

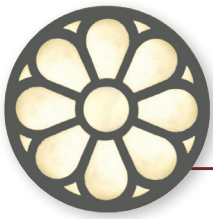
# Reflections

*of the Benedictine Sisters*

*But as we progress in this way of life and  
in faith, we shall run on the path of God's  
commandments, our hearts overflowing  
with the inexpressible delight of love.*

~ RULE OF ST. BENEDICT, PROLOGUE, VERSE 49





# Welcome



## *Greetings with an invitation!*

Most mornings I greet the day with two or three rounds of the monastery grounds!

...a good beginning for my 10,000 committed steps for exercise.

Early, as our treasured employees are arriving, the delivery trucks are keeping us supplied, the nocturnal animals are headed for a “day” of rest and the birds sing in the sunrise, the trees speak PEACE!

In these pages of *Reflections*, we invite you to “Shalom”... peace at the Monastery.

The shuttering of a building and moving the ministry to the monastery is giving us new opportunities to offer peace. The monastery is a place of hospitality and prayer. That is the foundation of the peace that is felt when you drive onto the beautiful grounds. Silence is the first language of the monastery. The chapel bell calls us to the Liturgy of the Hours four times a day. Every morning, Eucharist is celebrated, bringing all the intentions of our hearts and your hearts to our God, who is listening intently.

COME... come away and rest awhile.

Take some time to give your soul a deep breath.

Come for a day of quiet, or a weekend of peace.

In this issue of *Reflections*, there are many opportunities to join us for retreats, workshops or time away and apart. Our daily life can become quite the wild ride if we don't take time for silent reflection and integration. What are the deeper places of spiritual experience our God may be calling you to explore? The possibilities are infinite!

Looking forward to greeting you,

*Sister Jane*

Sister Jane Hibbard, SNJM  
Pastoral Administrator





*Save The Date*

The Benedictine Sisters'

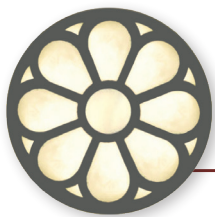
<sup>2018</sup>  
Founder's  
Day Dinner

Sunday, October 28

5:00 p.m.

Agatha Hall, Queen of Angels Monastery  
840 South Main St., Mount Angel

An evening benefiting the  
Benedictine Sisters of Mt. Angel



## from the *Archives*

### Agatha Hall, Then and Now

When looking at the monastery from Main Street, you can't see Agatha Hall – it sits behind the

chapel and hospitality center. It is tucked away and out of sight. Much like the Benedictine Sisters themselves, Agatha Hall has quietly served the community for over 100 years. It has silently woven its way into the lives of so many. If the old, wooden walls of Agatha Hall could speak, the stories they could tell would be truly inspirational.

Originally built as a temporary structure, Agatha Hall, then referred to as the gymnasium/auditorium, was two-stories tall and built entirely of wood. It was added as part of the newly constructed academy building completed in 1912. The original structure included a stage, used for performances, and a balcony that wrapped around three of the four walls and overlooked the gymnasium. It was from this balcony the Sisters would watch theater and musical performances, games, and, later, dances put on by the students. Eventually, enough money was raised to properly side the outside of the building and it became a permanent addition.

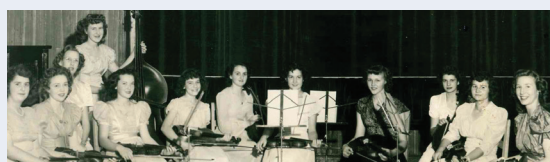
After the academy and college closed, the gymnasium/auditorium was repurposed into a reception hall. In 1975, the stage was removed and converted into a kitchen. Over the next 18 years, the building was used to host countless receptions, jubilee celebrations, weddings, fundraisers, art festivals, and other community events. Through all of the changes in the world

and local

community, the reception hall remained a constant presence – a place where people could gather and celebrate together.

In 1993, an earthquake caused extensive damage to the academy building. Eventually, the building was razed and the current chapel and hospitality center was built in its place. The reception hall, constructed mostly from wood, remained unharmed. It was decided to incorporate the building into the construction of the new chapel and hospitality center. This was completed in 1998, and the hall was renamed Agatha Hall, in honor of Sister Agatha Hess.

