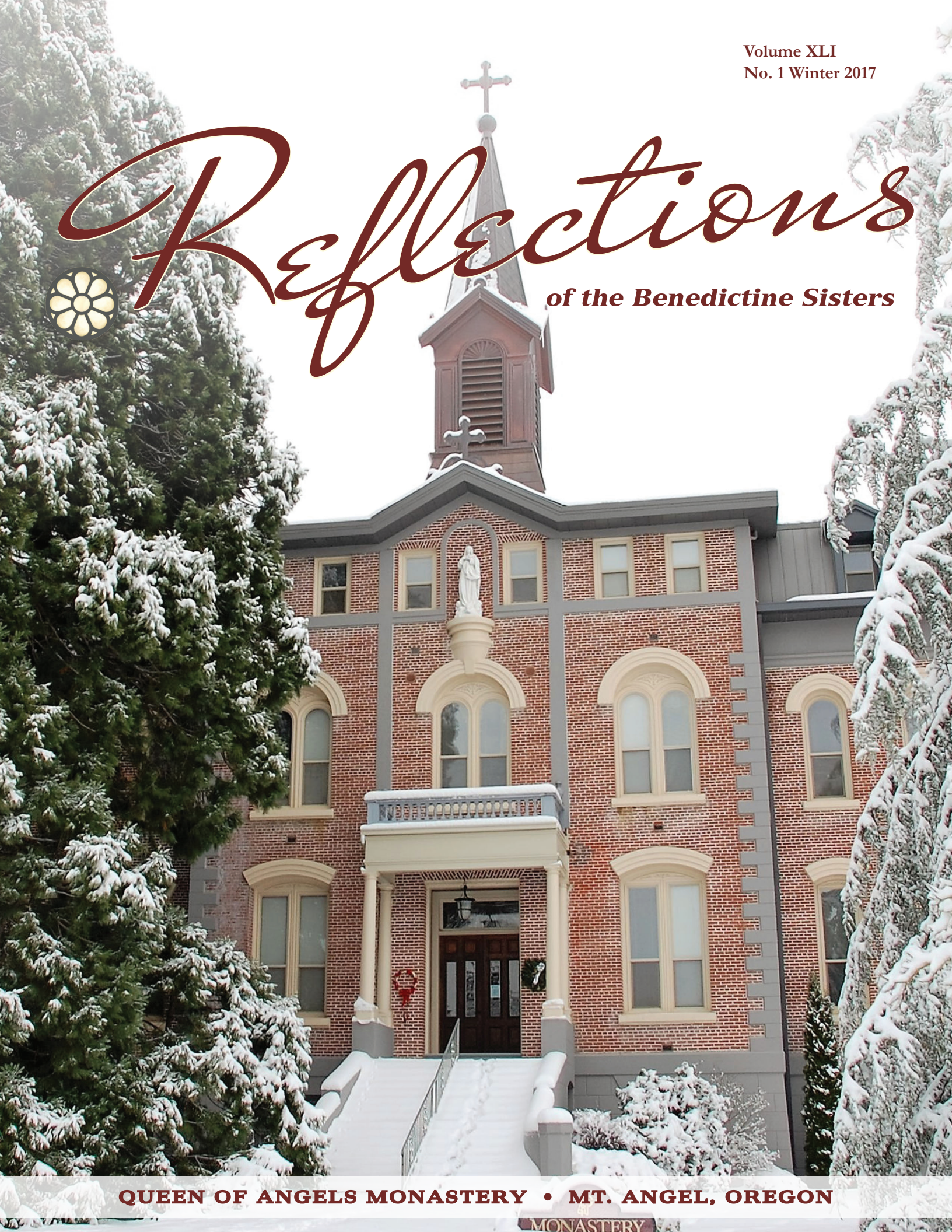


Volume XLI
No. 1 Winter 2017

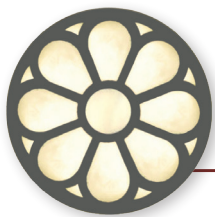
Reflections

of the Benedictine Sisters



QUEEN OF ANGELS MONASTERY • MT. ANGEL, OREGON

MONASTERY



Welcome



Dear family and friends,

I am pleased to welcome you to this first 2017 issue of *Reflections*. The topic we have chosen to share with you is an essential value of our monastic life, which is prayer as a community. St. Benedict writes in his Rule, “Nothing is to be preferred to the Work of God.” (RB 43:3) Our community prayer from morning to our closing night prayer draws us closer to God, to each other, to you our friends and family and to the cries of the world. Our prayer is the prayer of the Church, giving praise and glory to God each and every day, sanctifying our entire day, so “that in all things God may be glorified.” (RB 57:9) I hope you will find inspiration from the thoughts and reflections about prayer from some of our sisters as well as join us in prayer. You are always welcome to pray with us.

