

*Saint Paul of the Cross  
Passionist Retreat Center Newsletter*

*Summer / Fall 2017*



*Simon Dewey*



## St. Paul of the Cross Retreat Center Newsletter

This newsletter is published twice a year to inform readers of the ministry of St. Paul of the Cross Retreat Center. Additionally, the newsletter invites people to partner with St. Paul's in prayer, and as professional co-workers, volunteers, and financial contributors. St. Paul of the Cross Retreat Center Newsletter is sent to all retreatants, donors, and to anyone who requests it. To begin receiving issues use the contact information below.

**Publisher:** St. Paul's Monastery  
St. Paul of the Cross Retreat Center

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### The United Way

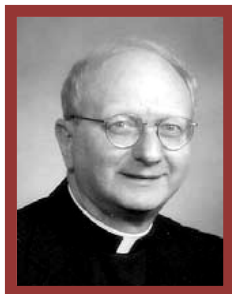
Once again, we wish to extend our thanks to the retreatants who have designated St. Paul's in their United Way Contributor Choice Acknowledgement Card. This designation supports our work with recovering alcoholics and those in other 12-step recovery programs. If you or any of your friends want to support us in this manner, please contact your local United Way and fill out a Contributor Choice Acknowledgement Card. Please use the following Agency Name and Number:  
Agency Code #3518 - Alcoholic Recovery / St. Paul's Retreat House.

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Dear Friends of the Retreat Center,



With the coming of the Holy Spirit, the first followers of Jesus experienced an extraordinary outpouring of gifts that has continued to bless our faith community to this day. As we begin a new retreat season, I want to invite you to think about how these gifts are meant to form us in the spirit that Jesus calls us to live. As they guide and direct us from within, these gifts not only enrich our interior lives, but also build up and renew our life in community.

In *The Joy of the Gospel*, Pope Francis writes that “the Holy Spirit...transforms our hearts” and “builds up the communion and harmony of the people of God.” The Spirit also “brings forth a rich variety of gifts, while at the same time creating a unity which is never uniformity but a multifaceted and inviting harmony.” (Pope Francis, *The Joy of the Gospel*, no. 117)

At this time our thoughts sometimes turn to the need for a fuller experience of unity and harmony at all levels of life. Pope Francis reminds us that “Differences between persons and communities can sometimes prove uncomfortable, but the Holy Spirit, who is the source of that diversity, can bring forth something good from all things and turn it into an attractive means of evangelization.” (Pope Francis, *The Joy of the Gospel*, no. 131)

Saint Paul the Apostle tells us that living in the Spirit leads to a deeper experience of “joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control”. (Galatians 5:22-23) These gifts of the Holy Spirit are qualities that bring new life and a renewed purpose to each of us individually and to our relationships with one another.

A key to the unity that we seek in Christ is to live with openness to the guidance and gifts of the Holy Spirit that strengthen us in our following of Jesus. The gifts of the Spirit offer us practical helps to building up our life with others in charity and peace and strengthen us inwardly.

Our retreat theme for this season, *In Christ, United in Mind and Heart*, will help us to reflect on this important call to become centered and one in Christ. We look forward to your joining us for a retreat during this season and pray that God's blessings will be with you in all ways.

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Gerald, C.P.  
Retreat Director



## Intercessory Prayer:

# *Bringing God's Shalom to Your Neighborhood*



Fr. Michael Salvagna, C.P.

Prayer is our lifeline to God. It is a loving relationship that draws us deeper into the heart of God. By our prayers of adoration, praise and thanksgiving we affirm our love for God and neighbor. Another facet of our prayer is intercession. All Christians are called to be intercessors (1 Timothy 2:1-2). Each has the God-given responsibility to engage in regular, sustained prayer for personal needs and the concerns of others all around us.

Is it possible for Christians to band together to transform the secular culture around them and usher in the kingdom of God? A national movement has arisen that encourages believers to saturate their neighborhood, town and city with sustained intercessory prayer. Many Pittsburghers are meeting regularly in homes, schools, places of business, anywhere and everywhere, and praying "thy kingdom come, they will be done" in Pittsburgh as it is in Heaven.

In this workshop, Fr. Michael will introduce the strategy called prayer walking which is "praying on site with insight." It is saturating prayer, alone or in groups, that is bringing a wave of healing and transformation to families, neighborhoods, communities, and cities everywhere. This kingdom mindset is God's plan to shower his people with shalom.

Date: Thursday – September 28, 2017

Offering: \$8.00

Time: 10:00 – 11:30 AM and 7:00 to 8:30 PM (two identical sessions)

To register, please call the Retreat Center at 412-381-7676

Annual  
Family Retreat



Alice Kilonsky and Margaret Almasy



St. Joan of Arc Women's Retreat - April 2017  
Left to right: Melissa Coe and Margaret Almasy  
(daughter-promoter and mother co-promoter)



Cathleen Kilonsky and Melissa Coe



## Praying with Scripture

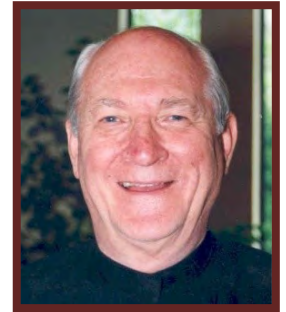
### *Lectio Divina*



Presenter:  
Fr. Gerald Laba, C.P.

The document of the Second Vatican Council entitled *‘Verbum Dei’ (The Word of God)* emphasizes the importance of reflecting on the Scriptures as the “living word of God” in personal prayer and in the liturgy. Many Christians have found praying with Scripture to be an enriching part of their spiritual journey and spend quality time each day reflecting on the Word of God.

We invite you to join us for this evening program that will help us to think about a method for praying with Scripture and consider the overall importance of reflecting on Scripture in our spiritual journey. The program will include the opportunity for meditation on a Scripture passage and faith sharing.



Presenter:  
Fr. Timothy Fitzgerald, C.P.

Date: Wednesday - October 4, 2017

Time: 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Offering: \$8.00

Light refreshments will be available

To register, please call the Retreat Center at 412-381-7676

### Healing Life’s Hurts: Forgiveness as the Key to Inner Healing

Rev. Michael Salvagna, C.P.



Healing is a process by which what is wounded or sick becomes whole or healthy. Physical healings can be observed externally. However, mental, emotional and spiritual healings are interior, harder to evaluate, and take longer to achieve. Inner healing/healing of painful memories uncovers the wounds locked in one’s past which prevent a person from being more peaceful, free and happy. The hurts we experience often come from excessive fear, anger, grief, guilt, and depression which weaken a person’s confidence and self-love. The gift of forgiveness is an important tool to bring peace of mind and heart to troubled souls.