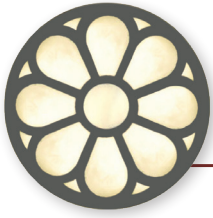
Today, Agatha Hall serves as the heart of Shalom at the Monastery – the Benedictine Sisters' spiritual direction and retreat ministry. It serves as a meeting space and retreat center. "This was a beautiful, peaceful place for me to step away from my life and reflect," commented one retreatant. Agatha Hall is open for community events. It's recently refinished floors are part of an effort to ensure memories will continue to be made for many years to come.



#### Interested in booking Agatha Hall?

Contact Sister Dorothy Jean Beyer  
at (503) 845-2556.





# Feature

## *The Joy of Ministry, Sister Joan Pokorny, OSB*

A key ministry/component of the Benedictine Sisters' Shalom at the Monastery is intimately related to the Rule of St. Benedict. This ministry is spiritual direction, or sometimes called, spiritual companioning. Simply put, spiritual direction is listening carefully (Prologue, Rule of St. Benedict) and generously to the journey of another person. Spiritual direction is about encouraging the directee to seek wisdom and to draw closer to God.

To see into the heart of this ministry and learn more about it, we asked Sister Joan Pokorny, a long time spiritual director, some salient questions.

### **How did you know that you were called to be a spiritual director?**

*I find joy and satisfaction being with people and listening to them as they grow, change and integrate their spiritual journey in their everyday lives. I felt called by God's grace to change from my junior high teaching ministry to the ministry of spiritual direction. Both ministries have a strong mentoring component in them.*

*I was drawn to the study of Christian spirituality and reflected extensively on how God was working in my life. I wanted to share what I learned and felt called to do so. Dealing with health changes, including healing after cancer surgery, encouraged me to open up the topic of self-care issues with the people with whom I meet and to listen to their stories. The compassionate love and healing that God wants to share with each of us became more profoundly relevant and clear to me. The growth, change, and unique journey of others is important to me. I am edified and grateful to witness people searching and seeking God in their life experiences and growing on their journey.*



### **How long have you been a spiritual director?**

*I have been a spiritual director for 25 years, an instructor of the Shalom Prayer Center's Spiritual Direction Program, 'With Hearts Expanding,' as well as a supervisor of spiritual directors. A thread in my life over these past 56 years of being a Benedictine Sister is teaching the ways of the spiritual life to many people. As a spiritual director, it is important to know that Holy Spirit is the true spiritual director of each of us. The spiritual director seeks to help the directee listen to the Spirit's invitations to more abundant life and to experience the life of God within.*

### **Who can come for spiritual direction?**

*Anyone who is interested and committed to seeking a deeper relationship with God in his/her life is welcome to come for spiritual direction. All that comes into a person's life is relevant for the spiritual direction conversation. Entering into spiritual direction can be a life-defining moment.*

To contact Sister Joan about spiritual direction, please call her (503) 949-6284 or email her, [jpokornyqam23@gmail.com](mailto:jpokornyqam23@gmail.com)

You are invited to a free informational session on what is spiritual direction on Saturday, November 17, 1 – 2:30 p.m., Agatha Hall.

To learn more about these retreats, to register for a retreat, or to see other upcoming events at the monastery, visit [www.Benedictine-Srs.org/Events](http://www.Benedictine-Srs.org/Events).



## Monthly Events

### Supervision for Spiritual Directors

2nd Friday, 9 am–12 pm, Sep–May  
(No Jan Meeting), \$30

All spiritual directors are welcome to attend the monthly supervision meeting for on-going formation and education featuring lively discussions of pertinent spirituality topics, prayer and skills of the ministry. Call Sr. Joan Pokorny at (503) 949-6284 or email her at [jpokornyqam23@gmail.com](mailto:jpokornyqam23@gmail.com) to inquire or register.