Recently, I read this thought-provoking quote from Pope Francis and share it with you as a reflection as we enter this New Year. It is addressed to young people, but it is a message for all of us, whatever age we are.

“Yours is a time of life which is full of amazing changes. Everything seems possible and impossible all at once. I repeat what I said to some of your friends: ‘Remain steadfast in the journey of faith, with firm hope in the Lord. This is the secret of our journey! He gives us the courage to swim against the tide. Pay attention, my young friends: to go against the current; this is good for the heart, but we need courage to swim against the tide. Jesus gives us this courage! ... With Him we can do great things; He will give us the joy of being His disciples, His witnesses. Commit yourselves to great ideals, to the most important things. We Christians were not chosen by the Lord for little things; push onwards toward the highest principles. Stake your lives on noble ideals.’”

—Message for the Jubilee of Mercy to young people, Jan. 14, 2016

On behalf of all the Benedictine Sisters of Mt. Angel, I wish you a very Happy New Year. May God bless you and all your loved ones with good health, much happiness, and the courage to “do great things” with God’s grace! Let us stake our “lives on noble ideals” and “remain steadfast in the journey of faith, with firm hope in the Lord.” Let us keep our hearts open to God’s great possibilities for us.

Peace and joy always,

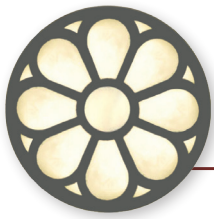
Sr. Dorothy Pulkka

Sister Dorothy Pulkka, OSB
Assistant Prioress



On the cover: In 1954, “Mother Ursula (Hodes) had...a beautiful statue of Mary installed in a 70 year old empty niche in the front of our Convent. It is Mary, Queen of Angels, the Assumption, Aug. 15, the patron of the Convent.” (Annals, Dec. 10, P. 111) The statue is of white marble, finished for the outdoors. Since this was the Marian Year, called by the Holy Father, it was appropriate to honor Mary with the installation of the statue.

Reflections



Prayer in our Monastic Community

By Sr. Gertrude Feick

Put quite simply, prayer is our life. Prayer is our vocation. All is gift. Rooted in the Word of God, our prayer is expressed in the communal celebration of the Liturgy of the Hours and the practice of *lectio divina*. Prayer is the language we use to grow in our relationship with the living and true God, to grow in intimacy with the God of love. The language of prayer emerges from the depths of our being, sometimes with words, other times without. At the end of the day, each of us can reflect on a question posed by the late Basil Hume: “In seeking God, we need constantly to ask ourselves whether prayer has the place in our lives that it should. Do we really think and act as if prayer came first—before anything else whatever?”¹

We pray for the gift of prayer that is our vocation. May we be grateful, for in the words of Pope John Paul II: “Both in the contemplative and active religious life it has always been men and women of prayer, those who truly interpret and put into practice the will of God, who do great works.”²

So prayer is the beginning, the middle, and the end of our lives, fulfilled when we are united with God in whom we live and move and have our being. Indeed, prayer is our contribution to the world. May God be praised.



“St. Benedict, in his Rule, written centuries ago, declared that nothing in the monastery should be preferred to the *Opus Dei*, the Work of God. This Work consists of Psalms and Scripture readings, the ancient prayer of the Church. It is amazing to realize that day and night, on some continent, in some monastery, in some language, somewhere in the world, this prayer of praise continues. What a privilege it has been for me to be a part of that flow of prayer for over seventy-five years! I can only say, ‘Thanks be to God, and thanks for my community that has made this possible!’”

~Sr. Alberta Dieker



“Pray always. I pray my life will be a prayer, a life of gratefulness.

There are as many ways to pray as there are moments in life—sometimes I need quiet, to be alone. In all moments, I make my life a prayer and open myself to listen and to open my heart to be led to God. Let me sing to the Lord all my life!”

~Sr. Angela Meister

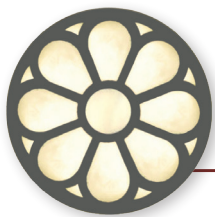


“I entered the Benedictine Sisters 55 years ago; I am so very blessed with living the monastic life. The heart of the life is praying the Liturgy of the Hours every day. Every day, my day from beginning to the closing, is filled with listening to and praying the Word of God at the Lauds, Noon Prayer, Vespers and Compline. Plus celebrating the Eucharist each morning. *Lectio Divina* (sacred reading) is a practice that nourishes my soul, mind and heart. To live the monastic life is a blessing, a pearl of great price.”

