

College of the Holy Cross

CrossWorks

---

Desert Pilgrimage Newsletter

Newsletters

---

5-1-1987

## Desert Pilgrimage Newsletter, May 1, 1987

Follow this and additional works at: <https://crossworks.holycross.edu/dca001-dese-az-1984>



Part of the [Catholic Studies Commons](#), and the [Disability Studies Commons](#)

---

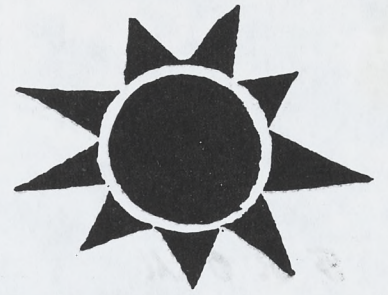
### Repository Citation

"Desert Pilgrimage Newsletter, May 1, 1987" (1987). *Desert Pilgrimage Newsletter*. 10.  
<https://crossworks.holycross.edu/dca001-dese-az-1984/10>

This Newsletter is brought to you for free and open access by the Newsletters at CrossWorks. It has been accepted for inclusion in Desert Pilgrimage Newsletter by an authorized administrator of CrossWorks.



# DESERT PILGRIMAGE



*Pilgrim, there is no pathway,  
you make that path.*

---

A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION BY AND FOR THE DISABLED.....PHOENIX, ARIZONA  
Volume 12, Edition 3.....August/October, 1987

---



*Phoenix* U·N·I·T·Y  
IN THE WORK OF SERVICE  
FIRST PASTORAL VISIT TO ARIZONA, SEPTEMBER 14, 1987

---

*F R O M*



*Fr. Bob Nicht, PDP*

*Just recently I was able to attend a conference on "Genetic Disorders and Pastoral Care." One of the speakers, Sister Delores Wilson, of the Archdiocese of Washington, developed her talk from a miracle story in John's Gospel, (5:1-9). She drew some interesting points from this Gospel passage that I would like to share with you.*

*The passage relates how Jesus came upon the pool called Bethzatha. The pool was surrounded by a large number of sick and disabled people. Ever so often, an angel came and stirred the waters and the first person in the waters was cured. Jesus came up to a person who had been in the pool area for thirty-eight years. Jesus asked him why he had been there for so long and the person answered because he had no one to carry him to the water.*

*He had no one to take him to the water. This is a very important statement for persons with disabilities and the Christian community. If we are to be community at all it should never have to be said by anyone that they have no one to take them to the water. It becomes terribly important that we as community assist each other. We can never ignore each other. We must be community for each other.*

*But there is another side to this coin. Maybe the question has to be raised: why didn't anyone help this man in thirty-eight years? Is it possible that his man did not make himself lovable? Did he himself hold people back by his attitude? Were people afraid to help him because of the attack on their personalities this person might inflict on them? These are very important questions that we have to ask ourselves if we are to be community. We can never fill so sorry for ourselves and our situation that we prevent people from honestly reaching out to us.*

*So there are two sides to forming Christian Community, especially if we need special assists. One, we must make every effort to help each other and second, we must not put people off by our own poor attitudes.*

*Ofcourse the bottom line is always Jesus. He simply reached out and helped no matter what the situation was. This is what we all strive to do, but we certainly can make life easier on each other by being open to each others needs and also to accepting graciously the help of others in our need.*

\*\*\*\*\*

## PAPAL VISIT

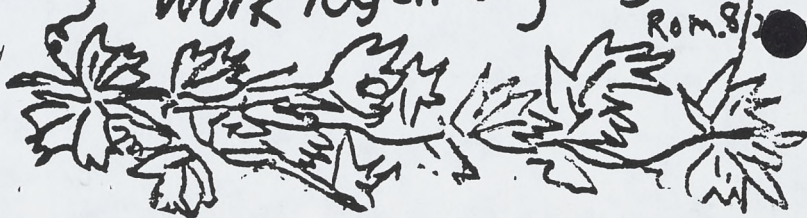
The Papal visit is fast approaching this town. Most of the details for our Holy Father's visit are in place. People who have requested tickets from this office have already been notified.

