

BEAUTIFICATION AS MERCIFUL SERVICE

The Order of Mercy Plans Clean-ups Across the Country

As responsible citizens we are all striving to be more green. And the mystics at the Centers of Light are taking green to a whole new level. Reverend Simone Locke, a priest at the Charlotte Center, explains, “We know that having peace, order and integrity within leads us to create order and peace in the outer world and, conversely, creating order and peace in the outer world supports peace within. This is one of the reasons we have The Order of Mercy.”

The Order of Mercy is a suborder at the Centers of Light across the country whose mission is to serve the elderly and organize clean-ups in neighborhoods. The brothers and sisters of the Order of Mercy have taken vows to serve their cities through the Order of Mercy or OM, thereby lifting the spirits of their neighbors. The OM Brothers and Sisters take one year temporary vows after which they can apply to take lifetime vows to continue giving loving service in the communities in which they live.

Sister Margaret Arney of the OM heads up the green cleanups in Milwaukee, which include the following:

- April 26th: Clean up the area around Brady St and Prospect Ave, as an extension of Earth Day activities, 10 AM
- May 26th: Clean up Veterans Park area during the Memorial Day weekend.
- July 5th: Clean up Bradford Beach as part of National Beach Cleanup Day.

She says, “This is the answer to my prayers. I feel grateful for the opportunity to serve the people in this city and to help bring peace to the streets and neighborhoods of Milwaukee.”

After previous cleanups, Order of Mercy members have observed, “In the end the place was sparkling with love and light, the green tall grasses and weeds looked fresh and healthy, and a butterfly flew around us.” “It brought such joy to my heart to feel all the love up and down the street and to see yellow t-shirts everywhere.” “There was a feeling of sacredness around the entire morning” “I feel what a difference we make in loving one another and also the space we move in.” This is testimony of the love and peace that fills the heart when one chooses the path of service to our neighbors, to our city, and to our earth.

The Order of Mercy welcomes volunteers who would like to experience the joy of making our common spaces beautiful at these clean-ups.

Contact information:

Deacon Christa Rathe, Director of Media Relations for The Centers of Light
720-381-8458

Christa@CentersOfLight.org

Photos and information on The Order of Mercy are available at:

www.CentersOfLight.org/OM.html

###