



WORDS OF HOPE ***Volume 19 Number 3***

Advancing Dawn

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Winter, 2015

By Fr. Dennis Wait

Dear **Friend** of Sanctuary of Hope,

Together we have come a long way in **building the mission** of prayer and retreat in the inner city of Kansas City, KS, and beyond. I am so grateful to Jesus for always being there for me, and all of us in this ministry. I miss so many of our departed brothers and sisters, whose memories will always be with us in our hearts. Our present community is growing older, me too, as we look out toward the future. I would like to address our future as we look ahead to another, God willing, 20 more years.

Right now we could use at least two **more live-in members** to help with the basic hospitality to our guests and visitors. With the purchase of the **House of Peace**, it gives us even more room for live-ins to take up this ministry. Since the property was in foreclosure, we were blest to buy it at a very reasonable sum, now formally under **Sanctuary of Hope**, and with its one acre of land, gives us our **33 sacred acres**. In addition to housing live-in members, it will continue to be used also as a place for retreats.

Building up this ministry has been a **miracle**, to say the least. Many times from our own community and from guests who come for the first time, I hear them say: "Father, this is a miracle," and I agree. Your on-going prayers, donations, and countless hours of volunteering have kept the miracle alive. Hopefully we will be able to find more people who **enjoy this ministry**. We do need younger ones to take over the on-going tasks, and also older ones who might find this as a blessing in their later years. So if the Lord brings someone to mind, or that may be you, do let me know. This reminds me of a song which says: "there is plenty of room in my Father's kingdom!"

One of our standing programs here is **Paths to Peace**. We try to find two faith traditions that tell us about who they are and share a worship and/or prayer session with us that are typical of their faith. Our last one in November was the Bhutanese and Nepal Christian Church, with their pastor, Reuben Diyali, and the Argentine Mennonite Church with their pastor Sandeep Thomas, both from KCKS. Just listening to the two presentations, especially the witness of the pastors, the beautiful native dancing, and the choir who harmonized so beautifully, all spoke to me about our on-going need to **reach out** more to **other Faiths** and therefore learn from each other. This also is so critical to our future here at ole SOH, reaching out to invite others to see the beauty of prayer and retreat.

Sharri Orndorff will be moving to Steubenville, Ohio, to attend the **Franciscan University** at the first of the New Year. Sharri will be taking courses to help her in future ministry in the Church Family. We have been so blest to have her with us this year, and please **continue to pray for her** (as she will for all of us) and her family as she begins another chapter in her life.

Our **Hope Benefit** was a **great success** this year, and again our deepest thanks for all who worked so hard to make it possible, and especially to Mary Ann Rangel, who led the troops. Thanks to all who came and enjoyed the evening. We are so grateful to say that we netted **\$33,000** this year, Praise God! Our date for next year will be **October 15, 2016**, again held at the Abdallah Shrine in Overland Park, KS. Please save the date! We received many favorable comments to keep the event at the Shrine.

"By waiting and by calm you shall be saved, in **quiet and in trust** your strength lies." (Isaiah 30:15 b)

On behalf of our whole community and those who remember us in prayer, I, Revs. Mindy and Robert, Karyssa and Jeff, want to wish all of you a Happy and Joyful Thanksgiving, and a Holy and Blessed Advent-Christmas and New Year of 2016!

Love, prayers and gratitude,

Fr. Dennis Wait, **your brother** in Christ always



WAITING 101

“Christmas is coming, and I can’t wait!” But as I write this, we haven’t even gotten to Thanksgiving yet, and then, of course, there is Advent...an entire season of waiting. Waiting 101, if you will. Honestly, I’m re-taking this class for the umpteenth time, just trying to pass. Once I pass this waiting-thing, I like to think that I can finally get on with my life.

Do you know what I mean? “When I finally get a job, I can start relaxing.” “When I hear the doctor’s test results, I can finally start living more healthfully.” “When I meet that deadline, I can finally sit down and play with my kid.” “When God answers my question, I can finally start trusting again.” “When God actually transforms me, I can deal with my life better.” Having trained myself to believe that the real living is somehow just past the waiting, I feel the kid in me jumping up and down, hollering, “I can’t wait!”

When I’m in that in-between space, I feel like the Princess and the Pea: unable to rest until this thing is resolved. It’s like I can’t stand being stuck here, now, in this moment because somehow I won’t be happy till I reach the moment down the road. But as I sat last year waiting for God’s next calling in my vocation, reflecting over the annoyance of waiting, I realized that most of my life, I’ve been waiting for something. Does that mean that there is no rest for the weary? Perhaps that’s the lie my ego spouts because it just hates not being in control, and waiting is where I feel the least power or control. If I’m honest, though, waiting has never been empty or lifeless.

