



*Sisters of St. Francis
of Mary Immaculate*

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PRESS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

Franciscan Autumn Feast Proves to be an Evening of Fundraising and Fun

(Joliet, IL - October 28, 2011) The 22nd Annual Franciscan Autumn Feast held on October 16, 2011 at the Bolingbrook Golf Club proved to be an evening of fundraising and fun. This year's event raised over \$33,000 and will help underwrite the Sisters of St. Francis of Mary Immaculate's upcoming 2012 General Chapter expenses. The evening was highlighted by the award ceremony as well as the musical entertainment provided by the Sisters' own Joliet Franciscan Choir.

This year the Joliet Franciscan Sisters honored Ms. Karen Fleshman of Columbus, Ohio, with the Mother Alfred Award which is given to an individual who emulates and embodies the same vision and service as the Congregation's foundress, Mother Alfred Moes. Also, presented were two Joliet Franciscan Heritage Awards. The honorees were George and Regina Block and Father James Lennon for their exceptional and unending examples of service, dedication and enrichment, to both their immediate Joliet community and beyond. In gratitude, after each award presentation, the Joliet Franciscan Choir sang various selections of sacred music in tribute to each honoree.

Various raffles, including a basket raffle, cash raffle, TV raffle, and 50/50 raffle were held throughout the evening. Over fifty silent auction items, including Sr. David Ann Hoy's decadent chocolate fudge, Sr. Yvonne Weidner's scrumptious holiday pies, and the cooking duo of Sr. Mary Rose Lieb and Ms. Nan Nagl, offering of their delectable German/Slovak dinner as well as Sr. Sue Bruno's Italian "Mangia, Mangia" dinner were favorites among the attendees. The goal of the evening was to raise money for the Sisters' upcoming 2012 General Chapter expenses. The Sisters also thanked the various sponsors, friends, benefactors and attendees for helping make this fundraising event possible. Special thanks was given to Joliet-owned businesses, including Panera Bread-Joliet, Cemenò's Pizza, Joliet Area Historical Museum, The Department Restaurant, Bob Campbell Photography, Mickey's Tire & Service Centers, American Sales, David Nelson's Exquisite Jewelry, Councilman Mike Turk and the City of Joliet, and Grant's Appliances, Electronics and More for their wonderful auction items. More information on this year's Franciscan Feast can be view on the Joliet Franciscan Sisters' website: www.jolietfranciscans.org

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