 Cor 9:16)

As we encounter Christ's love and mercy, we are remiss if we don't let others know about Jesus – it's not a private affair; it's not a one and done experience that we can walk away from. If Jesus chooses to bless our lives through the

sacraments, through Eucharistic adoration, through prayer and silence – or any other way – we are compelled to be joyful disciples who desire to share the love of the Master with many others! **It's as if we need to climb to the highest pinnacle of Saint Joseph's Hall to shout out with our loudest voice, "Jesus loves you!"**

During this new year, many of our retreatants will be meditating upon the theme: Encountering the Divine Physician, Jesus Christ: Healing of the Paralytic. In that image from the Gospel of Luke (5:17-26), believers who have already encountered Christ are so enthusiastic to bring their paralyzed friend to Jesus that they usurp the scene, choked by a massive crowd, and head for the roof to lower the afflicted one to the feet of Jesus. Somehow they have already been touched by Jesus, and their hearts are bursting to share what they know and have experienced with someone else in great need. **Nothing was going to stop them!**

So as we enter the retreat experience, **God is asking each of us to be prepared to be**

disciples; to shine joyfully with the Good News that Jesus Christ is Lord! Because of these countless Divine Encounters, **MRH is a vibrant center of evangelization.** And we continue to look for new ways to invite new people, more people, to find and experience Christ through our grounds, our retreats, the printed word, and even through social media and the cyber world. **Nothing is going to stop us from being joyful evangelizers for the One who is the source of all that we are and all that we have!**

I invite you to encounter Christ and become a joyful evangelizer for him in 2017!

Prosit!

Mark J. Poletunow
President



Church as a Field Hospital – Encountering the Divine Physician

POPE FRANCIS has offered a significant image and proclamation for the Catholic Church going forward. The image is one of a field hospital, and the call addressed to all the faithful is: Heal the wounds, heal the wounds!

When I read the words of our Holy Father, I must admit that the first picture that came to mind was the television series about the **4077th Korean War M*A*S*H Unit**. M*A*S*H is an acronym for **Mobile Army Surgical Hospital**. The series was a great success, as week to week it took the viewer to the front line of a field hospital. The **MASH Unit's** purpose was to be as close to the fighting as possible so that in turn it could provide the needed medical treatment for the wounded as fast as possible. From each television episode, it became very apparent that without this quick on-the-spot medical care the war-victims would be at risk for their lives.

The vivid and engaging image that the term field hospital creates and its application to the Church makes a great deal of spiritual sense. If the Church positioned herself as close to the action as possible – that is, as close to the lives of people who daily find themselves wounded by the intense war between good and evil – she would be in a better position to provide with God's help the necessary spiritual attention that would promote real healing.

In order for this well founded hope of the Holy Father to create a real renewal and reformation for the Church, her members will have to be willing to change the way they understand and the way they conduct themselves. Too many Church members see themselves merely as recipients entitled to the blessings and ministry of the Church, and not as disciples called to

minister to others. And, if they do engage in some ministry, it is often confined to fellow parishioners, and not an outreach to wandering, inactive Catholics or the unchurched.

Pope Francis is calling the Church to be the **M*A*S*H Unit** for all who are wounded and victims, Christian or not! This call is a radical call to awaken a sleeping giant. **The Church in all her forms will have to break camp and move closer to the front lines.** Disconnecting from what is familiar and comfortable is never easy. And yet, in order to have the energy and resources to be a life-giving field hospital, one must abandon the ordinary and the comfortable, and go where the action is!

The founders of Malvern Retreat House knew that they were breaking new ground by offering retreats for laity, and yet they embraced the challenge and took the risk. Very much like a field hospital, the founders set up camp near the front line of spiritual combat and carried the wounded from families, businesses and neighborhoods into its retreat setting for encounters with the Divine Physician, Jesus Christ. Malvern created the setting for medical treatments that only the Sacraments could provide. These spiritual-medical ointments were accompanied with good rest before the Blessed Sacrament. And, Malvern concluded the spiritual therapy with the necessary support of friendships that men of faith can provide. Malvern became under the guidance of the Holy Spirit truly a **M*A*S*H unit**: Church as a field hospital for encountering the Divine Physician, Jesus Christ.

