

A message from Fr. Dominic



August — the word originates from the Latin word, Augur, a religious official in ancient Rome who foretold events by observing and interpreting signs and omens.

In the scriptures, the scribes and Pharisees asked Jesus, "Teacher, we wish to see a sign from you." — Matthew 12:38. As followers of Jesus, this "August", take time to see those signs of God's presence in ourselves and others. Take time to see God's hand and loving care behind the small and big events of our lives. And of course, open our ears to hear God's message given to us through the Bible.

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### **Faith Formed Hands to Share**

For many years, the Priests of the Sacred Heart has been blessed to receive handmade rosaries from many faithful friends. This is a story of one of our friends who has blessed us with hundreds of rosaries to share with our missions all over the world, sharing the grace and love of His Sacred Heart.



Marie and Vanessa are two of the original "Our Blessed Mother's Rosary Makers" and still make rosaries today.

Forty-two years ago, five women formed a prayer group with a desire to not only pray together but also perform a service. Rosary making seemed like the solution.

Many faithful joined them over the years, finally becoming known as, Our Blessed Mother's Rosary Makers.

"I believe it was in 1979 when we learned my mother had ovarian cancer. I was concerned what my mother would have to endure during the next couple of years, especially the pain," shares Marie, one of the founding members.

"About that same time, I had read an article about a woman whose husband was dying of cancer and was in a lot of pain. The woman prayed asking if she would make rosaries and give them away, for her husband to die without pain.

She went to all of her friends and collected old jewelry and

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In 1981 the rosary makers made a king size rosary to be used as a Living Rosary and it took 60 people to hold the rosary made from Styrofoam balls.

started making rosaries. As she was making them, her husband's pain started to go away. He died without any pain.

Remembering that story, I thought maybe I could ask our prayer group if they would consider making rosaries. They all thought it would be a good idea to make rosaries, not just for my mother, but also to give them to churches and missions.

I asked my mother if she would like to make rosaries and she did not hesitate to say yes. Now, my mother had macular degeneration, cancer and a minor heart problem. It was difficult for her to see the hole in the beads, but she managed to string the beads.

She never cried about her problems or the cancer but when I told her the rosaries she made went to the

missions, she cried. She was happy to know, in spite of her physical condition, she was still useful and could help someone. She died with very little pain."

These rosaries have graced the hands of children making their first communion, foreign missions, prisons, nursing homes, hospitals, service men and women and so many others. More than 80,000 rosaries have been given away. The Priests of the Sacred Heart are grateful to be the recipients of these rosaries to share with so many faithful.

Of the original five rosary makers, only two continue to be active. There have been mothers, daughters, husbands, wives and even non-Catholics making the rosaries over the years.



Several of the women who made rosaries have said making rosaries has helped them both physically and calmed them emotionally.

#### Peace of Mind is ...

#### **Completing a valid Will**

Though it may seem like a daunting task, finalizing your estate plan frees you from worry. You can face the future knowing your estate will be distributed according to your wishes and people you trust will be in charge.

#### Caring for your loved ones

Your last Will and Testament provides you with the assurance that provisions have been made for family members according to their needs and your wishes. If something should happen to you, they will be cared for.

#### Creating a legacy through a bequest to the Priests of the Sacred Heart

Your Will can direct your personal representative to set aside a certain percentage of your estate or a specific amount to remember our ministry in your estate plans.

Contact us for a free Will Information Kit today!

#### What Your Will Reveals About You

Your Will says something about you. *First,* it says you care about your loved ones. You want to make it easier for them by taking care of legal matters relating to the transfer of your estate. You want your affairs handled smoothly and without undue inconvenience to those who will be experiencing grief.

*Second,* having a Will means you have sought to conserve the estate you have worked all of your life creating. You can reduce taxes and probate costs by designating what things will go where and who will be responsible for handling the details. The cost savings resulting from a carefully constructed estate plan means more of your estate can go to family members and other beneficiaries.

*Third,* your Will provides insight into your lifetime involvements and concerns. Bequests to family members tell of your love and concern for their welfare. Bequests to organizations speak volumes about your values.