This workshop explains how forgiveness is *an act of the will* and not a feeling. Choosing to give unconditional forgiveness frees a person from thinking about the circumstances surrounding a particular hurt. Self-forgiveness is also included in the workshop. A prayer meditation will follow the presentation using faith imagination. In this dynamic, the person imagines Jesus being present at painful moments of their lives, and together granting forgiveness to those who have hurt them. Participants are encouraged to attend both evenings since each session will stand on its own.

Dates: Thursday - October 19 and Thursday - October 26, 2017

Time: 7:00 - 8:30 PM

To register, please call the Retreat Center at 412-381-7676

Offering: \$8.00





# We Remember Mr. Henry Caruso

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Over the years our Retreat Center family was blessed by the presence of Henry Caruso and by the exceptional gifts that he shared with all of us. Henry served as our music director and as a member of our retreat team for the past eleven years, contributing many talents and gifts to our weekend retreats and special programs.

Henry had a unique calling that was reflected in his love for music and song. Throughout his life he expressed this gift in his deep faith and love for God. He shared it generously in our retreat setting by inviting all of us to deepen our prayer life through quiet reflection and prayerful song.

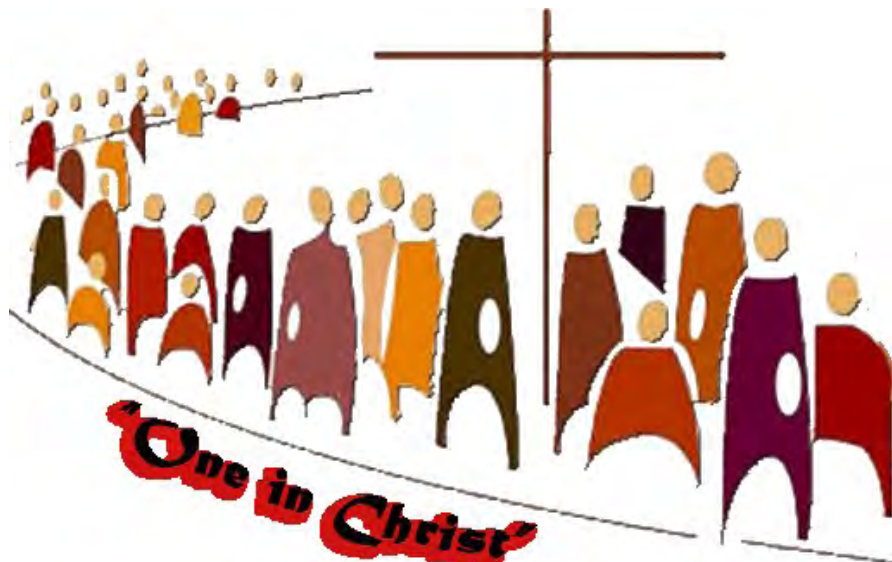
For several retreat seasons, Henry composed original hymns that would reflect the theme for that particular year. He also gathered a dedicated group of musicians and singers to form an Ensemble that would meet regularly to practice the music for our Eucharistic liturgies. With Henry's leadership, the Ensemble enhanced the beauty of our liturgical celebrations each weekend.

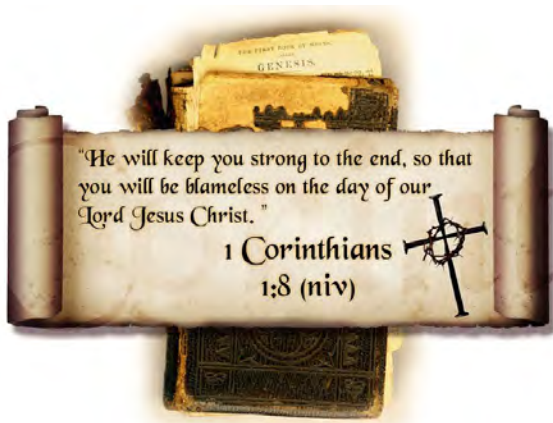
When Henry learned about the nature of his illness just after Thanksgiving, he told me that he was placing his life before God in faith and in trust. He wanted to be open in mind and heart to the path that God would place before him. Henry's faith and courage have been an inspiration to all of us.

During the time of his illness, Henry expressed much gratitude for the many prayers and good wishes, cards and notes that he had received. Over the years we all knew Henry as a man who lived with a grateful heart.

As we continue to remember Henry prayerfully in the days and months ahead, let us thank God for the gift of his life and for all of the ways in which he shared his gifts with all of us. Let us also remember Christine, Henry's wife, and Lori, his daughter, asking that God's comforting presence and peace will be with them.

*Fr. Gerald, C.P.*





## Spiritual Warfare:

### Resisting the World, the Flesh and the Devil

Fr. Michael Salvagna, C.P.,

Angela Heidenreich, D.D. and Richard Heidenreich, M. Ed.

Each of us is constantly being bombarded with messages about what will bring us more freedom, happiness, success, long life, inner peace, etc. But many of these messages cultivate attitudes and behaviors that

work against gospel principles and separate us from God. Are we aware of the subtle ways in which our consciences and decisions are affected by advertising, websites, social media and superstitious practices?

In the Lord's Prayer we say "deliver us from evil." What is this evil that needs to be set free from us? Besides personal sin, how have anxiety, depression, guilt, obsessive behaviors, occult practices, and lies interfered with our pursuit of holiness? How can we be better prepared to resist evil in all its forms?

This program addresses the spiritual warfare that Christians might encounter on a daily basis. We will uncover the sources of evil around us, and formulate practical ways to protect ourselves. Printed materials will be provided. The day will include conferences, discussions, dinner, and the celebration of Eucharist.

Date: Sunday - October 22, 2017

Time: 1:00 – 8:30 PM

Cost: \$45.00 (Includes dinner)

To register, please call the Retreat Center at 412-381-7676



#### MON YOUGH RETREAT GROUP MARCH 2017

Left to Right:

Mike Kochman, Jerry Kysliger,  
Michael Crossen, Rich Faix,  
Louis Gallo, Fr. Gerald Laba, C.P.  
(front row) Bernard Zytka and  
Joe Krol

Absent from photo:

Ken Bradley and John Ferko

*Welcome,*  
**Ben Cornelius-Bates**  
*Music Director*



**Benjamin Cornelius-Bates**  
**MM, AD, FAGO**

It is a great honor and pleasure that I am joining St. Paul of the Cross Retreat Center as the Director of Music Ministries. I did not have to go very far because I am also the musician for the Church at the Monastery as well. I have been a part of the Monastery community for about 10 years now and helped out this past retreat season.

