

NEUMANN INSTITUTE NEWS

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University-wide Theme for 2015-2016: *Live the Truth in Love: Integrity*

WELCOME BACK!

At Neumann University we live the value of *Integrity* by speaking the Truth in Love; acting fairly, honestly, and ethically at all times; and accepting responsibility for the consequences of our actions. We believe that *Integrity* is the foundation of a community where persons live and work, study and play, as brothers and sisters. Francis and Clare of Assisi lived honest and morally upright lives and encouraged others to do the same. As their followers we strive to live in such a way that our lives and words reflect God's goodness and truth.

Throughout the year, we will offer multiple opportunities to explore various aspects of *Integrity*; including the *Franciscan Moral Vision*; the importance of *Solitude and Reflection* as the basis for ethical decision-making; and Pope Francis' encyclical *Laudato Si'* which examines "integral ecology" (caring for all of creation). We have designed a variety of programs in various formats to meet everyone's needs. Because 50 faculty and staff members attended either mini-sessions or a half day program on the *Franciscan Moral Vision* this past spring, the program this year is being updated. In the fall semester, the basic principles of the *Franciscan Moral Vision* will be developed with application to the encyclical *Laudato Si'*. In the spring semester, we will consider more explicitly formation of conscience and discernment within the Franciscan Moral Vision with application to *Laudato Si'*.

These programs are described in detail in this newsletter and flyers are posted in the Program section of the NIFS website. We invite you to attend at least one of the programs. We also encourage you to integrate the value of *Integrity* into your work, your personal life, and your teaching. Please visit the NIFS website or contact the NIFS office for practical resources.

Dr. Pat Hutchison, OSF

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE CARE OF CREATION

On August 10, 2015, Pope Francis announced an annual *World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation* to be celebrated each year on September 1. Pope Francis selected this date in solidarity with the Orthodox Church which has commemorated a *Day of Prayer for Care for Creation* on September 1 for some time. In addition, Pope Francis is promoting the day of prayer as an ecumenical effort in collaboration with the World Council of Churches. In conjunction with the World Day of Prayer, the Global Catholic Climate Movement is encouraging participation in a *Season of Creation* from September 1 to October 4, the feast of St. Francis of Assisi. We encourage everyone to find a way, both personally and within your department, to support this initiative through prayer and action. Please contact the NIFS office for additional resources.

MASS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Catholic colleges and universities traditionally begin the academic year with a special Mass asking for the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Our Mass of the Holy Spirit will be celebrated in Our Lady of Angels Chapel on Thursday, September 3 at 11:30 AM. After Mass we invite you to join in a Picnic and assist in serving lunch to our students as a concrete expression of our value of *Service*.



INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE, SEPTEMBER 21, 2015



In 1981, the United Nations passed a resolution to establish an International Day of Peace. In 2002 the UN General Assembly officially declared September 21 as the permanent date for the International Day of Peace. This year's theme is *Partnerships for Peace – Dignity for All*.

For additional information visit the [International Day of Peace website](#).

WORLD MEETING OF FAMILIES

Philadelphia will host the 8th World Meeting of Families from September 22-27, 2015. The theme of this momentous event, which culminates with a Festival of Families on September 26 and Mass on the Parkway with Pope Francis on September 27, is *Love is our Mission: The Family Fully Alive*. Visit the official [World Meeting of Families 2015 website](#). To volunteer with Neumann for this event, go to [Neumann's WMOF volunteer webpage](#).



ISSCD AWARD

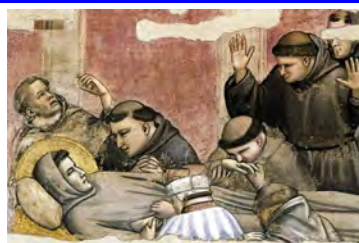
On October 19, 2015, the ISSCD will honor Haley Scott DeMaria with the *Institute for Sport, Spirituality and Character Development Award*. Haley's story of courage, hope, and faith is not only a story about an individual or about sports. It is also a story about the power of a university community to live its mission, values, and Catholic identity through prayer and action. Haley's story, *What though the Odds*, is an engaging read for everyone. For more information, see the [ISSCD announcement](#). Plan now to attend the award and presentation by Haley Scott DeMaria on October 19, 2015 at 11:30 AM.

