



PACEM IN TERRIS

HERMITAGE RETREAT CENTER

NEW HERMITAGES OPEN

In timing that only God could orchestrate, Pacem in Terris' three new hermitages — St. Juan Diego, St. Josephine Bakhita, and St. Maximilian Kolbe — were officially opened on November 1, 2022, the Feast of All Saints.

Each hermitage was blessed by Father Tom Knoblach, one of Pacem's new board members.

The new hermitages have been in nearly continual use since opening.

Guests have commented on the deep silence of the hermitages, and the comfortable porch rocker and interior gliding rocker inside each hermitage. God-willing, they will continue to be a holy place of meeting between God and those called here for many years to come. Thank you to all the donors who made their construction possible.

Tim Drake, Executive Director, stands outside the hermitage of St. Maximilian Kolbe.

(Photo by Ellie Collins)



BOARD APPROVES RATE INCREASE

Rising material, food, and service costs, from energy to gasoline, necessitated the Pacem Board of Directors approving a rate increase of \$140 per night, effective April 1, 2023.

It's been eight years since Pacem's last increase to \$115. The new rate is commensurate with other hermitages in the area, and God-willing will help Pacem to meet its 2023 operating budget. As always, the rate is a donation and guests may continue to prayerfully consider what they are able to contribute.



Father Tom Knoblach, of the Diocese of St. Cloud, blesses the hermitage of St. Juan Diego as board members Phyllis Olson, Kim Lee, and Julie Carnahan look on. (Photo by Tim Drake)

WEB UPDATES

Several additions have been made to Pacem's webpage (www.paceminterris.org). At the suggestion of hermit guests, a staff page was added, so that visitors can familiarize themselves with those they might encounter while on retreat.

In addition, the current newsletter and several past newsletters were added, and some media links were added as well. Remember, you can also keep up-to-date at Pacem's Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/PacemInTerrisMN>).



A portion of the staff page now available on Pacem's website.

WELCOME NEW BOARD MEMBERS

Several veteran Pacem board members departed from the board in October. We thank Deacon Mike Benda, Hank French, Bill Mori, Phyllis Olson, and Kelly Wahlquist for their dedication and years of service to Pacem.

The Holy Spirit has led several new board members to join. In order of their addition to the board, they include: Fr. Tom Knoblach, Kim Lee, Linda Abel-Thomas, Tom Klein, Paul Boldischar, Tamra Schmitt, and Bryan Bademan. They bring new expertise and energy to Pacem's board. Several board committees have been created and are at work on various initiatives related to Pacem's Strategic Plan (see page 4).

This May marks Pacem's 34th anniversary. We are excited about what the Holy Spirit has in store for Pacem's future.



PACEM TO HOST ARTIST'S WEEKEND

From Friday, June 9 to Sunday, June 11, 2023, Pacem will be hosting artists for an Artist's Weekend. Artists in all media will have the opportunity to enjoy the silence of a hermitage to replenish their creative spirit, or for the purpose of creation.


Artists will be free to set up their easels on Pacem's prairie, boardwalk, or elsewhere on the property throughout their stay.

In addition, Pacem will host a reception for the artists on Sunday at noon. Artists will have the opportunity to display their art or visit with other artists to talk about their experience or their craft.

Twenty-five spaces are available, including 17 hermitages, three interior rooms, and five rooms inside St. Joseph House. Artists can call 763-444-6408 to reserve space.

ARTIST'S WEEKEND
9-11
Fri. 9th - Sun. 11th of June
Pacem in Terris Hermitage
Retreat Center Isanti, MN

Enjoy the silence of a hermitage, replenishing your creative spirit or creating. Weekend will culminate in a time to share what you've produced or experienced. Limited space available. Call 763-444-6408 to reserve space.

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HERMITAGE RETREAT CENTER

A Light in the DARKNESS



On February 25, Pacem hosted its first Pacem by Firelight event. During the weekend, brush piles were lit around the property. One guest wrote: “Thank you so much for such a restful, relaxing and blessed weekend. I feel so thankful to return home today rested and nurtured—body and soul. My heart has been opened to the possibilities that the Lord has in store for me. Thank you for your ministry here at Pacem.”

Pacem’s woods and hermitages are illuminated by various bonfires during the Pacem by Firelight event held February 25, 2023.

(Below right) Luminaries provide a warm glow leading to Pacem’s entrance.

