



Summer 2015

ST. FRANCIS PRAYER CENTER

G-2381 E. Carpenter Rd., Flint, MI 48505

P: 810.787-5330 • F: 810-787-5399

My Dear Prayer Center Friends,

As you receive this, our summer will be coming to a close and we'll all have been glad for the wonderful warmth and sun of the season, and the tremendous growing season we had for our gardens and flowers.

The Prayer Center's gardens have been particularly beautiful, as I have had some very dedicated helpers spend lots of time with me here. We also have a wonderful new maintenance man named Dick, who is right by my side in the care of the property and building and will even fertilize the flowers for me on a schedule! Praise God! We have some HAPPY FLOWERS over here—it's just beautiful.

I sincerely hope you'll make a point of coming out to visit us while the season is still nice and see for yourself what changes have been made since my coming here.

The girls tell me that it has never been quite 'so' busy around here, and that makes me smile and

others and bringing them to know Him—it does not matter what lovely offerings we have, what a great Family Center we have or what a beautiful church we have...

It is what I call the 'Big Love' that changes our lives. That kind of love we do not have on our own. It is pure gift. When we experience it though, and are open to receive it, we are transformed. We are no longer the same. Oddly enough, our families and friends probably see it first—we often don't even realize it ourselves.

This encounter forever changes who we are, and in so doing we begin to love others like that too. The heart has been changed. It is predisposed differently. It is now possible to trust and love another without all the tangles—because we have finally accepted HIS LOVE FOR US... without that, it was not possible. Now it is.



think Sr. Joanne must be lifting me up in my duties! I know I must do many things differently, but somehow think she would approve and be thrilled at the new people coming for the 'More' of God.

While we are indeed very busy and offering lots of new ways to use the center (*see article on Faith in Flint, page 2*) it occurs to me that without the 3 vital components of Faith, Hope and Love it would be rather for nought.

Unless we are sharing the love of God with

This 'agape' love has no conditions—it only loves. It does not only wait to be found, but rather will seek us out even in our most dismal or wounded place and love us.

Jeremiah 31:3 reminds us that it is everlasting... and the song continues, "...and I have called you and you are mine." Our 'Big Love' is really His Love poured into us. The difference now is that we have received it and accepted it as our own. NOW, we are prepared to give it out to another.

Faith In Flint Initiative

ST. FRANCIS PRAYER CENTER is at the northern border of this initiative in the Flint area. We serve some of the most neglected and impoverished people in the area. Each day we are visited, on foot, by folks who need our help.

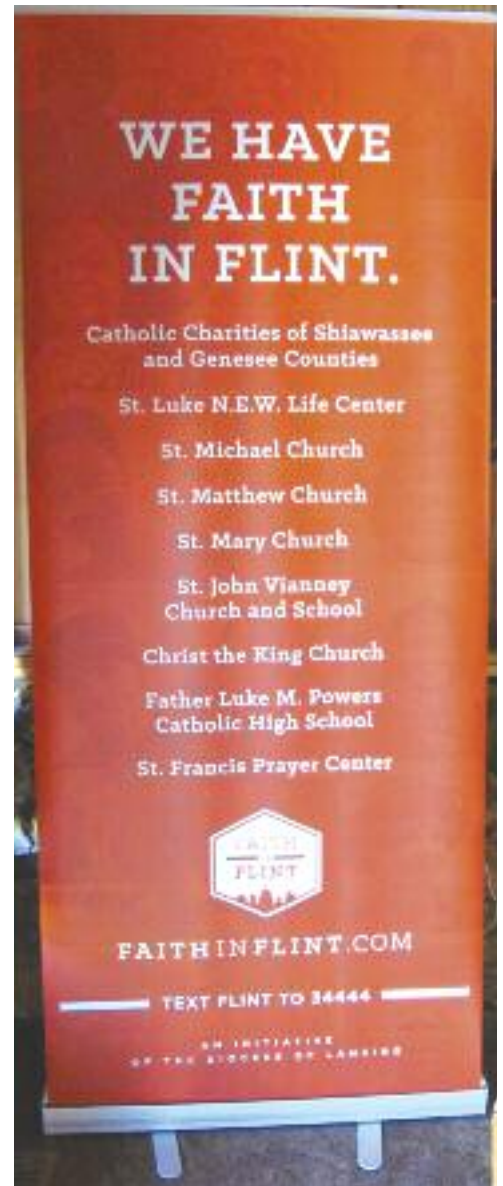
It is my personal prayer that everyone who gets our newsletter will make a decision to help support our outreach. Unlike churches, we have no regular income to accommodate the huge need we face each day. This prayer center has always been supported by the community. In the face of our economy and all the people we have lost, it is increasingly difficult for us to stay solvent and we are a small outreach in a very heavily populated area of Flint (those who need our help) and we have no weekly collections!!