~Sr. Dorothy Jean Beyer

¹ Basil Hume, *Searching for God* (New York: Paulist Press, 1978), 81.

² Pope John Paul II, Post-Synodal Apostolic Exhortation *Vita Consecrata*, March 25, 1996, ¶94.



Four Jubilees Celebrated in 2016

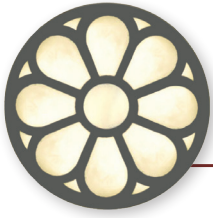


On July 10th, **Sr. Theresa Henscheid**, **Sr. Joseph Fennimore**, and **Sr. Maureen Niedermeyer**, renewed their monastic commitment and celebrated their 60th Jubilees with community, families and friends.

On August 7th, **Sr. Dorothy Pulkka** renewed her monastic promises and celebrated her 25th Jubilee with her sisters, family, and friends [especially her son, David, and good friend, Sr. Antoinette Traeger]. Sr. Antoinette died on August 20, 2016, 13 days after the Jubilee celebration.



For the Benedictine community, this is a time to celebrate the jubilarians, their witness to fidelity, the mutual support throughout the years. Jubilees are also a time to celebrate the community's history and the affection and friendships that accompany our life in monastic community. Most of all, we celebrate God's faithfulness to each of us.



In Memory

Sr. Antoinette Traeger, OSB

July 24, 1924 – August 20, 2016

Baptized: August 10, 1924

Entered Queen of Angels: Summer 1942

First Profession: February 10, 1945

Final Profession: February 10, 1948



...truly describes our beloved **Sr. Antoinette Traeger, OSB**, who entered into eternal life at the Providence Benedictine Nursing Center, Mt. Angel, early in the morning of August 20, 2016 at the age of 92. Sr. Antoinette was a member of Queen of Angels Monastery in Mt. Angel, Oregon for almost 75 years, rejoicing in monastic life and sharing her prayer and wise perceptions of God's activity in life with a great number of people over the years.

Born on July 24, 1924 in Timberlake, South Dakota, Sr. Antoinette was the second of nine children born to Anthony Traeger and Grace Gamble Traeger. In 1936, due to the dust bowl, the Traeger family moved to Mt. Angel. The trip was something that Sr. Antoinette never forgot. The whole family piled into their Model T and headed west. Sr. Antoinette often reminded people that though she hadn't been born in Mt. Angel, she had lived there "since age 12."

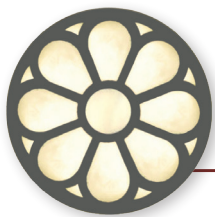
Sr. Antoinette characterized her journey of faith as one always rooted in a desire to follow her early dream of making a difference for God, the Church, her Monastic community, and the greater community. Sr. Antoinette always spoke of herself as "One called and loved by the Lord."

In 2015, due to mobility issues, Sr. Antoinette moved to the Providence Benedictine Nursing Center [PBNC], the successor of the BNC. It seemed fitting that with joy the PBNC welcomed back its first administrator, a woman whose picture still graces their front entrance lobby. The past year has been a time when Sr. Antoinette continued to minister to her family and friends, with words of encouragement. When she couldn't speak she always offered a gracious smile and twinkling eyes.

Sr. Antoinette is survived by her community, the Benedictine Sisters of Mt. Angel Oregon, her three siblings [Mary Schurr, Regina Schiedler and Gerry Beyer], many nieces, nephews and cousins. She was preceded in death by her parents [Anthony and Grace Traeger], and five siblings [Margaret Bernards, Monica Stuckart, Francis Traeger, Leo Traeger, and Thomas Traeger]. A Mass of the Resurrection was celebrated on Wednesday, August 24th followed by burial in the monastery cemetery.

*Receive me, O Lord, as you have promised
that I may live
Disappoint me not in my hope
~Psalm 119:116*

*The psalm verse that each sister sings after making her
monastic profession and the psalm verse the community
sings as a sister's coffin is lowered into the grave.*



In Memoriam



On October 25 of this year, our dearly beloved and highly esteemed friend and master architect, **J. David Richen**, died at the age of 76. After the 1993 earthquake, David led the discernment of our

master site plan, renovation of our monastery, the designing and building of the 1998 award winning Queen of Angels Chapel and Hospitality Center, and the renovation of the Shalom Prayer Center.

