



# THE SYCAMORE TREE

## SWAN LAKE, MONTANA

JULY 2019

### A "New Leaf" at The Sycamore Tree



#### **Welcome, Father Bart Tolleson!**

Effective July 1, 2019, Father Bart Tolleson has been appointed by the Diocese as the Administrator of Saint John Paul II Parish, Bigfork, with Our Lady of the Swan Valley Mission, Condon; and **oversight for the Sycamore Tree Prayer Center**. Father Bart has served on our Advisory Board for a number of years and has been a regular and popular conference presenter at The Sycamore Tree. We thank God and the Diocese for this new appointment which will mean some regular pastoral care and spiritual guidance for both staff and retreatants at The Sycamore Tree.



#### **Working smarter...**

##### **thanks to the Diocesan Foundation**

While the number of retreatants and the workload increase at The Sycamore Tree, the resident staff is holding at two people - Michelle Jenkins and Paul Wiley - both past retirement age - but still going strong as they labor in the Lord's vineyard. In an effort to find tools to help us work more efficiently, we appealed to the Foundation of the Diocese of Helena for a grant for some new equipment. In December, 2018, we received a very merry Christmas gift - a grant of \$1622 to purchase a walk-behind snow blower, an electric chainsaw (light enough for a woman to run!), and a Helping Hands laundry folder. These three new pieces of

equipment have been a great help to us to keep the expanding facility running by a shoestring staff on a shoestring budget. Deo gratias!

## Upcoming Special Events

Sunday, July 21, 2019

### **ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA ON THE LOVE OF GOD**

Presented by Shalina Stilley, C.V., PhD

Friday-Sunday, August 23-25, 2019

### **MARRIAGE MATTERS**

A weekend of R&R for married couples.

For details, please email: [marriagemattersinthehead@gmail.com](mailto:marriagemattersinthehead@gmail.com)

Monday, September 23, 2019

### **OUR LADY OF RANSOM**

Learn the history of the Feast of Our Lady of Ransom and the founding of the religious order known as the Mercedarians.

Presented by Father Elias Mary Mills, FI

Rector of the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe in LaCrosse, WI

Friday – Sunday – November 1-3, 2019

### **THE FOUR LAST THINGS**

Death, Judgment, Heaven or Hell: Preparing for Eternal Life

Presented by Father Elias Mary Mills, FI

Rector of the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe, LaCrosse, WI

Please see SCHEDULED EVENTS on our website: <http://sycamoretreeretreat.org> for more information.

Coming in our next "leaf" from The Sycamore Tree:

- Dedication of the new altar in Our Lady of the Annunciation Chapel
- Installation of the outdoor Stations of the Cross
- Revamping of the sacristy/priest guest room
- Annual Labor Day Gathering 2019

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**SOLITUDE + SILENCE + SURRENDER + SERVANTHOOD**

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