

# Allview Center For Family Enrichment

## Building Stronger Families, One Person at a Time



**About Us** - Founded in 1987 by Dick and Lou Ella Ellis, our mission is to provide Christian, ethical and cultural enrichment for families and individuals. Its spiritual activities are inspired by the teachings of St. Josemaria Escriva, founder of [Opus Dei \(www.opusdei.org\)](http://www.opusdei.org).

Our Mailing Address: P.O. Box 426 Simpsonville, MD 21150. Our Physical Address: 6401 Allview Drive Columbia, MD 21046. Website: [www.allview.org](http://www.allview.org)

*Save the Date for Epiphany Party (Saturday, Jan 7, 4-8 PM)*

### FY2021 Annual Report

Dear Friends,

On August 31, we concluded our 2021 fiscal year. Below is a broad overview of our income and expenses. We also received \$38,486 in donations for the oratory renovation. For reference, last year's income was \$30,650 and expenses were \$22,955. We have been saving the extra for expected future expenses, like the replacement of a heat pump, or two.

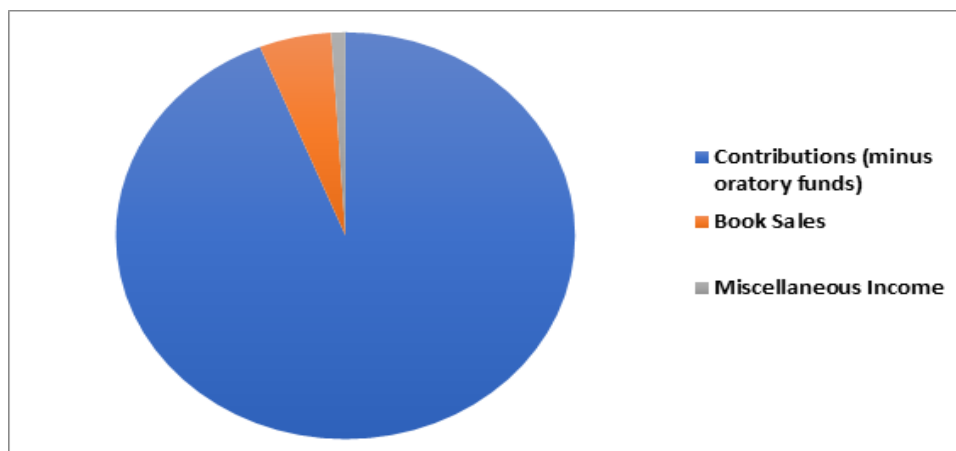
Last fall, we were happy to end our Covid-19 hiatus by adding the Father/Son Club and the Moms Transmit the Faith Group, in addition to our usual monthly recollections. We also had our first ever Easter Party and our beloved annual Family Picnic. Because our programs are run entirely by volunteers, we can keep costs low for participants. But we still have the usual expenses of maintaining a home. That's why we're so grateful for all of your donations, big or small. Together we are fulfilling Allview's mission to "build stronger families, one person at a time."

Sincerely,

The Allview Board of Directors

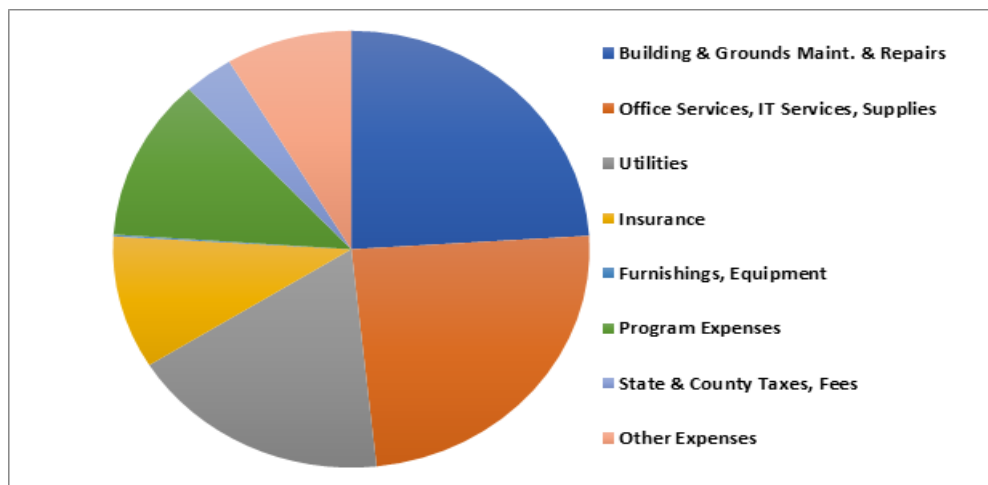
Jeff Gara (president), John Jeske (vice president), Al Currano (treasurer), Cathy Gara (secretary), Rachel Case, Mike Case, Javier Melendez, Mary Deiss, Rubie Mize