Below you will find information regarding becoming a Pledger. PLEASE consider supporting us! Pray! Ask the Holy Spirit to direct you for how much and how often!

Below are a just a few things that St. Francis Prayer Center does for our community:

- Help with Consumers, rent, or water bills
- Help w/clothing, diapers, gas for work or job hunting or interviews
- Help w/auto repair (within reason)
- Spiritual Direction, Counseling, Prayer Sessions, Mentoring and Prayer in Crisis

- Liaison for DHS or other social service agencies to help individuals
- Class or Program offerings that encourage/evangelize in hopes of becoming a church member and follower of Jesus
- In Parish Work: Spirit-Filled Evangelization Seminars with 6-month group study follow through and clergy support
- Building small communities of faith in Bible Study/Small Groups (at our site or at a parish)
- Coordinating large Healing Services with trained Prayer Teams
- Training for persons feeling called to the Ministry of Prayer with Others
- Days of Reflection on various topics such as: Lives of the Saints, Inner Healing, Understanding the Gifts of the Holy Spirit, Learning How to Listen & Discern
- Weekend Retreats with various topics. The Prayer Center now can sleep 20 people for these retreats! 3-4 per year. Another great option that does not require leaving Flint!!
- Leadership Schools, equipping those called to evangelization/discipleship.



Help Us Please!

62% of our Flint Kids Live in Poverty

Claim this City for God's Purposes

Make a Commitment To Help Us Help Them

Become A Monthly Pledger

"My house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples." –Isaiah 56:7

Would you become a Monthly, Bi-Monthly, Quarterly or Yearly Pledger??

How much do you wish to pledge \$? . \$5 • \$10 • \$15 • \$20 • \$25 – Any amount is welcome.

Contact the Prayer Center at 810-787-5330 to become a Pledger.



Leadership School – *Knowing the Shepherd*

Track 4 – August 21-25, 2015; Holy Spirit
Track 5 – September 19-23; Listening/Discerning
Track 6 – October 9-14; Forming Others



As we go to print, **Track 4 – Holy Spirit**, is being held. If you are interested in either of the final 2 sessions, please fill out the

Registration Form below, call the Prayer Center at 810-787-5330, or send us an email. Sessions start at 10:00 am. Breakfast, lunch and dinner are included. Ministry sessions are held in the evening.

Inquire within your Parish to see about getting a scholarship for these classes as all are responding to the Bishop's call to "Evangelize" and "Disciple" others.

To charge to a credit card, visit our web site, www.stfrancisprayerflint.com, go to the "Contact" page. Click on the "donate" button. If you do NOT have a PayPal account, you can use another card.

A minimum of 10 students is required to hold a session. A \$100 deposit is required for each track. Costs for the week are:

- \$375 = Tuition, Food, & Lodging for the week
- \$250 = Tuition, Food for the week (not staying)

Observations on Track #3 Personal Formation

Track #3 was a huge growing curve for all who attended. We had 20 people from 5 of our 7 dioceses. Personal Formation and disciplines enable us to be 'Intentional Disciples.' We must all understand the real meaning of 'Listening' to then discerning God's Call on our individual lives. Only then can we help others do the same. Much joy, much study, much prayer, and much fellowship. What a great 5 days it was!! **Come Holy Spirit, Come!**

Below and to the left are pictures from the Leadership School Track 3 Retreat.



Leadership School – *Knowing the Shepherd*

Name: _____ Home Phone: (____) _____

Address: _____ Work Phone: (____) _____

City/St/Zip _____ Cell: (____) _____

Email: _____

Please sign me up for the following Leadership classes:

- Aug. 21-25 Holy Spirit
- Sept. 19-23 Listening/Discerning
- Oct. 9-14 Forming Others

A \$100 deposit is required to reserve your place.

Costs for the week for each session:

\$375 covers Tuition, Food, Lodging
\$250 covers Tuition, Food (not staying)

Contact the Prayer Center for additional information. You are encouraged to seek sponsorship from your parish.

