

Chapter 4: THE THIRD PLACE

Greenwood, Johnson County, Indiana

The story of finding the place in Greenwood needs to be told because it is such a reflection of Kingdom economy. When they knew they were going to need to find a place near the Indianapolis/Greenwood parish, Mother Pilar rented a temporary apartment and moved to the area while Mother Paula finished up things in Bloomfield. The search for a workable house began, and went on and on unsuccessfully for months. The Mothers stopped looking. Then, in August, 2008, Mother Pilar was driving around the neighborhood near the church building when she spotted a for-sale-by-owner sign in a yard two blocks away. The elderly man who had built the house had just died, and his son and daughter were painting it to put it on the market. The Mothers had been warned by a realtor to beware of exorbitant prices in for-sale-by-owner properties, but Mother Pilar stopped anyway when she noticed an easy-access ramp to the front door for Mother Paula.

It turns out the daughter was at her home nearby praying about the sale of her girlhood home when her brother called to say that a couple of sisters wanted to look at the house. She and her brother were both at 279 Academy Street when Mother Pilar arrived. “You didn't tell me it was a NUN kind of sister!” This brother and sister are solid believers who had been hoping their home could be appreciated by others who loved the Lord.

Before the owners left they told Mother Pilar that the house was for the Sisters as soon as they wanted, and that they could move in before closing. The inside walls could be repainted any color desired, the brother would handicap-access the bathroom for Mother Paula, and they would put in a new furnace (the roof and windows having already been recently replaced). The price was just in the right range for the Mothers, and the local branch of the Bloomfield Bank (a bank that had refused them a mortgage in Bloomfield) immediately gave them a mortgage.

This is where Holy Redeemer is currently. It is a quiet street only a block long with many believing neighbors. The location makes interaction with others more practical, and the flat terrain is easier for Mother Paula to navigate. The local parish is within two blocks. Visitors can easily find the house as it is about a mile from the interstate. Mother Pilar has been able to landscape the backyard as a wonderfully peaceful place for reflecting on God's marvelous creation. The Lord knew what was needed and the Lord provided. Ephesians 3:20 describes Him as the One “*who is able to do far more abundantly beyond all that we ask or think...*” Absolutely!



Street view of 279 Academy Street, Greenwood, IN

God named the new place Agape House. The three-bedroom home is just enough space now that Carol Cornelius has joined the household. Much more about her later, but Carol is a member of the Board of Directors and came to live in Agape House at the end of 2014. God has these three women on a new leg of the Holy Redeemer journey.



Backyard of Agape House