On August 1, 1999, the first anniversary of the Queen of Angels Chapel, David, a specialist in ecclesiastical architecture, wrote: "In this Chapel I strove for a 'noble simplicity' and a sense of repose and tranquility." "Another dimension that I try to suggest in all of my buildings is a sense that buildings are created out of the materials of the earth and wrested from the void of chaos. In this Chapel I have tried to suggest this... through the use of black reveals."

"...and if this Chapel leads you to a deeper sense of prayer and contemplation, then it needs no explanation."

May God grant David eternal rest. Our sympathy and prayers extend to his dear wife, Mary Susan and their three children, John, Amy and Mary Ann, grandchildren and great grandchildren.



PBNC Ministry

By Sr. Susan Casey

I have been volunteering at the PBNC for approximately two years. My initial

involvement was to bring communion to the residents at the Orchard House. I enjoyed this service very much.

In the fall of 2016 I was asked to lead communion services in the chapel. Residents were taken to the chapel. People from the outside could also attend. The group service proved to be more challenging for me. Currently I feel a sense of satisfaction as well as confidence that I am meant to be there. I continue to fulfill both obligations at the same time.



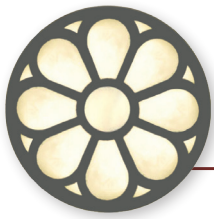
Oktoberfest Booth

Last September the Benedictine Sisters again had a booth in the Mt. Angel Oktoberfest. Since we no longer had our "best seller" mustard, we needed another product. We chose for our new item The Brigittine Monks fudge—and sold it by the piece. It went over well, and we were happy with the results. We also again sold **Sr. Immaculata's** popular morning coffee cakes. We sold out of our Great Harvest Bakery products again this year. **Sr. Rebecca**



coordinated the Oktoberfest activities again this year, and she thanks all the Sisters and friends of the community who assisted in any way toward a successful

Oktoberfest. The Sisters especially thank **Nelson** and **Patti Jetter** who came from Texas to help with the booth. Their assistance is invaluable, and we send them a huge Thank You! This was their 14th year to fly to Oregon to be Oktoberfest "Angels."



Sr. Gertrude Feick **Named Executive Director**



Congratulations to **Sr. Gertrude Feick**, the new executive director of the St. Martin's University Benedictine Institute.

Saint Martin's University welcomed Sr. Gertrude Feick, O.S.B., S.T.D., as executive director of the University's Benedictine Institute last August. Sr. Gertrude brings to Saint Martin's a rich and versatile background in Benedictine spirituality, teaching and leadership.

"It is a gift to be given an opportunity to build a program through the institute," Sr. Gertrude said. "It is a great environment for me here because I will have an opportunity to use my life experiences and formal education, and to share the sacredness of Benedictine spirituality with others, as well as to participate in liturgy each day with the monks of the Abbey."

Sr. Gertrude holds a doctorate in sacred theology from the Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas in Rome. Her doctoral thesis centered on Cardinal Basil Hume, the English Benedictine whose deep sense of spirituality and social justice made him one of the foremost pastoral leaders of the 20th century.

Formation Workshop

Sr. Joseph Fennimore and **Sr. Marietta Schindler** attended the Vocation-Formation Conference on November 11 and 12, 2016, at Renton, WA, along with 70 women religious of the Northwest. The topic, "Healthy Sexual Integration in Religious Life," was presented by

Kathy Galleher, PhD. Dr. Galleher spoke about the influences that have shaped views of sexuality, both positively and negatively. She talked about healthy celibacy which requires a network of relationships and an on-going prayer life. Both sisters found the workshop thought-provoking and helpful.

Food Pantry

In Chapter 53, "The Reception of Guests," St. Benedict writes that "monasteries are never without (guests) them" and Queen of Angels Monastery is no exception.

With 30 Benedictine Sisters living at Queen of Angels Monastery, plus guests from Shalom Prayer Center, and Sisters' guests, there is a need for much food at the monastic table each day.

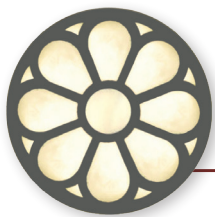
Each Fall, the Benedictine Sisters fill their food pantry with gallons of Oregon's delicious produce and spend time canning peaches, pears, cherries, applesauce, spaghetti sauce, grape juice and making pear, peach, blackberry and strawberry jams. This year, the monastic



community, under the leadership of **Sr. Immaculata Tuma**, has on its pantry shelves: 260 gallons of grape juice, 29 gal. of cherries, 35 gal. of peaches, 70 gal. of pears,