When I’ve waited for calls back following interviews, amidst the inner voice reminding me of what I should have said but didn’t and the worries about whether or not they like me, I also began to recognize another inner voice saying, “I’m here. Don’t be afraid.” Most times, I would then mutter, “alright then, why can’t you give a hint of what’s coming?” or “yeah, but I know You don’t always make things easy so, frankly, fear seems a bit natural.” But even then, we were connecting. I know that I can get through whatever I have to because I’m not alone. I saw and see that this “waiting room” is pretty hospitable, and I *can* really live in it. And somehow, once the conversation starts, the thing I’m waiting on, or the “pea under the mattress,” doesn’t make me quite so uncomfortable. My ego shuts her eyes, relaxes her grip on my attention, and allows me to feel the soft mattress holding me up. Jesus did say he would give us rest.

Maybe the point of the “pea” is that its removal is not what I’ve really been waiting for at all. The annoyance, even of waiting, helps me to accept the things I can’t control and frees me to then notice life happening right now. I think that waiting stops me long enough to believe Someone is waiting for me.

In our waiting this season, may we find Someone waiting with us because really, we can’t wait to live.

Peace and Living be yours,

Rev. Mindy Fugarino

Dear Friends,

Trisha Yearwood, a contemporary singer, reminds us in her song, “Take a Walk through Bethlehem,” that the star still outshines the night and that every heart longs for more than tinsel. We are invited to come and celebrate the baby King by traveling with faith, hope, and love. The Good News lives on! Let us take a walk to Bethlehem together and find there the answer to all our wonderings and wanderings, for Jesus is truly our Savior, the Way, the Truth, and the Life! During my twelve and a half years at Sanctuary of Hope I have met many people, young and older. Each one has blessed my life, and I am grateful. Thank you for your words of support and prayerful gifts for my anniversary, birthday, and Christmas. Knowing that Jesus is God’s gift to all of us, I pray for His blessing on you and your families in this Holy Season of Love and the New Year.

United at the Crib,
Sister Antonella Bayer, CSJ



3M Concert

Sunday

February 14, 2016

2:00—3:30 pm

Come hear

Renowned Harpist,

Deborah Wells Clark,

Freewill donations accepted

Reception following

Deborah Wells Clark is the Principal Harpist with the Kansas City Symphony. Deborah has performed throughout the United States, Europe and Singapore. Clark holds the Doctor of Musical Arts degree from the University of Missouri at Kansas City. When not performing or teaching, Deborah enjoys traveling and flying single engine aircraft.

O Come Let us adore Him!

O Come, O Come, Immanuel!

O Little Town of Bethlehem

O Come Little Children

O Come All Ye Faithful!

O Holy Night !



OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS! HELP WANTED...

Sanctuary of Hope Prayer and Retreat Center in Kansas City, KS, is seeking **two additional** live-in members.

We specifically need a **kitchen manager** and **assistance with in-house IT**, an **average of 25 hours** a week each.

Members will commit to the **regular prayer life of SOH**, including morning and evening prayer; and also to welcome and serve our guests with basic hospitality.

Free room, board, and utilities are offered in exchange for your labors of love, faith and hospitality.

For further information, contact Fr. Dennis Wait, Spiritual Director, at 913-321-4673, business hours 8 AM-4PM, Tuesday-Friday, or email frdennis@sanctuaryofhope.org



Thanks to all who attended and helped with the HOPE Benefit!

Our 10th annual Hope Benefit was a huge success. Everyone had a wonderful time, the food was great and the new venue was a hit as well. We plan to use the same venue next year.



Praying for the Personalities in Our Lives

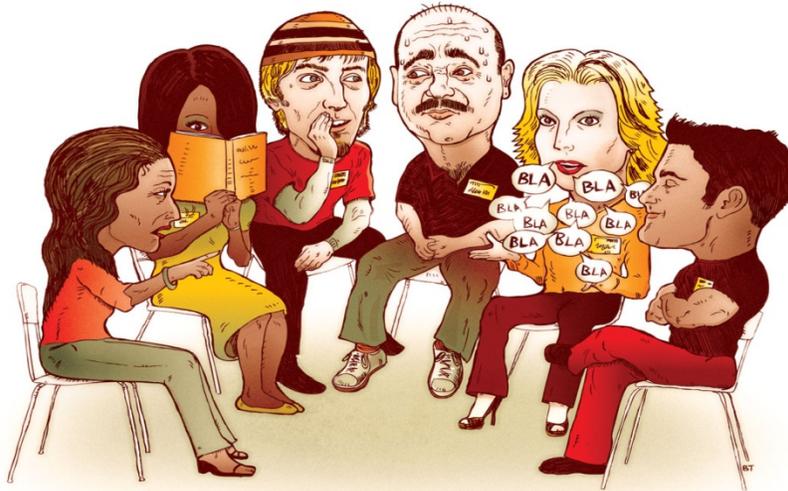


illustration from: *Wall Street Journal* (04/17/12)

January 23rd, 2016, 10 AM-3 PM
Facilitator: Rev. Mindy Fugarino
Suggested Donation: \$25, includes lunch
RSVP: Julie at 913-321-4673 or Julie@sanctuaryofhope.org

Have you ever wondered why there are some folks whom you just seem to "get" and who "get you," but that there are others who seem to possibly be from another planet? In a very real sense, we can be wired similarly or quite differently in that our brains habitually process and respond to our worlds in personality patterns.

