



FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2020
SHP-SISTERS OF ST. FRANCIS
NEWS BRIEF

SECOND WEEK OF ADVENT - LOVE
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2020

ADVENT PRAYER:

Attached is a beautiful Advent prayer written by Sr. Rita Cammack. Enjoy.

PRAYERS FOR THE REPOSE SOUL OF:

Sr. Maria Michaela Anna Lewicka, of the community of St. Anthony in Więcbork, Poland, died on November 19, 2020. She was born on May 11, 1932 and professed on February 27, 1955.

PRAYER REQUEST:

For the health and special needs of our congregational sisters. (see attached)

CLINIC IN A CAN – PALENQUE^[DK1]:

- Advent greetings to all of you! I wrote up a short communication about where we are with the Clinic in a Can containers. It has been such a long and frustrating process, but it looks like we have finally been able to work out a plan so that the containers can be on their way to Palenque this month, God willing. The challenges have been with the Federal Agency that grants the permits. Their Office has been closed during the pandemic. The Director of this Office was removed and is under investigation for fraud. We waited for a new Director to be named and then the challenge of having our petition “get lost” in the midst of the transition. I could go on and on!

Please read this message and let me know if you have any questions. Thank you for your prayers of support and now keep them coming because we REALLY NEED to have the containers moved out of

Houston - the storage has been too expensive for us besides other concerns. I will keep you posted on our progress! *Maria Elena*

- **UPDATE: CHRISTMAS IN PALENQUE?**

After nearly six months that the Clinic in a Can containers have been detained at the Houston Port, we are now able to take some steps toward having them shipped to Port Progreso, Merida. There are 16 pieces of medical equipment that need to be removed from the containers because they require further documentation we do not have. Our urgency to have the containers shipped requires this action. We still need to figure out how to obtain permits for these items to enter Mexico as they are part of the surgical equipment we will need in the future.

Over these past months the containers have been damaged by the tail-end of 3 hurricanes and exposure to sea-weather conditions. They were never intended to be stored this long. They will be repaired and re-packaged for shipment over the next 10 days. Shipping date is set for December 15th. It will be a two-day journey by sea followed by an estimated 5-day Customs review. From there, they will be transported by land to Palenque. Maybe they will be our Christmas gift to the people of Palenque!

Please pray with us that this wish will come true. May St. Juan Diego and Our Lady of Guadalupe come to our aide!



CHRISTMAS AT GRECCIO:

Please join us for an Advent anticipation of Christmas at Greccio! The year is 1223. It is Christmas Eve in Greccio. St. Francis of Assisi has obtained permission from Pope Honorius III to create a living Nativity scene for the first time. That first Nativity scene is still celebrated at the cave in Greccio to this day.



During our Advent recreation of Christmas at Greccio, we will listen to St. Francis' two biographers, Thomas of Celano and St. Bonaventure, recount and remember the events of St. Francis' first celebration of the Nativity. Our evening will begin with song. We will continue with images of Greccio while listening to Celano's and Bonaventure's historic accounts of the event, break into small groups for a short time of sharing, and then end the evening with Vespers from the Geste of the King by St. Francis.

Join us for a prayerful and engaging afternoon!

What: Christmas at Greccio: Christmas Eve 1223

Where: On Zoom

When: On Sunday, December 13th, 2020, at 4:30 PM Pacific Standard Time

RSVP: Please reserve your spot on Eventbrite at this link:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/christmas-at-greccio-christmas-eve-1223-tickets-130312029789>

Space is limited. Please RSVP by Noon (PST) on Saturday, December 12th. If you have questions or need help with reservations, please contact Debbie Clingingsmith at debbie@clingingsmith.org or by cell at 805.574.0441. Once you make a reservation on Eventbrite, a zoom invitation and a handout for the small sharing groups will be emailed to you. This Franciscan Family event is brought to you by members of the Franciscan Theology Transfer Project, several Secular Franciscan Fraternities, and Franciscan Federation Region 6.

FALL 2020 SACRED CONVERSATIONS:

Sisters, if you have not returned your Sacred Conversations to Donna Kroll, please do so asap. (due December 1, 2020).

SR. SARAH MANCHESTER'S SCHEDULE:

- December 16-17 Council Meetings
- December 17 Council Christmas Party
- December 28 @ 6pm Sisters' Chat
- January 6-7 Council Meetings
- January 25 @ 6pm Sisters' Chat
- February 8-9 Council Meetings

- February 22 Sisters' Chat
- March 8-9 Council Meetings
- March 22 @ 6pm Sisters' Chat
- April 12-13 Council Meetings
- April 15-17 or 19-21 LCWR hosting
- May 1 Jubilee-Alliance
- May 10-11 Council Meetings
- May 28-May 30 Pre-Chapter Planning
- May 30-June 6 XVIII Provincial Chapter
- June 6 @ pm New Council-Meeting
- June 14-15 Transition Council Meeting

SHP's MISSION STATEMENT

*Awake to the transforming Love of God throughout creation,
we compassionately serve all as sister and brother by our
contemplation, presence, forgiveness, hope and joy.*