4 gal. of spaghetti sauce, 4 gal. each of pear and peach jam, 9 gal. of strawberry jam (a favorite), 2 gal. of wild blackberry jam, and 10 gal. of apple sauce. Thank you to **Sr. Immaculata** and her volunteers! Sr. Immaculata has done canning most of her monastic life of 60+ years! The Benedictine Sisters also thank the local farmers who donated fruits and vegetables to our community.





more from the *Sisters*

New Community Ministries

Sr. Miriam Hendrikson is now serving as the community's librarian. **Sr. Rebecca Pirk** serves as the hospitality coordinator of the four monastery guest houses, Agatha Hall (the former gym of Mt. Angel Academy and College), and Marmion Hall. **Sr. Rebecca** is a very experienced coordinator as she has worked at Salishan Resort and the Inn of the Spanish Head on the Oregon coast. **Sr. Theresa Henscheid** serves the community as housekeeping coordinator. She comes from a large family, so she knows well how to keep a house clean and neat. **Sr. Dorothy Jean Beyer**, **Sr. Donna Marie Chartraw** and **Sr. Marietta Schindler** are staffing the Benedictine Sisters' development office. They are enjoying this important work of raising funds for the Benedictine Sisters and their ministries of Shalom Prayer Center and St. Joseph Shelter. **Sr. Immaculata Tuma**, master baker, is well known for her Morning Coffee Cakes, which are sold at the Mt. Angel Oktoberfest, Shalom Prayer Center, and other festivals. She has baked thousands and thousands of these delicious cakes! If you would like to purchase a coffee cake, please come to the Shalom Prayer Center Gift Shop during regular business hours. If you wish a large number, please call ahead, 503 845-6773.

Sisters' Book Reviews

The Rule of Benedict, Insight for the Ages by **Sr. Joan Chittister**

The Crossroad Publishing Company, 1995

Sr. Joan interprets the Rule of St. Benedict in terms of community living in today's world. She elaborates on the themes of humility, the qualities of the Abbot/Prioress and the structure of the Divine Office (to name a few). Her message is clear since she is drawing on her wealth of monastic living. She has used her expertise of monastic spirituality with her publication of many books and articles. (The Benedictine Sisters read the Rule of St. Benedict and the commentary provided by Sr. Joan Chittister every morning before Lauds (Morning Praise). *Review provided by Sr. Susan Casey.*

Abide: Keeping Vigil with the Word of God by **Benedictine Sr. Macrina Wiederkehr**

The Liturgical Press, Collegeville, MN, 2011

Sr. Macrina brings the reader to the richness of the Word of God through Lectio Divina. This book can be used every day and in every season for personal prayer and reflection as well as for group faith sharing. I have used this book for my own prayer, for my Spiritual Direction Training class, for beginning Spiritual Direction with an individual. I have given it as a gift as well as recommended it to many seekers. *Review provided by Sr. Joan Pokorny, spiritual director and teacher of others to be spiritual directors at Shalom Prayer Center.*



Benedictine Sisters *Prayer Schedule*

Monday – Friday **(Saturday: Lauds at 7:30 AM)**

7 AM Lauds, followed by Mass
11:50 AM Mid Day Prayer
5 PM Vespers
7:30 PM Compline

Sunday

9:15 AM Lauds
10:00 AM Mass
5 PM Vespers
7:30 PM Compline

What does it mean to you to be an oblate of the Benedictine Sisters?

Being an oblate with the Sisters means I am in the right place. I appreciate the community, the prayer and that I can be myself.
– Mary Nelson, Florence, OR

I treasure the relationship with the Sisters as a prayer ministry between us and for other people as well. It is a relationship of deepening prayer and peace in my life. – Joanne Clay, Salem, OR

Being an oblate has been very enriching to my life and given me a good spiritual grounding and foundation. It has been a constant support in my life. – Carla Moberg, Salem, OR, Oblate for 38 years!

Being an oblate has given me the opportunity to be around the Sisters and to learn from them. I also have the opportunity to serve in some way that I might not been able to serve otherwise.
– Terry Wright, Mt. Angel, OR

Becoming a Benedictine Oblate at Queen of Angel's Monastery was a significant step in my faith journey. It deepened my contemplative prayer practice and gave me opportunities to carry out into the world the many gifts of monastic spirituality which are very simply the Gospel values breathed out in the Rule of Benedict. My spiritual friendships with the sisters in the community are both nurturing and cherished.
– Mari Miller, Woodburn, OR

Congratulations to the New Oblates!

