Dear Fatima Family,

As our 60th year draws to a close, we look back with gratitude for all the support we have received this year. None more so than on October 23 when more than 300 friends of Fatima came together at the Northside Knights of Columbus Hall to celebrate the place and the experience known as Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House.

We welcomed long-time retreatants, generous donors, event sponsors, and most especially a number of people who had never had any association with Fatima but came with a friend or a spouse. All were enriched by the evening. Archbishop Buechlein spent the evening with us. As he gave the blessing sending us home at the end of our program he expressed his full support for Fatima and her ministry as a house of prayer. Several weeks later Archbishop Buechlein used the comments he heard that night from our speaker, Father Keith Hosey, as a springboard for his article in the December 3, 2010 edition of The Criterion.

As the room filled with people, our hearts were lifted by the music of seven members of the Brebeuf Camerata String Orchestra who played during the social hour. Later in the evening our spirits were lifted by a selection of spiritual and folk music from the Roncalli Rebel Rhapsody Show Choir under the direction of Trevor Fanning.

As mentioned, Father Hosey, former director of John XXIII Retreat Center in Hartford City, Ind., gave a talk on the need for retreat houses today. Contrasting the need for silence and stillness in a world with ever-increasing noise and interruptions, Father Hosey challenged us all to consider returning to a sense of Sabbath in our lives. His invitation stands and awaits a response from each of us. This Lent is a good time to begin or renew your Sabbath practice. Whether it be at home with modifying your schedule on Sundays to allow more time to just “be still and know that I am God” or renew (or start) a practice of coming to Fatima Retreat House during Lent for a time away, spend a day or more here and discover the grace of silence once more.

The evening ended with an invitation to support the work of Fatima Retreat House. We are very grateful to the many people who stepped forward to support the retreat house in celebration of our 60th anniversary. Through the generosity of hundreds, we were blessed to raise more than $100,000. Most of this money is being set aside to add to the $250,000 contributed by the archdiocese through the Legacy for Our Mission capital campaign to assist in underwriting the costs of the HVAC remodeling mentioned elsewhere in this newsletter.

Thanks to everyone who had a hand in bringing about a successful celebration of our 60th anniversary. Sponsors, benefactors, board members, friends, staff, and volunteers—each one played a significant role, and to each of you, I extend my heartfelt gratitude for your kindness and generosity.

Father Jim Farrell
Director

Come away by yourselves to a quiet place and rest awhile.
-Mark 6:31

www.archindy.org/fatima
Roncalli Rebel Rhapsody Show Choir

Bob Desautels, Ted Austin, Beth Reitz

Elly & Bob McNamara, Pat Cronin

Rev. Keith Hosey

Dave & Sandy Pasotti, Sean O’Connor, Father Glen O’Connor

Vince & Robyn Caponi

Most Reverend Daniel M. Buechlein, OSB

Collette Fike, Sharon Wagner, Kevin DePrey

Photos courtesy of Mary Ann Wyand
Welcome new board members
We welcomed five new advisory board members this fall: Judy Armentrout, Mike Feeney, Rosalie Hawthorne, Sanford Miller, and Mary Schaffner. We are energized by the enthusiasm and support of these new members along with our current members and want to thank them for their service. We extend heartfelt thanks also to those board members whose terms were completed in 2010: Bob Desautels, Mike Fox, Nancy Lee, and Martha Thie.

Strategic planning
We have recently concluded our strategic planning with a follow up session held at the end of January. Three retired executives from the not-for-profit group SCORE assisted us in reviewing our fee structure and fund raising efforts, improving the evaluation process for both our sponsored and hosted programs, and addressing the potential need for an additional staff member to focus solely on development and marketing for the retreat house. We have begun using an online evaluation system (only in the works for one week at the time of developing this newsletter). We have instituted an increase in our hosted program fees for 2011 and are in the process of evaluating our sponsored program fees. We continue to look at how to better market the need for volunteers as well as continuing a good line of communication with both our volunteers and benefactors.

HVAC Replacement
By the end of February the first phase of our HVAC replacement and repair should be complete. This entailed mainly the replacement of our boiler and much of the pipe-work feeding all bedroom wings. Our maintenance staff and volunteers have been working hard supporting the contractors by doing a portion of the work themselves. This included removal of the old boiler which was a huge undertaking and saved the retreat house quite a bit of money! Thank you to Mike, Sam, Greg and Walt.

