



Reflections

Volume 16:1

N E W S L E T T E R

God Is Knocking...Anyone Home?

By Rick Wagner

In the Bible, we read about God coming to people in their dreams and angels appearing in visions. Current writers tell fantastic tales about surreal revelations or how a single dramatic event in their lives changed them forever, bringing God and faith to them.

While we can certainly rejoice in these peoples' new-found clarity, all too often I believe we sit sadly and quietly, waiting for our own lightning bolt experience. We lament that others 'got it' while we wait for our turn.

All the while, there are signs all around us. Signs we miss because we are awaiting the 'big event.' We can't see the forest for the trees.

God is present in hundreds of very small, very simple ways each day...

- A hug from one of my children
- The 'I love you' I get at the end of every phone call from my wife
- The silence before I fall asleep each night

God is present in seemingly unrelated events...

- A picture from my then 3-year-old daughter... she had drawn her daddy standing next to our house...and I was twice as big as the house

- My son, potty-training at the time, trembling with excitement as he insists that I follow him to the bathroom...just to watch
- My wife's tears as she sorts through shoeboxes of old pictures

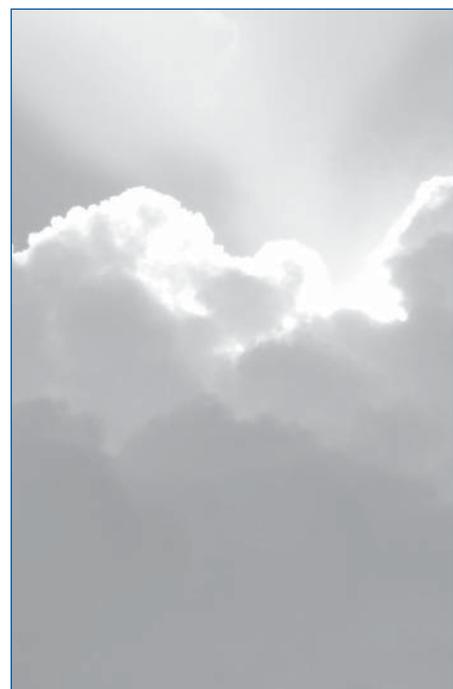
God is present in the people around us...

- The way Connie lit up when she showed me pictures of her 5-year-old son's 'graduation' from pre-school
- Kelli's laugh as she chats with volunteers
- Oscar's continual humming

And after reflecting upon this, it becomes clear why Our Lady of Fatima works. So many retreatants walk away from here with a new or renewed awareness of the presence of God in their lives. Not because of a fantastic event but because of the simplicity that is Our Lady of Fatima.

Rooms are equipped with a bed, a chair, a lamp and a bible. The outside is peaceful and serene. There are no phones or televisions. There is no traffic.

God's presence is made known, not via lightning bolt, but through simplicity. We are better equipped to see the signs and we see the forest, despite the trees.



There is never a time during which Jesus is not speaking. Never. There is never a place in which Jesus is not present... gently tapping on the doors of our hearts – waiting to be invited in. Few hear his voice. Fewer still open the door. There is no chorus so loud that the voice of God cannot be heard...if we will but listen.

**In The Eye of The Storm
by Max Lucado**

Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you. Hebrews 13:5

Look inside for your Retreat Schedule!

Meet the Our Lady of Fatima Management Team!



Director Rick Wagner comes to Our Lady of Fatima after serving seven years as the Director of Athletics at Bishop Chatard High School. He earned a BS in Education and completed graduate work in psychology at IUPUI. He will earn an MS in Educational Administration from Butler this November. Rick and Carol, Rick's wife of 21 years, have four children. Mary is a junior at St. Mary-of-the-Woods College, Rick is a freshman at Xavier University, Laura is a sophomore at Bishop Chatard HS and Robby is a seventh grader at St. Pius X.

“I am very excited about my new ministry here!”



Guest Services Manager Sandy Pasotti comes to Our Lady of Fatima from Bishop Chatard High School as well! She worked with Rick Wagner as the Athletic Office Administrative Assistant for the past six years. Before Bishop Chatard, Sandy was a stay-at-home mom with a part-time office cleaning business and provided daycare for several nieces and nephews. She and husband Dave have three children. David is a freshman at Purdue University, Nick is a junior at Bishop Chatard and Michael is an eighth grader at St. Pius X.

“I consider myself blessed to be a part of Our Lady of Fatima!”



Program Manager Mike Haigerty has been the jack-of-all-trades for Our Lady of Fatima for seven years. He began as a part-time grounds-keeper, became building manager and office manager before accepting the Program Manager position this past March. Mike is currently working toward a master's degree in Theology from St. Meinrad. In addition to his role as Program Manager, Mike continues to live on-site and act as resident building manager for the retreat house.