BOCK BOOK AWARD 2015

The winner of the 2015 Bock Book Award is *Winter Is Coming*. We are awaiting word from the author, Tony Johnston and the illustrator, Jim LaMarche to finalize the date of the award presentation.



FEAST OF ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI AND FRANCIS WEEK CELEBRATIONS



On every Franciscan campus, October includes special celebrations connected with the Feast of Saint Francis of Assisi.

On the evening of October 3 at 7 PM, we invite you to join the Sisters of Saint Francis in celebrating the *Transitus of St. Francis*. This ritual commemorates Francis's passage into eternal life.

On Sunday afternoon, October 4 at 4 PM, we invite you to gather with your pets in St. John Neumann Circle for the Blessing of the Animals.



Since the actual feast day falls on Sunday, at Neumann University we will celebrate the Feast of St. Francis on Monday, October 5th.

There will be a Morning Prayer Service at 8:30 AM in the RAB Lobby.

Mass will be celebrated at noon in Sacred Heart Chapel.

GRECCIO



St. Francis of Assisi was the first to commemorate the birth of Jesus with a live Nativity. Please join us as we commemorate this beautiful tradition on Sunday evening, December 6, 2015 at 6:15 p.m. in front of the Mirenda Center for Sport, Spirituality and Character Development. Sunday evening Mass will be at 4:30 p.m. in Sacred Heart Chapel.

MISSION PROGRAMS FOR 2015 - 2016

Half-Days of Reflection

Four half-days of reflection will be held in the Franciscan Spiritual Center on the following dates:

Solitude, Reflection, and Sacred Spaces

Thursday, October 1, 2015

from noon to 3:30 pm,
beginning with lunch and closing with Tea

Wednesday, April 20, 2016

from noon to 3:30 pm,
beginning with lunch and closing with Tea

Franciscan Moral Vision I:

Introduction to Franciscan Moral Vision
with application to *Laudato Si*

Thursday, November 19, 2015

from 9 to noon followed by lunch

Franciscan Moral Vision II:

Conscience and Discernment
with application to *Laudato Si*

Wednesday, January 6, 2016

from 9 to noon followed by lunch

Mini Sessions

Mini-sessions will be offered in the Assisi Room (BMB 314) on the following dates:

Oct. 6 - 9, 2015: *Solitude, Reflection, and Sacred Spaces*

Nov. 10 - 13, 2015: *Franciscan Moral Vision I*

March 8 - 10, 2016: *Franciscan Moral Vision II*

April 26 - 29, 2016: *Solitude, Reflection, and Sacred Spaces*

The same presentation will be repeated each day.

Tuesday from 11:30 to 12:30

Wednesday from 12:40 to 1:40

Thursday from 1:00 to 2:00

Friday from 11:30 to 12:30

Lunch will be provided.

Please register at least two weeks before each program by contacting Sr. Mary Ann at mccarshm@neumann.edu

ADVENT DINNER & EVENING OF REFLECTION

Celebrating A Franciscan Christmas from Crib to Cross

presented by Dr. Len DiPaul



Wednesday, December 2, 2015

Dinner at 5:30 p.m.

Program 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

Franciscan Spiritual Center
Our Lady of Angels Convent

LENTEN DINNER & EVENING OF REFLECTION

Healing the Earth as a Lenten Practice:

Exploring Laudato Si

presented by Sister Julie Keegan OSF



Monday, February 22, 2016

Dinner at 5:30 p.m.

Program 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

Franciscan Spiritual Center
Our Lady of Angels Convent

LENTEN SOUP & SHARING

Please join us for one or more of the *Lenten Soup and Sharing* presentations in the Neumann Library classroom. Each presentation will feature a different speaker on *Laudato Si'* and our responsibility to care for creation.

A simple lunch of soup and roll will be provided.

12:30 pm – 1:30 pm

February 19, February 26, March 4, March 18, 2016

Coordinated by *Care of Creation Committee*

PROGRAMS AT FRANCISCAN SPIRITUAL CENTER

We are pleased to support participation in the following programs at the Franciscan Spiritual Center. To learn about each program, click the hyperlink. Please register through Sr. Mary Ann McCarthy at least one month prior to the program because spaces are limited.

