

# Along the way

*"Were not our hearts burning within us as he opened the Scriptures for us along the way." — Luke 24:32*

A publication of **sabbath retreats**, the preaching ministry of Father Lou Papas



*Only a fantasy right now!*

## Anyone up for cross-country skiing?

Since there is little chance of my becoming a snowbird anytime soon, I've decided to stop fighting Cleveland's winters and use them to my advantage, to wit: taking up cross-country skiing to replace my warm weather biking routine.

The only problem is that at my age I should really not do this alone. In fact a biking accident this past summer makes me think that a biking companion might also be in my future.

Unfortunately, because of my work schedule, weekends are out of the question for either activity. So there are probably few who might be able to join me.

Nonetheless, it's worth a shot. So if you might be interested in some winter exercise give me a call (216) 267-7207.

I live about a mile from the Cottonwood Picnic Area in the Rocky River section of the Metro Parks—a perfect "level" spot for cross-country skiing. (See page 3 for more on the Emerald Necklace.)

## A trip down memory lane

Every time I'm assigned anywhere near southern Michigan, I stop by and visit some of the Dominican Sisters who I've known over the years.



*Sr. Rita Ann at First Mass Reception, May, 1988*

I was fortunate enough to preach recently at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel in Temperance, just a short drive to the Order's Motherhouse in Adrian.



*Sr. Rita Ann and Lou, September 12, 2010*

So I was able to visit Sister Ann Marie Snyder, a daughter of our childhood parish, and Sister Rita Ann Mocerri, who was my second grade teacher at that same St. Lawrence School in Cleveland. Rita Ann has always had a special place in our hearts since she first taught us about the Eucharist.

Sister will celebrate her 92nd birthday January 31st. She now spends a better part of her day helping out in the mailroom and ministering to the sisters at the Motherhouse Infirmary, as well as praying for me!

## The story that is changing how we see the world....

Two summers ago I attended a retreat at the River's Edge, the retreat and wellness center operated by the Sister of St. Joseph in Cleveland. The retreat was facilitated by Clevelander Judy Cannato, whose book, ***Radical Amazement***, was the focus of the retreat.

At the heart of the presentations was the idea that "the story" in which we center our experience of life has been changing dramatically over the last century and that that change has, or could, dramatically impact our faith and our relationship with our Creator. The change that had taken place was the stunning advances of science, especially in the area of cosmology, the study of the universe.

Science and the remarkable Hubble Space Telescope now have provided evidence that this universe is as much as 13.7 billion years old, that there are billions of galaxies beyond our own Milky Way, and that the universe continues to expand at a astounding rate.

Since I barely made it through chemistry in high school, all of this was "awesome" news to me, to say the least.

Over the next two years I began studying contemporary theologians and spiritual writers like Judy Cannato and Dominican Cletus Wessels as well as giants like Teilhard de Chardin and Karl Rahner to try to see where this might be leading my own spirituality and faith. Another retreat in 2009 at the River's Edge with the Australia Michael Morwood, led me to incorporate the "New Story" into my own prayer and eventually into my preaching.

What is most amazing about all of this new knowledge is that it begins to deepen our understanding of the Divine Covenant that is so evident in all of creation. For all its primitive imagery, Genesis, the prophets and the psalmists had it right, and we're just now beginning to see just how right they were. From St. Francis' *Canticle of the Sun* down to our own day in Marty Haugen's joyful response to the magnificence of God's creation, all we can do is humbly rejoice:

*The heavens are telling the glory of God  
And all creation is shouting for joy.  
Come dance in the forest  
Come play in the fields  
And sing, sing to the glory of the Lord.*



*Judy Cannato\* facilitated a retreat at The River's Edge the summer of 2008.*

### Some print resources for the New Story

Cannato, Judy. *Field of Compassion: How the New Cosmology Is Transforming Spiritual Life*. Notre Dame, IN: Sorin Books. 2010.

Cannato, Judy. *Radical Amazement: Contemplative Lessons from Black Holes, Supernovas, and Other Wonders of the Universe*. Notre Dame, IN: Sorin Books. 2006

Morwood, Michael. *Praying a New Story*. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Press, 2004.

Martignacco, Carole and Joy Troyer. *The Everything Seed: A Story of Beginnings*. Berkley, CA: Tricycle Press, 2006.

Wessels, O.P., Cletus. *Jesus in the New Universe Story*. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Press, 2003.

Wessels, O.P., Cletus. *The Holy Web: Church and the New Universe Story*. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Press, 2000.