### FY 2021 Income



Contributions (minus oratory funds)	\$ 29,838
Book Sales	\$ 1,611
Miscellaneous Income	\$ 320
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 31,769</b>

### FY 2021 Expenses



Building & Grounds Maint. & Repairs	\$ 5,236
Office Services, IT Services, Supplies	\$ 5,295
Utilities	\$ 3,880
Insurance	\$ 2,144
Furnishings, Equipment	\$ 32
Program Expenses	\$ 2,617
State & County Taxes, Fees	\$ 730
Other Expenses	\$ 1,867
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 21,801</b>
<b>Net Income:</b>	<b>\$ 9,968</b>

## Composition Finalized!

The Oratory Renovation Project continues to move forward! We now have a completed composition for the painting and we have placed our order for the pews from New Holland Furniture. Structural and aesthetical changes to the oratory will begin closer to the installment of the new painting, early next year. And, if we meet our fundraising goal, we plan on adding an additional detail to the project: the refurbishing of the tabernacle!

Here are some more behind-the-scenes details on how we finalized the composition for the painting of the Holy Family. Our biggest goal was to capture a scene which exemplified their virtuous life. We tried to incorporate the humility, peace, simplicity, industriousness, and spirit of poverty which the Holy Family lived. And we wanted all who gaze upon the painting to be inspired by the joyful affection the Holy Family had for each other.

To accomplish this, the Design Committee wanted to see the members of the Holy Family more engaged with each other. We also wanted some changes to the costumes, including shortening the tunics of Jesus and Joseph, and making adjustments to Mary's veil. Together, these changes required our artist, Josh Van Hecke, to bring back his models for two additional photography sessions. Incorporating the tabernacle into the painting continued to be a challenge, too. So, before the final photo session, objects and figures in the working draft were moved digitally to see what might work and what wasn't working. When the models returned, Josh was able to position them better, and their facial expressions now exemplify what we were hoping for.

After presenting us with the new photos, two members of the design committee then began working with the artist to create a more complete composition using the software program Photoshop.



Josh Van Hecke at work

This was done over eight hours of video calls. Using a split screen, Josh brought up the composition we had so far and often made changes as we spoke.

Photoshop's photo editing techniques allowed Josh to change many facets of the image, including lighting, color, tone, and the size of objects. One change we made this way was darkening the background. We originally wanted the whole painting to be bright, but then realized that a light background caused the figures to fade away into the painting. By making the background more subdued, the figures of Jesus, Mary and Joseph became more prominent in the painting.

Please pray for Josh as he begins to paint! I will update you on the progress of the oratory renovation in future newsletters. Please feel free to contact me, if you have any questions or concerns.

Rachel Case  
Rcase824@aol.com

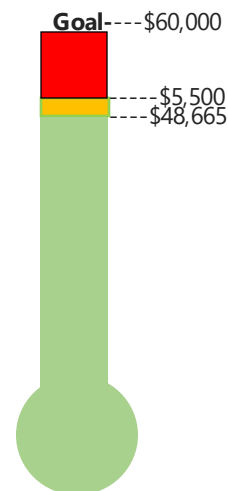
## FUNDRAISING UPDATE!

As of the printing of this newsletter, we have received gifts totalling \$48,665! Plus, we've received \$5,500 in pledges, bringing us to within less than \$6,000 of our \$60,000 goal for the Oratory Renovation Project. If you haven't given yet, or haven't fulfilled your pledge, now's a good time to do so! We are so grateful to everyone who has already donated. And we appreciate everyone's ongoing support of our usual Allview expenses, too.

If you haven't donated or pledged yet, please prayerfully consider doing so. You can mail checks, made out to Allview Foundation with "oratory project" in the memo line, to P.O. Box 426, Simpsonville, MD 21150.

**(NOTE: Please do not mail checks to our street address. We do not have a mailbox.)**

You can also visit our website (<https://allview.org/contribute>) to give via PayPal, as a one-time/monthly donation or set up a donation through your bank. Thank you for your consideration.



## ENRICH YOUR MIND

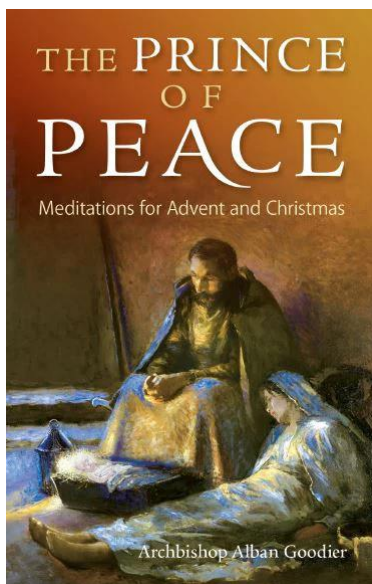
Our Allview Bookstore contains a variety of non fiction and fiction books including great spiritual classics and new works from contemporary authors. Most of our books are published by Scepter ([www.ScepterPublishers.org](http://www.ScepterPublishers.org).)