*“My time living and working at Our Lady of Fatima is
one of God's greatest blessings to me!”*



Office Manager Erica Shoop has been at Our Lady of Fatima for four years and Office Manager for three years. Erica and husband Eric are proud first-time parents...Jacob Edward was born on July 26th, weighing in at 8 lb. 7 oz. Erica is a product of RCIA, becoming Catholic in April of 2000. She has a BS in Business Management from Indiana University. Erica enjoys gardening, shopping and playing with her dog and two cats.

“I am excited about the future of Our Lady of Fatima!”

Some Thoughts and Reflections

by Mary Schaffner, Director of Campus Ministry at Bishop Chatard High School and several of her senior retreatants

Each time I drive up the road to Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House to begin another senior Christian Awakening Retreat, I am reminded of Luke's Gospel passage "When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the infant leapt in her womb..." (Luke 1:41). The anticipation of working together with the team of peer leaders and adults who so humbly and generously give of their time to lead our seniors, together with the beautiful surroundings and the staff of Fatima who welcome us and provide for our every need... my soul literally jumps with joy and settles into a peaceful trust all at the same time. For Jesus' promise that "where two or more are gathered in My name, there I will be" (Matthew 18:20) comes to life in the three-and-one-half days that the people God has called come together. I know that part of the seniors' memories of this special renewal and witness time will be the experience of Our Lady of Fatima itself. We are grateful and blessed that Fatima is open to having these youth retreats. The Christian Awakening retreats are a powerful experience as reflected in the evaluation comments that follow:

"Retreat is the best thing that could have happened to me at this time in my life. I have learned so much about myself, and about others, and I have especially deepened my faith in God..."

"Senior retreat has been the best thing I've done in high school. I want to do it again!"

"This senior retreat brought me closer to God than I have ever been before."

"Senior retreat was so powerful - I wouldn't trade my experience for anything."

"I found God here in so many people and in so many things that we did."

"Senior retreat was an amazing experience and one of the most influential events of my life. The talks were all great...it was the first time I have ever prayed so hard and not been distracted."

"This retreat has been a life changing experience. It has changed my perspective on my daily life as well as on my relationship with my family. I have also started thinking about the priesthood."

"The retreat was a wonderful time to revive my relationship with God and to begin to see Him in the little things."

BABY

Volunteer League hosts baby shower for Erica!

On July 7th, the Volunteer League hosted a baby shower for OLF Office Manager Erica Shoop. A great time was had by all! Besides cards and cake, Erica received a generous gift certificate from the League. She sends her thanks out to all of the well-wishers!





“When you come to serve the Lord, prepare yourself for trials.”

-Sirach 2:1

SEPTEMBER 3-5

“A Journaling Retreat”

presented by Joe Zarantonello

Friday @ 6:30 pm until Sunday @ 1:00pm

Zarantonello is a graduate of Notre Dame and received his MA from University College in Dublin, Ireland. Broken down into seven writing meditations, the retreat will illustrate that the journaling process helps us identify our life patterns which have prevented us from embracing our unique paths to God.

Registration fee of \$145.00 includes program materials, meals and accommodations.

SEPTEMBER 12

“Introductory Labyrinth Workshop”

presented by Br. Barry Donaghue, cfc

Br. Barry, a trained labyrinth presenter, will show you how to walk the beautiful new labyrinth located on the grounds of Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House. Most people find walking the labyrinth to be a marvelously freeing experience. Join us in a workshop on the ancient practice of praying the labyrinth.

2:30 - 5:30 pm, optional 6:00 pm dinner

Registration fee of \$15.00...\$25.00 if you would like to stay for dinner

OCTOBER 8-10

“Living With Two Hands and Twenty-Four Hours: A Christian Program for Managing Time and Handling Stress”

presented by Karl A. Schultz

Nationally-known author Karl A. Schultz has published many books on time management, stress management and job stress. Using biblical examples and perspectives, Mr. Schultz walks retreatants through a practical program of bringing balance to their hectic lives.

Friday @ 6:30 pm until Sunday @ 1:00pm

Registration fee of \$150.00 includes program materials, meals and accommodations.

OCTOBER 10

“God’s Word as a Model for Handling Stress, Suffering and Care-Giving”

presented by Karl A. Schultz

Author Karl A. Schultz stays Sunday evening to present this timely workshop.

5:30 -8:30 pm, includes dinner

Registration fee of \$25.00 includes program and dinner

OCTOBER 30 & 31

“Body ~ Mind ~ Spirit”

presented by Br. Barry Donaghue, cfc

Br. Barry Donaghue, cfc, Director of SpiritPro on the grounds of St. Mary-of-the-Woods College, leads this retreat of discovery. The Body ~ Mind ~ Spirit workshop will help you to understand the concepts underlying your healing virtues and discover your own healing gifts.