### Monthly Dream Group: Language of the Soul

3rd Saturday, 10 am–12 pm, Sep–Jun, \$20

Listening to dreams in a group can help us pay attention to God's presence in image and word in our awakened life. Presenter is Peggy McGurn, PhD.. Discussions take place on the first floor of the monastery.

### Taize Prayer Service

3rd Sunday, 7–8 pm, Oct–May, Free

Join us for our monthly Taize Prayer Service in the Chapel. This special service features sung and chanted prayers, meditation and personal reflection. All are welcome!

### Prayer of the Heart: Contemplative Prayer

3rd Tuesday, 3:30–4:30 pm, All Year, Free

All are welcome to join this contemplative prayer group. Meetings take place in the Chapel, located on the second floor of the Hospitality Center.

### Book Talk

3rd Saturday, 9:30 am–12 pm, Sep–Jun, Free

Monthly Book Talk led by Tim Nelson and Linda Jensen. Discussions take place in the Hospitality Center. Visit our website for a complete reading list.

### Journal Writing Group with Evelyn Wemhoff

2nd Saturday, 1–3 pm, All Year, Free

Progoff Intensive Journal instructor Evelyn Wemhoff will lead attendees through the reflective journal writing process in a small group setting. For more information, contact Evelyn at (971) 273-0770.

### Becoming a Wisdom Elder

Tuesdays, February 26–April 2, 2019,  
10 am–12 pm, \$20

These weekly sessions will provide resources for appreciating elderhood as a blessed time of deepened spirituality and abundant fruition of gifts harvested and newly discovered. Join in these lively discussions on how becoming an elder can be an exciting adventure even while slowing us down physically. To register, call the Benedictine Sisters at (503) 845-2556.





## *Four Words: A Reflection on Shalom at the Monastery*

*By Sister Dorothy Jean Beyer, OSB*

The Benedictine Sisters welcome you to our retreat ministry, Shalom at the Monastery. We are celebrating our first anniversary, after the closure of Shalom Prayer Center in June 2017. Our first year has been one of learning, and also one of excitement, as we have reached out to you, our friends, and you, our friends yet to be.

How would I describe our retreat ministry? These are the words I use: Benedictine, unique, hospitality, and deep listening.

*Benedictine:* Our ministry draws deeply from the Benedictine monastic tradition. There is a stillness—a deep peace—that pervades our buildings and grounds. It is felt by retreatants and visitors as soon as they drive or walk onto our grounds. The trees, perhaps most especially the giant sequoia, bear silent witness that this is “holy ground” where the early pioneering sisters formed the bricks of their new monastery in 1887 out of the clay of this property. This year, Queen of Angels Monastery is celebrating its 136th anniversary and we, the Benedictine Sisters, small in number, but rich in monastic spirituality, welcome you as fellow pilgrims on the journey.

*Unique:* Our retreat ministry is in the very heart of our monastery, in the chapel, chapter room, and monastic refectory. These rooms are built around “the breaking of the bread” and “the breaking of the word,” for each other and for all who come to the monastery seeking life and wholeness. These are the rooms that are sacred to us, where we share life, anchor ourselves in hope, and find joy in the Lord in such abundance.

*Hospitality:* The Rule of St. Benedict is very Christ-centered. In Chapter 53 of the Rule, St. Benedict instructs his members to welcome all guests as Christ. The Benedictine Sisters’ community strives to meet all with the courtesy of love by praying together, and by giving gracious honor to all. The Sisters’ retreat ministry is steeped in the Catholic tradition of treating all with respect and courtesy. All are welcomed in the spirit of warm, genuine, and

friendly “Benedictine” hospitality. The Benedictine community provides those who are seeking respite and rest from the hectic world, a place of peace, a place of prayer, a place of serene beauty, and a place of solid spirituality.

*Deep listening:* The first word of the Rule of St. Benedict is “Listen.” “Listen carefully,... with the ear of your heart.” (Prologue 1) When you listen carefully to someone, and when someone is attentively listening to you, amazing things can happen. New insights, new invitations, new understandings, new commitments, and new surprises are seen and heard, and answered. When we are in serious discernment and active listening, the Spirit is alive and stirs our hearts to great things. We are surprised by how God is working in our lives and in the lives of others. In the Benedictine life and retreat work, we cultivate attentive, active, transformative listening, especially during spiritual direction, prayer, lectio divina, retreats, and silence.