**Allview Booksale!**  
**November 1 thru**  
**December 25**

Original Price	Sale Price
\$1.00	\$0.80
\$2.00	\$1.60
\$3.00	\$2.40
\$4.00	\$3.20
\$5.00	\$4.00
\$8.00	\$6.40
\$9.00	\$7.20
\$10.00	\$8.00
\$12.00	\$9.60
\$15.00	\$12.00
\$20.00	\$16.00

**20% off ALL Books!**

### BOOK OF THE MONTH: The Prince of Peace



*By Archbishop Alban Goodier*

Advent is a time to slow our pace of life—to be open, to be welcome, to be still and gaze at the beauty before us: Almighty God, present, waiting in the womb of his chosen Mother. The Christmas season, likewise, is a time to rejoice in tranquil adoration before the simple Nativity scene. The Prince of Peace book includes Archbishop Alban Goodier's meditations on this sacred time of Advent and Christmas awaken in us the powerful mystery of the Word made flesh. He guides us along—from the Old Testament prophesies to the pure Yes of Mary, from the stable birth to the daily life and growth of Jesus in Nazareth. These meditations enliven the Gospel stories in a way that enrich both our emotional and intellectual experience of the ultimate mystery of God's Love for His people.

In The Prince of Peace book you will find:

- 60 Short Advent Meditations
- 30 Advent Meditations
- 30 Christmas Meditations
- Spiritually, and intellectually Uplifting Writings

#### **About the Author:**

The Most Rev. Alban Goodier (1869-1939) was a British-born Jesuit priest who served as archbishop of Bombay, India. During his thirty-five years as priest, he wrote over a dozen books on the spiritual life. He is best known for his poignant meditations on the life of Christ.

## FEED YOUR SOUL

**Confessions:** Confessions are available at Allview on Fridays (except the one preceding the Saturday women's recollection) from 1-2 PM. If need be, the priest can sometimes stay until 3, if you call Mary Deiss (240-460-4312) to let her know you're coming.

**Recollection:** Recollections consist of two half hour meditations given by a priest of the Prelature of Opus Dei, benediction and a talk by a lay man/woman of the Prelature. Meditations and talks include topics concerning Church teachings and growth in interior life.

**Evenings of Recollection for Men** take place on the 2nd Wednesday of each month from 7 pm to 9 pm. The sacrament of reconciliation is available during the time of the talk. Next Recollection dates for men are on December 14, January 11 and February 8.

**Recollections for Women** take place on the 3rd Saturday mornings from 10-12:30, with Mass at 12. Next Recollection dates for women are on December 17, January 21, and February 18. The sacrament of reconciliation is also available.

**Yearly Retreats:** Please visit the website for Longlea Conference Center ([www.longlea.org](http://www.longlea.org)) to access more information on men's and women's retreats.

To find out more about retreats for high school girls, college/grad school women, young professional women and more please visit the website for Yuma Study Center ([www.yumadc.org/retreats](http://www.yumadc.org/retreats)).

To find out more about retreats for college age and young professional men please visit the website for Tenley Study Center (<https://tenley.org/>).

**We invite you to watch this YouTube video.**

**[Documentary: Take a Chance on Happiness \(St Josemaria and couples talk about marriage\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PnmimbqtRXg&t=2s)**  
**<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PnmimbqtRXg&t=2s>**

### **Father Son Club, Dec 11 from 2 to 4pm**

Fr. Carter Griffin will give a dads' talk on the "spiritual fatherhood of Dads." The boys will hear about being a "soldier of Christ" and the various parts of "training" and "equipment" for the soldier, including the need for self-denial. The plan for the activity is to make marshmallow guns and then have a shootout in the backyard.

Fr. Griffin is the Rector of Saint John Paul II Seminary in Washington, DC. He has an interesting background including being raised Presbyterian and serving four years in the Navy. He completed his dissertation at the North American College in Rome on priestly celibacy.

For information on future dates and activities, please email Michael Chandler at [mgchandler@gmail.com](mailto:mgchandler@gmail.com)

### **Moms Transmit the Faith**

There are two classes left.

Class 11, "How and why Catholics pray", will be on Thursday, December 1st at 10:30 am

Class 12, "Putting our Faith into Practice", will be on Thursday, January 5th at 10:30 am.

For more information contact Margaret at [masyski@gmail.com](mailto:masyski@gmail.com) or contact Rachel at [rcase824@aol.com](mailto:rcase824@aol.com) or 301-938-1226.

### **Picnic Recap**

**The Allview family gathered for a warm and beautiful fall afternoon at the annual "Friends and Family Picnic" on Sunday, October 9. The blue skies and bright sunshine, together with the joyful background sounds of children having fun, provided the perfect atmosphere to visit with old friends and meet new ones. Thanks to everyone who came out and helped make it a success!**