

THANK YOU BENEFACTORS!

Our progress with monastery improvements is moving forward! We've held at the top of our list the completion of suitable quarters for our elderly Sisters. In 2021, a goal which we had regarding this has been met with the completion for our Infirmary Project Phase 1. Thus far a healthcare room, full handicap bathroom, and laundry area has been provided for our dear Sister Joan Marie. Since meeting this initial project goal, we're turning our attention and collection of funds towards the next project, Phase 2, which consists in the building of a second healthcare room within the designated area and already our fundraising efforts have been encouraging. Know that we are so grateful for everyone who has had any role at all in making this coveted goal possible, so that our beloved members will be able to receive aged care within the walls of our Monastery Home!

Sr. Joan Marie is snug as a bug in her new infirmary room. She thanks all who have helped her to get this much needed accommodation for her so she can stay close to our Lord at Sancta Clara Monastery



Sr. Joan Marie with one of her aides, Mary Alice



The new bathtub that the other sisters can't wait to get their own of.



The infirmary hall which is decorated with pictures painted by Sr. Joan Marie



Our new blacktop parking lot - with lines! - now we can fit more adorsers!



Part of our new blacktop driveway which really shows off the wonderful landscaping that John Proach miraculously and generously keeps up for us.

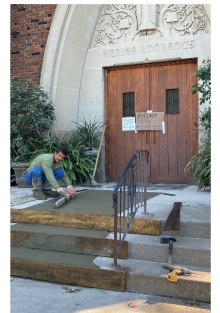


So now the sisters don't have to twist an ankle to get to the forest (or goats) back in the enclosure

Our grateful thanks go to Jeffries Company who took on the new paving/asphalt project for our driveway, the parking lot extending to the south end pond area, the garage area and the Sisters' cloister yard driveways. Yes, indeed, the potholes are no longer a prominent feature to our monastery pathways, not to mention the crumbling steps that had greeted adorsers as they walked into our chapel. Thank you to Leo Russo and for his crew for stepping up and taking care of this repair job.



Leo Russo and his crew repairing our front steps so that it no longer looks like mine field for our elderly adorsers



Be amazed, dear friends, the repairs and updating has continued with more new things! We're pleased to announce that there have been more window replacements in our building, namely to the rooms of some Sisters and to the bakery area. The wonderful result of this is especially experienced in the significance of our improved heating situation and decrease in our overall fuel expenses. The ultimate projection is to replace a total of thirty windows over the course of the year.

The wonderful, amazing, overworked, do-it-all Marazita family that runs the Pepperoni Roll sales. Yes they give the sisters some, too.



You may be aware of our more recent food kitchen activities, engineered by the creative labors of the Marazita Family and volunteer crew. Like the many years of innovation and success with our Bread & Soup Fundraiser sales, there's been a wonderful response towards these sales of fresh pepperoni rolls! The proceeds to this more recent fundraiser are being applied towards some much-needed repair work on our St. Francis House, set at the north corner of our property.

**Upcoming
Pepperoni Sale**
May 14
June 18
July 1
October 16



The St. Francis House where the proceeds will be used for its renovation

HELP US COMPLETE OUR ROSARY WALK!

Now an update on our Rosary Walk Shrines located on the front lawns of our grounds. It now consists of several shrines depicting The Holy Family, The Pieta, St. Joseph, and Blessed Mother. Memorial benches have also become a nice addition. The mosaic will be installed this summer. Also, we want you to know that we are still taking orders for Memorial Bricks to these shrine settings and which can be arranged at the front office of the monastery, by means of phone (330-492-1171) or through our website.



The Holy Family statue donated by Victoria Carpio.



The mosaic shrine where our much anticipated centerpiece will be placed.

The Mosaic placeholder where our much anticipated centerpiece will be placed.