So what about now? In 2017 Malvern retreat House will initiate a new three-year spiritual



plan emphasizing as our theme: **Encountering the Divine Physician, Jesus Christ**. Malvern will deliberately attempt to follow the exhortation of Pope Francis by seeing ourselves as a field hospital for all who need the healing attention of Christ which is **Everyone!**

The Gospel centerpiece for 2017 will be **Saint Luke's Gospel** story of the **Healing of the Paralytic**. How appropriate this theme will be to insert us into the mind and heart of Pope Francis and the Church, so that we can begin to practice the ministry of a field hospital for the wounded of the world, which included you and me as well. Thank God that the friends of the paralytic moved out of their comfort zone and found a way to bring their friend to Jesus for the healing he needed. Are you willing to carry wounded souls to the Divine Physician?

Lord Jesus, stimulate my desire to reach out to my brothers and sisters who, like me, are in need of your healing. Give me the courage to invite one and all to Malvern Retreat House, and if need be, to be willing to carry them to your healing power, in imitation of the paralytic's friends. I ask this of you, Divine Physician who live and reign with the Father and Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever. Amen.

COMPLETE DIVINE PHYSICIAN PRAYER

Lord Jesus, Divine Physician,

With an open heart, you welcomed the paralytic and his attentive friends who lowered him into your presence.

With an open heart, you healed his internal sickness through your power to forgive sins as God. In turn, you healed his paralysis so that he could walk home proclaiming your goodness.

Open my heart to your compassionate love. Increase my confidence in your willingness to come to my aid by forgiving my sins and healing my spiritual paralysis.

Stimulate my desire to reach out to my brothers and sisters who, like me, are in need of your healing. Give me the courage to invite one and all to Malvern Retreat House, and if need be, to be willing to carry them to your healing power, in imitation of the paralytic's friends.

I ask this of you, Divine Physician who live and reign with the Father and Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever. Amen.



Michael Norton

Vice President of Institutional Advancement

Development News

Pope Francis Bearers of Hope Scholarship Fund

Pope Francis has inspired the world. Of all the extraordinary things he has said to Catholics everywhere is this:

"We must be bearers of hope. We must go out onto the battlefield of life where our wounded brothers and sisters are and engage them. First, by listening to them. Then we must pick them up and carry them, if necessary, to holy mother church where the Divine Physician awaits to heal and bind their wounds."

In 2015, in response to Pope Francis' plea Malvern Retreat House established the *Bearers of Hope Fund* for the men and women among us who are struggling to maintain their hope in the face of crushing adversity.

Specifically, the fund provides scholarships for weekend retreats so these men and women can experience the same *Moments of Divine Encounter* that 1.2 million others have experienced over the past 104 years at the Malvern Retreat House.

It is in these moments alone with the Divine Physician that personal transformation begins. And it is in this transformation that hope is renewed.

To date we have received \$50,000 in scholarship funds from individuals and corporate donations and provided almost 200 full and partial scholarships. The first beneficiaries of the *Bearers of Hope Fund* were 50 Latino men from New Jersey who joined the men of the Six-Three. Like all of us who come on retreat, these men arrived on a Friday night tired and searching. They departed on a Sunday morning full of hope.

25 Veterans were able to attend our Retreat for Veterans with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, an annual retreat that is growing larger each year. Nine IHM nuns joined us for an Evangelization Retreat in January. The *Bearers of Hope Scholarship Fund* made it possible for these beautiful women to attend. There are literally thousands upon thousands of our brothers and sisters in our area who hunger and thirst for a deeper encounter with their God.

