



# Sacro Speco Sacred Space

Vol. XVIII, No. 4

Newsletter of the Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

Fall 2008

## Our Charism

We are Benedictine women called to seek God in prayer and community, serving where there is need.

## Our Mission

Reverence:  
Through common prayer, stewardship, hospitality and mutual respect, we seek to find and honor God present in each person and in all created things.

## Sisters Celebrate with Parishioners at St. Mary's, in Pueblo, Colorado

On July 26, 2008, eight members of the community of the Benedictine Sisters of Chicago gathered at St. Mary's Parish in Pueblo, Colorado to attend Saturday afternoon Mass, to celebrate the community's long history with the parish, and to honor two community members who originally came from that parish: **Sisters Anne Krall and Rosemarie Rupa, O.S.B.**

More than 100 parishioners, family and friends joined the Sisters in this afternoon of celebration recognizing Sisters Anne and Rosemarie, both of whom have



(Benedictine Sisters of Chicago, Sister Karen Bland, O.S.B.)

Left to right: **Sister Anne Krall, O.S.B., Sister Patricia Crowley, O.S.B., and Sister Rosemarie Rupa, O.S.B.** at St. Mary's Parish, in Pueblo, Colorado.

St. Mary's

continued on page 4.

Right (l-r): **Sister Mary Ann O'Ryan, O.S.B., Breanne Goldman, Mary Emig, Esther Hicks, and Lisa Klein** on the grounds of the Church of the Beatitudes on the shore of the Sea of Galilee.



## Shalom, Greetings from Israel!

By Sister Mary Ann O'Ryan, O.S.B.

Editor's note: In August 2008, **Sister Mary Ann O'Ryan, O.S.B.** joined two other social studies teachers from Catholic secondary schools for a week of study in Israel. The program, "Modern Israel: Holy Land and Jewish State," was sponsored by the Office of Catholic Schools of the Archdiocese of Chicago in collaboration with the Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC) of the Jewish United Fund.

Our group visited Tel Aviv, Kibbutz Lavi, Fassouta, Galilee, Nazareth, Jerusalem, and Bethlehem. This report only skims the surface of all that we did in our week in Israel.

We toured Tel Aviv and Independence Hall where the state of Israel was declared by David Ben Gurion in 1948. We stayed at Kibbutz Lavi, near the Sea of Galilee, once a struggling agricultural commune, but now prospering with a hotel and restaurant. We ate St. Peter's fish

Israel continued on page 5 (following Stewardship Report).

(Benedictine Sisters of Chicago, Sister Mary Ann O'Ryan, O.S.B.)



Left: A view of the Old City in the middle of Jerusalem. This photo was taken from the Mount of Olives.

## