



WESTERN REGION

June 2021

Salvatorian Western Region

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Regional Representative to LSNB:

Jan Bencken

Men's Religious Representative:

Fr. Marcel Emeh

Women's Religious Representative:

Sr. Jean Schafer

Secretary: Joyce Dwonch

Treasurer: Joyce Daniels

Lay Representatives:

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Salvatorian Links

www.salvatorians.com

www.salvatoriansisters.org

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www.salvatorianfamily.us

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From our Regional Moderator, Sr. Sheila Novak

Retreat Continued



How blessed we were to be a part of Father Bonacci's retreat on the Beatitudes in early May. It already seems long into the past, but so many things he touched on continue to challenge us. There was enough to keep us going for a long time.

So this idea came to me – hopefully via the Holy Spirit. How do we keep the retreat with us? What take-aways are still with you from the retreat? What remains with you and still probes your thoughts and prayers?

I am going through some of my own notes and thought about how to continue the grace of the retreat time. For our upcoming regional newsletters, it would be good to continue praying over the challenges of the retreat. I will write a brief article on one aspect that touched me. **AND I AM INVITING YOU TO DO THE SAME!**

When we hear from many of us, we will get a fuller picture of what those days meant to us.

So the invitation is – to write up a brief summary of what part of the retreat is still with you or what you are still pondering. It may not be answers but maybe a question or two to keep in the forefront of our minds.

Email me (S. Sheila) about your willingness to do this and we will be sure to include it in a future newsletter. It will certainly bring a richness by having the perspective of many authors. Something also happens when you put thoughts into words. New insights or clarities emerge. So do give this invitation some thought and I will look forward to hearing from you.

The next formation session is June 12th. Zoom details are on page 2.

Also there will be a summer respite for the newsletter. Our editor, Rita Schillin is taking a break. Our September newsletter will come toward the end of August with enough time so you will have information on our fall gathering.

May this season of summer be grace and blessing to you. Enjoy!

SUMMER

Blessings



VIRTUAL RETREAT — REAL SUCCESS!!

Submitted by Jan Bencken

Over a year ago we began planning our Western Region Retreat with Fr. Tom Bonacci CP presenting. We were so looking forward to combining this with our Lay Salvatorian Convocation which is also being hosted by the Western Region. But, lo, this wasn't to be! Covid stepped in and all plans and activities came to a screeching halt or were re-imagined. In true Salvatorian fashion, *By All Ways and Means*, we switched to a Virtual Retreat using Zoom. The result was nothing short of fantastic! We had 25 registrations from our own Region members, and from Tucson, Phoenix, & Milwaukee. Some registrations represented individuals and others had pairs or up to 14 others on their link. Fr. Tom's topic was the Beatitudes, and he really out-did himself! I had the opportunity to chat with him during the course of the week of presentations. We both were so pleased at the attentiveness of the participants. It seemed as though people set aside time for this week in true retreat fashion. His talks were interesting and all stayed within a 45 min. length---just enough to hear and absorb! Our Break-out groups usually had 4 people in each room, and conversations flowed comfortably and pleasantly for the 30 min. we set. Our Continuing the Conversation in the evening also allowed for sharing and on many topics relevant to living out our faith. Participants were asked to send me their thoughts or "take away" from the retreat, and below are some of the remarks I received:

- Being able to hear the conference and follow along with his handout
- Retreat was an eye-opener for me
- Deepened my understanding of the Beatitudes
- A whole new understanding of the Beatitudes.
- "In my old age (93), I feel Fr. Tom helped me see how socially active I

can be in my prayer life..."

- Fr. Tom put the Beatitudes in a new and refreshing light for me personally.
- A new look at the Roman Centurion story and the Lazarus and the Rich Man story as well as the re-theologizing of the "Oh Lord, I am not worthy" prayer we pray before communion.

I personally find it interesting that the above remarks all came from our SDS-W, and all but the last bullet were from the Sisters at the Salvatorian Sisters Residence where they are retired from active ministry. It was an extraordinary retreat for me personally as I really was able to focus on the message. The good news is that we are in the process of putting the recordings of the sessions onto the Salvatorian web site for future listening. Our Founder would be so proud of us for utilizing the current technology to accomplish sharing the Word. Without a doubt, we have experienced success in this approach, and I believe we have forged a route with a new tool for our future use.

Formation Session - June 12th 9am-12pm**Zoom Meeting Information:**

Link to join:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85480659946?pwd=MEliczdITkF2eWVSeU04bmtHeWR2UT09>

(Copy and past link into URL)

Meeting ID: **854 8065 9946**Passcode: **451746**

One tap mobile

+16699009128,,85480659946# US

Dial by your location

+1 669 900 9128 US

Meeting ID: **854 8065 9946**



SUMMER BIRTHDAYS



Colleen McCormack	June 19
Leah Edwards	June 25
Mary Rutter	June 25
Marie Moore	June 28

Penny Rose	July 7
Roman Mueller	July 9
Henry Gonsalves	July 15



Jan Targetta	August 8
Ken Drake	August 25



with you **LAUGHTER** wherever you go. *carry*



Summer is coming... so when you're really hot, look at these winter shots and 'cool off' with a laugh!