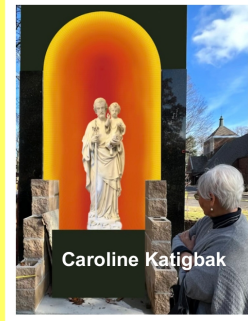
THE ROSARY WALK SHRINES



The PIETA statue donated in loving memory of Russell Gulling



The existing Blessed Mother Shrine incorporated to the Rosary Walk which will be renovated courtesy of John and Dixie Park



Caroline Katigbak

The St. Joseph statue and its shrine donated in loving memory of Nestor Katigbak. Caroline Katigbak, Nestor's wife, has been the main architect behind the Rosary Walk project for us.

And THANK YOU to Dan Lopez for your hard work in building the beautiful patios for this project.



The new flooring in the Sister's Choir donated by Roselyn Manus. Now our praises bounce around more loudly straight to heaven now that the carpet doesn't steal His praises.

Another improvement was the replacement of the flooring that connects our primary Community household to the Sisters' choir chapel for the our daily adoration and prayers. The former flooring was laid in the early days when the monastery was originally built. We are sure that along with our Father, St. Francis of Assisi, these are the days when it's a good time to "Rebuild His Church!"

“Novice Corner”

Mother Gertrude has finally decided that we are going to somewhat be like other Religious Orders and so include a “Novice Corner”. And so, the two Novices here at Sancta Clara Monastery are at your disposal. “What do you want us to talk about, Mother?” “Anything you want.” “Our baby goats?” “Nope, we’re going to have that covered.” “You take away all the fun, Mother.” So after much prayer and brain-wracking, the Novices have decided this is what the Holy Spirit wants us to write.

After our almost 3 years inside the Monastery, there are lots of things that God has taught us that we think are as applicable to us in the cloister of Sancta Clara Monastery as they are to you in the cloister of the world. However, these are just some quick ones we have learned ourselves that will hopefully make you laugh.



Sr. Bridget Marie - the main “Cookie monster” fully restraining herself to make sure all of the cookies were accounted for our benefactors which Mother Mary Gertrude proclaimed herself one of our most generous benefactors.

Sr. Therese Marie being the goats’ playground for her kids. Aren’t François, Cunegunda, Juniper and Elizabeth so beautiful, being the creatures God made them to be? St. Francis would approve we are sure.

- God teaches us as much, or even more, through our daily living in Community with our Sisters, our prayer, and our limited interactions with the world than He does through our Formation, classes, books, DVDs, and CDs. Our Religious Formation is every second of every day combined with our past experiences and what we are learning now. It is in every decision we make, every yes that responds to the charity in the moment, the following of our Rule and Constitutions, and the more in-depth Gospel living that Saints Francis and Clare left us.
- God always takes what we’ve learned, our skills, likes and talents, to transform them for use in the cloister (and in the world). St. Thomas Aquinas explains it as “grace builds upon nature”. Here are some notable examples of this in the lives in these certain Novices. A love of dogs and coming from big families with many siblings which is transformed into taking care of 4 adult goats and 6 “kids” that act just like dogs or kids. Computer skills painfully learned in the world is being transformed into superpowers for our “Sister Tech” which encompasses, but is not limited to, the copy room, almost all the computers and printers in the Monastery, 2 websites, online classes, and the much beloved Amazon wish lists (which she takes very seriously). Computers are just as frustrating in the cloister as they are out in the world. The cloister does not make them holy or make them obey, but Holy Water sometimes does make them work, if applied gently and with prayers and occasionally a command from Mother.
- Obedience opens up new skills and talents that we never knew were hiding within ourselves, waiting to be unveiled. Even if what we did failed, the grace wasn’t in whether we succeeded, but whether we did it with love, joy, and unhesitatingly. Some of our “successes” have been learning to play the organ, becoming a goat-shepherdess, miraculously waking up early (or for the other Novice, staying past 8pm) and making it through the day (mostly) and somehow managing to bake 2,000+ Christmas cookies in 7 days while not “taste testing for poison” in too many—Mother Gertrude actually snitched more than us two cookie monsters combined—true story. We are still working on our humility, so we will not be mentioning our failures.
- Always wear an apron when you do any sort of work, regardless of if it seems safe or not. You will always get your Habit snagged or dirty even if you try your very hardest not to. Laundry day is always too far away.
- You can never have too much Adoration. But during night Adoration, sometimes Jesus just wants to hold you, so no matter how hard we (and our Guardian Angels) try to keep us awake, if He wants us to sleep, we will.
- It is super hard to cook for a Community that is multi-cultural. The only thing that sort of goes well across the board is rice, nicknamed “sunshine” by some of the Asian Sisters. This becomes a regular penance for a certain Novice whose “sunshine” = pizza + Jesus. (We had to make that a plus sign to satisfy that same mathematically minded Novice.)
- You can never be thankful enough and no prayer is too small for God to answer. He answers the smallest prayers from craving mozzarella sticks and a certain dessert to giving us confirmations again and again to strengthen our vocations to increase our confidence in our most generous Father so we will trust Him more and more in every aspect of our lives.
- GOAT MYTHS: Goats are super picky eaters and do not make good lawnmowers as originally planned, kids are super cute, all the goats will always try to eat your veil and Rosary and cord, and they don’t really eat tin cans.
- “Mother, is this going to be a regular thing?” “... I’ll let you know later”—from past experience, that means yes.

