



November 2017

Letter to Our Ministry Associates

Upcoming Events

November 10-12: Silent Sacred Listening & Speaking Retreat sponsored w/Wis. Rapids area churches

November 17-18: Promptings of the Spirit Retreat for Women

December 3: Advent Day of Prayer

December 31-January 1: New Year's Eve Retreat

January 5-7: Serenity Retreat for Recovering Alcoholics

January 18-21: Mothers Retreat w/Fr. Eric Nielsen

February 11: Evening for Lovers

Who Was Here

- 31 Private Retreatants - WOW!
- Diocese of La Crosse Lay Formation & Deacon Formation
- Knights of Columbus Banquet
- Priest Support Group Retreat
- 2 Confirmation Retreats
- St. Francis Transitus
- Know Your Faith: Fr. John A. Schultz
- St. Matthew Parish, Wausau
- Serenity Retreat for Recovering Alcoholics
- Desert Fathers, Desert Mothers Retreat
- Newman High School
- Diocese of Superior Chorale
- Wausau Deanery Catholic Women
- La Verna Region Secular Franciscans
- Diamond Approach
- Columbus High School
- Wausau Deanery Marriage Prep
- Know Your Faith: Fr. Steve Brice
- WDFEF Religious Educators

MY DAILY BUCKET LIST

Editor's Note: This is part of a reflection posted on St. Anthony's website in October. It was written by Wausau resident Jennifer Johnson.

I am a New Year's resolution gal. I always feel hopeful and trot out a list with the usual suspects—eat better, do better, smile more—but there is always a vague feeling of ideas I am not addressing in the back of my mind. Ways I want to live, if only there was the time. But if I think about it, there is probably more time than I realize. I just need to really decide how I want to live. And so, I begin to develop my new resolutions and discover how my daily bucket list will look.

One of the most important things I want in my life is to love more. I want the people I love to know it, not just by my telling them, but also through my actions. It is so easy to assume that people know how I feel. Or it is easy to feel shy and not let a friend know at all. I am going for it, and letting people I love know it. I am going to react to people through the lens of love as much as possible. When I look back and think about what mattered most in my life, it will be how much I loved and cared about others. John Pavlovitz says, "At the end of this day, the world will either be a more or less kind, compassionate, and loving place because of your presence. Your move."

Love also calls me to stand up for what I believe in. There are people hurting, marginalized or in danger. I want my life to stand for something by speaking up for people when they need it. I want to put away my fears that my opinions or actions might be unpopular. I have a saying hanging on my wall, from



an unknown source, that says "We all place ourselves in danger to one degree or another when we stand up. But we place our children and grandchildren in greater danger when we don't." My daily bucket list will be filled as I take a stand with and for others.

Understandably, it is not always easy to live with a daily bucket list in mind. Some days are hard. Sometimes, it is all we have just to make it intact to the day's finish line. The idea is not to shame yourself if you need to say "no" to something or if sometimes life is too hard to do more than you absolutely can. But then the tide changes and the life's gifts are there waiting for you. By creating the days you want, you will have built the life you enjoyed.



Solar Panel Fundraising Project is DONE!

A couple weeks ago we received the 68th (and last) panel sponsorship. Hooray! Thank you to all who contributed to this undertaking. We are already seeing a difference in our electric bill!

Your Regular Gifts are Essential to Us

The Capuchins had a tradition of going door to door in the community every fall on a "begging tour." They would gratefully and humbly accept whatever was offered with great joy in their hearts.

We continue to rely heavily on our Annual Appeal Donations (it makes up about 70% of all our donations for the year), but we want to take this moment to assure you, our dear Ministry Associates, that we depend on your monthly or quarterly pledges throughout the year.

Your regular gifts make a world of difference for us, especially during the slower months when we aren't bringing in as many guests.

So, thank you, thank you, THANK YOU!



Come Pray With Us

You are always welcome to join us for our times of prayer in the Main Chapel:

Mass is celebrated Monday through Friday at 11:30 a.m.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is Monday through Friday at 1:00 p.m., with benediction most days at 2:00 p.m.

Morning Prayer at 9:00 a.m., **Evening Prayer** at 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday

Call ahead to check for schedule changes.

Update on Ministry Associates Coordinator Position

Deacon Bryan is still in the process of poring over resumes, conducting phone interviews, and praying as we search for the perfect new addition to the staff at St. Anthony's. Please continue to pray that the Holy Spirit will guide the right person to join our ministry!

Naturally Franciscan!

Do you have struggles, difficulties, doubts sometimes? Do you know of other persons who experience these as well?

St. Francis and St. Clare both had many events and situations that caused pain, anguish and questioning.

When St. Francis received the Stigmata, the wounds of Jesus in his body, he realized that Brother Leo was struggling about his life, so he wrote a consoling message to Brother Leo, which exists to this day. When St. Clare was bedridden for 29 years, laying on a straw mat, she frequently listened to her Sisters and also healed them of their illnesses and struggles.

Their example for us is that in the midst of their own experiences, they became more and more aware, and intuited that others were in doubt, anguish, pain. We are invited through their example to have empathy, compassion, awareness and attentiveness for those we know who would appreciate our thoughtfulness. Let us claim that in doing so we are naturally Franciscan.

~Sr. Jolynn Brehm, FSPA, Spiritual Leader

We have the world's best volunteers!

Volunteer Opportunities

Hospitality Ministry: Couples and/or individuals who would enjoy spending an occasional weekend at the Center to host retreat groups. Stairs and the ability to lift up to 15 lbs. are involved. Lodging and meals are provided. Weekday and evening opportunities are also available. Those interested in hosting can choose a weekend to "shadow" an experienced host to see if it would be the right fit for you.

Housekeeping Ministry: Volunteers to vacuum, dust, and straighten bedrooms and conference rooms. Come join us and enjoy the fellowship and friendship!!

If you would be interested in hearing more about this or other opportunities at the Center, please contact Deacon Bryan Hilts.

Did you know... Hundreds of volunteer hours are donated to the Center to keep it running and reduce our costs.

In September, 50 volunteers gave more than 950. (That's almost six full-time employees!)

May God return their blessings!