The Benedictine Sisters have been committed to encouraging others on the spiritual journey, beginning in a more formal way as early in their history as 1934 by offering retreats to women each summer. Then, in 1972, Shalom Prayer Center opened with Sister Jill Aigner as the first administrator. This past year saw the transition from the Shalom building to Shalom at the Monastery. The retreat ministry is very dear and sacred to the hearts of the Sisters. We invite you to make Shalom at the Monastery dear to your hearts, too. We hope you will come for a retreat, a monthly discussion, spiritual direction, or just a visit. We want you to be a part of our journey to God.





## Upcoming Retreats September–December 2018



### **A Day of Retreat: A Time to Grieve presented by Evelyn Wemhoff**

9/22, 10 am–3 pm, \$50, includes materials and lunch

This Day of Retreat reverently gathers around loss and will gently explore the various faces of grief. Gathering with others can provide some experience of connection. The grief you bring to the retreat can be recent or one of the past which still invites you to give it time and attention.

*Special Instructions:* Please bring a picture of the person you are remembering.

*To Register:* Call (971) 273-0770 or send a check payable to Evelyn Wemhoff, PO Box 21083, Keizer, OR 97303 or e-mail her at [evelynhwemhoff@comcast.net](mailto:evelynhwemhoff@comcast.net), by 9/17.



### **SoulCollage® Exploring the Divine Feminine presented by Cindy Force**

10/20, 9:30 am–4 pm, \$57, includes materials and lunch

What is SoulCollage®? An opportunity to transform heart, mind, and spirit through the use of collage.

During this retreat day, we will explore the Divine Feminine. What does this concept encompass? Where do I fit into the picture? How will embracing the Divine Feminine support my life in the months and years ahead? These are just some of the questions we will work with as we make and read SoulCollage® cards in an atmosphere of quiet reflection.

*Special Instructions:* Please bring an Xacto® knife and/or scissors, and a picture of yourself.

*To Register:* Call (503) 845-2556 or send a check payable to Benedictine Sisters, Attn: Sister Dorothy Jean, 840 S. Main St., Mount Angel, OR 97362, or email [dorothyjeanb7@gmail.com](mailto:dorothyjeanb7@gmail.com). Please register by 10/10.



### **Appreciating the Wisdom of the Enneagram presented by Fr. Stephen Coffey, OSB Cam**

11/2–11/3, Intro Session 2–4pm Friday,  
Full Session 7–9pm Friday, 9:30am–4pm  
Saturday, \$20 Intro Only, \$130 Full Session

This weekend retreat will focus on the inner dynamics of the Enneagram which will assist the participants to grow in self-knowledge as well as to appreciate how others perceive the world differently. It is geared for beginners as well as for those who have been exposed to its wisdom in the past.

*To Register,* call Benedictine Sisters, (503) 845-2556 or send a check payable to Benedictine Sisters, 840 S. Main St., Mt. Angel, OR 97362, by 10/26.



### **What is Spiritual Direction? A Free Informational Session**

11/17, 1–2:30 pm, Free

*Presenters:* Sr. Joan Pokorny, Sr. Dorothy Jean Beyer, and Evelyn Wemhoff

You are invited to explore the concept and practice of Spiritual Direction. Spiritual Directors Sister Joan Pokorny, Evelyn Wemhoff, and Sister Dorothy Jean Beyer will lead the session. All are welcome to learn about spiritual direction, its history, and its role in one's spiritual journey.

*To RSVP:* Call (503) 845-2556 or email [dorothyjeanb7@gmail.com](mailto:dorothyjeanb7@gmail.com) to reserve your space.



### **Everyday Contemplatives and Ordinary Mystics presented by Jodi Killup**

12/8, 9:30 am– 3:30 pm, \$55, includes materials and lunch

We will learn from poets, saints, and mystics how to be more awake, alive, and available in the midst of our busy lives, drawing from the deep well of ancient contemplative practices. This practical workshop focuses on growing in inner freedom, while easing the inner voices of anxiety and fear.

