



PACEM IN TERRIS

HERMITAGE RETREAT CENTER

YOU MAKE PACEM POSSIBLE

“Thank you for your hospitality, prayers and kindness, on this, my weekend stay. It was absolutely lovely.

“My cabin was St. John of the Cross. I sat in the chair on the porch all weekend, resting, crying, praying, listening, reading, and meditating.

“On my last evening I went for a walk and when I returned, I decided to take a picture of my cabin to remember this perfect weekend. [See photo to the right.]

“Do you see the shape of the sun through the trees? Is that not the most perfect sign from God? The most perfect punctuation mark on the end of a perfect weekend. It felt like a promise from God, saying ‘thank you for your hope, trust and surrender - I’ve got you.’

“I was a bit frustrated with the bugs. But as I sat at dinner tonight, talking to my family about the weekend it suddenly became clear - I have no problem with silence. I love silence, but it’s the ‘be still’ part that I struggle with. The bugs forced me to sit, to be still and spend the time with God so I could listen and focus. So, all that to say - even the creatures that were so aggressive this weekend had a part in God’s plan for my experience. And what a lovely experience it was. Thank you for your prayers.”

- Melissa

“The first time I came to Pacem I had hit rock bottom. I was at a point in my life where I was depressed and anxious. My husband suggested that I go on a retreat. I came to Pacem for four days. It was life-changing. It made such a difference, I can’t even put it into words. Things afterward were distinctly different. It enabled me to take the next steps I needed to make things better. It’s amazing what God can do in such a short time in the silence.”

- A gratified hermit guest



“Until recently I considered myself a solitary creature. But I was so wrong. I am independent, not solitary. There is a huge difference. The solitude of the hermitage forced me to get comfortable with the uncomfortable, always a big theme in my life when it comes to growth and opening up to the best things to happen.

“The entire experience was...brilliant and intense.

“I almost left the first night because I was struggling with some pretty big anxiety. The quiet forced me to face all of my demons, fears, hopes, etc. However, the second I got my brain to surrender to *why* I was there — to be quiet with my Creator — He showed up!

“I left with clarity, and while I felt pretty emotionally exhausted I felt refreshed. This was the reset that I needed.”

- Colleen

PACEM NEEDS YOU!

Pacem in Terris has been a blessing to many and has made a difference in so many people's lives thanks to you. Our guest numbers this year have been historic.

However, Pacem faces new challenges. Pacem's year-to-date charitable donations are more than 60 percent less than last year at this time.

As some of Pacem's major donors have recently switched their giving strategy from annual donations to estate gifts, Pacem is feeling an added burden.

Our main building is twenty-three years old, with some systems and structures requiring significant maintenance and replacement to keep serving our hermit guests.

In addition, Pacem's 240 acres are requiring considerable care to remove and replace diseased oak trees.

Without your generous support, Pacem simply cannot meet rising costs and all of these many needs.

While Pacem can tap into reserves, we need to grow our Legacy endowment to

provide sustainability for Pacem long-term.

If God has met you here at Pacem, and Pacem has made a difference in your life, we humbly ask you to prayerfully consider making a sacrificial donation at this crucial time.

If you are unable to donate at this time, please consider a planned gift, such as an estate gift, a qualified distribution from your IRA, or the gift of life insurance, property, or stock.

Pacem is grateful for your support!



God provides a stunning sunset over Lake Tamarack for Pacem in Terris' hermit guests.



PAINTING DONATED TO PACEM

A historic painting, "Christ Heals the Sick," by former St. Cloud artist Peter Martini was donated to Pacem by Harold and Anita Rooney of Sauk Rapids, Minnesota, in memory of their daughter, Joy Rose Rooney.

It now decorates a prominent wall in Pacem's lower level library as a reminder that Christ is the Divine Healer and the pathway to life. The painting serves as an inspirational piece of art for reflection, prayer, or meditation for the many guests who come to Pacem seeking healing and peace.

Pacem's newest artwork is a master copy of a well-known painting by the nineteenth century Austrian artist, Gabriel Cornelius von Max.



Knights of Columbus volunteers, organized by James Barron (left), planted trees and spread mulch around Our Lady of Pacem. They represented councils from Anoka, Elk River, and Oak Grove, Minnesota.

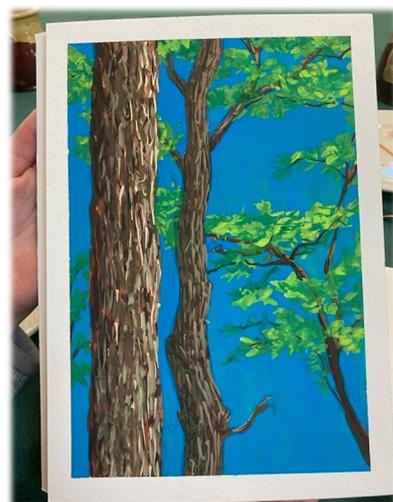
VOLUNTEERS PLANT TREES

Knights of Columbus members from three councils – Anoka, Elk River, and Oak Grove – volunteered at Pacem on May 20 to plant trees as replacements for those that are succumbing to oak wilt. The volunteers began the day with morning prayer in the chapel, then spent several hours planting approximately 180 trees and spreading mulch. The day ended with a picnic lunch prepared by Pacem staff. Many thanks to the Knights and all who volunteer to keep Pacem operating and looking great!

ARTISTS ENJOY PACEM

During the weekend of June 9 – 11, twenty artists from Minnesota, Wisconsin, and North Dakota participated in Pacem's inaugural Artist's Weekend. Many of the painters, photographers, writers, weavers, and textile artists enjoyed spots on the boardwalks and on the prairie as they created their works of art, while others used their hermitages as their studio. Many spoke of the holy rest they enjoyed. The weekend culminated with a reception at noon on Sunday, when artists could share their work and talk about their experiences of creating or resting with God in the hermitage.

"Thank you for offering this," said one guest. "It's a wonderful way of marketing and expanding the ministry of Pacem to a new group of people. I would definitely do it again." Another guest noted, "These are my people. I'm glad I could be here."



Painting created by a hermit guest during Artist's Weekend.

I will be glad and rejoice in your love, for you saw my affliction, and knew the anguish of my soul.

You have not given me into the hands of the enemy, but have set my feet in a spacious place.

- Psalm 31:7-8

Enjoy your hermitage and the trails in the warm glow of numerous bonfires on the Pacem property

For Guests staying the weekend of February 2-4, 2024

Hot cocoa and cookies will be served at the main building on Saturday, February 3 from 4-5:30 P.M.

PACEM BY FIRELIGHT

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS BISHOP PATRICK NEARY VISITS PACEM

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- Tim Drake

Bishop Patrick Neary, of the Diocese of St. Cloud, visited Pacem in Terris on Friday, June 2, 2023. He was formally installed as Bishop, February 14, 2023.



Bishop Patrick Neary of the Diocese of St. Cloud stands outside of Pacem's new hermitage, St. Juan Diego. Photo by Tim Drake

He was given a thorough tour that included a visit to St. Juan Diego hermitage.

Bishop Neary enjoyed lunch with Pacem's staff and commented that Pacem was "more relevant than ever."

"The Holy Spirit is clearly touching many lives in a time of great challenge through this blessed ministry," said Bishop Neary. A fan of hermitage-style retreats, Bishop Neary promised to return to Pacem as a hermit guest.



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 _____

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CVV 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>

When it comes time for you to prepare your will or estate plan, please remember Pacem in Terris in your will.