You can help us minister to them by becoming one of Pope Francis' *Bearers of Hope*. Simply make a gift to the Pope Francis *Bearers of Hope Scholarship Fund*. Your gift helps carry our wounded brothers and sisters to the Divine Physician, who waits to bind their wounds.

For more information on the Bearers of Hope Scholarship Fund call Michael Norton at 484-321-2539 or email, mnorton@malvernretreat.com



The Beautiful Artwork of Malvern

Did you know that Malvern Retreat House has one of the finest collections of religious art in the region, not to mention the country? We have masterful works depicting the Holy Family, The Last Supper, The Flight From Egypt, Removal From the Cross, and many sculptures, like the *Pieta*, and the Stations of the Cross.

My personal favorites are the Stations of the Cross in the McShain Horstmann Family Life Center, painted by renowned artist Niko Chocheli. I strongly urge you to visit the chapel to view these striking works of iconographic art.

Roll Out the Red Carpet

It can surely be said that Philadelphia literally rolled out the Red Carpet for Pope Francis. One friend of Malvern has donated a section of the red carpet that his Holiness stepped on as he disembarked from his plane at Philadelphia International Airport. A section of the carpet is going to be displayed outside of each of our chapels and in the lobby of Upper McShain. On your next retreat, spend a few moments in quiet contemplation while remembering Pope Francis' historic visit to the city of Brotherly Love.



Pope Francis arrived at Philadelphia International Airport on September 26, 2015.



ATTENTION All Golfers!

After 28 years of fun and friendship, we have decided to merge the Don Gallagher Memorial Golf Outing, normally held in October, with the Spring Golf Outing, The Malvern Classic. We invite those who participated in the Don Gallagher Outing to join us on Monday May 8th at Cedarbrook Country Club in Blue Bell, PA for the 9th annual Malvern Golf Classic. A portion of the proceeds from this event benefit St. John's Hospice, Bethesda Project and Mercy Hospice.

For more information, call Edie Petillo at 484-321-2544 or email epetillo@malvernretreat.com

Communion Mass & Luncheon

MALVERN'S ANNUAL COMMUNION MASS & LUNCHEON brought together a number of retreatants, families and friends to celebrate the retreat house's ministry. The event was held at Neumann University in November and featured nationally known speaker Leah Darrow. The former top model talked about her reversion back to the Catholic faith and focused on the theme: *Prodigal Daughter: How Dad Got His Little Girl Back*.



Nationally known Catholic speaker Leah Darrow gave the keynote presentation at our annual Communion Mass and Luncheon.

Left: Vice-Chairperson of the Board Jacqueline Delaney and Malvern Retreat House President Mark Poletunow presented the St. Joseph the Worker award to Dr. Rocco & Barbara Martino.

Women's Fall Retreat

DOZENS OF WOMEN gathered at the McShain-Horstmann Family Life Center at the end of September to join in a new 24-hour retreat for women. The event titled *Celebrating the Gift of Catholic Womanhood* featured nationally known speaker and author Pat Gohn. Among other topics, she focused on the beautiful gifts of women, including receptivity, generosity, sensitivity and maternity. Aside from her presentations, the retreat also included a lovely candlelight procession, adoration, Mass, small group discussions, music and so much more.

This coming September 29-30 Malvern Retreat House will offer another 24-hour Women's Retreat at the Family Life Center.

More details will be available in the near future on malvernretreat.com.



Upcoming Retreats & Events

All the latest details about our upcoming retreats are available on our website at malvernretreat.com

2017 is shaping up to be a busy one at Malvern Retreat House with many returning and new retreats planned for the year. A few highlights are listed below, and a more complete list of retreats for the next few months is on the back cover.

Overnight Retreats

Busy Young Men's Retreats ★ February 3-4 & August 25-27

Malvern Retreat House will host two 24-hour retreats this year for busy young men ages 40 and younger. These retreats will focus on Malvern Retreat House's 2017 theme: *Encountering the Divine Physician*. The February retreat will be directed by Malvern Retreat House Rector Msgr. Joseph T. Marino and speaker Bill Donaghy, who as a missionary in the year 2000 was given a simple cross by St. John Paul II and called by the Holy Father to "bring Jesus back to your country."