Volunteer League
Our Lady of Fatima Volunteer League continues its faithful support of the retreat house through volunteer efforts, fund raising and most importantly prayers! Through the league evaluation process last year we gained quite a few new volunteers and are continuing with an annual re-dedication and recruitment dinner each spring. May 4, 2011 is the date for this year’s dinner (additional information on page 7). In 2011 with a very generous donation from the league we are purchasing several items, the most visible of which will be awnings over both our main entrance and kitchen entrance.
Lenten Opportunities

As usual, Fatima is offering a variety of spiritual themes and experiences for the Lenten season. Day, morning, evening, and weekend retreat opportunities abound throughout the season. There are three weekend retreats from which to choose. Father Adrian Burke, a monk of Saint Meinrad Archabbey, leads off our Lenten season with a retreat titled: “Being Christian takes Practice!” Come and learn about the daily exercises that support and deepen your experience of discipleship. Father Ted Haag, a Franciscan friar who served as associate pastor of Saint Roch Parish in the late ’70s and early ’80s is returning to Fatima to offer a retreat on the theme of simplicity. Titled “Simplify,” the retreat will offer insights on the spiritual benefits that come from a simpler lifestyle.

Father Jim Farrell, director of Fatima and pastor of Saint Pius X Parish will present a weekend retreat on “Praying with the Saints.” This retreat reviews the prayer practices of different saints and offers them as models for deepening our own experience of prayer.

The Lenten season also offers several days of recollection—one with Father Chris Weldon, of St. Francis of Assisi Parish in Muncie. Father Weldon will speak on the “New Evangelization” called for by Pope John Paul II and Pope Benedict XVI. There is also a “Morning for Moms” with Lori Borgman titled “Pass the Faith, Please.” An evening program will be co-sponsored with the Benedict Inn but held here at Fatima on March 24. Titled “Encountering Surprising Images During Our Lenten Journey,” this special evening is presented by Sr. Angela Jarboe, O.S.B. There will also be several opportunities in Lent just to come and “be” here at Fatima with one or more of our silent days of reflection. On these special days no talks are given but you are welcome to use the grounds, journal in your room for the day, visit the chapel, or sit and ponder in the conference room looking out on God’s creation.

Following are dates, times, and registration information for our programs. Check it out; we are sure there is something that will interest you!

March 11-13, 2011
“Being Christian Takes Practice: A weekend Lenten retreat with Fr. Adrian Burke, OSB”

Fr. Adrian Burke, OSB, a monk of St. Meinrad Archabbey since 1992, will help us look at some essential components of the Christian life, our traditional practices and some different ideas. It is easy to say ‘Love your enemy’ but far more difficult to do it every day. Asceticism, as the original Greek word implies, is practice in the sense of training, as for an athletic event. He will focus on how some ascetical practices can be part of a balanced Christian prayer life: work, study-reading, obedience-listening, worship and cultivating friendships.

$150 per person/$280 per married couple
7:00 pm Friday through lunch on Sunday

March 18-20, 2011
“Simplify: A weekend Lenten retreat with Fr. Ted Haag”

“But seek first the kingdom of God...” (Matthew 6:33)
Do you feel like you have lost a grip on what is really important in your life? Join us for a weekend of ‘spring cleaning for the soul’! Fr. Ted will lead us on a journey that will give us the opportunity to clear our minds of all the ‘busy’ things in life and to take a look at priorities, reflecting on the difference between our wants and our needs. He will show us ways to consider the value of being poor and in need.

Fr. Ted Haag, OFM entered the Franciscan order in 1972, was ordained a priest in 1979 and has been involved in retreat ministry for over 20 years.

$150 per person/$280 per married couple
7:00 pm Friday through lunch Sunday.

March 24, 2011
“A Evening of Reflection presented by Fatima Retreat House and the Benedict Inn: FBI or Faith Building Institutions”
“Encountering Surprising Images During Our Lenten Journey” presented by Sr. Angela Jarboe, O.S.B.

It is certainly true that the season of Lent requires from us some spiritual movement as we journey these six weeks together. What are those images that foster our spiritual lives as we move along? Is the image one of darkness to light? From the cross of Calvary to the empty tomb? From death to life?

This evening of retreat, reflection, sharing and prayer will be a time to allow the Lenten images to soak into our souls while we anticipate the resurrection.

$30 per person
A Mass will be offered at 5:00 pm followed by a buffet dinner and the program which will conclude by 9:00 pm
April 1-3, 2011
“Praying with the Saints: 
A weekend Lenten retreat with 
Fr. Jim Farrell, Pastor of 
St. Pius X Parish and Director of 
Fatima Retreat House”
Fr. Jim will draw on the lives of selected saints to aid in our understanding of prayer and how we might continue to grow in the love of God. Some of the saints he will focus on are SS. Francis of Assisi, Catherine of Siena, John Bosco, Teresa of Avila, Jane Frances de Chantal, Ignatius of Loyola and Benedict.
$150 per person/$280 per married
7:00 pm Friday through lunch Sunday