*To Register:* Call (503) 845-2556 or send a check payable to Benedictine Sisters, Attn: Sister Dorothy Jean, 840 S. Main St., Mount Angel, OR 97362, or email [dorothyjeanb7@gmail.com](mailto:dorothyjeanb7@gmail.com). Please register by 12/3.



## Upcoming Retreats January–May 2019

### **Progoff Journal Retreat: Life Context, Depth Context, and Life Integration presented by Evelyn Wemhoff**

1/18–23, 9:30 am–5:30 pm, \$450, includes all three workshops, lunch, snacks and materials (only 16 spaces available)

The Progoff Intensive Journal provides a tool, not only to write about our life, but to move into the flow and meaning of our life. In this journal process we explore the unique life that is ours and what is calling us forward.

- Life Context (\$185) 1/18–19, 9:30 am–5:30 pm
- Depth Context (\$165) 1/20–21, 9:30 am–5:30 pm
- Life Integration (\$165) 1/22–23, 9:30 am–5:30 pm

All three modules will be offered. You may attend one, two or all within the necessary prerequisites: Life Context prior to Depth Context, and both are required before Life Integration. Paperback copies of *At a Journal Workshop* and CDs by Ira Progoff will be available for sale at a reduced price.

*Special Instructions:* Please bring a pen that you prefer for writing

*To Register:* Call (971) 273-0770 or send a check payable to Evelyn Wemhoff, PO Box 21083, Keizer, OR 97303 or e-mail her at [evelynhwemhoff@comcast.net](mailto:evelynhwemhoff@comcast.net), by 1/10/19.

*Overnight Accommodations:* \$50 per night, please call Sister Rebecca Pirkel at (503) 949-4935, to reserve your room. Breakfast can be purchased for \$7.50, and dinner for \$9.50.

### **At Play in Creation: The Wisdom Christology of Thomas Merton presented by Fr. Stephen Coffey, OSB Cam**

2/1-2/2, Friday 7–9pm, Saturday 9:30am–4pm, \$130 includes overnight accommodations, materials, lunch and snack.

This weekend retreat will focus on the Wisdom Christology of Thomas Merton. We will be exposed to his passion for creation, his call to contemplative praying, his spirit of creativity, and his prophetic stance for justice and peace in the world.

*To Register,* call Benedictine Sisters, (503) 845-2556 or send a check payable to Benedictine Sisters, 840 S. Main St., Mt. Angel, OR 97362, by 1/25/19.

### **Pain, Suffering and Saying Yes to Life presented by Dean Schlecht**

3/1–3/2, Friday 7–8:30pm, Saturday 9:30am–3:30pm, \$130 includes overnight accommodations, materials, lunch and snack.

Physical or emotional pain can often be a powerful driver of sadness, fear and anger, deadening our spirit and disconnecting us. However, it can be a catalyst for spiritual and emotional growth. Through lectures, Active Imagination and personal sharing, we will explore how to transcend our pain and live joyfully in the midst of it.

*To Register,* call Benedictine Sisters, (503) 845-2556 or send a check payable to Benedictine Sisters, 840 S. Main St., Mt. Angel, OR 97362, by 2/20/19.

### **Come to the Silence: A Lenten Retreat presented by Evelyn Wemhoff**

3/25–28, 10 am–5 pm, \$175, includes meals, snacks and materials (only 12 spaces available)

Lent is a time to ponder. This retreat provides an atmosphere to move into silence and quiet prayer. Daily you have time to meet individually with a spiritual director and meet with the group for prayer. Your personal residential space, the labyrinth indoors and the many places to walk outdoors will add places of silence and spaces to ponder.

*To Register:* Call (971) 273-0770 or send a check payable to Evelyn Wemhoff, PO Box 21083, Keizer, OR 97303 or e-mail her at [evelynhwemhoff@comcast.net](mailto:evelynhwemhoff@comcast.net), by 3/18/19.