Recently, **Mary Blankenship, Anne Hill, Patricia McConnell, Pam Kerr** and **Wrona Gustafson** made their permanent commitment as Oblates of St. Benedict and St. Scholastica and be affiliated with the community of Queen of Angels Monastery. During the time that they were oblate candidates, they had an opportunity to study the Rule of St. Benedict and the monastic way of life as well as understand the commitment they would make as oblates of the Benedictine Sisters. In their commitment, oblates choose to live according to the teachings of St. Benedict



*St. Scholastica
The patron saint of Benedictine Sisters*

and to live a life dedicated to the service of God and God's people. Each new oblate read her written promise as an oblate and signed it on the altar. **Sr. Dorothy Pulkka**, assistant prioress, gave a medal of St. Benedict to each new oblate.

The newly appointed Oblate Leadership Team is **Sr. Maureen Niedermeyer, Sr. Dorothy Pulkka, Sharon Barnes, OBL, and Alysa Hilton, OBL.**

If you wish to become an oblate of Queen of Angels Monastery, please contact **Sr. Dorothy Pulkka**, 503 400-1331.



SHALOM PRAYER CENTER

a place of peace

A True Pioneer of the Retreat Ministry

Committed to encouraging others on the spiritual journey and to St. Benedict's high ideal of offering hospitality to each person as if she/he were Christ (RB 53:1), the Benedictine Sisters began in 1934 to offer five-day retreats to women each summer in June and August. These retreats continued for the next twenty years under the direction of **Sr. Gregory Kelly** and **Sr. Benigna Schlatter**.

Since there was no retreat facility for these retreats, the existing rooms of Mt. Angel Academy and Normal School (1912 – 1997) were used for the retreatants. The 1912 chapel served as the gathering place for the preached conferences given by priests.

The novices and the young Sisters prepared the dormitories for the women. They set up the cots, made the beds and placed curtains between the beds. Each cot had a pitcher of water, wash basin, soap and towel ready for each woman. The Sisters prepared and served the meals in the academy student's dining room. These retreats were well attended each year. In 1954 the retreats were discontinued due to several factors.

In 1971 the retreat ministry re-awakened with six sisters, **Sisters Eileen Kraemer, Maureen Niedermeyer, Julianne Janes, Antoinette Traeger, Mechtilde Fennimore, and Gemma Piennett**, attending the House of Prayer (HOPE) in Baraboo, Wisconsin. This group worked to start a similar HOPE experience in Mt. Angel. In 1972 the Sisters offered the first three-week House of Prayer retreat at the monastery.

In 1973, Prioress Antoinette appointed **Sr. Jill Aigner** to be the first administrator of the HOPE

retreats. This decision thus began the Benedictine Sisters' commitment to retreat/prayer ministry and the nucleus of the current Shalom Prayer Center. The Sisters invited people of all walks of life to participate in the HOPE retreats.

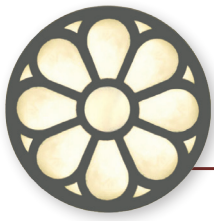
"One day Sr. Antoinette asked if I had an interest in starting a prayer center. With some trepidation I said I would try. I had been a frequent retreatant for over 25 years and had recently been on staff of a retreat house in Spokane but was very new to religious life. Off into the Unknown!"



Space was a problem for two years but moving to the Education building gave Shalom a self-contained, quiet, prayerful setting allowing for retreats and workshops of various lengths as well as on-going prayer groups, study groups, and spiritual direction. In the early years there was often a struggle to fill a retreat or make ends meet. Gradually we became known enough that we could bring in a variety of workshop speakers and retreat leaders. Prayers of the Monastery community have always been a continuing support for the Shalom ministry.

Would I do it again? Yes, though it was a challenge far bigger than any of us foresaw. Through all these years the innovative staff has continued to sponsor programs and speakers with a wide range of spiritual growth opportunities that speak to the needs of today. This ministry certainly expresses the Benedictine charism to all who come."

Our gratitude to Sr. Jill Aigner, a true pioneer in the Benedictine Sisters retreat ministry.



St. Joseph Shelter

St. Joseph Shelter Wish List:

Donations are greatly appreciated at St. Joseph Shelter. Donations may be dropped off Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the front office of St. Joseph Shelter.



- Air fresheners
- Body spray
- Toothpaste
- Diapers sizes 1-5
- Diaper wipes
- Clorox wipes
- Adult diapers sizes L and XL
- Cleaning supplies
- Simple green
- Laundry soap
- Toilet paper
- Batteries
- First aid kits/ supplies
- Paper towels
- Bissell Deep Clean Essential Carpet Cleaner 8852

Mark Your Calendar and Plan to Attend



Join us for the 13th Annual St. Joseph the Worker Dinner, benefitting the St. Joseph Shelter and Mission Benedict.

