

# Jesus Our Eternal Hope

VOLUME I, ISSUE 7

NEWSLETTER DATE  
15 APRIL 2009

A NEWSLETTER FROM JESUS OUR HOPE HERMITAGE AND RETREAT GROUNDS

## We Are Thankful for the Blessings You Give

**Psalm 46**  
*Come, consider the works of the Lord, the redoubtable deeds he has done on the earth; the bow he breaks, the spear He snaps. He burns the shields with fire. "Be still and know that I am God, supreme among the nations, supreme on the earth."*

*The Lord of Host is with us: the God of Jacob is our stronghold.*

From the bottom of our hearts, Theresa and I would like to thank you for the positive response that we received from our last newsletter. We received a number of donations including a nice size anonymous donation to help put generators at both houses. As we tallied up the donations that came in from the previous newsletter, we acquired enough funds for upkeep and to do a couple of other well needed im-

provements to the houses and the grounds. Thank you again.

Of course, we understand that under the recent downturn in the economic situation, giving much needed money to Jesus Our Hope becomes more difficult. We appreciate all that you do to keep this retreat facility going. It is a work of love and commitment that we are able to provide a place of quiet prayer to those that struggle financially and are committed so deeply to God. May Our Lord bless you with His Grace and provide you with the means to continue His

Work through your generosity.

You should know that, along with the mild winter in Denver, we also experienced a dry season in the foothills. We are certainly concerned about the lack of moisture and pray that God will provide us with pleasant seasonal moisture soon.

However, what the milder climate has done for us is allowed us to make the facility a little more accessible to visitors. We have had a number of individuals spend the weekend in the retreat house this winter, including a number of priests from the local area and beyond.

One of the most important phrases that Father Roger coined has been repeated in this newsletter a couple of times. That is to pray unceasing and beg unceasingly. Then thank God for all you have. We thank God for each of you.

### A Note From Father Don

Dear Jesus Our Hope supporters, I want to thank you for your prayers, financial support, and making retreats at Jesus Our Hope. Every time I spend even a small amount of time at Jesus Our Hope I come away feeling at peace and very much loved by God. If you have not had the opportunity to spend some time at Jesus Our Hope I encourage you to call Theresa, make an appointment for a day or more. The time you spend at Jesus Our Hope will be peaceful and healing, thus it will be time well spent, no doubt about it. Don't forget to come to the Open House in June as well. If it's been a while since you have been up to Jesus Our Hope, the Open House would be a good time to reconnect. Know that you are in my prayers. Fr. Don

*Come see us on the 28th of June for our Open House. Please see article below for more details.*

### OPEN HOUSE—June 28, 2009!

This is your official invitation to join us at Jesus Our Hope on Sunday the 28th of June from 12:00 noon to 5:00 pm, for an open house and the blessing of the new shrine that is now completed and on the grounds.

The Board Members of Jesus Our Hope will be there to answer questions and to introduce themselves to all the faithful donors.

We will begin with a Holy Mass at 12:30 noon. Afterwards we will have a solemn blessing of the Holy Family Shrine. A picture of the completed shrine in on the inside of the newsletter.

After giving thanks for all the wonder that God has blessed us with, we will have a buffet style luncheon and a time to socialize with one another.

Please feel free to bring a side dish of some sort and a smile.

Be advised, because of the narrow road, all traffic will need to go one way. From 12:00 to 3:00 traffic will flow up the mountain and from 3:00 to 5:00 traffic will flow down the mountain. We will post people to help the traffic flow smoothly. Don't forget to bring walking shoes as it may be a little bit of a hike to the St. Francis House.

Finally, we would appreciate an RSVP by calling our number at (303) 697-7539. Feel free to leave a voice mail with your name and the number of people you plan on bringing. Pray for good weather!

**Reservations**  
**(303) 697-7539**

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*Every time I spend even a small amount of time at Jesus Our Hope I come away feeling at peace.*

**RSVP for Open House by calling (303) 697-7539. Leave message, if no answer**

**Be Still and Know—A Reflection By Theresa Donohoe  
Jesus Our Hope—Christ Our Hope**

**Prayer to the Holy Family**

*Oh Most Holy Family teach us to live  
life worthy of Your Blessed Example.*

*Bless each person in my family and help  
us to live out our vocation according to the  
Gospel of Our Lord.*

*May our emulation lead us to respect all  
life and love one another; bringing us  
closer to selflessness worthy of the Son of  
God, who gave Himself for our salvation.*

*Mary Mother of Virtue, pray for us.  
Most gracious St. Joseph, pray for us.  
Jesus, Son of God, have mercy on us.*



The old sign with a new paint job. Thanks to Cabrini Knight Dan Brogdon for taking the sign down and refurbishing it.