Women Afire ★ March 10-12

Registration is now open for the Women Afire retreat, which normally sells out each year. This retreat includes individual & group healing prayer, uplifting music, inspirational teaching and preaching, and liturgies including adoration.

Divine Mercy ★ April 21-23

Two dynamic priests - Rev. Ronan Murphy and Rev. Stephen DeLacy - are returning to direct Malvern's annual Divine Mercy retreat. This inspirational retreat is for both men and women, and it focuses on God's loving mercy.

Women of Grace ★ July 7-9

Nationally acclaimed retreat director Johnnette Benkovic is returning to Malvern Retreat House this summer to lead her Women of Grace retreat. Women of Grace promotes the dignity of woman, the gift of true womanhood, woman's fundamental call and mission in the world, and presents the Blessed Virgin Mary as the exemplar of all women.

Days and Evenings of Reflection

Women's Tea ★ February 5

The teas in 2017 will also focus on the Malvern theme: *Encountering the Divine Physician*. The first tea of the year will be held Sunday, February 5 at 2pm. The speaker at the event will be Jodie D'Angiolillo, who is the Director of Evangelization for the Diocese of Metuchen. Later teas will be held on May 7, August 6 and November 5.



The Valentine Evening of Reflection is for all couples who would like to spend a faith-filled evening together.

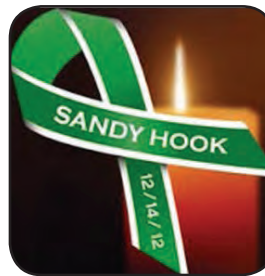
Valentine Evening of Reflection ★ February 12

Our annual Valentine Evening for Couples will be held Sunday, February 12. The event will include a candlelight dinner, Mass, and presentations designed to inspire couples in their journey of faith together.

St. Teresa of Calcutta Days of Reflection ★ February 15 & May 18

Monsignor Michael T. Mannion, who enjoyed a twenty nine-year friendship with Mother Teresa, is directing these retreats. He will be sharing his personal experiences with this newly proclaimed saint, as well as the spiritual insights that he gained from her.

A Sanctuary of Healing - A Day & Evening of Reflection ★ March 28



Malvern Retreat House is holding two retreats - both a Day and Evening of Reflection - with Jennifer Hubbard, a mother who lost her 6-year old daughter Catherine Violet Hubbard during the Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting that occurred in 2012. Since that tragic day, Jennifer and her husband Matt have turned to their faith to keep living. Jennifer writes a column for the monthly Catholic spiritual guide "Magnificat," and she and her husband are honoring Catherine's memory by working diligently to open an animal sanctuary.

Jennifer talks about the power of prayer in overcoming life's hardships. "I believe that when you are at your weakest, and there is nothing left that you can possibly do, that is when you find God - the real God," Hubbard said. She also talks about finding a reason for our lives. "I believed before Catherine died that we are called here for a purpose," Hubbard said. "And I believe if we all do what we are called to do, what an incredible place we would live in."

Malvern Retreat House Family Festival ★ June 11

Malvern will be holding another Family Festival this coming June with more activities for the kids. Like last year, the afternoon will start with Sunday Mass in the grotto. After the liturgy, there will food and other activities. Grammy-nominated musician Marty Rotella will be performing, and there will be a DJ leading activities and numerous games and craft booths for children of all ages.



Everyone enjoyed lunch after attending Mass at the Family Festival.

More details will be available in the near future at malvernretreat.com.



Kids enjoyed playing water games at the Family Festival in 2016.