One of the biggest projects needing to be worked out yet is transportation. We have yet to learn how many and where the buses are going to be located. There will be a separate entrance for persons in wheelchairs. Anyone driving their own cars will have to have a special parking pass from our office to be able to park in the handicapped parking. NO ONE will be able to park there if they haven't a pass, even with a handicapped plate. If you are in a wheelchair and received a ticket from our office, please let us know if you will need a pass. We will send the pass with the tickets. Maps and other information will accompany the ticket also.

If you can, come early, be patient and be prepared for the weather by wearing cool (but appropriate) clothing and hats. There will be first-aid stations, concession stands and water stations set-up.

We would like to remind you of the other sites for viewing the visit. The central avenue motorcade from St. Joseph's Hospital will begin approximately at 9:30 a.m. It will travel down Central Avenue to Monroe, ending at St. Mary's Basilica around 10 a.m. We are still working on wheelchair seating along the parade route and at St. Mary's. Hopefully, we can get this information to you via the CATHOLIC SUN. There will be about 12 areas along the parade route designated for wheelchair seating. The parade committee will have to know who will be at these areas.

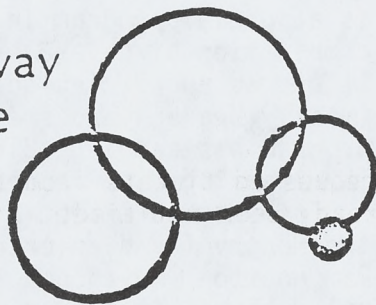
*God makes all things  
Work together for good.  
Rom. 8/28*



# SPECIAL MINISTRY WITH DISABLED

## Retreat

A place to get away  
from all the noise  
and just pray  
and talk to God.



This years Desert Pilgrim Retreat will be held on October 2-3-4, 1987 at the Franciscan Renewal Center, 5802 E. Lincoln Dr., Scottsdale. Our retreat director will be Rev. Glen Willis, S.D.S. from Silver Spring, MD.

The retreat is open to men and women. We need men and women to serve as assistants to persons needing help for the weekend. Accommodations are made to meet all the needs of persons attending. We are also in need of a nurse to be on hand for the entire weekend. This is a retreat experience for all who attend.

The cost is \$50.00 for retreatants and can be paid in installments. We have a limited number of rooms this year. So we suggest getting your reservations in early. An application is in this newsletter. Call our office at 997-6105 for more information and applications.

Sharing this one weekend a year has always been an enriching experience for all who attend. The friendliness and love which abounds from all directions helps us to perceive our ministry not only as doing - but as a ministry of being present to. The 'doing for' is secondary to just 'being present'. Many friendships are formed throughout the year.

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION WORKSHOP

Families wanting special religious education classes for their son or daughter, should call their parish to register their children. If no class is being taught, you might ask if one can be started, otherwise inquire as to the nearest location for a class. Tucson Diocese is coordinating a two day Religious Education Workshop September 26 & 27 in Casa Grande. Sr. Rita Baum, Director of National Catholic Office for Disabled Persons will give one workshop.

continued...

It is open to any special religious education teacher or anyone thinking about teaching special religious education this Fall. Call our office at 997-6105 for reservations and more information.



CATHOLICS UNITED FOR SPIRITUAL ACTION

Catholics United for Spiritual Action has been serving the disabled community since 1947. Members of CUSA come from all walks of life, all ages, and every chronic illness and physical disability. Cusans are united in small groups of 8 people with a priest/deacon spiritual advisor in each group. The members of each group are scattered geographically. A group-letter circulates among the 8 members of each group. Each member reads the messages of the other Cusans and then adds his/her own thoughts. Cusans share their joys and trials in a family atmosphere of warmth and concern. With time, the members of a CUSA Group become a close-knit family. CUSA membership is open to everyone who has a physical state of health which is an occasion for sacrifice. For further information write to: CUSA, 176 W. 8th St. Bayonne, NJ 07002

### INTERPRETED MASSES FOR THE DEAF

St. Daniel the Prophet - 9 a.m. Sunday  
1030 N Hayden RD

St. Gregory's - 9 a.m. Sunday  
18th Ave. & Osborn

St. Jerome's - 7 p.m. Sunday  
10815 N 35th Ave.