October 10, 2015

10 am to 3 pm

[Mary and Jesus in Islam: Grace and Good News beyond the Gospels](#)

Michael Calabria, OFM



October 24, 2015

9 am to 12:30

[Annual Trafficking Symposium: "Day of Hope: Breaking the Chains of Slavery"](#)

Debbie Wright



November 18, 2015

8:45 am to 1:00 pm

[Climate Change Seminar](#)

Sr. Ilia Delio, OSF

N.B. This program is sponsored by the Sisters of St. Francis and PACRI in Meagher Theatre



March 6, 2016

1 pm – 4 pm

[Conversion: Turning towards Joy](#)

Patricia Livingston



ONLINE SPIRITUALITY

Looking for a reflective opening for a meeting or a resource for personal or group reflection and/or sharing? Visit the [Online Spirituality](#) link of the Franciscan Spiritual Center.



Franciscan Spiritual Center

WEEKEND RETREATS AT FRANCISCAN SPIRITUAL CENTER

The NIFS will provide partial funding for the following weekend programs. Contact Sr. Mary Ann at least one month prior to the retreat date because spaces are limited.

December 4 to 6, 2015

[Advent Retreat: Hope or Delusion](#)

Rev. Anthony Ciorra



December 11 to 13, 2015

[Advent Retreat: O Come, O Come Emmanuel: The Antiphons of Isaiah](#)

Sr. Clare D'Auria, OSF

March 11 to 13, 2016

[Lenten Retreat: The Way of the Cross: A Pilgrimage for Women](#)

Sr. Clare D'Auria, OSF



THE AFCU JOURNAL

Copies of the AFCU Journal have been distributed to a number of offices, including the offices of all Deans. Please see your department or unit supervisor if you wish a copy of the journal or contact the NIFS office. The 2015 journal includes the keynote presentations from the 2014 AFCU, as well as articles on integrating the Franciscan tradition into literature courses, supporting faculty publishing, several poems, and book reviews.

Consider submitting an article, poem, or book review. For more information, contact Sr. Pat Hutchison.



THE ASSOCIATION OF FRANCISCAN COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES: PREPARING FOR JUNE 2016

Marian University will host the **2016 AFCU Symposium** from June 7-9, 2016! The Symposium will offer something for everyone. The 2016 Symposium is still a “work in progress.” Plans to date include:

Keynote and Plenary Presentations

Sr. Margaret Carney, OSF, Ph.D.

President of St. Bonaventure University
Franciscan Higher Education

Thomas Nairn, OFM, Ph.D.

Senior Director of Ethics for Catholic Health Association
Ethics in Education
(N.B. Father Nairn may also have a session for nursing/medical school staffs. Marian University is the only Franciscan University which has a medical college.)

John Lechleiter

President and CEO, Eli Lilly and Company
Integrating Faith and Work

**Sr. Maureen Irvin and Major Superiors of Sponsoring
Congregations**
Higher Education Today and in the Future

**AFCU's first collaborative project: *Stopping the Leak in
the Educational Pipeline: Improving Matriculation and
Graduation Rates at Franciscan Colleges and Institutions***

Breakout session proposals will be accepted in the following areas:

Mission/Identity/Campus Ministry
Academic Issues and Topics
Administration/Finance Operations
Advancement/Marketing
Enrollment/Retention/Student Success
Governance/Leadership

We encourage you to consider developing a proposal for a presentation at the Symposium. Look for additional information and a formal Call for Proposals in the next few months!

NIFS COMMITTEE FOR 2015-2016

Sr. Patricia Hutchison, OSF, Chair

Jenelle Abnett
Maura Berenato
Gail Corso
Lee DelleMonache
Geoffrey Karabin
Samuel Lemon
Elizabeth Loeper
Rev. Philip Lowe
Janet Massey
Sr. Suzanne Mayer, IHM
Sophia Park
Anne Ramirez
Sr. Marguerite O'Beirne, OSF, ex officio

**A special thanks to former member, Margaret Stewart,
for her dedicated service on the NIFS Committee.**

CARE OF CREATION COMMITTEE FOR 2015-2016

Jacqueline Martin, Chair

Jason Bell
Scott Beadenkopf
Randall Detra
Patricia Fallest-Strobl
Joseph Gorman
Matthew Mastropaolo
Sr. MaryAnn McCarthy, OSF
Laura Strubeck
Sr. Diane Tomkinson, OSF
Jo Lynette Watley
Student, MaryKate McGurk
Science Lab Manager, TBA
Sr. Patricia Hutchison, OSF, ex officio



Peace and All Good as we begin another academic year!
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