



OUR LADY OF ANGELS ASSOCIATION

Devotion to Mary ~ Assisting the Poor ~ Education of Seminarians & Clergy

1-800-575-9956 716-754-0035

novena@niagara.edu www.ourladyofangels.net



Father O'Brien, C.M.

Thank You

Dear Friend of Our Lady of Angels,

Thank you for your recent offering to Our Lady of Angels Association. Please be assured that your spiritual request, whether it is an enrollment or vigil light, has been fulfilled according to your intentions.

Know that your generosity enables the Association to continue to fulfill its purposes - especially as it promotes devotion to Our Blessed Mother under her special title of Our Lady of Angels. The Association also funds various programs for the poor which receive grants from the Eastern Province, St. Vincent's Grant Fund.

St. Vincent de Paul, Patron Saint of Christian Charity, encourages us to stand with the poor and give freely of ourselves to make the world a better place. In that spirit, through your prayers and financial assistance, you partner with our Association as it brings hope, encouragement and necessary assistance to the poor and needy. On behalf of those who will benefit from our food pantries and soup kitchens, health clinics and job training programs.....thank you!

May God, through the intercession of Our Lady of Angels, bless you and your loved ones with His love and peace.

Devotedly in Mary,

Father O'Brien, C.M.

Rev. William J. O'Brien, C.M.
Executive Director

Our Lady of Angels Shrine Project Completed



The Our Lady of Angels Shrine renovation and maintenance has been completed. Cleaning of the marble and granite and replacement of the backdrop panel will ensure that the Shrine's beauty is preserved for many years to come.

The Association's Shrine is located in a prominent place on the campus of Niagara University. It is a vivid witness to members of the University and visitors of the University's Patroness: Our Lady of Angels.

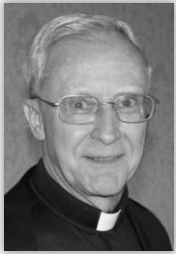
St. Vincent de Paul, the founder of the Vincentian Community, once told his priests and brothers **"It is better to lose all, than to lose the virtue of gratitude."** I hope I never lose the virtue of being grateful for all that you do to honor Our Lady of Angels, and for your support for the works of the Association. So, again, our sincerest "Thank you!" to all of the generous benefactors who supported the Shrine project.

If you are in the area, please stop by the Niagara University campus and visit the Our Lady of Angels Shrine.

We still have available the opportunity to inscribe a bronze plaque or to engrave a remembrance in the granite base of the shrine. Please call the office if you are interested.



Rev. William J. O'Brien, C.M. - 50th Anniversary of Ordination 1967-2017



Fr. O'Brien was born in Philadelphia and, with his family was a member of St. Carthage Parish, where he attended the parish elementary school. He attended West Catholic High School for Boys, graduating in 1956, and LaSalle College for two years before he began his studies to become a Vincentian priest in 1958. He was ordained in 1967 at Mary Immaculate Seminary in Northampton, PA. Following his ordination, he spent 33 years in parish ministry serving at various times in four Vincentian Parishes, three of which were dedicated to the Blessed Mother: Immaculate Conception Parish in Baltimore, MD, St. Mary's Parish in Greensboro, NC and Our Lady of Lebanon Parish in Niagara Falls, NY. He also served in St. Joseph's Parish in Emmitsburg, MD. Father was also the former Director of the Central Association of the Miraculous Medal from 1996 - 2002. In November, 2016, he was renamed the Shrine Director of the Miraculous Medal Shrine.

Fr. O'Brien was also one of the Directors at the Vincentian Residence in Niagara Falls. During his time there, in 1993, he was named **Director of Our Lady of Angels Association**. He has held that position now for 24 years. All but one of his assignments had him working for parishes or ministries named for our Blessed Mother, therefore, he has always had a special devotion to Our Lady.

As Executive Director of Our Lady of Angels Association, he has come to know many of you through his letters, e-mails, calls or visits. He is grateful for the opportunity to talk with you and get to know you.

We are grateful for his guidance and friendship. Please join with us in congratulating Fr. O'Brien on the Anniversary of his Ordination. May God bless him abundantly in his priestly ministry.

The Staff of Our Lady of Angels Association

Vincentian Charities Dinner

Our Lady of Angels Association will be holding its annual Vincentian Charities Dinner this year on May 19, 2017, at the Niagara Falls Country Club. Money raised by this event will be used to support grants that are offered through the Vincentian Community's Eastern Province Grant Fund.



Jeff Paterson



Maureen Ingham



Niagara University St. Vincent de Paul Soup Kitchen

This year the Association has chosen Jeff Paterson to receive its "Rev. Martin Blake, C.M. Award" (named after the founder of Our Lady of Angels Association.) Jeff is CEO of Empower, a service provider which offers diverse programming and individualized care and support to make people's lives better.

The "Special Angel Award" will be awarded to Maureen Ingham. Maureen is the Principal of St. Peter's School in Lewiston, NY. She has been responsible for the revitalization of Catholic Education at the school.

The "Niagara University St. Vincent de Paul Soup Kitchen", and moderator, Ashley Gruhalla, have been chosen to receive our "Good Neighbor Award". The Soup Kitchen has operated from St. Charles Church in Niagara Falls since 2011.

The members of the Vincentian Community have a long history of supporting and serving various organizations in Niagara Falls, as well as across the county. We are proud and happy to recognize and honor those who are working to improve our community. They are true examples of the Vincentian spirit and the works of St. Vincent de Paul.

If you would like further information about the dinner, please give us a call at 716-754-0035.