



## Franciscan Alumni Association: Future Plans 2021-2023

February 2021

Greetings, dear Franciscan Alumni, Family Members, and Friends,

We on the FAA Board of Directors met by ZOOM recently to discuss the safety and viability of meeting for our annual reunion and chapter on June 25-27, 2021 at St. Francis Retreat House in Easton, PA. Our discernment together was **to not have this reunion onsite at this time**. The safety and health concerns still seem to warrant caution for all in June 2021.

In lieu of gathering in person in June 2021, the board discussed the possibility of hosting a virtual gathering on that weekend. Alumni could also participate, if they wish, in that Sunday's Mass at the retreat house via livestreaming. The board will do its best to keep you informed of our plans when we have something more definite to offer.

The board will also make some decisions this spring on recipients for our **2021 Christian Life** and **Humanitarian** awards. These awards are traditionally presented at our chapter reunion. We will also keep you apprised of these decisions.

One other alternative to a chapter reunion this summer that was proposed at our board meeting was the invitation from the friars at St. Francis Retreat House to consider participating onsite or via ZOOM with the annual fall **Franciscan Retreat Weekend at Easton**. This year the Franciscan presenter is **Sr. Mary Beth Ingham, CSJ**, a professor at the Franciscan School of Theology, San Diego, CA. She has specialized in the works of Blessed John Duns Scotus, and she has a wealth of knowledge and wisdom concerning our Franciscan theology and spirituality.

Her topic for **the Franciscan Weekend of October 1-3, 2021** is **"Seized by Beauty: Walking the Franciscan Spiritual Path."** More information can be found, as well as a way to register for **onsite participation** (suggested offering: \$215) or **virtual participation** (suggested offering: \$75), on the retreat house website: [www.stfrancisretreathouse.org](http://www.stfrancisretreathouse.org).

We on the board are happy to announce, and ask you to mark your calendars for, **our FAA Reunions in 2022 and 2023**. **JD Moya** has offered to host us in **San Antonio, TX**, for the weekend of **June 24-26, 2022**, and **Fr. Henry and the SFRH Friars** will host us in **Easton, PA**, for

the weekend of **June 23-25, 2023**. More information about these upcoming reunions will be forthcoming in the **FAA Newsletter**, on our **FAA website**: [www.franciscan-alumni.org](http://www.franciscan-alumni.org) and on our **Facebook page**: franciscan-alumni.org. We also use **email** to send out timely information. Please make sure we have a current email address for you. You may send your email address to [faadatabase@franciscan-alumni.org](mailto:faadatabase@franciscan-alumni.org). Thank you.

We are aware that there may be some disappointment for cancelling our reunion for a second year, but **we feel this is best for the health and safety of all. We look forward to being with you once again in 2022 and 2023!**

Sincerely,

Richard E. Gardner, President, Franciscan Alumni Association



*Sunset at the Basilica of St. Francis, Assisi*

***Peace and all goodness!***  
*FAA Board Members*