



JESUIT RETREAT HOUSE  
on Lake Winnebago



*“Celebrating The Past... Securing The Future”*

## Reflections Newsletter

Volume 25 • No. 3 • Fall 2011

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[www.JesuitRetreatHouse.org](http://www.JesuitRetreatHouse.org)



## SOMETHING MORE

On Oct. 2nd Milwaukee area retreatants gathered for a mini Jubilee Celebration at San Camillo. Fr. Dick McCaslin presided at the Mass. In his homily he articulated with his usual incisive humor the purpose of retreats at the Jesuit Retreat House. He noted that men and women come looking for “something more.” People are very busy with family responsibilities, the demands of work and often anxious about the future. They come to JRH searching for that “something more” that will give them more hope, more meaning, more direction and more joy.

This desire in our hearts for something more is not just restlessness but a reflection of God’s desire to share more of God’s own life with us. Retreats are an opportunity to deepen our awareness of the “more” that God is offering us throughout our lives. For me an example of that “something more” occurred as I lay on a gurney in the ER of Aurora Hospital on Sept 29th. I was waiting for the results of tests which led to the removal of my gallbladder by laparoscopy the next morning. I was aware of receiving a grace that I have often prayed for but did not expect to receive. I experienced the freedom to entrust my life to God at a whole new level.

As we were planning the capital campaign, a marketing person asked “why do people who make a retreat at JRH return 10 or even 25 times? Isn’t one enough?” Fr. Dick suggested an answer. The desire for something more draws people here for the first time. The experience of a retreat ignites a growing desire for deepening that something more as well as confidence that Jesus is fulfilling his promise: “I have come that you might have life and have it more abundantly.” (Jn10:10)

Please continue to keep the retreatants, JRH staff and the success of the Capital Campaign in your prayer. In our Creator and Lord,

Fr. John Schwantes, S.J.  
Director



## JUBILEE YEAR COMING TO AN END

### *Jubilee Celebration Picnic - Saturday, July 23rd*

Our 50th Jubilee Celebration Picnic on Saturday, July 23rd was filled with “warm” wishes, conversations and remembrances in more ways than one. The heat and humidity greeted over 250 attendees for Mass, a picnic lunch under the multi-colored tents, door prizes and historical/fundraising videos. It was a blessed and joyful experience. As our Jubilee year comes to an end, we again want to thank all of the retreatants, volunteers and staffs for helping us make this event such a wonderful day.



### *San Camillo Mass/Reception - Sunday, October 2nd*

A special Jubilee mass and reception was held at San Camillo Retirement Home in Milwaukee on Sunday evening Oct. 2nd. The event was attended by a small intimate group of retreatants, JRH staff and former director Fr. Dick McCaslin who lives at St. Camillus. Fr. Dick also stepped-in for Fr. John Schwantes (who had his gall-bladder removed 2 days before the event) to celebrate Mass with the attendees and share his wonderful message of how the Jesuit Retreat

House means “something more” to all who have experienced the wonder of silent prayer and contemplation of Ignatian spirituality.

**THANKS TO ALL FOR A BLESSED FIRST 50 YEARS! WE ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO THE NEXT 50!  
VIEW THE “CELEBRATING THE PAST” HISTORICAL VIDEO ON-LINE AT: [www.jesuitretreathouse.org](http://www.jesuitretreathouse.org)**

## CAPITAL CAMPAIGN STEADILY MOVING FORWARD

*“I have come that you might have life and have it more abundantly.” (Jn10:10)*

While JRH’s capital campaign to raise \$4 million dollars to build a new Manresa and renovate La Storta continues its steady pace, its real goal is to provide a safe, comfortable and sacred place that will allow retreatants to continue to experience that “something more” for the next 50 years.

Our Triune God continues to bless our efforts. As of this newsletter, total pledges and gifts have hit \$1.2 million dollars which includes an additional \$35,000 pledge from the Jesuits which brings their total participation to-date to \$660,000. We are truly thankful for their and all of our donors continued commitment to this retreat ministry as we move closer to our goal.

As 2011 year-end approaches and 2012 appears on the horizon, we pray that more donors will continue to step forward with pledges and gifts that will move us closer to reaching our first benchmark total of \$2.8 million dollars which would allow us to hopefully break ground sometime in spring 2013.



FOR MORE INFO ON HOW TO  
DONATE TO THE CAMPAIGN  
OR TO VIEW THE "SECURING  
THE FUTURE" CAMPAIGN  
VIDEO GO TO:

[www.jesuitretreathouse.org](http://www.jesuitretreathouse.org)



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## 2012 RETREAT SCHEDULE NOW AVAILABLE

Direct Mailed to retreatants October 31st

Now Available online at JRH website

New Registration Deadlines

November 1, 2011: may register for remainder of 2011 & Jan/Feb/Mar of 2012 retreats

January 1, 2012: may register for April thru Dec. 2012 retreats

## ON-LINE RETREAT REGISTRATION begins January 2012.



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*The Jesuit Retreat House in Oshkosh, Wisconsin, fosters spiritual enrichment rooted in the Gospels, the Catholic tradition and the spirituality of St. Ignatius of Loyola. Our ministry is dedicated to creating a rich variety of retreat experiences and providing an atmosphere of quiet, peace and prayer in which men and women of all faiths are encouraged to discover and respond generously to God's personal invitation to wholeness and holiness.*

[www.JesuitRetreatHouse.org](http://www.JesuitRetreatHouse.org)



## PROPERTY & GROUNDS HAPPENINGS

Always something interesting happening at JRH. Over the last few years, our well pump which originally went down 300 feet had filled in and was now just over 100 feet deep ... so it was time to call in the professionals and "blow it out" and replace the casing as well.

## 2011 SPECIAL VISITOR RETREATS

Oshkosh Lourdes High School Students sharing and enjoying time together



Sisters of the Sorrowful Mother from Franciscan Courts in Oshkosh celebrating their jubilee years visit us for a day retreat.