April 12, 2011
“Pass the Faith, Please: 
A Morning for Moms Day of 
Reflection with Lori Borgman”
Join popular columnist, author and speaker Lori Borgman for this day of reflection. Every parent has roughly 18 years to raise a child. That seems like a long time when you bring those little bundles home from the hospital. But then you blink and those kids are driving cars, shaving and going on mission trips to Haiti when it seems like just yesterday you told them not to leave the backyard.
$30 per person
8:30 am -1:00 pm
Please register your children by contacting Cheryl McSweeney at (317) 545-7681 ext 15 or cmcsweeney@archindy.org

April 14, 2011
“Holy Week Silent Days and 
Evenings of Reflection”
‘Come away by yourselves to a quiet place and rest awhile’ (Mark 6:31) Take advantage of this opportunity to join us in preparation for the most holy day in our Liturgical year! We are offering four days of silent non-guided reflection along with the possibility to create your own private retreat by staying overnight. You can create your own retreat by registering for any combination of days and nights.
Days of silent reflection are from 8:00 am until 4:00 pm.
Cost is $25 per day and $25 per night.

May 12, 2011
“Come Away and Rest Awhile: 
Silent Reflection Day”
Join us for another opportunity for a silent non-guided reflection day. Relax in your own private room, read a book, walk the grounds, pray the labyrinth or the stations of the cross. The day is yours for reflection and time with God.
$25 per person
8:00 am -4:00 pm

June 14, 2011
“Annual Day of Reflection 
on Prayer with Fr. Jim Farrell, 
Pastor of St. Pius X Parish 
and Director of Fatima 
Retreat House”
$35 per person
8:30 am -2:30 pm

Our website is updated weekly! Check it regularly to see new events as they are added!
Fill out the registration form below and return with your payment by check or register online with a credit card at www.archindy.org/fatima
A deposit of $50 is required for all programs over $100. Full fee is requested for programs of $100 or less.
Call 545-7681 with questions!

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Name: ___________________________ Additional donation to OLF _________
Address: ________________________ City/Zip: ___________ Total amount due _________
E-mail: ________________________ Phone: ___________ Total amount paid _________
I need a first floor room ___________________________ Balance due _________
Dietary Restrictions: ___________________________
What I enjoyed most about my time here was “the opportunity to pray, ponder ‘things’ in my heart, and rejoice with God’s people.”

– Growing the Holy, New Year’s Eve 2010

Wish List for Fatima Retreat House

- Two new entry mats with our logo ‘A place to be... with God!’ (225 each)
- A new snow shovel (two would be even better!) ($20 each)
- 8 extra bedspreads for the guest rooms (order through Karen-full size $55/twin size $45)
- Keurig individual serving coffee and tea selections for our guests ($10 - $25 each)

Questions? Contact Sandy Pasotti at (317) 545-7681 or spasotti@archindy.org

Winter/Spring 2011

www.archindy.org/fatima
An Invitation to all Current Volunteers and Potential New Members:

Fr. Jim Farrell and the Staff of Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House invite all current volunteers and interested men and women of all ages to join us for an evening of renewal and re-dedication Wednesday, May 4, 2011.

We will begin with Liturgy followed by dinner and a short program. This is a perfect opportunity to join us to learn more about how being a volunteer at Fatima Retreat House can benefit the retreat ministry and you! Learn of the variety of opportunities we offer—we have a need that will fit with your schedule and lifestyle!

Wednesday, May 4, 2011
5:00 pm Liturgy
6:00 pm Dinner
6:45 pm Program
7:45 pm Concluding Prayer

RSVP by filling out the information below and returning it to us or sending the information by email to mlechtanski@archindy.org. Questions? Call Mary at (317) 545-7681.

NAME ____________________________________________________________

☐ I am a current volunteer at Fatima and: ☐ Will attend ☐ Send my regrets

☐ I want to join you May 4, 2011 to find out more! (Please complete the following)

☐ I cannot attend May 4, 2011 but would like someone to contact me with more information (Please complete the following)

ADDRESS ______________________________________________________________________________________________

DAYTIME PHONE/CELL PHONE ________________________________________________________________

EMAIL ADDRESS ________________________________________________________________
Invitation to Rent Space at Fatima

Do you belong to a faith-based or community group which hosts an annual meeting or convocation? Does your parish host an annual women’s or men’s retreat? Are you or is someone you know part of a not-for-profit looking for space to conduct team building with your staff? Did you know that in addition to our own programs, Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House hosts groups of all faith traditions and other not-for-profits and community groups for a variety of retreats, meetings and other gatherings?

We have a beautiful facility with a full service dining room, chapel and labyrinth all situated on thirteen wooded acres. We host groups in size from two to one hundred twenty-five plus! For availability or to find out more about our facility and property, please contact Sandy Pasotti by email at spasotti@archindy.org or by phone (317) 545-7681 ext 14. We look forward to serving you!