Saturday @ 8:30 am until Sunday @ 4:00 pm

Registration fee of \$125.00 includes program materials, meals and accommodations.

Early registration required for this offering... call 545-7681 for details

OCTOBER 31 - NOVEMBER 2

See back page for Student Leadership Program information!

Sneak Peek...Lent 2005

- Feb. 18-20:** Silent Retreat with Fr. Rich Buhler
- Feb. 25-27:** Women’s Retreat with Fr. Ben Hawley
- Mar. 11-13:** Lenten Retreat with Fr. Jim Farrell

TOBIT DATES

2004:

- September 17-19
- October 22-24
- November 5-7

2005:

- January 28-30
- April 22-24
- April 29 - May 1
- May 13-15
- June 17-19
- July 8-10
- July 22-24
- September 16-18
- October 21-23
- November 11-13



NOVEMBER 12-14

“Blending Souls: Deepening God's Presence in Your Marriage”

presented by Fr. Jim Farrell & others

"Whether you've been married three months or thirty-three years, your marriage can benefit from enrichment. Life gets busy, with or without children, and the busy-ness can create distance. As time passes, the fondness and affection may fade. The day-to-day hustle and bustle replace the intimacy that was strong in the beginning of your relationship. Do you have trouble talking with your spouse about God? Do you have difficulty sharing prayer with your spouse? Do your lives seem too hectic to create intersecting spiritual paths? Join us for a weekend marital retreat in order to rekindle or deepen your relationship with your spouse. This retreat is suitable for, but not limited to, those who have participated in enrichment experiences such as Cursillo, Christ Renews His Parish or Marriage Encounter."

Register early...this is sure to be a sell-out!

Registration fee of \$275.00 per couple includes program materials, meals and accommodations.

NOVEMBER 23

“A Day of Reflection on the Psalms”

presented by Fr. Wm. Munshower

Take time out before the hectic Thanksgiving holiday to pause and reflect. Fr. William Munshower returns to Our Lady of Fatima to present this reflection day on selected Psalms. Includes lunch and mass.

Tuesday from 8:30 a.m. until 2:00 pm

Registration fee of \$30.00 per person includes program materials and lunch

DECEMBER 10-12

“Silent Advent Retreat”

presented by Fr. Ben Hawley, SJ

As the Christmas season approaches, this guided silent retreat brings focus and understanding to this blessed time. A frequent presenter, Fr. Hawley is currently the President of Brebeuf Jesuit Preparatory School in Indianapolis.

Friday @ 6:30 pm until Sunday @ 1:00pm

Registration fee of \$145.00 includes program materials, meals and accommodations.

CLIP AND MAIL REGISTRATION

Call for a brochure for any of these offerings or register now!

Please register me for the following events:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City / State / Zip: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Name of Retreat: _____

Date of Retreat: _____

Cost: _____

Name of Retreat: _____

Date of Retreat: _____

Cost: _____

Total cost of chosen retreat(s) or workshop(s) _____

Deposit of \$50.00 per person per weekend _____

(Must pay full amount for workshops)

Additional donation to OLF: _____

Today's payment total: _____

Balance due at check-in: _____

Please mail this form to:

Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House
5353 E. 56th Street
Indianapolis, IN 46226



OLF

Wish List!

The upcoming capital campaign for Our Lady of Fatima will focus on the necessities...the nuts and bolts needed to keep the facility operational - things such as concrete repair, plumbing work, structural repair and upgrades, etc. So certainly we don't want you to reduce the amount you might give to the capital campaign in order to help with our wish list items.

But there are other things that we could use that would make us better...more hospitable or more efficient. So here is our wish list:

- Digital camera (\$300)
- New chairs for outside (\$300-\$400)
- Industrial washer and dryer (\$2000)
- Steak knives (\$395)
- Color printer (\$600)
- Colored linen napkins (\$480)
- Linen tablecloths (\$662)
- Miscellaneous kitchen (\$500)
- 4-way radio sets (\$1100)

Can you, your company, or someone you know help?

A Fond Farewell

Members of the Our Lady of Fatima family bid farewell to one of their own at an open house reception held on June 27th. Sharon Wagner, Associate Director at OLF for seven years, left her post to accept the position of Business Manager for St. Pius X Parish in Indianapolis.

Sharon is credited with "holding down the fort" when an air of uncertainty surrounded Our Lady of Fatima during the past two years.

It was obvious from the turnout at the open house that Sharon was loved and will be missed!