Ironically, more often than not, the people we spend the most time with tend to be wired differently from ourselves...think of bosses, co-workers, teachers, students, spouses, children. We regularly see things differently, or at least want to handle them differently, and usually, we discover that we will never change them...and that that's not even the goal.

So, what is the goal?

What if we could grow in understanding of and compassion for them?
What if our own humility could make room for the gifts that others bring to the table?
What if our fears, angers, & judgments could just relax?

God can help us to do just that as we practice praying for all the personalities around us.

Come and see, come and know God within and all around you,
even in the lives that most boggle your mind.



COME BE A BLESSING, COME RECEIVE A BLESSING!

Are you looking for a place to volunteer, or looking for a place to make a difference? There are lots of things to do here at Sanctuary of Hope.

In the summer we have plants to weed and water, trails to maintain, vegetables to care for and pick, guests to welcome and all sorts of things!

If our regular work day on the second Saturday doesn't fit your schedule, give us a call and let us know what you're interested in and when you'd like to come.

Sharing with Sharri

Greetings!

This issue's column will be short. I've been traveling so much, I'm not quite sure what day it is or what country I'm in. God certainly has a sense of humor!

As Fr. Dennis mentioned on the front page, I will be leaving for Steubenville, Ohio, in January. I've purchased a home there and will be attending Franciscan University. The plan is to major in theology and get ready for the next phase of my ministry journey.

I want to take a minute and say thank you to all of you who have befriended me, who have helped out here at SOH and all of you who have attended events or donated to me or financially this year. All of us together have made SOH a wonderful place!

I will stay in touch, and will keep all y'all in my prayers. Please keep me in yours. I know that prayer is the best gift I can receive from you. Thanks!

Hugs & prayers for all y'all!

Sharri

MORE HOPE BENEFIT FUN!





ANNUAL GUARDIANS OF HOPE APPEAL—2015

On behalf of Fr. Dennis, Thank you for your support, you are a Guardian of Hope.

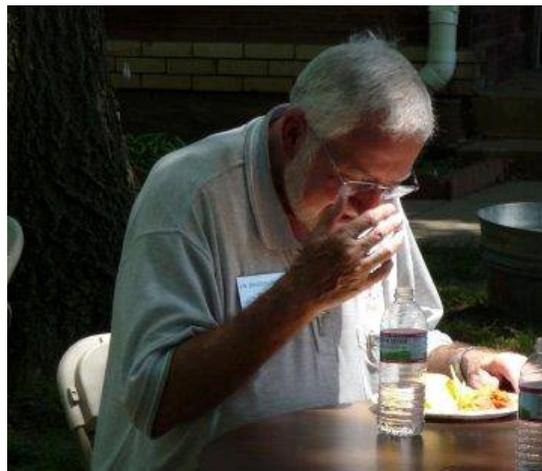
Like last year, we are inviting donations to cover one day (\$65) or two days (\$130) of Fr. Dennis's annual salary of \$24,000. Fr. Dennis was overwhelmed by the generosity of our friends last year!

Any amount contributed is graciously appreciated.

Gratefully,

Rev. Steven Barnes, President of the Board of Trustees and Louis Finocchiaro--Business Manager

If you have already donated to Fr. Dennis' salary this year, thank you so much for your generosity.



FINANCIAL SUPPORT FORM:

Would you consider making a one time or pledge contribution and return this form in the enclosed envelope?

Please accept my support in the amount of \$_____.

This is a _____ One time gift or _____ monthly or _____ quarterly Pledge during 2015.

Name _____ Address _____

e-mail _____ (to receive notice of special programs offered by SOH)

____ I (We) commit to regular prayer (i.e. Weekly) for Sanctuary of Hope's ministry.

The SOH Board invites supporters to **say a prayer at 7:00 PM daily** for the well-being of SOH. Thank you.

PRAYER REQUEST

Feel free to share a prayer request and place it in the enclosed envelope. Thank you

My (our) request is:

Sanctuary of Hope

2601 Ridge Ave
Kansas City, KS 66102

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Sanctuary of Hope is an contemplative, ecumenical community committed to knowing, loving and serving God and each other and those in need.



WHAT'S GOING ON AT SOH? Glad you asked!

Special Events:

Christmas Mass

8am
Breakfast following



Lenten Retreat

February 27th
9am—1pm
Fr Dennis
Suggested Donation: \$30
Lunch included

Regular Events:

Prayer Group Tuesday Mornings

10am till noon
Lunch provided afterward
Call to verify 913-321-4673

Eucharist Mass on Tues and Thurs

7:30 am

Work Day

Second Saturday

8am-Noon
Jan. 9, Feb. 13, March 12, April 9
May 14

Future Events:

Praying for the Personalities in Our Lives

January 23rd, 2016
10am—3pm
Facilitator: Rev. Mindy Fugarino
Suggested Donation: \$25
Lunch included

3M Concert

February 14, 2016
2pm—3:30 pm
Reception following
Donations accepted

Who Me, Angry?

April 6th
10am—3 pm
Facilitator: Rev. Mindy Fugarino
Suggested Donation: \$25