Fundraiser Flashback 2015!

Our **Carnival of Fun** was just that – FUN! Everyone seemed to enjoy the evening. Many dressed in “carnival” attire that added to the festivities.

As with any large event, there always seems to be some unexpected things happen. We hope you will continue to be supportive of our efforts to smooth out the problem areas. In fact, that is where you can help. Come and join our Annual Fundraiser Committee.

Just to give you an idea of the number of committees needed to put on this event, they include: Tickets, Party, Hall Set Up, Publicity/PC Promotions, Decorations Hall, Decorations Tables, Hospitality, Food Menu (thru caterer), Food Desserts, Bar, Master of Ceremonies, Photography, Auctions (Live; Silent; Pay Table), 50/50 Drawings, Music, Bid Number Table, Prize Acquisitions, Clean Up, and Prayer. There are many other areas where help is needed. We encourage you to become a Chairperson or helper for next year!

The 2016 theme is MOTOWN!
Get your music on!



Fundraiser Flashback 2015!



These businesses donated auction items for 2015:

Atlas Valley Country Club, Bavarian Inn Lodge, Bay Mills Resort & Casinos, Bentley Florist, Big John Steak & Onion, Chateau Chantal, Cinema Hollywood, Clio Big Boy, Diehl's Party Store, Holy Family 3rd Order of Franciscans, Italia Gardens, Leo's Coney Island, Letavis Enterprises Fast Eddies, Lighthouse Bibles & Herbs, Massage Advantage, Meijer, Inc. #28, North American Dismantling Corp., Ogorek Automotive Group, Olympic Grille Family Restaurant, Sloan Museum/Longway Planetarium, Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort, Stallings Stained Glass, Suburban Auto Supply, Temple Dining Room, The Pizza Company, Vic Bond Sales.

The following individuals donated items for auctions:

Anomyous, Jerry Decker, Pat Forlenza, Debbie Hawley, Kathy Konesny, Maryann Zimmer, Al & Barb Ogorek, Robbie Ogorek, Dcn. Denny Pennell, Andrea Schaal, Ruth Schmitter, Lisa & Jack Johnson, Peggy & Gary Wescott.

Our apologizies if we inadvertently missed any business!

Adopt-A-Family for Thanksgiving and Christmas

Many of you have participated in our Annual Adopt-A-Family project and we pray that you will consider participating again this year. It may seem a bit soon to bring this up, but **early donations** help our shoppers purchase items for the Thanksgiving baskets when they are on sale. Would you Chair or help coordinate this effort? Contact us at 810-787-5330.

The families we serve work hard to get and keep jobs. Our help at Thanksgiving and Christmas gives them just a little leg up in dealing with the many difficulties they face.

For Christmas, we will ask people to adopt families as we have in the past. You choose whether to do your own shopping or to have the Prayer Center handle that. It helps us to connect the right adoptee to the right family if we know your preferences.

We invite you to become part of the celebration of the Birth of Christ. As you, along with the Prayer Center, show the "face" of Jesus to others!

Below children and adults enjoy singing Christmas carols at our Annual Christmas party.



Fundraiser Flashback 2015!

These businesses purchased fundraiser tickets:

A-Growing Service; Advanced Fiberglass Services; Affordable Spa Repair; C & S Motors; Cook Chevrolet; Doerr & McAndrew; Fisher Brothers Trucking; Gault Race Management; Hammond Farms; Kearsley Auto Repair Service; Legacy Estate & Financial Group; Louie's Towing, Luigi's Pizza; MAAC of Clio; McAndrew & Whitney Investments; Miles Martin / Darnell Martin Monument Sales & Real Estate; Mike Young GMC; Musselman's Tax Service; North American Dismantling Corp.; Powers Development Office; Quality Tax Service; Rohmann Iron Works; Shane Adams Group; Dr. Sukanel Saha, M.D.; Silveri Consulting, Inc.; Stone Chiropractic Health Center; Ted's Waterview Barber Shop; Vic Bond Sales.

We apologize if we inadvertently missed any business!