St. Mark's - 10 a.m. Sunday  
400 N 30th St.

KINO Institute (Mass for the Deaf)  
1224 E. Northern (2nd Sunday of month) 11 a.m.  
(Starting October 11, 1987)

*Consider: The more of heaven there is  
in our lives, the less of earth we shall  
covet.*  
The Handley Herald

# WHERE TO LOOK FOR SERVICES

---

## *Countrywide Homes*

Countrywide Homes, of Arizona, has a new "Barrier-Free" Manufactured Home. It is built by Palm Harbor Homes, specifically to meet the needs of the nation's physically disabled and their families. The home is on permanent display at Countrywide Homes, Prescott Valley, AZ.

Special thanks go to "Access Unlimited for Barrier-Free Living" (a non-profit Arizona corporation dedicated to serving the needs of the physically disabled) for its major contribution in the development of this needed housing solution.

You are invited to direct inquiries about this, other models, and area availability, to: Countrywide Homes, 7875 E. Highway 69, Prescott Valley, AZ 86314 (602)-254-4470.

---

## LIONS FOUNDATION OF ARIZONA

The Lions Foundation of Arizona (LFA) is a state project of Arizona Lions Clubs, founded in 1961. Its primary purpose is to provide physical facilities, at the lowest possible cost, to organizations serving the blind, deaf and handicapped. The LFA also provides low cost housing to the blind, the handicapped, and their close relatives. The LFA Information Bureau assists the community by answering numerous questions regarding the available services for those in need. To find out more, call 244-9757. It is located at 1016 N 32nd St.

---

## **COMMUNITY INFORMATION AND REFERRAL SERVICES**

Community Information and Referral Services is providing a 24 hour statewide information and referral for health-impaired and physically disabled children and their families in service areas such as medical, psycho/social, education, transportation, financial, advocacy and support. People residing in Maricopa can telephone 263-8856. Anywhere else in Arizona call toll-free 1-800-352-3792. The new service was provided by a grant from the AZ Dept. of Health Services as mandated by Senate Bill 1312 signed into law by Governor Bruce Babbitt on May 2, 1986.

---

## SPECIAL PERSON FOR SPECIAL PROGRAM

"Heraldos de Christo", Messengers of Christ, is a special program in Huascar, Peru. It's a combination of several scouting-type programs. It's coed and it includes handicapped children (mostly hearing and speech impaired). The program has camping, Bible studies, and similar learning experiences.

For such an exceptional program, Food for the Hungry found an exceptional volunteer, Pam Houston. Although limited by cerebral palsy since birth, Pam was able to complete the Hunger Corps field training and was accepted as a volunteer.

"This bold and courageous young woman proved an example to those of us with less limitations.," said Darrow Miller, Hunger Corps director. "We hope and pray she will bring courage to others the world has labeled 'handicapped'. We also hope that her service will open the door a little wider for those Christians who, because of some impairment, have not been allowed to serve Christ overseas."

---

## EMPLOYMENT, EDUCATION - JTPA

The Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services of the U.S. Department of Education, and the Administration on Developmental Disabilities of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services are developing plans to increase employment of persons with disabilities and assist in the transition from school to work. The Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA) provides assistance to those with disabilities in local communities. The Carl Perkins Vocational Education Act earmarks 10% of state allocations for persons with handicaps.

Post-secondary education opportunities for persons with handicaps has increased. For information call or write the Higher Education and the Handicapped Resource Center (HEATH) One Dupont Circle, N.W., Suite 670, Washington, DC 20036.