Sunday, May 7

St. Mary Parish Center

575 E. College St., Mt. Angel, OR

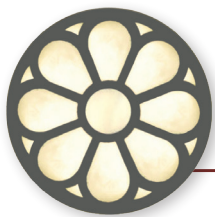
Each year St. Mary Parish hosts this important fundraiser to support the ministry to the homeless, hungry and needy of our local area.

Meeting the Needs

The Benedictine Sisters are very grateful to **Father Philip Waibel**, pastor of St. Mary



Parish and president of the St. Joseph Shelter Board, for his and the **St. Mary parishioners'** compassionate care and their active partnership since 1988 in helping St. Joseph Shelter meet the needs of many needy and homeless people in the area. Currently, the Shelter has recently increased its ability to house **up to 17 families** while they get back on their feet. In addition, 14 farmworker families can be housed in affordable, temporary rental housing at Casa Adele. Mission Benedict distributes food, clothing, furniture and emergency financial assistance to needy families in our area.



Our Monastery is Called Queen of Angels Monastery: a Historical Perspective

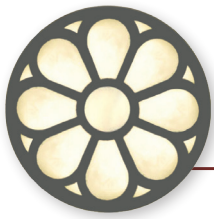
Our monastery is under the patronage of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Queen of Angels Monastery. Mary, Queen of Angels, pray for us! Each night to conclude Compline, our night prayer, the community sings a Marian Antiphon. During the summer and fall until the beginning of Advent, we sing the “Salve Regina.” For other liturgical seasons, it is a different Marian Antiphon.

In 1912, the Queen of Angels painting by **Sr. Protasia Schindler**, (1870–1959) was installed in the new Queen of Angels chapel. As told to her by **Sr. Protasia**, **Sr. Justine Zollner**, (1916–2001) wrote that two of her aunts posed for the painting. **Sr. Irene Berning**, posed for the angel in the green gown, holding a thurifer (lower right) and **Cunigund Berning Bauman** of Mt. Angel, posed as the Blessed Mother.



In 1977, the baldachin and the Queen of Angels painting were removed when the entire chapel was painted, repaired and refurbished. The painting was stored in the attic above the chapel. Then, in 1995, following the 1993 Mt. Angel earthquake, when the chapel was demolished, the painting was hung on the third floor of Howard Hall (the old academy building). In 1997, when Howard Hall was razed, there was a question of what to do with the painting. Then it was discovered that it fit perfectly into the

arch of the east wall of the Artisans’ Room, the former balcony of the 1912 chapel, which had been enclosed in the renovation of center wing of the monastery. This painting of Sr. Protasia, a prolific painter with little or no formal training, found its home where the artisans of the monastery practice. Sr. Protasia and her painting can be inspiration for all artists in the monastery.



Join Us

Iconographic Arts Institute

Each June the Benedictine Sisters host the Iconographic Arts Institute at the monastery



and Shalom Prayer Center. The Institute teaches the writing of icons to beginners through advanced and practicing level iconographers. Participants join the Benedictine Sisters in the prayer rhythm of the Liturgy of the Hours throughout the days of the institute. The starting date for the 2017 Iconographic Arts Institute is June 23rd with an ending date of July 1st, with departures on July 2nd. Find more information at www.iconinstitute.org.



Taize Prayer at Queen of Angels Chapel

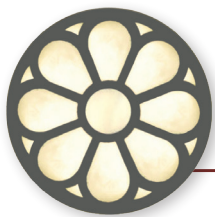
A Taize Prayer Service is held on the third Sunday of the month in the Monastery Chapel at 7 p.m.

People from many churches come to celebrate the wonder of God in our midst. We are all one in Christ as we experience a place where candlelight, silence, scripture, and the singing of



refrains led by cantors and musicians can lead us into a deep prayer. We pray for the needs of the world and our own personal intentions. Those who come to our service find that the mystery of God becomes tangible through the beauty of simplicity. A few words sung over and over again reinforce the meditative quality of the prayer and bring us to a place of inner peace.

Please join us at our next service as we begin our seventh year of Taize Prayer.



Sisters' Retirement Fund

The Benedictine Sisters are truly grateful to all who gave to the Sisters Retirement Appeal. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts and we promise you our continued prayers. Our Century Club Appeal, celebrating our 134th anniversary, was delayed last year. It will be held sometime in early 2017.

Special Thanks

The Benedictine Sisters are very grateful to the **Robert W. Franz Trust** for the gift of \$250,000 for the Sisters' Retirement Fund. Robert died on August 9 of this year. Robert and his sister Elsie are long-time friends of the Benedictine Sisters.

