



*Antonine
Village*



Antonine Village News

"We care for your loved ones"

Mission Statement

Issue 40 – Winter 2023

The mission of the Antonine Sisters in the USA is inspired by Christian principles. We provide compassionate care for older and disabled adults promoting their independence and dignity in a home-like environment.

New Beginnings...

A new year has begun, a new opportunity is granted to us, a new way of looking at things and welcoming new people and making new friends. We thank God for a new beginning, for efforts spent for a better service, and for any blessing that He bestows on each one of us, on the residents and their family members and loved ones, on our employees and their families, and on our ministry and the world as a globe. One of the most famous phrases of Saint Anthony the Great is, "Start every day as though it were the first and the last day of your life."

Welcome Sr. Cynthia

A new sister has joined our community of Antonine Sisters. Sr. Cynthia El-Kassis was assigned by the Antonine Sisters Congregation in Lebanon to come to live and serve at Antonine Village. Born in a village in Mount Lebanon, she was a student of the Antonine Sisters at Saint Elias School, Ghazir, and after graduating from the high school there, she entered the convent and became an Antonine Sister. Sr. Cynthia got her Bachelor's Degree in Religious Sciences at the University of the Holy Spirit in Kaslik, Lebanon, and then obtained another BA in Liturgical Studies as well as a Master's Degree in Liturgy at the same university. She taught and trained First Communion children in some parishes



and performed pastoral service and mission in the Maronite Eparchy of Beirut. She also studied dairy production improvement and farm organization. She had spent as well much time at our Workshop Convent for Sacred Art, Roumieh, where she gained experience in embroidery manufacturing and embroidery machine troubleshooting and training. Besides manufacturing vestments for priests and bishops for Lebanon and abroad, Sr. Cynthia initiated livestock and poultry farming as well as permaculture planting for the land of the convent mentioned above. Before coming to the United States, she integrated a solar system that renews energy at a minimal

cost and even has experience in beekeeping and composting. Sr. Cynthia is helping as a Floor Manager at Antonine Village. She will be at the same time pursuing an MBA while getting an LPN degree. We wish her good luck and many blessings on her new assignment.

Congratulations Sr. Kawsar

Sr. Kawsar Choufani, Antonine Therapy Center Manager, received her Master's Degree in Theology from the Franciscan University of Steubenville. Congratulations on a job well done!

As promised before, we are excited to announce that a new addition for our Assisted Living has started. Antonine Village will have a new look and will offer more services to older adults seeking Memory Care and Assisted Living. In November, some excavating work and other work started...Continued on Page 2

New Project



New Project... (Continued)

on the back of the existing building according to the project, designed by Architect Annissa Neider and to be coordinated and completed by B&B Contractors. We will add 21 more rooms to the current Assisted Living: eight rooms for Assisted Living residents along with a very vast room for various activities and gatherings on the top floor and 13 rooms for Memory Care residents on the bottom one. The new addition joins two ends of the existing building and will encompass a nice courtyard in the middle. We are looking forward to seeing the whole project done and functioning by the end of August 2023. In keeping with our mission of providing compassionate care for older adults, we hope that this addition will bring a smile to more faces of new residents by promoting their dignity and well-being in a home-like environment.



Antonine Therapy Center

Our physical therapy center is still thriving and receiving patients in need of physical and/or occupational therapies. Sr. Kawsar Choufani, DPT, is in charge of the center and, helping her actively, Licensed Physical Therapy Assistant, Rainie Frame, a new Occupational Therapist, Keri Overly-Wear, and Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant, Heather Lichty. Along with Keri, we welcome also Sheri Spano, Billing Manager for the Antonine Therapy Center. We remind relatives and friends that the center can also receive outpatient services for the above types of treatment.

Pastoral Ministry

As always, Chorbishop Anthony Spinosa and Fr. Tony Massad are available to celebrate the Divine Liturgy for us and our residents. Every week, at least two Liturgies are offered for different intentions at the Village, some of which are for deceased residents. The Adult Day Care participants also join us on major feasts. The Christmas Eve Liturgy was open to family members of the Village and was very prayerful. Family members participated and added an ambiance of prayer and love.



A special thank you goes also to Fr. Bob Edwards who is always available and willing to come lead masses when needed.

Non-denominational Pastor Sam Murry and Christian Pastor Gary Bailey each come once every month to lead services and/or hymns for non-Catholic residents or any who wish to join them. Pastor Murry also led on three different days memorial services for some residents who passed on. Family members of the deceased were invited and celebrated the life of their loved ones and shared some memories of them with the residents present for the occasion.