Captains Embrace the 2017 Theme and Schedule



THE ANNUAL C.A. CAPTAINS CONCLAVE was held on Tuesday December 6. This year, Malvern's Rector Monsignor Joseph Marino invited the captains to attend a half day retreat as part of the conclave schedule. It was a rewarding spiritual experience for those captains able to attend the two conferences by Monsignor Marino, the sacrament of reconciliation, time before the Blessed Sacrament and Mass at St. Joseph's Chapel.

At the conclave President Mark Poletunov told the captains that construction of the new conference room (the old gift shop area) should

be completed by late spring. He said plans were moving forward on construction of an elevator at Assumption Hall. The President spoke of the need to continue to optimize room space at Corrigan Hall and he discussed the long range plan to build up traditional retreat attendance and invite new groups to Malvern.

Monsignor Marino introduced the theme for 2017 "Encountering the Divine Physician" and the new changes in the 2017 Schedule of Exercises. The theme and the schedule will be centered on healing and the call this year for retreatants to bring family and friends to Malvern to encounter Jesus, the Divine Physician.

The gift of healing begins at Friday night Mass with the inclusion of the Sacrament of the Sick. Monsignor Marino spoke passionately about the theme that is based on the gospel of the healing of the paralytic (Luke 5:17-26).

The 2017 Schedule of Exercises also offers an option for traditional retreat groups to begin

private adoration immediately following Mass on Friday night and end private adoration with Benediction on Saturday evening or keep the existing schedule of beginning private adoration on Saturday morning and ending on Sunday morning. The traditional Way of the Cross is now moved from before lunch to after lunch. This change will allow more time in the chapel for confessions and again reflecting on the emphasis of healing through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. The 2:30 to 3:30 slot on Saturday afternoon will focus on the Corporal Works of Mercy. Groups will be asked to encourage members to talk about their involvement with various Corporal Works of Mercy activities in their home parishes.

Recruiting and Retention Manager Patrick Benner told the captains that year to date attendance almost matched last year. He distributed worksheets for the captains to advise the League regarding their option choices for the 2017 schedule.

SACRAMENT OF THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK

ENCOUNTERING THE DIVINE PHYSICIAN, JESUS CHRIST HEALING OF THE PARALYTIC (LUKE 5: 17-26)

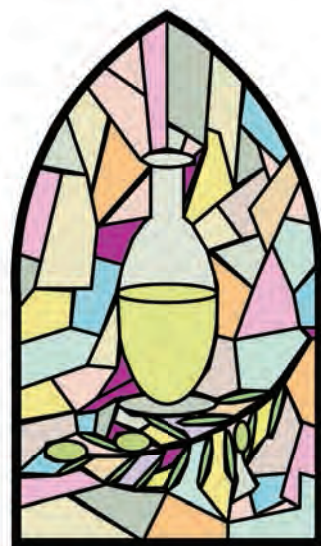
Sacrament of the Sick

A significant opportunity is being provided on the 2017 Traditional Weekend Retreats.

The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick will be offered on every traditional retreat weekend during the celebration of Mass on Friday evenings. When the priest anoints the sick, he is anointing in the name and with the power of Christ himself. ... There are two complementary aspects of this sacrament: through the Sacrament of Anointing the Church supports the sick in their struggle against illness and continues Christ's messianic work of healing. While the sacrament is most appropriately celebrated when a person's health is seriously impaired by sickness or old age, persons suffering from chronic conditions may also feel the need for this sacrament.

There are three distinct and integral aspects to the celebration of this sacrament: the prayer of faith asking for God's help for the sick, the laying on of hands, and the anointing with oil. In Mark's Gospel and the Letter of James, the Scriptures testify to these significant actions as vital actions of the healing effort of God.

*Through this holy anointing may the Lord in his love and mercy help you with the grace of the Holy Spirit. Amen.
May the Lord who frees you from sin save you and raise you up. Amen.*



or body-like forms. Longtime art show volunteer Susan Thompson says she is very excited about this year's focus.