"...and the leader must be like one who serves. For who is greater, the one who is at the table or the one who serves?"
Luke 22:26-27

'High Tea' on October 14th

Plans are in full swing for our 6th annual High Tea, to be held on Thursday, October 14th from 2:00-4:00 pm. Our guest speaker will be folklore historian Wanda Lou Willis. She will speak on "Hoosier Hauntings." There will be raffle drawings on two lovely tea baskets in addition to door prizes. Raffle tickets may be purchased in advance by calling 770-1123 or 253-0705. Tickets cost \$1.00 each, 6 for \$5.00 and 12 for \$10.00. We look forward to seeing you at High Tea!



Garage Sale Fundraiser A Hit!

A combination garage sale / car wash fundraiser held at OLF on July 3rd was a huge success. Garage sale and carwash receipts totaled over \$1300.00. More importantly, many folks came onto the grounds for the first time and guided tours were offered to many of our visitors.

The event was made even more special by the appearance of WIBC radio's Saturday morning dream team, Pat Sullivan and Dick Crum, broadcasting live from OLF.



Director Rick Wagner (left) with WIBC's Dick Crum.

Our Lady of Fatima Advisory Board Welcomes New Members, Discerns Officers for 2004-2005

The Advisory Board of Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House welcomed ten new members for the 2004-2005 year.

New members include: David Bowen, Judy Corbett, Mike Fox, Sheila Gamache, Mary Margaret Lynch, Pat Malayter, Fr. John McCaslin, Mark McDermott, Mary Ann Seufert, and Leo Stenz.

Outgoing members include Kevin Alerding, Chris Cleveland, Ted Dickman and Paula and Fred Korzekwa.

The officers were also chosen for the upcoming year. The Executive Committee will include:

Dan Hoyt	President
Patrick Malayter	Treasurer
Joe Lamberti	Vice President
David Bowen	At-Large
Judy Corbett	Secretary
Rick Wagner	Director

In addition, Archbishop Beuchlein has announced the appointment of Fr. Jim Farrell as Retreat Consultant for Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House.

The Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House community thanks the outgoing members for their years of commitment and service and welcomes the new members to the ministry!

Our Lady of Fatima to offer monthly 'Seniors' mass and social!

Beginning in September, Our Lady of Fatima will offer a monthly 'Seniors' mass and social. The monthly event will occur on the last Monday of each month. Mass will begin at 9:00 a.m. with continental breakfast and social time to follow. There is no cost involved, although a free will basket will be passed during offertory. Consider making this a part of your regular monthly schedule...and bring a friend! The first mass will be held on September 27th.

Volunteer League President

After six years of service, Fred and Paula Korzekwa will be stepping down as co-presidents of the OLF Volunteer League. Duties include coordinating and facilitating quarterly League meetings, attending OLF Advisory Board meetings (six per year) and other administrative duties. Interested persons should notify Director Rick Wagner at 545-7681 or rwagner@archindy.org. An election will be held at the fall League meeting.

MISSION STATEMENT

"Consistent with the mission of Jesus, Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House offers an environment of hospitality conducive to reflection, and programs for spiritual enrichment.

A center of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, it is primarily committed to serving the needs of individuals, parishes and agencies of the Catholic community.

Our Lady of Fatima also welcomes people of other religious traditions, and other groups seeking a place to conduct programs consistent with its spirit."

Retreat Ideas!

Do you have some retreat ideas? We want to hear from you! Our Lady of Fatima exists to serve the Archdiocese of Indianapolis and you need to tell us how you will best be served. Drop us a line, give us a call or contact Director Rick Wagner directly at...rwagner@archindy.org

ADVISORY BOARD

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Daniel M. Buechlein*
CHAIRMAN
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RETREAT CONSULTANT

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Publisher Rick Wagner

Send changes of address, ideas or comments via telephone, US mail or e-mail to rwagner@archindy.org

This intensive 3-day leadership program is intended for high school sophomores.

The program is facilitated by Our Lady of Fatima Director Rick Wagner, with general session presentations by administrators of several of the archdiocesan high schools.

General session topics include:

- Essentials of Leadership
- Christian Leadership
- Empowering Others
- Recognizing the Big Picture
- Group Dynamics
- Leadership Styles
- Collaboration and Teamwork
- What Now...Making an Impact

Student Leadership Program:

Program length: Program begins on Sunday, October 31st @ 10:30 a.m. and ends at 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 2nd.

Cost is \$200.00 and includes meals, accommodations, program materials and ropes course fees.

Call 545-7681 for more information.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City / Zip: _____

Phone number: _____

High school: _____

Please register me for the Student Leadership Program, October 31 - November 2, 2004

_____ \$100.00 deposit enclosed

_____ full \$200.00 fee enclosed

A confirmation letter and information packet will be mailed upon receipt of your registration.