Oktoberfest Board for the 2016 Grants

The Benedictine Sisters and the Board of St. Joseph Shelter are very grateful for the 2016 O'fest grants that will provide a new hospital bed for the Sisters' supportive care center and new window coverings for the shelter family rooms. Our thanks to the members of the O'fest Board for their generous support of many community projects in our area.

Chapter of the Federation of St. Gertrude

The next Chapter of the Federation of St. Gertrude will be held at Sacred Heart Monastery, Yankton, SD, June, 2017. The Queen of Angels Monastery's delegates will be **Sr. Dorothy Pulkka**, assistant prioress, **Sr. Dorothy Jean Beyer**, and **Sr. Marietta Schindler**. The alternate is **Sr. Robin Lynn Evans**.

Bequest and estate gifts help secure the future of Sisters and their ministries

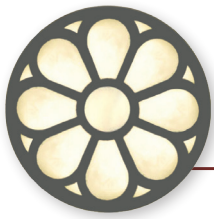
The Benedictine Sisters of Mt. Angel have been serving the people of Oregon and the Northwest for more than 134 years. The Sisters have started and operated parish schools, a high school, a liberal arts college, a nursing center, a homeless shelter and farmworker housing, a retreat and conference center, a food and clothing resource and many other programs and ministries to assist people.

Annual support like that provided through the Century Club Appeal and the Sisters' Retirement Appeal is very valuable for the monastic community and is deeply appreciated.

If you would like to ensure your continued support of the Sisters, St. Joseph Shelter and Shalom Prayer Center into the future, you can make a bequest to the Benedictine Sisters of Mt. Angel, Oregon through your will or trust. If you are considering creating or updating your estate documents the following sample language may be useful:

"I give and bequeath to the Benedictine Sisters of Mt. Angel, Oregon, a recognized public charity whose legal address is 840 S. Main St., Mt. Angel, OR 97362, tax ID# 93-0387331, for such purposes as are in the best interest of the Benedictine Sisters of Mt. Angel."

For more information on making a current or planned gift, please contact **Sr. Dorothy Jean Beyer** at 503-845-2556 or benedictinefoundation@gmail.com.



We'd like to keep in touch

If you would like to hear from us occasionally, and keep up on what is happening at St. Joseph Shelter/Mission Benedict, Shalom Prayer Center and/or the Benedictine Sisters, please fill out and return this form or email us at benedictinefoundation@gmail.com.

Benedictine Sisters

- ☐ Reflections — Our newsletter that comes out three times a year via US mail.
- ☐ Monthly E-Newsletter

St. Joseph Shelter/Mission Benedict

- ☐ E-Newsletters
- ☐ Other mailings announcing events and fund raisers.

Shalom Prayer Center

- ☐ Monthly E-Newsletters and Calendar of Events/Programs
- ☐ Fall & Spring Calendars via US mail.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____



Become a sustaining donor

Sustaining monthly gifts are made by a group of donors who have made a special commitment to support the Benedictine Sisters and their important ministries of Shalom Prayer Center and St. Joseph Shelter. These gifts are secure, save time, paper, postage, and processing charges and you have the satisfaction knowing you are supporting the devoted, dedicated, faithful Benedictine Sisters.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

I authorize Benedictine Sisters to automatically transfer my donation of \$ _____ each month from my account or card.

- ☐ Checking/Saving Account
*Please enclose a check as your first monthly gift **or** a blank voided check*

- ☐ Debit/Credit Card

Card#: _____

Exp. Date: _____ sec. code _____

This authorization will remain in effect until I notify the Benedictine Sisters that I wish to change my contribution, 503-845-2556.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

A year-end summary of your gifts will be provided to you. You may amend your gift at any time by contacting the Benedictine Sisters. Your information will be kept confidential, secure and never shared.

Return the completed form to: Benedictine Sisters, 840 S. Main St., Mt. Angel, OR 97362

Reflections

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

Return Service Requested

Please notify us of any address changes:

- email benedictinefoundation@gmail.com
- call 503.845.2556
- mail to the above address

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



*All of the Benedictine Sisters
wish you a very joyous New Year!*

- ~ May each day bring you bountiful blessings of happiness, peace, and joy!
- ~ May your days be filled with the glorious Light of Christ!
- ~ May Christ Jesus dwell with you and all your loved ones, guarding your comings and goings.
- ~ May the love that is Christ shine through your life and guide you to truth.
- ~ Let Christ's love open your heart to others and inspire healing where there is sorrow or anger.
- ~ Know that we are all one in spirit and flesh, all born by God's creation, all loved as He loved his Son.
- ~ May goodness and mercy fill your spirit, and may the New Year bring you joy and kindness.