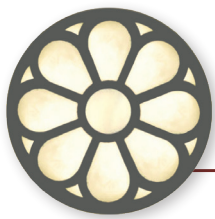
*Overnight Accommodations:* \$50 per night, please call Sister Rebecca Pirkel at (503) 949-4935, to reserve your room.

### **World Labyrinth Day**

5/4, 1–3 pm, Free

You are invited to come walk the labyrinth, located at the west end of the Shalom building. A brief introduction to the Peace Walk will take place at 12:45 pm. All are welcome.

*To RSVP:* Call (503) 845-2556 or email [dorothyjeanb7@gmail.com](mailto:dorothyjeanb7@gmail.com).



## news from the *Sisters*



### Archbishop Sample Visits Monastery



The Most Reverend Archbishop Alexander K. Sample paid a visit to Queen of Angels Monastery on Tuesday, July 10. Archbishop Sample joined the Sisters for Vespers and dinner. His visit fell on the eve of the Solemnity of Saint Benedict, a very special time for the Sisters.



This was the Archbishop's first visit to the monastery. "He was so open and complimentary," said Sister Theresa Henscheid, OSB. "We were nervous at first, but his openness made the experience very enjoyable."



### SOAR! Awards Grant to Queen of Angels



*Photo by Ed Langlois, Catholic Sentinel*

Support Our Aging Religious (SOAR!), a nonprofit organization that raises and provides funds for congregations to meet the immediate needs of their retired members, has awarded a \$6,000 grant to the monastery. The money will be used to purchase zero-gravity reclining chairs for our elderly Sisters. Dan Fannin, a member of SOAR's board of directors, presented the check to the Sisters during a special visit to the monastery in June.



### Sisters Dedicate New Garden, Host Clean-Up Day

Longtime friends of the Sisters, Dr. Richard Mullins and Barbara Lenfesty, have spent the summer tending to a new garden on the monastery grounds. The Sisters held a special ceremony to bless and dedicate the new garden.

In June, the Sisters opened up the monastery grounds like never before. A monastery-wide clean-up day was held. The Sisters called on the community for help pulling weeds, trimming, and gardening. Nearly 20 members of the local community helped get the monastery grounds ready for summer. The Sisters hope to make the clean-up day an annual activity.







## **Sisters Welcome 140 for 1st Annual BBQ**

The 1st Annual Monastery BBQ was held on July 15. Despite the expected high temperatures, nearly 140 guests, friends and family of the Sisters attended the event celebrating the Solemnity of St. Benedict. The event began with Mass in the monastery chapel, celebrated by Father Peter Eberle, OSB. Guests were then invited to a hosted reception featuring the late Sister Immaculata's famous buttermilk coffee cake. Sister Dorothy Jean Beyer, OSB, and Sister Jane Hibbard, SNJM, led a short reflection on St. Benedict and a blessing before lunch was served. Next year's barbeque will be held on Sunday, July 14.

## **Sisters Get Ready for Annual Oktoberfest**



The 53rd Annual Mount Angel Oktoberfest will be held September 13-16, 2018, and the Benedictine Sisters will once again have a booth. Preparations are already underway to ensure plenty of inventory is available for the four-day festival celebrating Mount Angel's German heritage. The Sisters

will be selling the late Sister Immaculata's famous buttermilk coffee cakes - a staple of Oktoberfest - along with an assortment of other handmade items including Sister Rocio's beautiful rosaries and Sister Marietta's famous scrubbies. Stop by the booth and say hello!

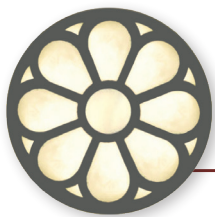
## **Two Heritage Trail Signs to Be Installed**

Queen of Angels will be home to two stops on the new Mount Angel Heritage Trail. The signs have already been designed and will be installed this fall. The first marker will tell the history of Queen of Angels Monastery, and the second will feature Mt. Angel Academy and Normal School. Both signs will be placed near the Main Street entrances. The monastery is the perfect spot to start the trail that will highlight 17 historically significant sites in Mount Angel.