I grew up in Fairbanks, Alaska, which has the coldest yearly temperature in North America. My mother, who is also a musician, works in North Pole, a town next to Fairbanks. I have lived in a number of places but Pittsburgh has been my home since 2007. I am proud to say that both my boys are Pittsburghers. I studied at Duquesne University for a Masters in Sacred Music and am currently pursuing a Doctorate in Music Composition at West Virginia University.

Please keep me in your prayers as I will certainly keep you in mine. I am looking forward to another wonderful Retreat season and will see you all soon.

*Gift*  
*Certificates*

A Gift Certificate to attend a retreat at Saint Paul of the Cross Passionist Retreat Center makes a wonderful gift.

**MOTHER'S DAY**

**FATHER'S DAY**

**CHRISTMAS**

**EASTER**

**BIRTHDAY**

Gift Certificates are available in all denominations \$5, \$10, \$50, \$100 or more.

They make fine gifts for those who would like to attend a retreat.

Please call the Retreat Office at 412-381-7676 from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM Monday thru Friday and we will be happy to accommodate you.



## *A Note of Appreciation*

*Thank You*

Thank you to everyone who attended and supported our 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Classic that took place at Green Oaks Country Club on May 22<sup>nd</sup>. We appreciate the work of our Planning Committee and Volunteers and the generous support of our Tee and Cart Sponsors, Platinum and Major Sponsors, and those who made monetary contributions and donated gifts for the Raffles and Silent Auction.

Thank you to those who generously provided the printed materials and programs for this event and to the staff at Green Oaks for their assistance and kind hospitality. Finally, a special 'thank you' to everyone who joined us for a good round of golf, the delicious meals, and the friendship that we all enjoyed.

We were blessed with a beautiful day and look forward to your joining us again next year. May God bless you for your generosity and kindness.

*Fr. Gerald, C.P.*

### **St. Alphonsus, Wexford Women's Retreat – January 2017**

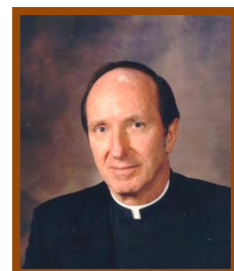
Left to right top row: Eileen Minnock  
(center) and her two daughters  
Dr. Maire Howell and Megan Prybyl  
Left to right front row: Joanna Meyers,  
Susan Harry and Rose Lechmanick



## *The Impact of Vatican II on Ecumenical Relationships*



The Second Vatican Council has had a significant impact on the ecumenical consciousness of the Catholic community, especially because of the writings and statements of two recent Popes, John XXIII and Francis I. Their reflections on relationships with members of other faiths—and with people of no faith—have moved us to some new visions about these relationships. This presentation will focus on some of the more striking new directions on these issues, especially fitting to do so in this 500th anniversary year of the Protestant Reformation.



Presenter:  
Fr. Eugene Lauer

Date: Thursday – October 12, 2017

Cost: \$10.00

Time: 7:00 – 8:30 PM

To register, please call the Retreat Center at 412-381-7676

# Let Go and Let God



**Description:** Painful memories often raise their ugly heads and depress us. How can we escape from them? The past entangles us and prevents us from living in the present moment. The past must tutor us and not torture us. So the question is: How can we let go and let God? In this evening program we will explore some ways to let go and let God. Whether it is an emotional upset, a mental block, a physical challenge, or a relationship problem, the solution for each is the same: Let Go and Let God handle it all!

**Presenter:**  
Fr. Junesh Xavier, C.P.

**Date:** Wednesday - November 15, 2017

**Time:** 7:00 - 8:30 PM

Light refreshments will be available

**Cost:** \$8.00

To register, please call the Retreat Center at 412-381-7676

## Upcoming Retreats and Programs at

### Saint Paul of the Cross Passionist Retreat Center

#### 2017

July 15-21	Youth Mission Trip – Sacred Heart Cathedral - Raleigh, NC
July 21-23	Engaged Encounter
August 10-15	Lay Missionaries of Charity
September 8-10	Retrouvaille – Married Couples
September 12-14	Franciscan University of Steubenville
October 8-12	Retreat for Diocesan Priests
October 13-15	Pittsburgh Women's Emmaus Retreat
October 16-19	Franciscan University of Steubenville
October 27-29	Kairos Ministries
November 7-10	National Korean Catholic Life Council
December 1-3	Emmaus Retreat for Men

#### 2018

February 14	Ash Wednesday Day of Reflection - Fr. Scott Seethaler, OFM, Cap.
April 15	Retreat for Spanish Speaking Community
May 15-18	Order of Saint Luke
October 15-18	Order of Saint Luke

**Saint Paul of the Cross**  
**Founder of the Passionist Congregation and the Passionist Nuns**

**150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Canonization ~ 1867 –2017**

Fr. Gerald Laba, C.P.

On June 29, 1867, Saint Paul of the Cross was canonized by Pope Pius IX at Saint Peter's Basilica in Rome. This year marks the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of his canonization.

Paul Francis Daneo was born in the town of Ovada in northern Italy in 1694. At an early age he was drawn to prayer and meditation on the suffering of Jesus. The example of his mother instilled in him a devotion to the Passion, seen as a most profound expression of God's love. Later, as a young man, Paul received spiritual guidance from local religious and priests as he sought to better understand the direction in which God was leading him.

In 1720 at the age of 26, living in the town of Castellazo, Paul experienced an interior vision of the Blessed Virgin Mary. In this vision Mary told Paul to form a community that would keep in mind the memory of the Passion and death of her Son and invite others to meditate in the same way. This interior vision would serve as a lifelong inspiration for Paul and for those who later joined his community. It continues to be the focus of those who walk in the spiritual tradition that Paul inspired.

Bishop di Gattinara, Paul's spiritual adviser, vested him in a simple habit on November 22, 1720 and directed him to serve as a sacristan and helper in one of the local churches in Castellazo. First, he would make a retreat of forty days in the Church of San Carlo. During this retreat Paul was filled with a deepening sense of the mystery of God's love expressed in the Passion. His *Spiritual Diary* gives us a sense of the spiritual insights that he received at this time. He also composed a Rule that would guide the community that he later founded.