Sr. Marie Maravola leads the rosary prayer with some residents and shares other information on religious topics. We are also happy that our Village residents are benefiting greatly from the Bible study conducted weekly by Sr. Samia Abou-Shakra. The Spirit of God is present and opens our souls to love God more and to live by His Word.



ENTERTAINMENT

A wide variety of entertainment and different activities bring an air of freshness, joy, and exuberance to all of our residents and day care participants. From musicians to vocalists to magicians, these talented individuals entertain and bring enjoyment to all who attend. Thanks to Mayada Iskandar, Activity Director, who coordinates activities and events as well as the ever-beautiful decorations for all events and different seasons. Your touch brings beauty, luxury, and warmth to our facility.



Magician Phillip Easterday bringing magic and surprise to residents



Violist Rusbell Martinez's playing bringing joy and peace to all listening



Terry & Christina Hitchcock charming everyone with their music and singing



Memory Care residents enjoying a performance by Rosemary & Willow Parker

HANDS-ON ACTIVITIES

Thanks to many volunteers, our residents have the opportunity to spend more time together doing things like chatting, discovering, and using their hands and imagination to enjoy the outcome of craft activities.



Receptionist Lori Grim guiding an enjoyable craft session



Crafts with Audra Milbrandt from Crossroads



Therapeutic massage by Pamela Kubic with assistance from Dianne Householder



Dr. Rosalie Politsky helping day care participants with their painting & art work



Crafts with Dara McIntosh from Patriot

HALLOWEEN

We invited our employees to bring their children and grandchildren on Halloween and enjoy Halloween candies and sweets. The music and then the exhibition of different costumes that the children wore was exceptional and exciting for residents.



Mayada & Marilyn helping residents fill yummy treat bags



Residents passing out candy & treats



Halloween Parade



Halloween at the Day Care

Thanksgiving celebrations included delicious food and delightful entertainment. Families of day care participants were also able to enjoy an art exhibition displaying all of the beautiful art work created by their loved ones.



Keith Nichols & wife Amy presenting a quilt to veteran Dan King



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Musician Lon G entertaining guests prior to Thanksgiving dinner



Families enjoying the Thanksgiving meal



CHRISTMAS



Jackson Milton Elementary School students creating crafts with residents and day care participants as well as singing Christmas carols



Lordstown High School students also creating crafts with residents while bringing joy and smiles to their faces



Austintown Fitch High School performing a beautiful mixture of different carols for both residents and day care participants



Volunteer Samuel McCarthy visiting as Santa Claus as an atmosphere of festive happiness and enjoyment filled the facility



Residents having a wonderful time at the Silver Bullet Christmas luncheon and party at St. Maron in Youngstown



Dr. JP Iskandar also visiting as Santa Claus to distribute gifts to residents on Christmas Day

NEW YEAR'S EVE



This year's New Year's Eve Dinner was preceded by a beautiful session of professional music and songs from the 60's and 70's led by the well-known John Reese and his band members.

Residents and staff enjoying New Year's festivities



Veterans Recognized



Mr. Dan King, a WWII POW, being recognized on National POW/MIA Recognition Day on September 16th by Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 9571 and the American Legion (Mr. Dominic DiLoreto, Commander)

Veterans Day Ceremony on November 11th with the VFW and American Legion Post 177 distributing certificates and gifts to veterans and family members of veterans.



Bishop David Bonnar's Visit



Bishop David Bonnar, Diocese of Youngstown, visited us on the Feast of St. Anthony The Great. We, the Antonine Sisters, renewed our vows during the mass he celebrated, accompanied by Deacon Bill Bancroft. Bishop Bonnar visited our residents and the day care participants and blessed all of us with his presence.

We and the residents enjoyed so much his visit. Many are still speaking about it with enthusiasm, admiration, and gratitude.

We wish Bishop Bonnar health, wisdom, strength, and success!



*In Memory of...
Gift From ...*

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Gift From ...*

*In Memory of...
Gift From ...*

Geraldine Abi-Nader

Christine Abi-Nader
Henri & Nahla Abi-Nader
Jeanie Abi-Nader
Mary Jo Abi-Nader
Sheb & Josette Abi-Nader
Jean & Art Balcerzak
Jean Boyle
Children & spouses of Jean & Elizabeth Abi-Nader, Sr.
Teresa Dahlberg
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Barbara Mount & Family
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The Takiguchi Family
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Joseph Accordino
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Dr. James & Paula Essad

