

August 2021

# The Connection

A Publication from Mission San Luis Rey



## Oh What a Blessed Summer!

What a summer we're having at the Mission! So much has happened over the last several months, and so much more to come in the next couple of months. Last week, over 100 painters came together at the Mission as part of the Oceanside Museum of Art's Plein Art Festival. What a great opportunity to support each other and our Oceanside community. It was wonderful to see the images of the Mission and our city painted from so many different and unique perspectives and these were proudly displayed at the Oceanside Museum of Art for all to see and enjoy.

After 20 long years, construction has begun on the retirement community at Mission San Luis Rey. This was a project that originated with the late Fr. Ben Innes, OFM. After many prayers and a lot of patience, construction has started. In partnership with Oppidan, LLC, Watermark Retirement Communities, and W.E. O'Neil Construction, the leased land will consist of a retirement community with 213 rooms, a wellness center,

fitness center, multiple dining rooms, a swimming pool, and much more. There will be accommodations for independent living, assisted living, and memory care. The retirement community is scheduled to be completed in September 2023. We'll keep you updated on the progress of the project.

If you've driven past the Mission in the last couple of weeks you probably saw that the Mission was covered by tents. Working with Hume Fumigation, the Mission was tented to fumigate for termites. The last time tenting was done was in 1985. As you can image this was a lot of work for our staff and the friars, as they had to leave their home and offices during this time. Our maintenance staff worked many hours to prepare the buildings for tenting. Our kitchen staff spent many hours ensuring that everything in the kitchen was protected. Hume Fumigation did a great job respecting our beloved, historic landmark. We're glad it's done for another 35 or so years! Since the start of the

pandemic last spring, folks have continued to visit the Mission as a place for peace and spiritual reflection; whether on a private retreat, walking the grounds, or visiting a loved one in the cemetery. We're so delighted that we are able to offer all of our wonderful summer retreats in-person, including Fr. Tom Herbst's return for his lecture series, and our adult summer retreat.

Opening the Historic Church for Masses again has been the biggest blessing for us this summer. I know so many of you in our community have been eager for our noon Mass to resume, as has our staff. Parishioners who attend the 7am and 7pm Sunday Masses are happy to have "their" Mass back as well. Resuming Mass makes us feel that we are whole again. We pray the positive momentum will continue. Bless you all for your continued support of the Mission and our Oceanside community.

Peace and all good,

*Gwyn Grimes*  
Executive Director

# Mission EVENTS

- **August 27, 2021**  
**Feast of San Luis Rey**  
Mass starts at 5:30pm on the front steps of the Historic Church followed by a procession, food and entertainment. (Due to cost, there will be NO fireworks this year.)
- **September 17 | 7PM**  
**September 18 | 2 PM**  
**Tribute Concert with the San Luis Rey Chorale in the Historic Church**  
Dessert reception in the Sacred Garden immediately following the Friday night performance.
- **October 2, 2021**  
**10am- 3pm**  
**Blessing of the Animals**
- **December 3 | 7pm**  
**December 4 | 2pm**  
**Annual Christmas Concert with the San Luis Rey Chorale in the Historic Church**  
Dessert reception in the Sacred Garden immediately following the Friday night performance.
- **Every Weekend**  
**Behind-the-Scenes Tours**  
Saturdays at 11am and Sundays at 1pm. Visit our website for times and availability.

*Reservations are highly recommended.*

[www.sanluisrey.org](http://www.sanluisrey.org)

## Welcome Our New Museum Director



We're so pleased to introduce you to Helena Hazelton. Helena has joined our Mission team as the new Museum Director. Helena has been a volunteer at the Mission for several years as a docent for our 4th graders, and for our behind-the-scenes tours. She has also

led our Art Tours. Helena comes to the Mission with a degree in Art History from Universidad Iberoamericana, Campus Ciudad de México. Her extensive knowledge of Mexican art and her Franciscan spirit makes Helena a perfect fit for the job. Welcome Helena!

## Gift Shop

This month, the Mission Gift Shop is featuring Talavera Crosses. Talavera is a style of pottery produced in Puebla, Mexico since the 16th century. It has influences of both native and Spanish pottery. It was used in Colonial Mexico to make tiles that decorated buildings, churches and monasteries. It's "golden age" was in the 1600's and 1700's. It's traditional blue on white pattern was a direct influence from China's Ming Dynasty vases. Chinese pottery made its way to Colonial Mexico via the Manila Galleon that connected the Spanish Colonies in the Americas, and the Philippines via the Pacific Ocean. The addition of colors such as yellow and orange are

from Italian influence in the 1700's and 1800's.