### **Mount Angel Academy**

and Normal School





## *Writing the Next Chapter*

Our Benedictine community was invited by the National Religious Retirement Office (NRRO) to engage in a planning process for the future needs of our Sisters. Through the generosity of many donors across the country, this group, under the auspices of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, awards grants from money collected each year for the needs of retired religious women and men. In addition to providing grants to retired religious, they also provide training and many other excellent resources for communities looking to plan for their future.



Also helping us plan for our future are two advisory committees. These two groups meet regularly with us to share their expertise and wisdom in the areas of finance and development.

The Finance Advisory Committee meets to review our financial position, help us make sound investments, and suggest ways to use our limited resources wisely. The Mission Advancement Advisory Committee helps generate creative ideas for how to best use our wonderful property, and how to keep all our many friends, family and supporters aware of events and opportunities taking place at our monastery.

Together, both of these committees bring a wealth of expertise and knowledge to our Benedictine community. We are hopeful, excited and optimistic that with their help, your support, and guidance from the Holy Spirit and Saint Benedict, our future will be filled with light, peace, and happiness.



*Members of Queen of Angels Monastery's Board of Trustees meet with the NRRO Planning and Implementation Committee during the committee's visit to the monastery.*



# Thank You!

## Century Club Campaign Raises \$40,000 for the Sisters

The Sisters are humbled by the support received as part of their annual Century Club campaign. So far, over 150 donors have contributed nearly \$40,000 in support of the Sisters' monastic community. This year's campaign asked for gifts of \$136 - \$1 for every year of the community's history. The money raised goes directly to the Sisters to help their community thrive, and to help further the Benedictine monastic tradition of seeking God in everyone and in every circumstance.

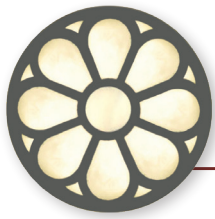
If you wish to support the Century Club campaign, it isn't too late! Visit [www.Benedictine-Srs.org/CenturyClub](http://www.Benedictine-Srs.org/CenturyClub) to learn more about this appeal and to donate online. You can also send a gift directly to the Sisters at Queen of Angels Monastery, 840 S. Main St., Mount Angel, OR 97362. You can also make a gift with a debit or credit card over the phone. Call our Development Office at (503) 845-2556.

### Shalom at the Monastery Receives Anonymous Donation

Shalom at the Monastery received an anonymous donation of \$8,333. It is the largest gift made to the retreat and spiritual direction ministry since the closing of the retreat center building last year. Gifts like these help ensure the ministries of Shalom continue to reach those seeking a peaceful environment where persons of all faiths and cultural traditions are welcome to seek wholeness and deepen their relationship with God.



You can help support this important ministry. Visit [www.benedictine-srs.org/shalom](http://www.benedictine-srs.org/shalom) to learn how you can help.



# Legacy Update

*Organizations founded by the Benedictine Sisters and sustained through close partnerships to ensure the ministries continue...*

## Providence Benedictine Nursing Center

Responding to a call for supportive and compassionate care for the community's elderly, the Sisters opened Benedictine Village Home in 1955. The need soon outgrew the facility, and in 1957, the Benedictine Nursing Center was built just north of Queen of Angels Monastery. The nursing center became a part of Providence Health Systems in 1998. Today, the Providence Benedictine Nursing Center (PBNC) provides award-winning skilled care, assisted living, home health, hospice, and child development services.



The mission of the PBNC closely reflects the values and mission of the Benedictine Sisters, who remained involved with the nursing center as much as possible. On Thursday, July 5, the Providence Benedictine Nursing Center Hospice staff (our next-door neighbors) came to our monastery for an in-service that included a presentation on end of life customs and rituals presented by Sister Joseph Fennimore, a tour of the monastery by Sister Christine Rausch and Sister Marietta Schindler, and a brief presentation on the spiritual practice of walking the labyrinth, presented by Sister Joan Pokorny and Sister Dorothy Jean Beyer. After the presentation, the hospice staff walked the outside labyrinth on our campus.