Vi Cast

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Paul & Marilyn Rohrbaugh

Carol M. Ciccone

Donna & Rick Essey

Minnie Crisucci

Peter & Marnee Crisucci

Helene D'Apolito

Mrs. Marion Mike-Coury

Deceased Loved Ones

David & Michele Touvelle

Mary Ann Dravecky

Steven & Amy Armour
Ms. Jan DeLisio
Joe & Gina Dravecky
Ms. Marcella Sferra

Mr. & Mrs. James D. Essad

Dr. James & Paula Essad

The Garono & Saadey Families

Mrs. Betty Garono

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Ms. Carol Augustine

Ed Greene

Dawn & Kelly Van Der Snel

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Adele Hutchison

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Dorothy Hutnyan

Ms. Nina Hutnyan

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Mr. Thomas Medzie
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Mr. William Michael

Betty Milo

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Ms. Dorothy Furden
Jennifer & Ray Grope & Family



*Antonine
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*In Memory of...
Gift From ...*

Betty Milo (Continued)
Fred & Beth Hash, Jr.
Deborah & Jim Hennessey
Vicky & Troy James
Karen Jones & Family
Ms. Katherine Keener
The Milo Children
Ms. Lisa Milo
Ms. Pamela Ress
Ms. Rosemary Rothwell
Rodney & Sally Smith
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Mr. Wilbur Wilson

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The Nippert Family

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Mrs. Victoria Rance

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Sandra Ruggieri Chasko

Georgette Saloom
Ms. Donna Marie Boak
Ms. Jeannie Danko
Mr. Leone Dicesare
George & Joyce Jonda
Vincent & Loretta Morgione
Mr. Chelsey Santucci

Gale Sanzenbacher
Mrs. Althea Sanzenbacher

Many gifts...Many blessings...

*In Memory of...
Gift From ...*

Mary Shaheen
Fred & Mary Lou Alexander

Eugene Sitko
David & Deborah Tolich

**George & Lourece Tabet and
Nahman & Gandoura Tabet**
Mr. & Mrs. Abraham Tabet

Peter & Salina Tolich
David & Deborah Tolich

Nancy Trusz
Mrs. Renee Hiner

Nancy E. Vohar
Mr. Paul Vohar

Cecelia Wolf
Mr. Roger Root

*In Honor of...
Gift From ...*

Antonine Sisters
Sandra Ruggieri Chasko

Irma Ketterman's 91st Birthday
Mrs. Rebecca Tiranno

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Thank you so much!

General Donations

General Donations

In-Kind Donations

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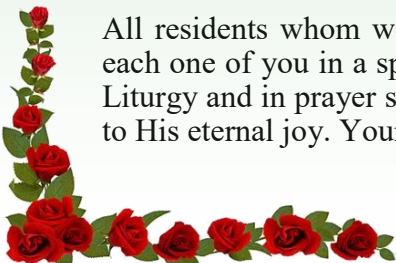
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*Always Loved...
Never Forgotten...
Always Missed...*



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Mary Ann Dravecky
Martha Knapp
Donna Manovich
Willis Roller

Marie Accordino
Dorothy Hutnyan
Anne Krill
Betty Milo
Martha Guzaliak



All residents whom we served in any way, we remember each one of you in a special way, especially during Divine Liturgy and in prayer services. May the Lord welcome you to His eternal joy. Your memory lives with us!

Thank You

The Antonine Sisters are so grateful for **all** who responded to the Wish List in any way, whether with paper products, other items, or cash money. You, along with our regular donors and others who brought different things, such as candies, cookies, etc. are great supporters of our ministry and key to its improvement. We feel so grateful for your thoughtfulness and attention. We hold you dear and we daily offer our prayers for you and your intentions. May you be blessed and rewarded abundantly!



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2675 North Lipkey Road.
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E-mail: anto9srs@aol.com
anto9srs@antoninevillage.org
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Support Group Offered at Antonine Village

Meeting on the third Monday of every month at 2:00, a support group is offered to the public at Antonine Village. Our caregiver support group provides a consistent, caring place for discussion of the challenges of caregiving. Caregivers come to share experiences, tips, and information, as well as to offer support in a setting facilitated by our staff. Most of all, caregivers can develop relationships and friendships with all those that attend. This is free of charge and open to the public.

Support & Referrals

The work of the Antonine Sisters Adult Day Care and Antonine Village is made possible in part through referrals and support from the following:

- Referrals from Direction Home of Eastern Ohio, The Alzheimer's Association, geriatric doctors and social workers, families of previous Adult Day Care participants, as well as families of the Village residents
- Trumbull County Senior Levy: Day Care and Transportation Services to Trumbull County Residents
- Mahoning County Senior Levy: Day Care and Transportation Services to Mahoning County Residents
- The Youngstown Foundation

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