Paul set out for Rome in September 1721 to seek the Pope's approval to found a community dedicated to proclaiming the love of Jesus crucified. Disappointed after being turned away from the Pope's residence, Paul went to the Basilica of Saint Mary Major to pray. There before

an image of the Virgin Mary in the Borghese Chapel, Paul vowed to promote the memory of the Passion and death of Jesus and to proclaim its meaning for all.

During a brief meeting at the Church of the Navicella in 1725, Pope Benedict XIII gave Paul permission to gather companions. Afterwards Paul and his brother John Baptist ministered to the sick at the Hospital of San Gallicano in Rome. On 7 June 1727 Paul and John Baptist were ordained to the priesthood and began to preach in various cities and towns. They reached out to thousands of people, especially the poor and forgotten, and also preached to groups of bandits in the marshland known as the Maremma.

As new members joined Paul in his mission, monasteries known as 'retreats' were established in various locations throughout Italy. The primary mission of the community, which was both contemplative and apostolic, was to proclaim the word of God through missions and retreats, always emphasizing God's profound love revealed in the Passion and death of Jesus. Paul summarized his original inspiration in these words: *The Passion and death of Jesus are the most profound expression of God's love for us.*

In 1741 Pope Benedict XIV, who encouraged Paul's mission, gave the first papal approval for the Rule of the community. The solemn approval of the Rule was given in 1746.

Saint Paul of the Cross was an outstanding preacher, confessor, and spiritual director who approached others with understanding and great compassion. His life was centered in contemplative prayer and at times he experienced prolonged periods of interior desolation. Paul is considered by many spiritual writers to be one of



the greatest mystics of the eighteenth century. He was always desirous that laypersons, religious, and clerics might share in the spiritual ideals that were the foundation of his life. Paul founded the contemplative community of Passionist Nuns in 1771.

Paul died on October 18, 1775 at the Retreat of Saints John and Paul in Rome surrounded by members of his community. Today, Passionist priests and brothers, along with the Passionist Nuns, Sisters, and countless laypersons, continue to proclaim the message of God's love revealed in

Jesus Crucified in more than fifty countries throughout the world. A primary focus of the community's ministry is presence to those who are suffering.

The first bishop of Pittsburgh, Michael O'Connor, invited the Passionists to establish a community in his diocese in 1852. From this foundation, other communities were established that would continue to serve in the tradition of Paul of the Cross. Communities of the Eastern Province would eventually send missionaries to China, Germany, Jamaica, West Indies, the Philippines, Honduras, and Haiti.



According to tradition, the painting of Saint Paul of the Cross displayed at the canonization ceremony in 1867 is now above the main entrance of Saint Paul of the Cross Monastery Church here in Pittsburgh, the first Passionist foundation in North America. The 300<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the Passionist Congregation by Saint Paul of the Cross will take place in 2020.

***May the Passion of Jesus Christ be always in our hearts!***



*Jesus,*

*Our Greatest Encourager*

**Description:** One of the main purposes of the Advent Season is to experience the encouraging presence of Jesus as we travel with Him to Christmas on roads that are not always smooth.

**Registration begins at 9:30 AM. The program includes Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction, Opportunity for the Sacrament of Reconciliation, and Conferences. The program concludes with the Celebration of the Eucharist.**



**Presenter:**  
**Fr. Scott Seethaler, OFM, Cap.**

**Date:** Wednesday – December 6, 2017

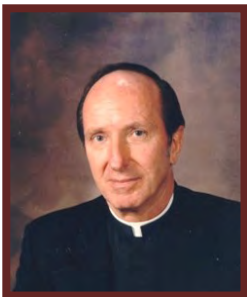
**Time:** 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

**Cost:** \$30.00 (includes Lunch)

**To register, please call the Retreat Center at 412-381-7676**



*Reflections on the Development of Advent*



**Presenter:**  
**Fr. Eugene Lauer**

**Description:** The liturgical season of Advent had its roots in the first two centuries of Christianity as a time of preparation for the Second Coming of Christ. When the feast of Christmas was established in 354, the Advent movement became also a preparation for celebrating the “First Coming”. Since Lent had been developed as a preparation for Easter, a spirit of fasting / penance was added to Advent. We will discuss these and several other interesting transitions with a pastoral goal. Can we learn from them some ways to make our own approach to 21<sup>st</sup> century Advent a more deeply spiritual and energizing experience.

**Registration begins at 4:30 PM. The program includes Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction, Opportunity for the Sacrament of Reconciliation, Conference, and concludes with the Celebration of the Eucharist.**

**Date:** Thursday – December 14, 2017

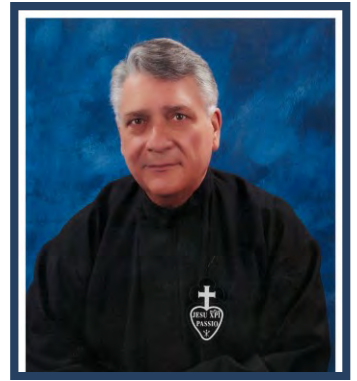
**To register, please call the Retreat Center at 412-381-7676**

**Time:** 4:30 PM – 9:00 PM

**Cost:** \$30.00 (includes dinner)

# We As Christians Are Obligated to Reflect the Risen Christ

By  
Br. Leo Di Fiore, C.P.



Pope Francis in his ‘Urbi et Orbi’ address on Easter Sunday 2017 clearly stated, “The message which Christians bring to the world is this: Jesus, Love incarnate, died on the cross for our sins, but God the Father raised him and made him the Lord of life and death. In Jesus, love has triumphed over hatred, mercy over sinfulness, goodness over evil, truth over falsehood, life over death.”

With these few words the Holy Father sums up not only the Easter Mystery but the truth of our faith. The Pope has taken the Profession of Faith (Nicene Creed) that we say at Mass and placed what we profess into just one paragraph.

We as Christians are obliged to have love triumph over hatred, we are obliged to show mercy over sinfulness, we are obliged to see that goodness triumphs over evil, we are obliged to see that truth will overturn falsehood. We know that through Christ’s Resurrection life does conquer death and we, through our baptism, believe that life will conquer death for us as it did for Christ.

The Retreat Center staff here at St. Paul of the Cross has planned the 2017 - 2018 Retreat Season with the hope that the Retreat Program will offer you new insights into how you as a Christian and Catholic can be that reflection of Christ in your daily life and to the world around you.

Please keep in mind that along with our parish-based Weekend Retreats an array of other special Programs will be offered throughout the 2017 - 2018 Retreat Season.