"The caliber of artists participating in our show is always high, and the feature exhibit certainly matches that expectation," Thompson said. "I've been involved in art shows for more than 30 years, so I know high quality work when I see it."

Among the figurative artists from Philadelphia are Leah MacDonald and her exceptionally talented teenage son Rory MacDonald. Rory makes metal figurative robots, using welding skills he learned from his father. His mother creates very different art pieces. Leah takes photographs of women and embellishes them with beeswax, colored wax, painting and drawing. Some of her most compelling pieces were made after she had a serious motorcycle accident and decided to work with models who had also experienced physical trauma or injury.

"I wanted to help women dealing with physical problems to feel beautiful and heal," MacDonald said.

Her exhibit of this work inspired other local artists, who collaborated to create a musical called "In My Body." The project turned out to be so successful that at one point it attracted the attention of Hamilton star Javier Muñoz, who participated in a developmental workshop for the show and highly endorsed it.

MacDonald is not alone in this kind of success. Figurative artist Liz Goldberg, who will also participate in the Malvern show, reached new milestones when she took her work in different directions. She teamed up with Temple University film professor Warren Bass to create eight films featuring her work. In 2003, one of their films won the British Animation Award. Goldberg says she created about 3000 images for each film, which are then edited together for the final production.

"I start drawing and the characters come to life," Goldberg said. "Each one has a name and full personality, and the movement on the film is based on a

"I wanted to help women dealing with physical problems to feel beautiful and heal."

■ **LEAH MACDONALD**



Artist Leah MacDonald takes photographs of women and embellishes them with wax, painting and drawing.



Artist Joshua Ruggeri will offer neo-pop figurative art pieces at the show.

Latin dance component."

Goldberg will bring one of her films to the Malvern Art Show, and she will also bring paintings featuring the characters in the film. In the same exhibit room, Joshua Ruggeri's work, which also has been utilized in video productions, will be on display. Before he became a full-time artist, Ruggeri worked for an Ebay office that did photography and videography work. In the office, his paintings were exhibited on the walls. Some clients began requesting the use of his paintings in their commercial shoots. One of the clients, the Aeropostale Apparel Company, even asked if their teenage model could pretend to paint one of Ruggeri's pieces during their commercial.

These kind of moments led Ruggeri to become a full-time artist. He promotes his neo-pop art primarily through social media, but he says both he and artist Mark Fleming, who shares a studio with Ruggeri, are looking forward to the Malvern Retreat House Show. He says he was impressed by the professionalism of the volunteers organizing the show.

"I was really excited that they were picking pieces that were fresh and were at the top of my mind at the time," Ruggeri said. "I'm also really excited that our work will offer something different than what you may see at other art shows."

Overall, more than 2000 art pieces will be for sale during the show. The event will be held February 1-5 in the McShain-Horstmann Family Life Center at 315 S. Warren Avenue in Malvern. The show hours are Wednesday-Saturday from 10am-7pm and Sunday from 10am-4pm. A complimentary wine & cheese reception will be held Thursday, February 2 from 5pm-8pm.

**For more information, please visit
malvernretreat.com/artshow.**

February 1-5

**McShain-Horstmann
Family Life Center**

St Joe's Construction



THE NEXT PHASE of our St. Joseph Hall renovation is now underway. Crews have been gutting the area where the gift shop was once located to add a new conference room. The new space will hold more than 70 people for retreat gatherings. More details will be released as they become available.

A Minute From Malvern

WE ARE OFFERING DAILY inspirational reflections both on the homepage of the Malvern Retreat House website at malvernretreat.com and via email. To sign up to receive the daily reflection, please see the Malvern Mailing List option at the bottom of the Malvern homepage. Click "Subscribe Now," and select the Malvern Minute email list.



Villanova Volunteer Day

A group of volunteers from Villanova University blessed the Malvern Retreat House grounds with their hard work last fall. Below are some pictures from their visit. We thank all our volunteers for their hard work throughout 2016.



A Legacy IN TIME

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.