“Be still and know that I am God.” This is the concept that Jesus Our Hope is based on. This one simple quote from Psalm 46 is packed full of meaning. What could it mean to you?

Most of us are so busy with everyday life, that we forget how important it is to “be still”. Even Jesus took part in this tradition. According to the New Testament, He often left His Apostles and retreated to an isolated wilderness to fast, meditate, and talk with God, His Father. God would love for us to do the same thing. God is pleased when we do volunteer work or participate in church ministries, but He also wants personal time with us. Doing “things” for God, although very important, does not replace being with Him. When we spend time in His presence, we are positively impacted in every area of our life. That is the purpose of Jesus Our Hope. It allows retreatants the opportunity for simplicity and silence, away from the distractions and demands of everyday life to be with God. There have been notes left or conversation with us about how God has touched lives while staying at the St. Francis House. Stories of conversations of the heart to life changing decisions that needed to be made. For many, it provides the opportunity for reflection and discernment. The solitude and the loveliness of nature is a constant

reminder of God’s love for us. Please know that when you donate and support this special ministry, you are helping others, no matter what their financial status or condition, to take time away to find refreshment for the soul. You can be sure of what an important and worthy cause that truly is.

You may not have the opportunity to visit the St. Francis House for a retreat, but remember that God loves you dearly and longs to have a deep relationship with you. If you long for an intimate relationship with God and a more meaningful life, spend some time with God every day. If nothing else, take 10 minutes in the morning after you get out of bed and then another 10 minutes in the evening as you are settling down for the night and thank God for what transpires during the day. Ask Him to walk with you in your daily work and even in your sleep. It will require an investment of your time, but that investment will pay huge benefits when you take time and listen; then Be still and know...

*Doing “things”,  
although important,  
cannot replace “being”  
with Him*

*Meet the people  
that make Jesus  
Our Hope  
work—The  
Board of  
Directors*

**Meet the members of the Board of Directors**

It might be a good time to tell you exactly who are the Board Members for Jesus Our Hope. Our President is Father Don Brownstein, the brother of Father Roger and the Pastor at Ave Maria Parish in Parker Colorado.

Brenda Simmons is from St. Frances Cabrini and helps with the newsletter printing and the Open House. She is also the President and CEO of Lifevest Publishing.

Barry and Eileen Whitmore are from St. Frances Cabrini Parish and help organize the Knight of Columbus. They are also the catalyst for the

very successful, annual Valentine dance each year.

Jim and Cindy Zielinski are from Ave Maria Parish and help with the youth and with coordinating maintenance efforts on the grounds.

Gordon and Pat Reagh are from Christ on the Mountain and help with odds and ends and with maintaining records.

Les and Sara Hammer is a long time member of St. John the Evangelist in Loveland. He is in software engineering.

Bertha Holzworth is also an original board members from St. John the Evangelists and is our historian.

Pat Kistler is also a long time member and helped with the operations of the upper land. He is a veteran and retired police officer. He is also from St. John the Evangelist.

Theresa Donohoe is the Operations Director and the contact person for Jesus Our Hope. She is from Light of the World.

Deacon Joe is Theresa’s slave and works at the Archdiocese and Light of the World.

Otto the Retreat Dog is the Supervisor of Operations and keeps all the humans in line. He is also ground security and a mutt.

Eagle Scout Steve Velaquez!

Why the Holy Family?

He finally did it! A ceremony at the Peak Community Center in Jefferson County was conducted in honor of the new Eagle Scout, Steve Velaquez. If you have been following the newsletter, you would know that Steve led the effort to build the Holy Family Shrine on the grounds of Jesus Our Hope. The March 7th gala was filled with congratulations and humor. Steve was ribbed about the time it took to get the project done by his Scoutmaster's and fellow Boy Scout members. But in the end, it was a wonderful and beautiful project.

A question that comes up about the shrine is, "Why the Holy Family"? Well, certainly there are some beautiful statues that honor both Jesus and the Saints.

However, it was felt that it is the family that is under attack by a host of secular mediums. Sometimes we forget about the importance and responsibilities that comes with being a mother, a father, or a child within the family nucleus. The Holy Family Shrine is meant to help us model the perfect family and pray to them for help in these difficult times.



Otto insisted on being in the picture. Look at the great job Steve Velaquez and Boy Scout Troop 43 did on the shrine! A blessing will be on the 28th of June at the Open House.

Thank You Knights of Columbus!