The Retreat Center provides you with time for quiet reflection and a chance to share thoughts and insights with other retreatants and staff members. If a first time retreatant you are welcomed by all and if you have been to Saint Paul of the Cross Retreat Center before, Welcome Home!

**2017 / 2018 Retreat Season**

**Retreat Theme**

*“In Christ, United in Mind and Heart”*



# A Tribute to

## Eileen George

Meet-the-Father Ministry

On Sunday, May 14, Mother's Day, Eileen George passed away peacefully in her home surrounded by her family. Her husband, Earl, had passed away in 2005, and now she joined him in the Father's House. Together they raised 8 children on a farm outside Millbury, MA, where she began Meet-the-Father Ministry.



Eileen was a gifted speaker who was blessed with a healing ministry. For 22 years she traveled to Pittsburgh to conduct weekend retreats at St. Paul's, and occasionally held evening programs in diocesan parishes. Eileen delighted in presenting the basics of our faith in an inspiring manner that touched hearts. Her down to earth wisdom drew people to celebrate the sacraments with an awareness of the Father's deep love for them. Many people have had life changing experiences as a result of Eileen's ministry.

Eileen conducted monthly services in her home town of Millbury, and traveled extensively in the United States in her younger years. She accepted invitations to speak in Korea, Aruba, Bangladesh, Brazil, Europe, Canada and Alaska giving retreats for laity and clergy. Eileen wrote several books that revealed many mystical graces she received from the Father including visions of heaven. Her guardian angel was a constant companion that sustained her in the hardships of her ministry and struggles with cancer. Eileen used her theme song, *Because He Lives*, effectively to encourage those who carried a heavy cross.

*Because He lives, I can face tomorrow. Because He lives, all fear is gone.  
Because I know He holds the future, and life is worth the living,  
Just because He lives.*

Eileen George is an example of an ordinary person responding to God's call to tell the Good News of Jesus to everyone who would listen. With humility and holy boldness, she brought comfort and healing to all she met. Well done good and faithful servant of God. May Eileen rest in the loving arms of her heavenly Father.

Fr. Michael, C.P.



### Men's Alano II Recovery Retreat

November 24 - 26, 2017

**Contact:**

Bill M.	412-996-1876
Tom N.	412-657-2419
Fred S.	412-828-7669

# Recent Renovations

During the past year we have been able to proceed with some important renovations to the Retreat Center. Last autumn we installed new windows in all of the bedrooms, offices, the Blue Room and the rotunda area. We also replaced several windows in the dining room, kitchen and Garden Room.



In the spring the entire rotunda area from the lower level to the third floor received a new coat of paint. At the same time the Blue Room, Green Room, and a suite of rooms on the second floor were also painted. A new audio-visual system was purchased and installed in the Blue Room.

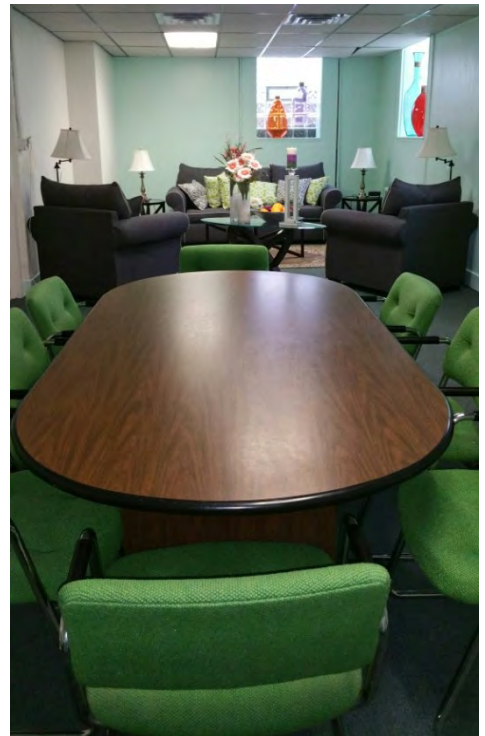
The Green Room has been beautifully refurbished thanks to the planning and organization of Brother Leo Di Fiore, C.P. Now arranged in two sections, the room can be used for meetings or for reading and relaxation in the living room area. New furniture and a new TV were purchased for the room.

Also completed were major repairs to the plumbing system in the lower rotunda area.

Planned for the near future is the purchase and installation of a new walk-in refrigerator and walk-in freezer unit for the kitchen. The present walk-in refrigerator and walk-in freezer are the original units installed when the new addition to the Retreat Center was completed in 1960.

Also planned are the purchase and installation of new window shades for all of the bedrooms and offices and a few renovations to individual rooms.

We are grateful to all those who have made special donations to the Retreat Center and to those who have contributed to our Capital Campaign. Your generosity has enabled us to move forward with these much needed improvements.



*Fr. Gerald, C.P.*

# Women's Retreat

New parishes are welcome to join many of these scheduled weekends. Please call the Retreat Center if you know of a parish interested in forming a retreat group.

Date Group	Weekend Coordinator Promoter Co-Promoter	Phone Number
<b>September 15 – 17, 2017</b>		
	<i>Weekend Coordinator</i>	
	<b>ROSEMARY GORECKI</b>	412-882-3409
Our Lady of Joy	Sandy Barca	724-733-2163
	Kathleen Float	724-325-1482
St. Athanasius	Dolly Turak	412-366-4371
	Liz Amelio	412-761-0116
St. Cyril of Alexandria	Peggy Urzua	412-766-4502
St. Germaine	Joan Machajewski	412-653-8787
	Germaine Hofbauer	412-759-8370
St. Joseph, Verona	Lisa Cannillo	412-427-2295
	Patricia Schimmel	412-795-1298
St. Pius X	Yvonne Costanzo	412-983-1477
St. Susanna	TBD	
Independent	Retreat Center	412-381-7676

Date Group	Weekend Coordinator Promoter Co-Promoter	Phone Number
<b>September 29 – October 1, 2017</b>		
	<i>Weekend Coordinator</i>	
	<b>MARY ANN LABA</b>	412-381-7676
Holy Apostles	Jean Beck	412-881-9283
	Mary Ann Major	412-882-4883
Nativity	Mary Ann Garfold	412-215-7743
	Betty Ann Coda	412-655-2641
St. John the Baptist, Unity	Betsy Yaklich	412-527-1170
St. Margaret Mary, Moon Twp.	Gwen Ogle	412-264-8631
St. Monica	Michele Kattner	724-847-3852
	Mary Harrington	724-336-6525
St. Rosalia	Kim Torcaso	412-657-6997
St. Ursula	Janice Welsh	412-519-3570
	Suzanne Romanelli	412-487-2301
Independent	Retreat Center	412-381-7676