FULL NAME

GROUP NAME

70 Years

Mr. Louis J. Klement

Our Lady of Perpetual Help

60 Years

Mr. Joseph P. Krisciunas

Christus Rex

Mr. John T. Pierzga

Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Mr. William I. Stubits

Our Lady of Perpetual Help

50 Years

Mr. Robert F. Fennell

Archbishop Fitzmaurice

Mr. Oreste Paul Olimpo

Christus Rex

Mr. Jonathan G. Easlick

Edward J. Friel, Sr. Memorial

Mr. John F. Junod

Furey Memorial - St. Gabriel

Mr. Joseph D. McCann

Immaculate Conception

Mr. Enoch F. Kroutch, Jr.

Nativity BVM

Mr. Kenneth Mertz

Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Mr. John E. McGinley

Prosit

Mr. Michael J. Maher, Sr.

St. Joseph

Mr. Francis X. Coyne

Thanksgiving IHM

25 Years

Mr. William F. Green IV

Atlantic City K of C Auto Club

Mr. Jeffrey Mullen

Ave Maria

Mr. Anthony Assetto

Chester County

Mr. Nicholas DiProspero, Jr.

Chester County

Mr. Michael A. Filoromo, Jr.

Chester County

Mr. Richard F. Howell

Chester County

Mr. David Leary

Chester County

Mr. James L. Hagen

Christus Rex

Mr. Steven M. LaMonaca

Furey Memorial - St. Gabriel

Mr. Michael P. Taylor, Sr.

Furey Memorial - St. Gabriel

Mr. Salvatore Talamo

Immaculate Conception

Mr. Paul J. Tresca

Immaculate Conception

Mr. Vincent M. Sumoski

Knights of the Immaculata

Mrs. Mary C. McGowan

Legion of Mary

Mrs. Teresa A. Nagele

Legion of Mary

Mrs. Kathleen A. Rejrat

Legion of Mary

Mr. William F. Choinski

Nativity BVM

Mr. James T. Simpson

Our Lady Queen of Peace

Mr. Arthur M. Hopper

Prosit

Mr. Joshua D. Rudolph

Prosit

Mr. Thomas Smedile

Prosit

Mr. Christopher Yost

Six-Three

Mr. Donald J. Risica, Jr.

St. Joseph

Mr. Anthony J. Durso

St. Joseph

Mr. Gary S. Kelly

St. Joseph

Mr. John C. Reilly

St. Joseph

Mr. Fred A. Repsik

St. Joseph

Mr. Joseph C. Spak

St. Joseph

Mr. Frederick M. Walker

St. Joseph

Mr. William P. Clancy

Thanksgiving IHM

Mr. Joseph P. Finnegan

Thanksgiving IHM

Mr. Peter J. Fleming, Sr.

Thanksgiving IHM

Mr. Sean P. Mackey

Thanksgiving IHM

Inside Malvern

New Employees



Maurice Stevenson
Food Service Assistant



Fay Richardson
Food Service Chef



Felicia Green
Director of Fiscal Affairs

WELCOME!



Martha Quintana
Administrative Assistant



Geraldine McCann
Assistant to the President

Malvern Wish List

- **Pickup truck.** If you or somebody you know has a pickup truck they are no longer using, our maintenance department is in desperate need of a truck.
- **Golf Cart.** We are always in need of golf carts to help some of our retreatants visit our beautiful shrines and Station of the Cross paths.
- **Volunteers** to help with Family Day on Sunday, June 11, 2017.

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



Musician and lay evangelist Tony Melendez, who was born without arms, inspired everyone he encountered during his visit in November. He performed for 300 men during the Knights of Immaculata Men of Malvern retreat, 250 others during a special Sunday show at Malvern, and 500 parishioners during his performance at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish in Delaware.