(Photos by Katie Rosemarie Photography and Beth Varberg)



PACEM'S 2023 STRATEGIC PLAN



In September, 2022, Pacem's Board of Directors completed a strategic planning process to identify priorities as Pacem moves forward. From those discussions came the following initiatives:

- ◇ Creating a Way of the Cross path for prayerful contemplation in Pacem's woods.
- ◇ Establishing a reforestation plan for removing diseased trees and replacing trees.
- ◇ Exploring the opportunity to purchase adjoining property.
- ◇ Increasing Pacem's hermitage rate.
- ◇ Establishing group retreat guidelines.
- ◇ Identifying fundraising opportunities to eliminate Pacem's annual operating deficit.
- ◇ Exploring possibilities for development.
- ◇ Creating a major gift policy for anticipated future legacy gifts.
- ◇ Expanding Pacem's Board of Directors and creating a succession plan for the board chair.

PACEM FEATURED IN MEDIA

By the grace of God, Pacem has been blessed with a number of recent media mentions.

◇ Central Minnesota Catholic featured Pacem in an article titled "Pacem in Terris Retreat Center Adds Three Hermitages." The article is available at <https://thecentralminnesotacatholic.org/pacem-in-terris-retreat-center-adds-three-hermitages/>.

◇ Minnesota Public Radio featured Pacem on Angela Davis' news program on December 14, 2022, "Embracing Solitude". Listen to the podcast at <https://www.mprnews.org/episode/2022/12/13/embracing-solitude>.

◇ The National Catholic Register featured a commentary, written by Executive Director Tim Drake, on the blessings of a retreat. You can read the article at: <https://www.ncregister.com/commentaries/why-you-should-go-on-a-retreat>.

(Photos by Debbie Trunk)

"Let us, then, make it our aim to work for peace and to strengthen one another." - Romans 14: 17-19

