

Franciscan¹ Footnotes²

1 Franciscan: Called like Francis of Assisi, the Sisters of St. Francis are messengers of peace, committed to works that reverence human dignity, embrace the poor and marginalized and respect the gift of all creation.

2 Footnotes: A publication of the Congregational Advancement Office of the Sisters of St. Francis of Sylvania, OH.

December 2019

"God never gives someone a gift they are not capable of receiving. If He gives us the gift of Christmas, it is because we all have the ability to understand and receive it." - Pope Francis

Time, Treasure...

Yesterday I spoke with my seven-year-old granddaughter who is thrilled about Advent and the eventual lead-in to Christmas. When I asked her what I could give her for Christmas, she said, "I just want to spend time with you." I was so touched by this simple request of my time. I delved a little further and she added, "You know... reading, baking, or just walking."

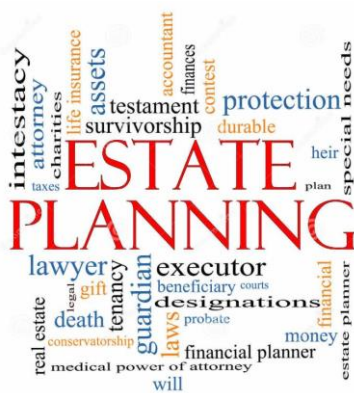
As the Sisters of St. Francis prepare for the beginning of Advent and celebration of Christmas, we remember that St. Francis was the one that brought us the crèche to celebrate Christ's birth.



On a (not so recent) pilgrimage to a village in Greccio, Italy, a place like no other, there were many styles of crèches from around the world. They are generally artistic and simple, some with more detail, but they all had the same images of Jesus, Mary and Joseph with cultural interpretations. I could have spent so much more time there than was allotted; being there truly etched in my mind that Christmas is about remembering the simple beginning.

As we begin our individual Advent preparations, in the words of a seven-year-old, your time is precious and is appreciated by all that know you. Happy Advent and Merry Christmas as we all prepare and treasure our time with others.

Eileen Kerner
Director of Congregational Advancement
Sisters of St. Francis



Author Paul Hood, FCEP, is a consultant and adviser to the Sylvania Franciscans.

Do you have a question for Paul?

Estate Planning with Paul Hood

The year-end issue

What's your most important estate planning advice?
What I say below may shock you, but I am resolute in my position:

What you do or don't do in your estate planning will affect the relationships of those who survive you. This is the most important advice I give everyone. Believe it or not, you wield significant power here, so be careful about its exercise.

You have an opportunity to plan so that your loved ones will still talk to one another after you're gone. Believe me, there's no quicker way to destroy a nuclear family than with a tone-deaf estate plan, or, worse yet, no estate plan. If you don't tend to your estate planning, you'll get the state's estate plan, which usually is not what you want.

[Continue Reading](#)

Ask it now! (You'll receive a response in 24-72 hours.)
Click here to read previous questions and answers

Read Sylvania Franciscan Sister Nancy Linenkugel's Latest Blog



SAYING THANK YOU

We have made it to another Thanksgiving holiday time. As usual, the day-after-Thanksgiving officially begins the Christmas shopping season, and with Thanksgiving being so late this year, there are only 3.5 weeks until Christmas. The...

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Aspirants Decorating the Tree



Judy Cunningham, Sister M. Ellen Cmiel, Diane Bipes, Associate Judy Miske, and, bending down, Sister Julitta Campbell in the Carmel House Community Room where they lived while attending St. Clare Academy.



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Upcoming Events December 2019

Feast of the Immaculate Conception Liturgy

Queen of Peace Chapel
10:30 a.m., Sunday, December 8

Advent Services

Queen of Peace Chapel
7:00 p.m. Wednesdays, December 4, 11 and 17

*The St. Clement's Choral Group performs on December 4.
All are welcome to join us for this joyous Advent occasion.*

St. Francis and the Animals

Canticle Center

2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m., Saturday, December 7

All are Welcome! Come walk with St. Francis and meet some new friends from God's Animal Kingdom. Fun for all ages.

Mass Schedule at Queen of Peace Chapel

Christmas Eve Mass

Tuesday, December 24 at 4:30 p.m.

Christmas Morning Mass

Wednesday, December 25, 9:00 a.m.

If you would like to discuss a planned gift for the Sylvania Franciscans, including Wills or Bequests, Life Insurance or IRA Retirement Plan/Beneficiary designation, please contact Eileen Kerner, Director of Congregational Advancement, ekerner@sistersosf.org or 419.824.3625.

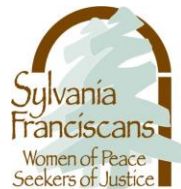
The Sisters of St. Francis of Sylvania, OH are grateful to you, our donors, for helping us continue to be messengers of peace through our [Sylvania Franciscan Ministries](#).

*The Sisters of St. Francis is a 501(c)(3) organization
and your donation is tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law.*

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Ministries of the Sisters of St. Francis

**Bethany House | Convent Park Apartments | Lourdes University
Our Lady of Grace Hall | Rosary Care Center | Sophia Counseling Center**



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