Date Group	Weekend Coordinator Promoter Co-Promoter	Phone Number
<b>October 6 – 8, 2017</b>		
	<i>Weekend Coordinator</i>	
	<b>APRIL PERSTON</b>	412-884-3517
Assumption	Catherine Turkovich	412-766-6609
	Francine Campoll	412-377-5487
St. Mary, Glenshaw	Elaine Lascher	412-492-7227
	Irene Linkowski	412-487-1779
St. Patrick, Harrisburg	Ginny Duncan	717-938-4784
	Joan Langendijk	717-329-7601
Sts. Simon and Jude	Laura O'Keefe	412-429-1583
	Regina Goyette	412-343-0130
St. Winifred	Katie Miles	412-207-8866
	Kim Foley	412-563-5621
Independent	Retreat Center	412-381-7676

Date Group	Weekend Coordinator Promoter Co-Promoter	Phone Number
<b>November 3 – 5, 2017</b>		
	<i>Weekend Coordinator</i>	
	<b>BEVERLY SULLIVAN</b>	412-881-7059
St. Bernard, Mt. Lebanon	Marian Kakitsis	412-225-6032
	Paulette Kelly	412-343-5883
St. Ferdinand	Kathy Zappia	724-776-1835
	Barbara Kenney	724-709-7946
St. Irenaeus	Mary Lou Kissane	412-337-0178
	Mary Sutton	412-334-4922
Independent	Retreat Center	412-381-7676

Date Group	Weekend Coordinator Promoter Co-Promoter	Phone Number
<b>January 5 – 7, 2018</b>		
	<i>Weekend Coordinator</i>	
	<b>MARY ANN SEMBRAT</b>	412-992-7290
St. Alexis	Mary Ann Sembrat	412-992-7290
	Patty Quatchak	412-855-6806
St. Sylvester	Pat Hein	412-885-2620
	Linda White	412-885-5048
Independent	Retreat Center	412-381-7676

Date Group	Weekend Coordinator Promoter Co-Promoter	Phone Number
<b>January 12 – 14, 2018</b>		
	<i>Weekend Coordinator</i>	
	<b>ROSEMARY GORECKI</b>	412-882-3409
Holy Child	Gretchen Zewe	412-221-5967
	Joanne Rocchino	412-370-8196
Mother of Sorrows	Sherri Tollari	724-396-1274
	Barb Hantz	724-327-8427
St. Alphonsus, Wexford	Eileen Minnock	724-776-0876
	Mary Evers	412-855-2069
St. Elizabeth of Hungary	Mary Ann Sedlacek	412-650-2128
	Joan Striegel	412-884-7740
St. Thomas More	Heather Metzger	412-833-1618
	Judy Shock	412-854-4910
Independent	Retreat Center	412-381-7676

Always pray to have  
 Eyes that see the best in people,  
 a Heart that forgives the worst  
 a Mind that forgets the worst  
 and a Soul that Never  
 loses faith in God.



# Women's Retreat

New parishes are welcome to join many of these scheduled weekends. Please call the Retreat Center if you know of a parish interested in forming a retreat group.

## CONTINUED

Date Group	Weekend Coordinator Promoter Co-Promoter	Phone Number
<b>March 2 – 4, 2018</b>		
	<i>Weekend Coordinator</i> <b>MARY ANN SEMBRAT</b>	412-992-7290
Good Shepherd	Louise Chuha	412-271-7114
St. Barbara, Harrison City	Geraldine DeSavage	724-744-4535
	Carolyn Miller	724-744-2865
St. Bernadette	Sharon Torick	724-733-1034
	Kate Cummings	724-289-8588
St. Bonaventure	Tammy Smith	412-487-7332
	Luann Horvat	N / A
St. Joseph, O'Hara Twp.	Betty Ann Kossler	412-963-7311
St. Richard	Theresa Faix	724-444-8488
	Martha Loeffert	724-766-0930
St. Thomas a Becket	Toni Aceto	412-310-1667
	Renee Teeney	412-405-8535
St. Victor, Bairdford	Mary Grasha-Haupt	412-979-0891
Independent	Retreat Center	412-381-7676

Date Group	Weekend Coordinator Promoter Co-Promoter	Phone Number
<b>April 27 – 29, 2018</b>		
	<i>Weekend Coordinator</i> <b>APRIL PERSTON</b>	412-884-3517
Holy Angels, Hays	April Perston	412-884-3517
	Mary Jo Baier	412-462-6792
Holy Sepulcher	Mary Ann Sembrat	412-992-7290
	Theresa Eury	724-625-2885
Mon Yough Churches	Deborah Radu	412-673-0295
St. Joan of Arc	Melissa Coe	412-478-7892
	Margaret Almasy	412-833-1972
St. Malachy	Emilie Crosby	412-771-1717
St. Philip, Crafton	Mary Jane Roth	412-921-2361
	Marcie Killen	412-922-5255
St. Teresa, Perrysville	Margaret Mullinary	412-849-0969
	Lindsay Quigley	412-364-4935
Independent	Retreat Center	412-381-7676

Date Group	Weekend Coordinator Promoter Co-Promoter	Phone Number
<b>April 6 – 8, 2018</b>		
	<i>Weekend Coordinator</i> <b>BEVERLY BUMMER</b>	412-652-6990
Holy Apostles	Rosemary Gorecki	412-882-3409
	Beverly Lankes	412-885-7198
St. Anne, Castle Shannon	Dorothy Gorman	412-654-8415
	Nancy Belsterling	724-307-3780
St. Gabriel	Judith Byers	412-276-8438
	Sandy Stearn	412-721-9129
St. Kilian, Mars	Judy Langdon	724-625-2521
	Monica Palmer	724-977-3315
St. Sebastian	Julia Perkins	412-651-6914
	Lori Carey	412-726-3805
Independent	Retreat Center	412-381-7676

**WOMEN'S  
Fall Recovery Retreat**

**October 20 – 22, 2017**

**Contact:**  
**Jenifer M. 412-853-1163**  
**Ruth D. 412-337-9706**

**St. Thomas a Becket  
Women's Retreat**

**March 2017**





New parishes are welcome to join many of these scheduled weekends. Please call the Retreat Center if you know of a parish interested in forming a retreat group.

