

## 2006 Archived News From Jim Wade

The following is an "archived" copy of 2006 "Updates" from Jim Wade.

\*\*\*\*\*Year End Update 2006\*\*\*\*\*

### Status of the "Farm" and Ruth Ann

The "Farm" had a very busy year during 2006. In addition to the monthly retreats sponsored by Mary's children and the Franciscans of the Immaculate, we hosted many other retreats throughout the year. I will attempt to name a few of those for examples:

The Lafayette, Indiana diocese used our facilities for their Seminarian Retreat in August and December. The retreat center has been the site chosen for several confirmation retreats by parishes in the Archdiocese of Indianapolis. We had youth ministers here, and several parishes have utilized the center for private retreats for different groups in the parishes. St. Meinrad's Seminary students being ordained deacons were here in August for a week long retreat prior to their final year before ordination to the priesthood. The largest undertaking was the hosting of the "Consumed" weekend for high school age students. We had approximately 180 plus young people plus about 40-50 volunteers. This is a retreat put on by the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, centered around the Eucharist.

### Convent Preparation:

The year also found us busy preparing the original house on the property (our former home) as a convent. The entire house was painted on the inside, ceramic tile placed on all formerly carpeted floors, restoring the hardwood floors that were in the house, and building some walls to make additional sleeping areas for the sisters. All of the work was completed by volunteers. May God Bless Them!

The Duplex. Before we began work on the convent, we had to prepare living quarters for Fr. Norbert and Br. Rudy, CSC, who had lived in the house. One of the houses on the property owned by Mary's Children, was changed into a duplex for them. We divided the house in the middle with a chapel in between.

### Franciscan Sisters of the Immaculate:

The Franciscan Sisters of the Immaculate arrived at the "Farm" in September. There are currently 4 sisters in residence at the convent. As well as getting settled and establishing a new convent, the sisters have also assumed much work at Mother of the Redeemer Retreat Center. They help clean the Guest House rooms after retreats; they work in the ministry providing the child care/youth retreats. They have helped cook for retreats, helped Br. Rudy with Sacristan duties and cleaning the Chapel and the Retreat Center.

Grateful to Archbishop Daniel Buechlein O.S. B. and Fr. Stefano M. Manelli F.I: We feel extremely blessed by having both the Friars and the Sisters of the Immaculate at the retreat center. We thank Archbishop Daniel Buechlein O.S. B. and Fr. Stefano M. Manelli F.I., the cofounder of the Franciscans of the Immaculate for allowing this to happen.

A message to Ruth Ann: In late 2005, Ruth Ann was told that she would be returning to the Farm and that she was to adopt the Franciscan Spirituality. Early in 2006, she was told she would return the day after Easter, April 17, 2006, to begin this training. She was to attend the 6:30 a.m. Mass the Friars have each day Monday thru Saturday and evening Vespers/Holy Hour, 7 – 8 p.m. in the chapel. She also attends retreats that are given by the Friars. The Blessed Mother further said she, Ruth Ann, was to do anything else Fr. Michael Gauvreau F.I. told her to do, or as the Blessed Mother said it, "Do whatever he tells you." Monday thru Friday we reside in a house that adjoins the Farm property and on weekends, we return to our home. As the Blessed Mother explains our living arrangements, we are as one attending school away from home and returning to our normal activities for the weekend at home.

OBEDIENCE: There seems to be one word that sums up the requests that are asked of Ruth Ann and that is OBEDIENCE! The Blessed Mother has often said they wish Ruth Ann to be an example to others as to just how important Obedience is to God's desires for us.

For all who have supported the "Farm": Since we're not sure of exactly what the requests will be in 2007, we ask that you keep us in your prayers so that we may continue to do those things "that are requested." We have successfully completed our buildings, renovations, and are now in a different growth requirement. We have our Franciscan priests, sisters, and minimal lay staff to support as well as the property maintenance, utility expenses, equipment, operational supplies, monthly newsletters. Building and construction is more visible, but proper operation is equally imperative. For all of our faithful supporters, especially those that have committed monetarily each month, we rely upon God in His generosity to reward you as only He can. We promise you that we pray daily for all who have supported the "Farm" through prayer, volunteering or monetarily.

Blessed Mother said: Now that the Friars and Sisters of the Immaculate are in residence at the Farm the Blessed Mother said "all is in place."

May God continue to bless us all, ....Jim Wade

ALSO....

Check our Website that is updated each month [www.maryschildren.com](http://www.maryschildren.com) and also you may sign up for e-news. Go to the web site and under messages, you will be able to enroll in e-news.

If you are receiving more than one copy of the monthly Newsletter, please tell us so that we may eliminate the extra one. (Call 812-254-3474 and give us the name, address and zip code.)

If you are receiving a copy of the monthly Newsletter and do not wish to continue, call 812-254-3474 and give us the name, address and zip code. We do not wish to offend anyone with unwanted mail. (Leave a message on our answering machine).

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\*\*\*\*Mid-Year Update 2006\*\*\*\*

Note: October 7th (2006) was a Marian Day of Prayer Jim Wade gave an update on the Farm and Ruth Ann during the Marian Day of Prayer. There have been many changes at the Farm. This was an opportunity to see and visit with the Franciscan Sisters who have established a convent at the Farm.

As of April 17, 2006, Ruth Ann was instructed to return to the Farm for Daily Mass at 6:30 a.m. She was told to adapt the Franciscan Spirituality. Fr. Michael Gauvreau FI, the superior at the Friary located here, now serves as her spiritual director. The Blessed

Mother in giving her the basic guidelines as to what she could do now back at the Farm, has also said in referring to Fr. Michael, "Do whatever he tells you." As a result Ruth Ann attends 6:30 a.m. Mass, Monday-Saturday, 7:00-8:00 p.m. Holy Hour/Vespers Monday Friday and Sunday and any retreats where the Friars serve as the retreat master. All of this the Blessed Mother says is in preparation for the final phase of what Ruth Ann will be expected to do while still on this earth. Recently, the Blessed Mother has asked her to be more reserved while at the Farm. Specifically not to give hugs or participate in idle chatter. She may greet people as they greet her.

The Sisters of the Immaculate have opened a convent at the Farm. There are 4 sisters who will be in residence. The sisters will be helping in the Guest House work, the kitchen/dining room and various other activities, such as working with the children at the 3rd weekend retreats and in the bookstore. The sisters' convent is in the original house on the farm.