Today, traditional Talavera is still handcrafted in specialized workshops in the city of Puebla, in central Mexico.

Stop by the Gift shop and see the beautiful selection of Talavera crosses and many other wonderful religious and gift items, as well as Mission souvenirs!



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## Franciscan CORNER

### Meet Br. Henri Djojo



Br. Henri Djojo, ofm, was born and raised in Indonesia. After leaving his birth country in 1989, he started learning about the hospitality industry in Singapore

and Switzerland. He then studied at Boston College focusing on Information Systems and Studio Arts, earning a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in 1997. In May 2001, he received a Master's Degree in Architecture from the Rhode Island School of Design and went on to work as an Architectural Designer in Boston, Singapore and San Francisco as his passion for hospitality architectural design flourished.

In 2010, while in San Francisco, Br. Henri had a brief encounter with the late friar, Richard Purcell, OFM, and revisited his innate desire to join religious life. After a serious discernment and a spiritual director's help,

Br. Henri began his initial formation program in 2014 with the Franciscan Friars of the St. Barbara Province. His personal and communal prayer practices have led him to spiritual growth. After several years and living in various communities in the order, he has flourished as a Franciscan brother.

Br. Henri recently completed the Master of Divinity program at the Franciscan School of Theology. He is expected to take his solemn profession in August 2021. Br. Henri is generous with his time in accompanying the brothers in the community and the people of God at large.

### Mission Grounds Coffee Shop



Stop by our coffee shop and enjoy the beautiful rose garden while sipping on your favorite hot or cold beverage and eating a sweet treat. While you're there, you can also purchase a fresh flower bouquet for any occasion, including cemetery visits.

**Open Mon-Sat 9am-3pm,  
Sundays 8am-3pm.**

### Tribute Concert

Our first major event after restrictions due to the pandemic, will be a Tribute Concert in memory of those we have lost to Covid-19. The San Luis Rey Chorale will be back to provide a lovely concert with songs of remembrance, meditation and hope.

Everyone is invited to bring a photo of someone they know who has passed away from Covid-19 to place on a memory board. Also, there will be an opportunity to present the names of loved ones as an offering before the music begins.

The Tribute concert is on Friday, September 17th at 7pm followed by a dessert reception. There will be an encore performance on Saturday, September 18th at 2pm (no dessert reception.)

*Hope to see you there.*



# Retreats & EVENTS

## Meet our Cemetery Team

- **August 11, 2021**  
9:00am - 3:00pm  
**Day of Recollection: Feast of St. Clare**  
*Fr. Tom Herbst*
- **August 15-August 20**  
**Annual Summer Retreat**  
*Designed for adults 45 and over*
- **September 17 | 9am - 2pm**  
**Day of Recollection: St Francis and the Transforming Power of the Eucharist**  
*Fr. Vince Mesi, OFM*
- **September 25, 2021**  
**Living Compassion in the Real World**  
*Sr. Mary Dean Pfahler, SND*
- **October 4, 2021**  
**Day of Recollection: Feast of St. Francis of Assisi**  
*Fr. Vince Mesi, OFM*



Danielle Napoli, Sarah Gardner, and Stephanie Lopez work in our cemetery office. They help support and guide families through the difficult time of planning a funeral for a loved one. They're also there to help folks who have made the decision to preplan for their funeral, which can be uncomfortable and intimidating, until you realize it's not. Fr. Anthony Garibaldi, OFM, is our Cemetery Chaplain. Through God's grace, Fr. Anthony presides over funeral Masses and services, sometimes even imparting a little humor.

Jairo Cardona and Eduardo Ronzon keep our cemetery looking beautiful every day. Together with our office staff, they work diligently to ensure that every funeral honors the life of families loved ones. We are blessed to have such thoughtful and caring people in our cemetery ministry.



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- **Quiet Days**  
Spend a day away from it all at the Mission.
  - **Private Retreats**  
Spend time in solitude and personal spiritual reflection without participation in a formal program.

*Visit our website for more information and to make reservations.*

[www.sanluisrey.org](http://www.sanluisrey.org)

## Care for Creation

Thrift stores are becoming more and more popular, and for good reason. Thrift stores provide not only a place for us to find great deals, to donate our unwanted purchases (and keep them out of landfills), but most importantly they support so many important charities. Thrift stores are an important source of revenue for charities, who then provide support for people, animals, and even Mother Earth. Your donations to thrift stores are tax deductible as well. Make sure you get a receipt and keep track of the items you donate throughout the year; it can make a difference at tax time. So, the next time you're cleaning out your closet or need a serving platter, consider a thrift store. Mother Earth thanks you!!