Date Group	Weekend Coordinator Promoter Co-Promoter	Phone Number
<b>September 22 – 24, 2017</b>		
	<i>Weekend Coordinator</i>	
	<b>PAUL RUHL</b>	412-680-6383
Christ the Light of the World	Paul Ruhl	412-680-6383
	Pat Kerr	412-999-5272
Holy Child	Glenn Schillo	412-498-2029
	Richard Martincic	412-220-2204
Holy Rosary / Muse K of C	Jim Milbower	724-745-0651
	Dave Barton	724-745-8188
St. John the Baptist, Unity	Jon Parrotta	412-519-2058
St. Paul, Greensburg	Joseph Koller	724-836-7978
	Paul Whalen	724-836-3096
St. Peter / Holy Family (Somerset)	Ron Kolonich	814-893-0162
	David Greene	724-413-4007
Independent	Retreat Center	412-381-7676

Date Group	Weekend Coordinator Promoter Co-Promoter	Phone Number
<b>January 26 – 28, 2018</b>		
	<i>Weekend Coordinator</i>	
	<b>MARY ANN LABA</b>	412-381-7676
Holy Trinity, Moon Run	Gerard Beer	724-561-5268
	John Rosser	412-787-2376
St. Alexis	Ed Thomas	724-625-1315
	Eugene Lersch	412-366-1622
St. Alphonsus, Wexford	Mark Prybyl	724-776-0876
	George Payne	412-736-0482
St. Anne, Castle Shannon	Kevin Hayes	412-854-2614
	Mike Freker	412-638-2396
St. Bernadette / Pius XII K of C	Joseph Burke	412-736-3673
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton	Jim Grazulis	412-278-0437
	Vince Bellini	412-760-0699
St. John Capistran	Mark Whalen	724-873-8137
	Dan Morgan	412-779-0137
Independent	Retreat Center	412-381-7676

Date Group	Weekend Coordinator Promoter Co-Promoter	Phone Number
<b>November 10 – 12, 2017</b>		
	<i>Weekend Coordinator</i>	
	<b>TOM SMOLINSKI</b>	412-343-1715
Holy Angels, Hays	Dan Nizan	412-461-6906
	Jack Simpson	412-977-7774
Holy Apostles	Mike Woshner	412-884-9299
	Mark Adrian	412-805-7589
St. Bonaventure	Larry Szramowski	412-427-2609
	Paul Besnecker	412-613-5835
St. Irenaeus	Tom Dinnin	412-951-1614
	Paul Sutton	412-216-0876
St. Luke the Evangelist	Andy Nowak	304-594-0931
	Dennis Lusin	304-594-3746
St. Maurice	Leonard Stellitano	412-596-7883
	Doug Rishel	412-731-1343
Sts. Simon & Jude	Joe O'Keeffe	412-429-1583
St. Stephen – Hazelwood	Tom Berna	412-414-3125
St. Valentine	John McGrady	412-831-9381
	Robert Frost	724-875-6451
Independent	Retreat Center	412-381-7676

Date Group	Weekend Coordinator Promoter Co-Promoter	Phone Number
<b>February 2 – 4, 2018</b>		
	<i>Weekend Coordinator</i>	
	<b>JOHN COLAIZZI</b>	412-381-7676
Incarnation	George Linkhauer	412-952-4127
	Jeff Kammerzell	412-931-4839
St. Catherine, Crescent / St. John of God	Robert Bittner	724-378-0903
St. Teresa, Perrysville	Jim Barcaskey	724-457-7764
	Tom J. Dionise, Jr.	412-364-7322
	Gerry Kunic	412-635-2339
St. Ursula	Gary Regan	412-487-6582
	David Sharick	412-364-7851
Independent	Retreat Center	412-381-7676

Date Group	Weekend Coordinator Promoter Co-Promoter	Phone Number
<b>November 17 – 19, 2017</b>		
	<i>Weekend Coordinator</i>	
	<b>BEVERLY BUMMER</b>	412-652-6990
Duquesne Light	Frank Dobies	412-527-5184
	Paul Boeh	412-779-3260
K of C Gilmory Council 3868	Nester Werkstein	412-519-2554
Mother of Sorrows	Kevin Bohner	412-580-6811
	Ivan D'Souza	724-550-1211
Our Lady of the Angels	Joe Garlicki	412-513-7351
	Ron Zielinski	724-265-0009
St. Bernard, Mt. Lebanon	Larry Hufnagel, Jr.	412-571-1153
	Robert Gruber, Jr.	412-726-9147
St. Gabriel	John Hall	412-881-5672
	Pat Barnett	412-885-3997
St. Philip / Ascension	Al Bannon	412-853-1341
	Joe Hoover	412-920-5025
St. Scholastica	James Fanning	412-288-2369
	Bob Auray	203-444-8184
Independent	Retreat Center	412-381-7676

Date Group	Weekend Coordinator Promoter Co-Promoter	Phone Number
<b>February 9 – 11, 2018</b>		
	<i>Weekend Coordinator</i>	
	<b>PAT KERR</b>	412-999-5272
Holy Redeemer	Charles Santilo	724-752-8988
	John Biondi	724-674-6200
K of C Council 4242	John Kralik	412-795-9417
St. Athanasius	Bob DeWitt	412-527-8483
	Larry Tielsch	412-944-4216
St. Columbkille	Joe Kiss	412-439-4176
	Michael Kiss	412-551-7598
St. Fidelis	Jack Hutchinson	412-614-9142
	Gordon Payung	724-482-2442
St. Joan of Arc	Ian Valenta	412-831-1537
St. Mary, Glenshaw	Chuck Fischer	412-487-4667
	James Karcher	724-444-5798
St. Vitus / Lawrence County	Ralph Vitale	724-272-3783
	Frank Yeropoli	724-656-1122
Independent	Retreat Center	412-381-7676



New parishes are welcome to join many of these scheduled weekends. Please call the Retreat Center if you know of a parish interested in forming a retreat group.