The St. Valentines Dance at St. Frances Cabrini Parish was an absolute hit! The Knights were able to fill the tables and the dance floor leaving every square foot of space filled. In addition, the silent auction brought some incredible gifts for the participants. The Joe Peterson Band did their usual fantastic performances while the food and drinks were delicious. If you missed this year's gala, I wouldn't worry too much, next year is undoubtedly going to be just as fantastic.

I want to thanks the Cabrini Knights for their hospitality and service. In particular, I would like to thank Barry and Eileen Whitmore, who spearheaded the effort and put their lives on hold to get things done in time. Also, I would like to thank all those that donated prizes and auction items for the event. While we don't have a grand total for the donation, I know it will exceed our expectation. God Bless all of those involved! With His help, we will be able to help others immensely.

*If you missed this year's gala, I wouldn't worry too much, next year is undoubtedly going to be just as fantastic*

If you can't train 'um...—by Otto the Retreat Dog

There's some things you just cain't train! I been tryin' and tryin' to get them humans to do tricks and I just 'cide to give up. Had one human at Clare house that the my owners call "brother" (sometimes they called him "O'brother!"). Sent him out to fetch a ball and he just sat on the couch and staired like he didn't know what I's talkin' about? Had ta send him packin'. Spent the rest of his time in the Francis House. Teach him ta lay around like he

never went to school? Rounded up a couple other humans cuz they was gettin' outta hand. Put them on the couch where that other human liked to stay. They don't seemed to have a lot of capacity for learnin'.

Been a mild winter, but I had a good coat growin'. But, the mild winter didn't give me much chance to trim the trees. Usually I trim trees along the road whilst my human is plowin' the snow. Any luck, the summer may



"Otto" the Retreat Dog at the Clare House.

be a wet one...doesn't do much for my exercisin. Maybe that brother human will come back and I can teach him to roll over and sit. Although I got ta say, he's got sittin' down to an art. I'll just have ta chase some squirrels and mountain lions. Maybe find a

skunk or two. But Spring will be here in no time. My humans are busy gettin' ready for warmer weather. Gotta get ready to show off that new statute this summer. I'll be havin to clean my paws a lot. Oh, well! Woof and God Bless!

Phone

(303) 697-7539

You can find our newsletter under the "news" tab of our website visit us at [www.Jesus-Our-Hope.org](http://www.Jesus-Our-Hope.org) Website created and maintained by Jennifer & Steve Majewski

**This and That—Wood Tools & Power**

As a non-profit organization, we could use help through both financial assistance and charitable contributions. Some other areas of help we could use include:

**Log Splitter** We have lost our log splitter that we used to borrow. We could use a gas powered log splitter to help keep the heating bills down. We also provide wood to others that are in need and they would be grateful. Receiving the splitter as a loan or a donation would be appreciated.

**JOH Welcome Sign** We initially had a boy scout who was going to build a sign on the triangle at the entrance of the property. We still would like to get something that will fit in with the environment and endure the weather. Need to zone as well.

**Wood Chipper** There are a tremendous amount of branches and wood laying around the property and cause a potential for fire damage. Even if we could borrow a wood chipper that would be helpful.

**So You Are Aware**

Our Open House is planned for the 28th of June. The road up is narrow and limits one car traveling up or down. So, traffic will be a major factor. We hope to have people marshalling traffic flow and would appreciate your patience. Please plan on car pooling and anticipate that traffic will be limited going against the normal flow. Morning traffic will flow up and afternoon traffic will flow down. Remember that there is a blind corner when turning onto South Deer Creek Road.

Jesus Our Hope Hermitage  
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Littleton, CO 80127

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Or

Call (303) 221-1007

Articles by Deacon Joe Donohoe except for Otto the Retreat Dog

**New Job Venture**

Deacon Joe has taken a new job at the Archdiocese of Denver as the Director of Deacon Personnel. The job is a full time position at the chancery. Theresa and Deacon Joe will continue to operate the retreat house and the new position should not have any impact on Jesus Our Hope. Thanks to all who have offered their congratulations and, with the grace of God, we look forward to the years ahead at Jesus Our Hope and the Archdiocese.

**Open House and Shrine Blessing**

The Holy Family Shrine is complete! All we need now is a blessing and an open house. The Board Members are in the process of putting a great event together for the opening of the shrine. The Open House is on 28 June 2009 from 12:00-5:00 with a Mass and a blessing at 12:30 by Father Don Brownstein. Bring the children and meet some of the friends of Jesus Our Hope. For more information, call Theresa at (303) 697-7539.

**JOH Events**  
**Shrine Blessing and**  
**Open House**

28 Jun 2009

12:00-5:00 pm

Mass at 12:30 and Blessing of the Shrine during Mass