For example, when you include the Priests of the Sacred Heart in your Will, you affirm your belief in our mission. Such action encourages those you leave behind to consider how they can also help worthy causes, like the Priests of the Sacred Heart. Finally, when you include the Priests of the Sacred Heart in your Will, you tell our priests and brothers how important their work is serving the poor and needy, educating children and preparing men for the priesthood to fulfill our mission in the U.S. and around the world. You reveal your vision for our future! You encourage our religious to be good stewards of the new resources you place in their hands.

If having a Will says so many good things about you, what does the absence of a Will reveal?

Our staff in the Mission Advancement office at the Priests of the Sacred Heart want you to experience the good feelings of having a well-considered and well-crafted Will (or other comprehensive estate planning document). We encourage you to take care of this very important matter. And to help you, a complimentary *Will Information Kit* is yours for the asking.

We welcome you to talk with Pam about leaving a bequest to the Priests of the Sacred Heart. Please use the enclosed form or call Pam at 1-866-268-0157. You can also contact her through our website at <a href="mailto:poshgift.org">poshgift.org</a> or <a href="mailto:emai

# **Students Reach Out to Milwaukee's Homeless**

"We think it is important to show people that they are cared for," said Postulant Jacob Smith. He, along with the rest of the student community at Sacred Heart Monastery, teamed up with Sacred Heart Seminary and School of Theology to raise money for Guest House, an organization providing shelter, housing, education and other services to Milwaukee's homeless.

During their spring break, the Dehonian students prepared 100 meal bags for Guest House clients and had enough money left over to make a financial contribution to the organization.

Visit <a href="http://dehoniansusa.info/GHouse">http://dehoniansusa.info/GHouse</a> to watch the students in action!



## **Looking Forward to the Future**

We all tend to "look back," on good times and not so good times. Last year was no exception. Looking back at 2020, we are grieving for all who suffered and lost loved ones. Each day the Priests of the Sacred Heart prayed for our country and the world to recover.

During these trying times, the Priests of the Sacred Heart has been blessed by faithful friends like you. In spite of the pandemic, you have continued to inspire our ministry to serve those most in need and educate men for the priesthood to carry out works of mercy.

The Priests of the Sacred Heart has seen an increase in **Donor Advised Funds (DAF)** established by many of our friends. It has proven to be the way of the future, allowing:

- A FLEXIBLE, LOW-COST way of contributing to multiple nonprofits from one fund. It makes it easier to track your charitable gifts and tax benefits.
- EASE AND BENEFITS OF A DAF:
  Simply contact a well-established manager
  like Fidelity or Schwab to start the process.
  You may fund your account with a gift of
  cash, securities, real estate or other assets.
  The fund is then invested for growth.
- RECOMMENDING YOUR GIFTS TO CHARITY: Once your account is open you can access and make your recommendations to a charity, like the Priests of the Sacred Heart. Your manager will take care of the rest!
- You can also create a lasting legacy by naming the Priests of the Sacred Heart as a beneficiary of your fund.



Margaret and Val enjoy visiting with Fr. Dominic after Mass.

For Margaret and Val, long-time supporters of the Priests of the Sacred Heart, they were excited to learn about a DAF.

"The ease of setting the fund up was so simple and the fact that they do all the work for us is exceptional! You don't need millions to start one and they verify your charities are 501C3 eligible. After checking with our advisor, we even updated our Living Trust to coincide with our DAF, giving our executor less work when we pass on. While I love getting the thank you letters from the Priests of the Sacred Heart, I do not have to keep them for my taxes. My fund will provide me with my initial deduction and any information needed for my taxes."

As we look forward, our needs are still substantial. The Priests of the Sacred Heart pray we are able to raise the necessary funds to continue our mission in the name of His Sacred Heart.

Contact Pam for questions on a DAF, legacy gifts or other ways to give. You can reach Pam at 1-866-268-0157 or email, <a href="mailto:pmilczarski@poshusa.org">pmilczarski@poshusa.org</a>.

Did you know the Priests of the Sacred Heart offers "After Death Masses" to be said at your passing? Upon completing the enclosed form with your donation, you will receive a certificate of agreement to place with your other important papers. You can also make arrangements for these Masses in your estate plans through a restricted bequest.