+ In Memoriam of Dominic J D'Alessandro



A beloved retreatant with one of the longest attendance records in Malvern Retreat House's history has passed away. Dominic J. D'Alessandro of the Men of Malvern Caenaculum group made 77 retreats in 77 years. He passed away in November at the age of 100 years. Mr. D'Alessandro lived in Glen Mills, PA and was preceded in death by his wife Madeline. He had three children, six grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. Mr. D'Alessandro was a graduate of West Philadelphia Catholic Boys High School, Class of 1934, and was a long-time union official for the Cement Masons' Local 592. Malvern Retreat House offers our condolences and prayers for Mr. D'Alessandro and his family.

Eternal rest, grant unto him O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon him.

May he rest in peace. Amen.



Our Lady of Guadalupe Shrine Dedication (Continued from the cover)



through the hill country in central Mexico in 1531 when he saw a woman surrounded in a ball of light. She told Diego she was Mary the Mother of God and asked him to go to the bishop and request that a church be built on that spot in the hill country. Diego obeyed, but the bishop asked Diego for a sign from Mary.

At a later appearance Mary told Diego his gravely ill uncle was healed and asked him to walk up the freezing mountainside and gather the flowers he found. When he brought them down, she arranged them in his cloak or tilma and told him to deliver the flowers to the bishop.

When Diego brought them to the bishop, he opened his tilma to drop the flowers to the floor, and there on the tilma was a picture of the Blessed Virgin Mary just as Juan had described her. The next day Diego took the bishop to where he first met Mary, and then he returned to his uncle who was completely cured. His uncle told him Mary had appeared to him and told him: "Call me and call my image Santa Maria de Guadalupe."

The miraculous story still is widely shared in Mexico, which is estimated to be the second largest Catholic country in the world.



The appearance of Mary speaking in the native Aztec language inspired millions of Aztecs to convert to Catholicism. The site where the tilma is displayed remains one of the most popular pilgrimage sites in the world, and our Lady of Guadalupe is considered the patroness of the Americas. Her image that shows her as pregnant with her Divine Son also has made her the patroness of the pro-life movement.

Malvern hopes the new Our Lady of Guadalupe shrine will be a sacred place for many retreatants. We welcome everyone to come and visit the beautiful new shrine located behind the McShain-Horstmann Family Life Center.

MALVERN'S UPCOMING RETREATS



Feb. 3-4
Busy Young Man's Retreat
Msgr. Joseph Marino & Bill Donaghy



Feb. 12
Valentine Evening of Reflection
Msgr. Ralph Chieffo & Bonnie & Jim Clark



Feb. 24-26
PECO/Good Shepherd
Fr. Jeff Putthoff



March 3-5
Pope Pius XII
Fr. Armand Garcia & Msgr. Joseph Marino



Feb. 3-5
St. Blaise
Fr. Dennis O'Donnell



Feb. 15
St. Teresa of Calcutta
Msgr. Michael T. Mannion, S.T.L.



March 1
Ash Wednesday
Fr. Lawrence Kozak



March 10-12
Holy Family
Fr. William Gaffney, CSSR & Fr. Philip Lowe



Feb. 5
Women's Tea
Jodie D'Angiolillo



Feb. 17-19
Matt Talbot #19



March 3
First Friday Breakfast



March 10-12
Women Afire
Anna Iatesta, Kathleen McCarthy, Anne McGlone & June Piola



Feb. 10-12
Retrouvaille for Married Couples



Feb. 17-19
Matt Talbot #7



March 3-5
Domenica's Women's Retreat
Sr. Clare D'Auria



March 17-19
Caenaculum
Fr. Joseph Corley & Fr. Michael Shea



Feb. 10-12
St. John Neumann
Fr. Michael Shea, C.M. & Deacon Al Clay



Feb. 19
Joseph's People Unemployment Retreat



March 3-5
Most Blessed Sacrament
Fr. Armand Garcia & Msgr. Joseph Marino



April 21-23
Divine Mercy
Fr. Ronan Murphy & Fr. Stephen DeLacy