---

*One thing you can give and still keep  
is your word.*



## Pilgrims Progress

continued....

Leona Miller (840-1490) is our Chairperson with Linda Chagnon (942-5517) ably assisting her. Ticket chairperson is Irene Surdyk, (956-6947). If you can help, please give these ladies a call.

The theme of the Ball will be "Let's Celebrate America" so bring out your red, white and blue and join in for a real star-spangled celebration!

● have a few items of interest for our DESERT PILGRIMAGE readers this month. We have in our possession a 3-wheeler Schwinn bicycle, with a basket on the back. It is a great mode of transportation for anyone who can't get around in a car, (even with a car). It is also a good exerciser for stiff legs. We are selling this bike for \$100. The money will be used to defray the cost of the Desert Pilgrim Retreat for two persons. Call Phyllis at 997-6105.

The KIDS ON THE BLOCK Puppeteers gave 40 performances for school audiences and adult groups this last year. They were performed by our one adult and one high school troupe. It has been very difficult to train new puppeteers. All my present puppeteers started out not knowing a thing about operating the puppets or performing the scripts. It is through doing the same scripts (for 40 and more performances) that they have become so accomplished and confident. After viewing our troupes in action, prospective puppeteers become very apprehensive about joining, thinking they could never do the same job. Each puppeteer brings to a performance, their own personality to the puppet and script they are performing. This difference brings a special warmth which makes for some amusing incidents. Each performance gets easier and easier. It is a commitment to make, but I would like some new troupes. We get requests for performances from all over the valley, which becomes difficult for the present troupes to make all the time. Anyone interested, call Phyllis at 997-6105 for more information.



CAREERS AND THE HANDICAPPED, a magazine devoted to information useful to persons with disabilities. Published twice a year, contains an information section in Braille and a recorded sound sheet. Equal Opportunity Publications, Inc., 44 Broadway, Greenlaw, NY 11740. \$10

LIVING WITH A BROTHER AND SISTER WITH SPECIAL NEEDS is written for siblings of children with disabilities. Cost, \$9.95 plus \$1 shipping. Gray's Book Co. 1821 Solano Ave., Berkeley, CA 94707

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR!



10th Annual HARVEST BALL  
November 15, 1987

The 10th Annual Harvest Ball, sponsored by the Office of Special Services is set for Sunday, November 15, 1987 from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. at St. Agnes' Donahue Hall, 1954 N 24th St. Tickets are \$5 per person and includes a light supper. We are honored to have as our honorary chairperson, the "Family Circus" creator, Bil Keane. Music will be by Ray the DJ and of course, our wheelchair dancers will thrill us with their graceful dances.

MEETING THE CHALLENGE OF DISABILITY OR CHRONIC ILLNESS - A FAMILY GUIDE is written for persons with disabilities, parents and professionals and helps answer many questions related to coping. Cost: \$14.95 prepaid. Brookes Publishing Co. P.O. Box 10624, Baltimore, MD 21285

\*\*\*\*\*

*When one door closes, another opens. But we so often look so long and so regretfully upon the closed door that we do not see the one which has been opened before us.*

Alexander G. Bell

## Office seeks info on needs for handicapped

The diocesan Office of Special Services is trying to determine the needs of handicapped people in the diocese. The office works in pastoral ministry for persons with all types of mental and physical disabilities.

An advisory board is attempting to determine whether there is a need for a Christian residential home for the mentally handicapped. They ask that anyone with a mentally handicapped family member return the following coupon to:

Office of Special Services  
for Disable Persons  
1825 W. Northern Ave.  
Phoenix, AZ 85021

If you have a mentally handicapped person in your care:

Do you have a need for Christian residential placement?

YES   
PART-TIME   
FULL-TIME   
NO

When might you need such a service?

