



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

June 2012

(Be sure to visit our web site at 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 for Marianist Family Online - the Province E-Newsletter.

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Director's Message



Dear Friends,

“All good things must come to an end.”

Who ever said that didn't know Brother Tom. I am sad to tell you that Brother Tom Redmond will be leaving us later this month. After 4 ½ years of loyal service to our Center and to all of whom we serve, Brother Tom has been assigned to be the Community Director of the Marianist Health Care Center in Cupertino, California. Brother Tom's gifts of music, prayer, maintenance, and most of all friendship will be missed by all, especially by our staff and I, who have had the distinct pleasure of serving alongside him. Brother Tom brought a sense of peace and that feeling of “it's all going to be okay” to so many situations here - what a gentleman.

Tom, thank you for your service, thank you for your insights, thank you for caring so well for those who come to retreat here, but most of all thank you for continuing to say “yes” to Mary's mission in our world.



A few select openings remain for our 2012 Summer Family Retreats

Week 4 (July 16-21, Single-Parents) – 1 or 2 families

Week 9 (August 20-25) 1 or 2 families

Summer Family Retreat Applications!

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

[Click here for an application.](#)



Mary Statue Dedication

Mary has a home! Over the spring months Brother Ed, Brother Al and Brother Tom have worked really hard to create a permanent Mary Shrine over in “Rosary Corner.” So we no longer have to carry Mary out from the hallway for our evening rosary. We are so grateful to be able to have this shrine for our Summer Family Program as well as for all those who seek a quiet place on our property to sit and pray. The statue was dedicated on May 26th as *Our Lady of Firm Foundations*, which exemplifies how we see the

family in our society and in our Church. We are looking forward to that first Monday evening prayer of the Family Program on June 25th!



Midweek Cleaning Days – June 18-22

We could really use some help!

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!



Teen Retreat Recap & Photos

Our May Teen Retreat was just a wonderful experience for both the teens and the staff! Our Theme of *4 Simple Rules of Being a Christian Teen* resonated with the teens and their level of participation was a gift for us all. **Be Proud of Jesus/Live your faith, Forgive yourself and others, Love yourself and let others love you, Respect the world & those around you.** Simple, right? Well, these rules certainly gave our teens something to think about and to work on!

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



Families with Young Children Retreat Recap & Photos

Submitted by Jessica Sherwen

We were blessed with BEAUTIFUL weather for our May Families with Young Children Retreat. You can imagine that this is a most welcome blessing when all of the families attending the retreat had children under the age of five! The theme of the retreat was “Our Family Circus” and the adult presentations focused on such topics as juggling daily events, balancing priorities, the trapeze of married life and

family prayer as our safety net. The team couples, the Kovach’s and the Michonski’s, led the parents in reflecting on how family life is a holy place even when you feel like the ringmaster in a three ring circus. The children sessions’ topics included “Nothing is Impossible with God” and “Jesus Loves the Children.” Many thanks to the presenting couples and the tireless volunteer staff who made this retreat enjoyable for both the parents and the children.

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



Mother Seton Academy Retreat Recap & Photos

Once again Brother Jesse O’Neill and the 8th grade class of Mother Seton Academy from Baltimore came to the Center for their class retreat. For many of the students, a trip to Cape May Point is the first time that they have been to the beach, played in the ocean or have been on a boat. Our time is split between retreat and recreational activities – like most of the retreats we offer here. Each year it is a true blessing for us to work with these students. Each of them comes with their own story (many filled with heartaches and misfortune), and each touches us in a special way.

A special thank you to over 40 of our *College-Age and Teen Retreat participants* who gave \$5 or \$10 each to help support this retreat!

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



Gift of Days, Spirituality & Aging Retreat Recap

Submitted by Ray McCracken

The first three-day retreat on the theme of “*The Gift of Days, Spirituality and Aging*” began with the question: “How is my outgrowing where I have been and aging actually a God driven event?” Through the presentations, reflections and small group sharing, we came to see that our Christian spiritual tradition offers images and understandings of aging that are radically different from those in contemporary secular culture. Many of the participants reported that on the retreat “growing older” was affirmed as a time of meaning and possibility, even as its hardships and challenges were acknowledged. The retreat concluded with a commissioning ritual where each person received a blessing scarf, confirming them as wisdom keepers.



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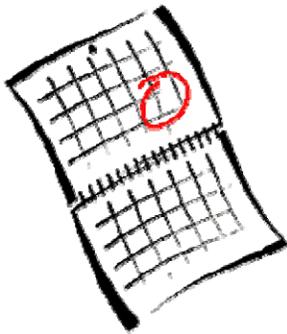
“Friend Us” on Facebook – look us up under **Mary’s House Mfrc!**

Help us get to 1,000 friends by the end of the year – we are more than half way there!

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:

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

[Widow\(er\) Reunion Days](#); September 18-20

[Spiritual Getaway Days](#); September 11-13, 25-27

Other Important Dates:

July 11 - Earliest Postmark Date for October High School Teen

Retreat

July 11 – Earliest Postmark Date for the October Women’s Retreat

August 15 – Earliest Postmark Date for the Advent Family Retreats

Check out www.capemaymarianists.org for a full listing of **2012 Retreat Offerings!**

Marriage Moments and Parenting Pointers

Contributed by Susan Vogt, www.SusanVogt.net

On Marriage...

"Let us love not in word or speech but in deed and truth." (1Jn 3:18) Saying "I love you" is good. Being true to your words is better. Showing your love by doing something nice or sacrificing for your beloved is true love. What act of love can you do today?

On Parenting...

The "Silent Treatment" is often considered a communication **No No**, but there are times when it's better for a parent to say little than to repeatedly nag. Tell your child **firmly once** to pick up the toys. If ignored, calmly do it yourself and put the toys into quarantine for a period of time. Enough said.

Blessings to All!
The Marianists
Cape May Point