



**The Beacon.Com - Marianist Family Retreat  
Center E-Newsletter**

**May 2012**

***(Be sure to visit our web site at  
[www.capemaymarianists.org](http://www.capemaymarianists.org) for a complete  
schedule, retreat photos and application)***

To find out more of what is happening in the greater  
Marianist Family – click here [www.marianist.com/foi](http://www.marianist.com/foi) for  
Marianist Family Online - the Province E-Newsletter.

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Dear Friends,

Our little 5 year old son, Eddie has recently taken to climbing trees. A few days ago he was up in a tree in front of our house and spied a bird's nest with three robin's eggs in it. The sheer joy at his discovery was overwhelming to him. He literally wanted to show everyone his discovery (and I mean literally, he wanted us to climb the tree!).

I often see such enthusiasm here at Mary's House after someone discovers God's presence in their life in a new or deeper way – they are just bursting with joy and a desire to tell as many people as they can about their experience. In the words of a famous song, "that's how it is with God's love once you've experienced it – you want to pass it on..."

We are blessed to be a part of many such experiences – and we look forward to you joining us here soon to experience God's love in a new and special way – and you won't even have to climb a tree!



## ***Openings for our 2012 Summer Family Retreats***

**Week 3** (July 9-14) – 1 or 2 families

**Week 4** (July 16-21, Single-Parents) – Several families

**Week 5** (July 23-28) – 1 family

**Week 9** (August 20-25) Several Families

### ***Summer Family Retreat Applications!***

[Click here for an online version of the brochure.](#)

[Click here for an application.](#)



**To Help promote our Summer Family Retreats Gracie Pollicino, our Intern, created a PROMO VIDEO. Please click:**

<http://www.capemaymarianists.org/videotest2011.html>

**interested.**

**Pass the link to those families who you think would be**



### **High School Teen Retreat; May 11-13** ***A few openings remain...it's this weekend!***

These weekends provide an opportunity for high school students, ages 14-18, to enhance their human and spiritual development. In addition to Mass, prayer, and reconciliation, there will be time for personal and group reflection, as well as for creative fun activities.

**The cost for this weekend is \$115**

[Click here for an application](#)



### **Families with Young Children (7 and under); May 18-20**

Due to a late cancellation, we have room for one or 2 families on our upcoming retreat – May 18-20. Consider joining us for this special experience! While it is a family retreat, there is a separate program for the children and the parents. We recruit many volunteers to work with all the children while the parents are in presentations and small groups with other parents. **The cost of this**

**retreat is \$115 per adult and \$80 per child ages 2+**

[Click here for an application](#)



### **Volunteer & Friends Reunion Weekend; May 25-27**

This Weekend is intended for past Volunteers & anyone who has been here on retreat (aged 18-?), who are looking for a weekend to be with their friends (and meet new ones...) in a relaxing environment. There will be no set program (other than Mass), which means you can spend your time at the beach, touring/shopping in town and taking advantage of all that Cape May and Cape May Point have to offer!

We will have “pick-up” type meals and a special BBQ on Saturday evening in thanksgiving for all of you.

**The cost for the weekend is \$90.**



### **Midweek Cleaning Days – June 18-22**

Come for all or part of these 5 days to help get the Center ready for our busy Summer Family Retreats. Painting, cleaning, yard work, light maintenance – there is a job for everyone! Enjoy the “Mary’s House” Community spirit as we work & play - that’s right – work for half the day and enjoy the beach in the afternoon!



## Widow-Widower Retreat Recap & Photos

*Submitted by Pam Laurenzi*

The ninth widow and widowers' retreat was held April 13-15 and was attended by 16 women and 2 men. Women are most often the attendees and having the male perspective added richness to our retreat.

Grief is an integral part of life, and the grief experienced at losing a spouse can seem unending. When we gather at Mary's House to share our stories, pray, and remember the

blessings that our spouses were; we realize that we are not alone, that we are blessed, and that although a person dies, love does not.

Once a widow or widower has attended the spring retreat he or she often comes to our mid-week reunion in the fall. This year's reunion will be September 18-20.

To see photos from this retreat [click here](#).



## Black Catholic Family Retreat Recap & Photos

*Submitted by Jessica Sherwen*

The retreat house was once again visited by everyone's favorite Southern puppet chef, Pauline Deena, for April's Black Catholic Family Retreat. Families from the Camden

Diocese joined Ms. Deena for a weekend filled with spirituality, fun, music and a chance to share their own family faith "recipes." One highlight of the weekend was our "Minute To Win It" show in which each family had one

minute to share their talents with the group. The session presentations were particularly moving as the mothers and grandmothers shared their wisdom with the younger generation. We thank Cheryl Wright for helping once again to organize this retreat and we thank all of the families and staff for sharing themselves with us.

To see photos from this retreat [click here](#).



## May Women's Retreat Recap & Photos

*Submitted by Carol Weiss*

The theme of the women's retreat this May was "Our Lady of the Lost and Found", focusing on Mary as mother, companion and friend on our spiritual journeys. Each of us discovered aspects of Mary in a new way, how she is present to us in our everyday lives as one woman to another. The question posed to each woman was, "What name do you give Mary". They were able to express this in making patchwork banners of

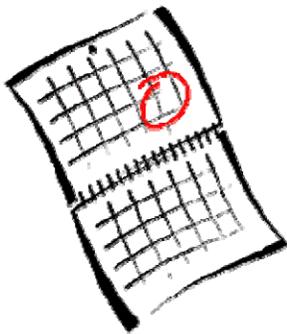
various images of Mary. Mary was truly present to each of us in our sharing, laughter and even some tears.

To see photos from this retreat [click here](#).

## ***Upcoming Retreats & Important Dates***

**To print an application please [click here](#).**

***\*\*Financial Aid is available – please do not let the cost of a retreat be the obstacle that prevents you from joining us...\*\****



### **2012 Retreat Dates:**

[Spiritual Getaway Days](#); May 29-31 and June 5-7

[Celebration of Marriage Retreat](#); September 21-23

### **Other Important Dates:**

Beginning April 1 we began accepting applications from ANY FAMILY for the 2012 Summer Family Retreats (even if you have been here multiple years)...

***Check out [www.capemaymarianists.org](http://www.capemaymarianists.org) for a full listing of 2012 Retreat Offerings!***

## ***Marriage Moments and Parenting Pointers***

*Contributed by Susan Vogt, [www.SusanVogt.net](http://www.SusanVogt.net)*

### ***On Marriage...***

"No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends." (Jn 15: 13) In addition to Jesus, who has given their life for you? Perhaps it is your mother, or someone who has been like a mother to you.

***On Parenting...***

**Rules: Our kids used to complain about our family rules (bedtimes, limits on TV & computer time, being home for dinner, etc.) A family doesn't need many rules but rules show you care and the ones you do have must be enforced consistently. This takes parental energy. Pray for strength.**

Blessings to All!

The Marianists

Cape May Point