Wonderful Report from Holy Family Grand Blanc

A 7-week Session on Spirit Filled Catholic Living, Looking for More was offered by St. Francis Prayer Center and Lansing Diocese Committee for the Renewal. Each week 150 parishioners gathered for Praise, Worship and Teaching. The Healing Service night and Renewal of Baptism night packed a full church. Six Priests served in Prayer Ministry or confession for 4 hours. All were immensely blessed. Formation follow up has already begun with 3 pilgrims' Way Classes and 3 more to start in the fall. Thank you, Holy Spirit, for the anointing on your people. Contact SFPC for more info. -Director Deb

Help Stock our Limited Food/Health Care Pantry!

Sometimes when people come to us for help, they just need a few items – a box of cereal, maybe some toothpaste, even diapers. We try to keep a few of these items on hand to give that immediate help.

Items we can use are: health & beauty products (shampoo, hand & bath soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, etc.), non-parishable groceries, paper products, laundry products, dishwashing soap.

Thank you for all you do for us in our efforts to be an ever present "face" of Jesus.

GREAT GETAWAY 10

Drawing Mon., Aug. 31, 2015 @ 2:00 pm

at **ST. FRANCIS PRAYER CENTER**

G-2381 E. Carpenter Rd., Flint, MI 48505, (810) 787-5330

YOU NEED NOT BE PRESENT TO WIN Raffle Lottery No. R32513

Winners will choose from 3 exciting prizes!

1st Choice: 50" Vizio Smart TV

Vizio Internet Apps Plus Smart TV
Built-In Wi-Fi • 1080p Full HD

Donated by Michelle Lambaria & Carlos Lambaria

2nd Choice: HP 15 Notebook PC

5th Generation Intel® Core™ i5-5200U; 2.2 GHz
Processor, 750GB Hard Drive; 6144MB DDR3 SDRAM

Donated by Michelle Lambaria & Carlos Lambaria

3rd Choice: Soaring Eagle Gift Certificate

A complimentary overnight stay in First Class Room
Plus a Meal Voucher for 2.

Donated through Soaring Eagle courtesy of Al Ogorek.
Prize must be used on or before December 1, 2015.

Interested in purchasing some tickets for this raffle?

Use the form below to order tickets or call the Prayer Center at 810-787-5330.

Send us your request for a single ticket or a book or 2 of tickets.

Tickets are \$5 each or 6 for \$25.

Remember, your support helps us help others in need – both spiritually and physically.

The first ticket pulled chooses from all 3 prizes, 2nd ticket pulled chooses from the 2 remaining prizes and 3rd ticket pulled gets the last prize.

If it is too late to send your part (as we are uncertain of when this newsletter will get to you), we will fill out the stub for you and hold the other part for you.

Great Getaway 10 Raffle Ticket Order Form

To purchase tickets, call the Prayer Center, 810-787-5330, or fill out this form and mail to: St. Francis Prayer Center, G-2381 E. Carpenter Rd., Flint, MI 48505.

Tickets will be sent to you upon payment, time permitting.

YES, please send book(s) of tickets @ \$25 ea. **OR** YES, please send tickets @ \$5.00 ea.

Name _____

Address _____

City/St/Zip _____

Phone/Cell _____ Amount Enclosed \$ _____ Raffle Lottery No. R32513



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Newsletters by E-mail

To receive your newsletter via email (PDF format) rather than hard copy, please send a request via email to stfrancisflint@comcast.net.

Like Us On Facebook

www.facebook.com/stfrancisprayer-center-flint (no spaces).

Our Web Site

www.stfrancisprayerflint.com

Garden Clean Up Planned!

October 3 & 10

See Below.

Check Out These Dates!

❖ Great Getaway Drawing

Drawing will be held August 31, 2015 @ 2:00 pm at St. Francis Prayer Center. See page 7 inside for information on prizes and costs for this drawing.

❖ Pilgrims' Way (24 weeks)

Classes will be forming soon for the next Pilgrims' Way classes. Two will be held at Holy Family in Grand Blanc and one at the Prayer Center. Contact the Prayer Center to be on the list for notification of the start of classes.

❖ Shepherds Healing (12 weeks)

More classes to be formed soon.

❖ Leadership School Track 5

Will be held September 19-23;
Listening/Discerning.

❖ Fall Clean Up – 2 Dates

Oct. 3 and Oct. 10. We'll start at 10:00 am & go until 2:00 or so. Let us know if you can share any perennials you will be dividing.

❖ Leadership School Track 6

The final one will be held October 9-14; Forming Others.

See God in the sky, the reverence, the cross.