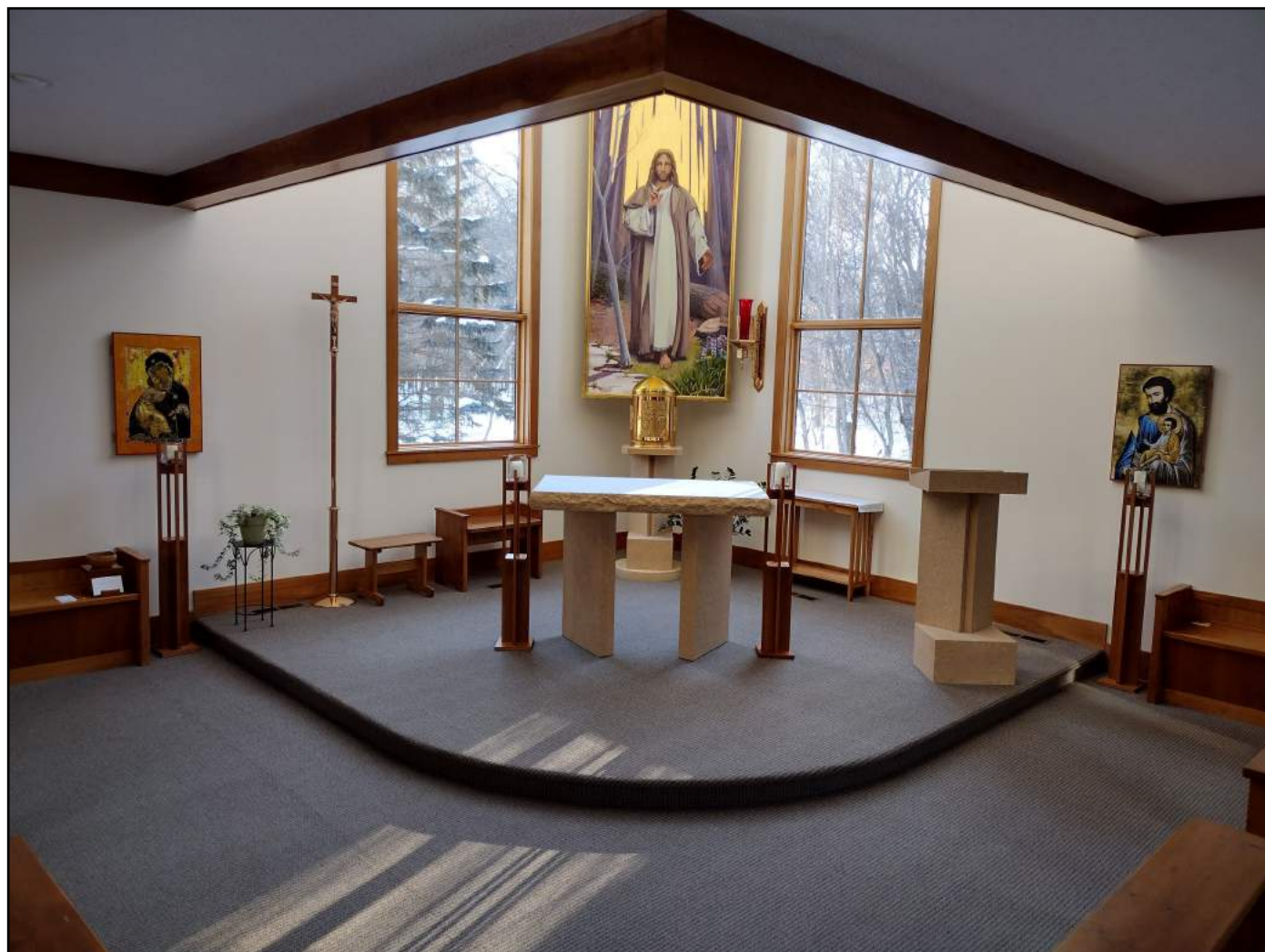


PACEM CHAPEL RENOVATED



Late in 2022, Pacem's chapel carpet sustained a burn and needed to be replaced. To honor the Church's "Eucharistic Revival," the decision was made to move the Tabernacle to the center of the sanctuary. Mark Balma's painting, "Out of the Garden: From Darkness into Light," was raised. The sanctuary candle was moved, and using a disc of Mankato Kasota stone to match the existing stone, the Tabernacle was raised three inches.

Pacem's chapel before the February renovation. (Photo by Paul Middlestaedt)



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chairman

Dan Jaeger

Vice Chair

Aimee Bates

Secretary/Treasurer

Julie Carnahan

Linda Abel-Thomas

Bryan Bademan

Paul Boldischar

Tom Klein

Fr. Tom Knoblach

Barbara Koch

Kim Lee

Tamra Schmitt

Executive Director

Tim Drake

HOW YOUR DONATION HELPS PACEM

Pacem's Board of Directors approved the 2023 budget. It includes an operating deficit of approximately \$100,000. Your charitable contribution, and gifts above the cost of a hermitage stay, help Pacem to meet its overall costs and maintenance, and continue its mission.

Since its founding, Pacem has not turned away guests who cannot contribute the full expected cost. The percentage of guests unable to pay is less than five percent of our total number of guests.

Pacem depends upon the generosity of hermit guests, benefactors, board members, grants, and donor-advised funds to make up the difference between what guests contribute and our operating costs.

For 35 years, God has provided for Pacem through generous donors. We are prayerfully asking you to consider making Pacem one of the top three charitable organizations that you contribute to. Know that every dollar you donate makes a significant difference in the lives of those whom God calls to Pacem.

If you are unable to donate today, consider leaving Pacem a legacy gift, or including Pacem in your estate plan. This will ensure Pacem's sustainability.

If you are aware of family foundations, donor-advised funds, or grants for which Pacem might be eligible, please let us know.

Another excellent option is to consider the gift of stock or donating funds from your IRA's required minimum distribution.

However you choose to donate, we thank you in advance for your generosity and your partnership in this ministry. You make Pacem possible, and for that we are most grateful. God bless you for your generosity!



Yes, I want to help support Pacem's Mission. Total Amount \$100 ___ \$500 ___ \$1,000 ___ Other \$ ___ OR \$ ___/month

PAYMENT METHOD

- Personal check made payable to Pacem in Terris (for one-time gifts) I would like to make a gift of stock or appreciated securities
- Credit card (for either one-time gifts or monthly gifts) I would like to learn more about how to include Pacem in my estate plans.
- My employer has a matching gift program. Include a signed gift form. I have included Pacem in Terris in my estate plans.

Please use this form for credit cards (please print and complete all information).

Name on Card _____ Daytime Phone _____

Billing Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Credit Card # _____

3 Digit Security Code _____ Expiration Date (MM) _____ (YY) _____



Signature _____ I authorize Pacem to debit my account for the above charges.

Pacem in Terris does not keep your credit card information on file.

To contribute towards Pacem online, visit: <https://www.givemn.org/donate/Pacem-In-Terris-1>