## St. Joseph Shelter, Mission Benedict and Casa Adele



St. Joseph Shelter first opened its doors in 1988. It was a ministry of hospitality in response to the Gospel message of caring for those in need and honoring St. Benedict's instruction to welcome all as Christ. The Sisters, through the shelter, provided meals, housing, clothing, advocacy, referrals, emergency assistance, and, most importantly, a supportive and loving community. Mission Benedict and Casa Adele were added as companion programs.

Last year, St. Joseph Shelter and its programs became a part of the Catholic Community Services family of programs. Today, the Sisters continue to support the shelter as much as possible. This has taken many forms, including helping to plan and staff the annual St. Joseph the Worker Dinner, and helping at Mission Benedict.





Sister Marietta and Sister Susan during the Mt. Angel Fourth of July parade – they won 1st place!



Shalom at the Monastery hosted The Iconographers Arts Institute for the 15th year. The finished icons were then blessed by the Sisters.



Members of Bon Appétit's monastery kitchen staff and Queen of Angels staff gather to celebrate 1,600+ days of safety and being incident free. A well deserved award!



The Sisters welcomed Father Peter Eberle, OSB, for Vespers and dinner to help celebrate the 50th jubilee of his ordination.



Sister Veronica Schueler, FSE, Chancellor of the Archdiocese of Portland, meeting with the Sisters during her visit to Queen of Angels Monastery.

## Society of St. Benedict: *An Easy Way to Make a Huge Impact*

The following group of supporters, family and friends have made a commitment of giving a gift to the Sisters each month. Whether it is \$1 per month, or \$1,000 per month, these gifts hold a very special place in the hearts of our Sisters. We'd like to say thank you to the following members of the Society of St. Benedict:

*Pat McGaffigan, Maudie & Parviz Samiee, Mari Miller, Jackie Miller, Annette Lackaff, Patrick & Sally Flores, Mark & Sharon Zielinski, Bill & Lois Celorie, Anneleah Jaxen, Ronald & Rose Lambert, Linda & James Fenner, Tom & Judith Dunham, Sharon & Neil Barnes, Bud & Betty Daheim, Don Dunn, Cherie Atiyeh, Debra Garske, Jolyn Rothgery, Dean & Louise Augustus, Tom Kinzie, Carrie Matsuo, and Michael Trevino.*

You can join this special society of friends and supporters by calling our Development Office at (503) 845-2556, or by visiting our website, [www.Benedictine-Srs.org/Donate](http://www.Benedictine-Srs.org/Donate).



**We are pleased to announce new members to the Society of St. Gertrude, a special group of supporters who have ensured the future of the Benedictine Sisters through their estate plans or wills.**

*Stephen J. Gallaway | Marie Poniatowski-d'Ermengard  
Pat LeMarte | Christine McNew*

### *I want to support the Sisters. What can I do?*

There are a number of ways you can support the Benedictine Sisters.  
Gifts can be made in-person, through the mail, or online. Volunteer opportunities are also available.  
Visit our website [www.Benedictine-Srs.org/Donate](http://www.Benedictine-Srs.org/Donate) to learn more. You can also contact our Development Office at (503) 845-2556 to learn about opportunities available to support the Sisters.



# Reflections

is published three times a year by the  
Benedictine Foundation of Oregon  
840 S. Main St., Mt. Angel, OR 97362

## Return Service Requested

Please notify us of any address changes:

- email [info@benedictine-srs.org](mailto:info@benedictine-srs.org)
- call 503.845.2556
- mail to the above address

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Salem, OR 97301  
Permit #338

## *A Symphony of Sound and Color*

*A Harvest Prayer by Sister Maureen Niedermeyer, OSB*

*How blest, O Lord, are the works of your hands!  
The heavens above and the earth below,  
All creation sings of your glory!*

*The earth reveals your eternal presence:  
apple trees heavy with juicy fruit,  
fields ripe with waving grain,  
wild blue breakers crashing on our shores,  
raucous cries of the gulls,  
mammoth beasts of the deep,  
red-breasted robins on their perch,  
multi-colored vegetables climbing up towards the warmth of the sun.*

*For all of these blessings, we thank you, Lord!*

*The music and beauty of all creation shows your extravagant love!  
Continue to sing on in me and in all that you have fashioned.*