

It is a quiet, subdued time for this garden, only a few blooms - roses, mums; leaves turning brown and yellow; snails and slugs proliferating in the cool, moist fall environment. The work of digging iris rhizomes, however, is not over. A quantity of tall bearded ones are still available in the gazebo, and now, there are plenty of spuria iris rhizomes also. These latter are the very tall ones - 3+ feet - with white or yellow blooms, much like the Dutch iris, and whose leaves die back to the ground each year. They do best in a more arid/dry area of the garden than do the bearded species. They are very useful for background of the perennial bed or along fences, etc. The rhizomes should be in the ground soon - as the rains will start their growth quickly this fall/winter. Please come, take some and try them in your garden.

It has been quite a while since the last Pastoral Garden report - but the bulletin has been full of many announcements, and happenings - all very important and of interest - but the garden news is vital as well to the parish.

Generally, the Pastoral Garden doesn't receive much or enough care or attention - lack of time and energy on my part, lack of interest and involvement on your part. Although the garden continues to be a source of beautiful

cuttings for all the churches, none of the gatherers are involved in the husbandry of those cuttings. Wouldn't it be rewarding if there were a few of you who could and would meet and devote an hour or two a week to the Pastoral Garden care and upkeep? I'd be more than happy to share knowledge of proper rose pruning, plant cultivation, plant propagation and the like.

Your cooperation and participation would be stewardship in action. Please contact the Pastoral Center for more information.

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