**CONTINUED**

Date Group	Weekend Coordinator Promoter Co-Promoter	Phone Number
<b>February 16 – 18, 2018</b>		
	<i>Weekend Coordinator</i>	
	<b>BOB SPECK</b>	724-612-6370
St. Ferdinand	James Skubak	724-776-4568
	Jim Shipley	724-869-1133
St. James, Sewickley	Kevin Daily	412-741-6211
	Bob DeBiase	412-491-6766
St. Kilian, Mars	George Wargo	724-776-3454
St. Louise de Marillac	Frank McGrogan	412-835-4854
	Rich Lynch	412-841-4851
St. Richard	Pete Faix	412-335-7552
	Thomas Catalano	724-940-9449
Independent	Retreat Center	412-381-7676

Date Group	Weekend Coordinator Promoter Co-Promoter	Phone Number
<b>February 23 – 25, 2018</b>		
	<i>Weekend Coordinator</i>	
	<b>PAUL RUHL</b>	412-680-6383
Ancient Order of Hibernians	Larry Squires	412-760-2600
Holy Wisdom	Brian Koehler	412-492-1131
	Alex Leonard	412-259-8647
	William Kauffman	412-321-4982
Men Following Jesus Christ	Chris Kowalsky	412-931-6782
Risen Lord / St. Cyril	Vince Schulte	412-427-3974
	Tom Glassbrenner	412-761-5185
	Tom Griffin	412-931-6560
Sacred Heart St. Mary, Cecil	F.J. Lucchino	412-363-9569
	Jerry O'Neill	412-551-3616
	Mark Juliani	724-746-2165
St. Sebastian	John Sibenac	412-487-2740
	Skip Bradburn	412-366-2283
St. Thomas a Becket	Mark Fickley	412-956-1493
	Brad Froehlich	412-901-9935
St. Thomas More	Jay Shock	412-854-4910
	Bob Dudas	412-445-0576
Independent	Retreat Center	412-381-7676

Date Group	Weekend Coordinator Promoter Co-Promoter	Phone Number
<b>March 9 – 11, 2018</b>		
	<i>Weekend Coordinator</i>	
	<b>TOM DIONISE, SR.</b>	412-364-1521
Assumption	Bill Bender	412-766-1665
	Tom Koch	412-761-7513
St. Elizabeth of Hungary	Ron Gribshaw	412-719-6325
St. Germaine	Pete Diulus	412-638-0662
	Byron Davidson	412-653-3883
	Norb Kowalski	412-292-0011
St. John Neumann	Andrew James	412-366-5885
	Paul Crnkovic	412-367-7481
St. Joseph, O'Hara	Robert Kossler	412-963-7311
	Goran Istvanic	412-759-8308
St. Margaret Mary, Moon Twp.	Jerry Mackin	412-269-0974
St. Monica	Bob Cavanaugh	412-264-4541
	Dennis Garrett	724-827-2350
	Mike Rogalla	724-589-4093
St. Susanna	John Myler	412-795-3207
	Jim Schroeder	724-519-3400
St. Winifred	Andy Vater	412-874-3603
	Matthew Kosko	412-980-1865
Independent	Retreat Center	412-381-7676

Date Group	Weekend Coordinator Promoter Co-Promoter	Phone Number
<b>March 16 – 18, 2018</b>		
	<i>Weekend Coordinator</i>	
	<b>TOM DIONISE, JR.</b>	412-364-7322
Latrobe Area	Mark Piper	724-537-2430
	Michael Walker	724-836-6802
St. Bartholomew	Don Turka	412-242-1116
	Tom Kmonk	412-714-8847
Sts. John & Paul	Tony Muhlenkamp	724-934-5139
	Jim Michel	412-980-3377
St. Joseph, Coraopolis	Darren Steele	412-779-7199
	Tony Grano	412-262-3568
St. Joseph, Verona	Bob Daly	412-793-6307
	Tim McKee	412-828-3113
	Mark Jankosky	724-335-2393
St. Margaret Mary, Lower Burrell	Richard Kostewicz	724-335-3569
St. Patrick, Canonsburg	John Hofrichter	724-745-5308
	Jim Bell	724-746-2225
St. Victor, Bairdford	Scott Woloszyk	724-265-2874
	Harry Green	724-289-0637
Independent	Retreat Center	412-381-7676

Date Group	Weekend Coordinator Promoter Co-Promoter	Phone Number
<b>April 20 – 22, 2018</b>		
	<i>Weekend Coordinator</i>	
	<b>BOB SPECK</b>	724-612-6370
All Saints, Bridgeport, WV	Bob Pastorik	304-203-7951
Firefighters	John Makins	304-677-3795
	Douglas Praskovich	412-496-6669
	Fred Steinkirchner	412-922-5851
Holy Sepulcher	Bob Speck	724-612-6370
	Ron Hartzel	724-496-4771
Mon Yough Churches	Bernard Zytka	412-951-5798
	Michael Crossen	412-678-0028
Our Lady of Joy	Dennis Boles	724-327-5040
	Larry Howard, Jr.	412-704-7093
	Richard Hills	330-336-6946
Sacred Heart of Jesus, Wadsworth, OH	Regis Rhodes	412-351-3298
Word of God / Madonna del Castello	John Zitelli	412-242-1641
St. Bernard, Indiana	William Balint	724-465-9701
	Dennis Ragan	724-464-0455
St. Pius X	Joe Nellis	412-885-5099
	Frank Mussitsch	412-563-1232
St. Sylvester	Edwin Cleary	412-881-5186
	Stan Cook	412-882-6882
Independent	Retreat Center	412-381-7676







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 St. Paul of the Cross Retreat Center  
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 to correct or remove your address from our mailing list.  
 FAX (412) 431-3044  
 website: [www.stpaulsretreatcenter-pittsburgh.org](http://www.stpaulsretreatcenter-pittsburgh.org)



St Paul of the Cross Passionist Retreat Center - Pittsburgh

Published twice a year  
 Office hours: 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM  
 Monday thru Friday



*Eternal Rest Grant Unto Them O Lord,  
 And Let Perpetual Light Shine Upon Them*

Alano I  
 + Les B.

Firefighters  
 + Ronald F. Scheidlmeier

Immaculate Conception,  
 Fairmont, WV  
 + Susan Plutro

Incarnation  
 + Arthur Bahl  
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 + Audrey Bucher

St. Joan of Arc  
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 Lower Burrell  
 + Joseph G. Arteritano

St. Pius X  
 + Mary F. Lescroart  
 + Michael J. Morvak

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 + Albert T. Merhaut

St. Sylvester  
 + Lillian Fries  
 + Kathleen Rodibaugh  
 + E. Patricia Sullivan

St. Teresa, Perrysville  
 + Reno Longo  
 + George J. Staab Sr.

St. Thomas A' Becket  
 + Mary Grace Namiotka

St. Ursula  
 + Christopher "CJ" Streiff

Independent  
 + Alice S. Brashear  
 + Elizabeth Chabala  
 + John F. "Jack" Donahue  
 + Mary Adele Greek  
 + Barney T. Hylazewski  
 + William "Billy" Lueckert