We want to invite all who live nearby or have occasion to travel in our direction to stop by and visit our beloved chapel, to visit our precious Lord in daily Eucharistic Exposition, or perhaps to just take in the peaceful landscapes of our grounds made so beautiful through the generous and wonderful talents and gardening endeavors of our friend, John Proach, a local nursery owner. What would we do without the unsparing labors of our friend Bryan Rice and his working crew who come every year for a thorough Fall time cleanup of the monastery grounds? Our happiness is that the Lord is so richly served in this place by these and all our dear friends who give of what they can to show that this is HIS PLACE whom we love and adore!



A little bit of "nun-sense" upon opening our (much needed & functional) Christmas gifts. Too many of us are now over 5 feet so larger aprons are now needed.



Some new additions to our growing Sancta Clara "Farm".

Included in the news of this correspondence we want to inform you about the continual growth of our Community Membership! Our Religious Family is seeing new faces and we are GROWING! In the days to come, we look forward to presenting these women to you in tandem with the events that would be unfolding for each of them. Please include in your prayers each of these potential aspirants and candidates seeking membership in our Eucharistic Household.

As well as the women who are considering a vocation through our doors, we've had the delightful addition of baby goats, two little males and four little females! With a bit of drama, our three mother goats recently birthed them. It was a memorable experience for a couple of our Sisters who exercised a little midwifery! As for all our Sisters, there's been nothing more delightful to the eyes than seeing these energetic little bodies bouncing around like popcorn and practicing a wealth of agile abilities and talents endowed in them by their Creator! Surely they cause Him to smile, too!

MASS TIMES—The monastery offers the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass every day, seven days a week **INCLUDING SUNDAYS** (with NO Saturday evening Mass to count for Sunday's obligation) at 9 AM.

PUBLIC ADORATION TIMES—Our monastery is open to the public for private adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament from 7:15 AM to 5:30 PM every day, seven days a week. Everyone is welcome to join us in our adoration of our Lord Jesus Christ Who is always waiting for someone to come and love Him hidden in the Blessed Sacrament in whatever time you have to offer Him. He longs for you to come. It is time never wasted and always well spent. You can be assured that you will always be richly rewarded.

Our Upcoming Events

2022 SOUP AND BREAD SALES

August Zucchini Bread Sale
September 22, 23, and 24
November 17, 18, and 19

NUN RUN October 22
2nd Annual GALA December 4

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HAVE SUPPORTED US SO WE CAN CONTINUE OUR LIFE OF ADORATION, REPARATION, AND PRAISE! MAY GOD BLESS YOU AND YOUR LOVED ONES!



Shepherdess Sr. Therese Marie with David, named after someone we especially know, who is already smiling for his first picture

DONATIONS to the Poor Clares are tax-deductible. You can also make donations via PayPal through our website @ www.poorclares.org



Shepherdess Sr. Mary Clare with David's Sister Margaret "Maggie Mae"

Check out our



in our website!