### On the World Wide Web

Brian Swimme. *The New Story*. [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TRykk\\_0ovI0](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TRykk_0ovI0)

Fr. Thomas Berry and the Earth Community. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e0XBltUQ8qU&feature=related>

Brian Swimme: *Where Are We*. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sZckDXoFSy0&feature=related>

NASA's *The Hubble Space Telescope*. <http://hubblesite.org/>



# Cleveland's emerald necklace

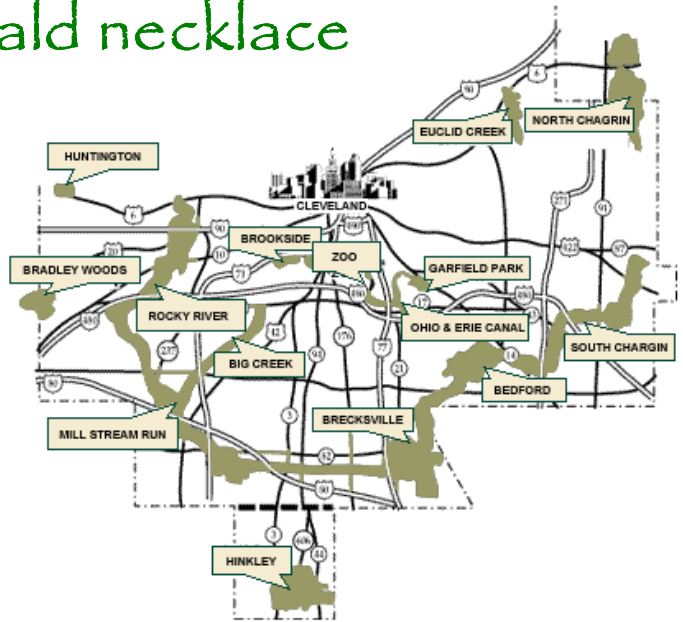
It's rather interesting that many in Northeastern Ohio are not all that familiar with the gem that is known as the Emerald Necklace.

This beautiful park-like setting encompasses most of the Greater Cleveland area and provides a myriad of recreational activities including biking, jogging, golf, and even tobogganing.

There are bridle paths and picnic areas, and some of the most beautiful scenery in the area.

I spend a great deal of time there on my bike. I now manage 10-30 miles a day when the weather and my schedule permit. On an early weekday morning the bike paths resemble the aisles of a towering verdant cathedral.

Check it out at <http://www.ohiobikeways.net/emerald.htm>



## A first class reunion

Fifty years ago I met the eight people in this photo, along with 102 of their fellow six graders in my first class at St. Therese School in Garfield Heights. I taught them for three years and those were some of the happiest days of my life as a teacher.

These eight put together a reunion (*Class of '62 Turns 62*) in May. They were able to track down 94 members of their class! I guess nearly fifty were at the event. First class all the way!

I can't wait for their 50th in 2013! And from what I've heard, neither can the rest of the class.



L to R: Guys: Larry Papesh, Tom Newell, Paul Moeller, Bill Roberts  
Gals: Beverly Briggs, Pat Pivonka, Barbara Welker, Jane Wigdalski

## The junior high teachers of the STS Class of '62



"Miss Good" (Genevieve Fioritto)



Joe Bazzichi & Lou, first men on the faculty at STS.



The nametag they made me wear!

## sabbath retreats

Rev. Lou Papes  
4519 West 193rd Street  
Cleveland, OH 44135

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Weekly homilies online at  
[www.sabbathretreats.org](http://www.sabbathretreats.org)

### Preaching Schedule: Fall, 2010

*Food for the Poor preaching assignments unless otherwise noted in **bold**.*

#### September, 2010

September 4-5

September 11-12 *Our Lady of Good Counsel* *Temperance, MI*

September 18-19 *Holy Angels* *Sandusky, OH*

September 25-26 *St. John* *Stillwater, OK*

#### October, 2010

October 2-3 *St. Simon the Apostle* *Cincinnati, OH*

October 9-10 *St. Eloi* *Theriot, LA*

October 16-17 *St. Thomas More* *Eugene, OR*

October 23-24 *St. Agnes* *Charleston, WV*

October 30-31 *Catholic Community* *Cheboygan, MI*

#### November 2010

**November 6-9** *Holy Spirit* *Great Falls, MT*

*Sabbath Retreats Parish Mission: Families of Faith*

November 13-14 *St. Anthony* *Cumberland, WI*

November 20-21 *St. Joseph* *Nortonville, KS*

November 26-27 *St. Thomas* *Zanesville, OH*

#### December, 2010

December 4-5 *St. Anthony* *Lac du Flambeau, WI*

December 11-12 *Good Shepherd* *Crane, TX*

December 18-19

December 24-26 *St. John* *North Charleston, SC*