NOW   
IN FIVE YEARS   
IN TEN YEARS

Your name \_\_\_\_\_

Parish \_\_\_\_\_

Age of mentally handicapped person \_\_\_\_\_

Dear Father Bob,

My husband and I have a 36 year old daughter who is mentally retarded, cerebral palsied, epileptic and in need of total care. We are planning to turn our 3000 square foot home into a small group home to accommodate our daughter and 2 or 3 others with similar needs. Our problem is finding other parents having a daughter with the same needs as ours, who may wish to join us in establishing a permanent home for them which will continue after we are gone. It is our intention to provide excellent care now, and to incorporate safeguards so that the quality of care will still be provided after our death.

The purpose of joining with other parents is that costs will be shared and companionship provided; plus if one set of parents passes away the others will see that care is continued

for all.

I have employed licensed practical nurses for the past 10 years to help me care for my daughter, but now feel the time has come for permanent 24 hour care.

I would greatly appreciate it if you could put me in touch with other parents with needs similar to mine.

Sincerely,  
Rita Prassa

(Anyone wishing to get in touch with Rita, can call our office at 997-6105 or write to us at 1825 W. Northern Ave, Phoenix, AZ85021.)



OFFICE OF SPECIAL SERVICES  
FOR DISABLED PERSONS  
1825 W. Northern  
Phoenix, AZ 85021



The Diocesan Office of Special Services for Disabled Persons is here to serve you. Anyone wishing to receive our newsletter or if you would like to send in articles concerning disabled persons or activities, please send to:

Desert Pilgrimage  
1825 W. Northern Ave.  
Phoenix, AZ 85021

We are quarterly and the deadline for the next issue is October 15, 1987.

Director - Rev. Robert Wicht, SDS  
Coor. HC Programs - Phyllis Vogelsang  
Coor. Deaf Services - Dee Hostetler  
Coor. Blind Services - Bill Bidleman

Please advise us of any change of address. Returned newsletters cost 25¢ each. Call the office at 997-6105

# APPLICATION

DESERT PILGRIM RETREAT

OCTOBER 2,3,4, 1987

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

SEX \_\_\_\_\_ AGE \_\_\_\_\_ ABLE BODIED: yes \_\_\_\_\_ no \_\_\_\_\_ IF DISABLED, STATE DISABILITY: \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE CHECK

AREAS OF ASSISTANCE : DRESSING \_\_\_\_\_ EATING \_\_\_\_\_ BATHROOM \_\_\_\_\_ WALKING \_\_\_\_\_

IF DISABLED

WHEELCHAIR TYPE: MANUAL \_\_\_\_\_ ELECTRIC \_\_\_\_\_ NEED TRANSPORTATION: yes \_\_\_\_\_ no \_\_\_\_\_

NO ASSISTANCE NEEDED: \_\_\_\_\_

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: \_\_\_\_\_

EMERGENCY NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_ PERSON TO CALL \_\_\_\_\_

-----  
cut on line and send in top half.

APPLICANTS COPY

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO:

DESERT PILGRIMS RETREAT      October 2,3,4, 1987

Sponsored by: Office of Special Services

Franciscan Renewal Center  
5802 E. Lincoln Dr.  
Scottsdale, AZ 85252  
948-7460

for the Handicapped  
1825 W. Northern Ave  
Phoenix, AZ 85021  
997-6105  
Phyllis Vogelsang

MAIL APPLICATIONS TO OFFICE OF SPECIAL SERVICES FOR THE HANDICAPPED

COST: \$50.00

Check-in-time 4:30 p.m.      October 2nd      Friday



**DIOCESE OF PHOENIX**  
OFFICE OF SPECIAL SERVICES  
400 East Monroe  
Phoenix, Arizona 85004

**PRAY FOR  
VOCATIONS**

NONPROFIT ORG.



**RETURN REQUESTED**

REV. JOE BRUCE, S.J.  
DEAF CATHOLIC ARCHIVES  
HOLY CROSS COLLEGE  
WORCESTER, MA 01610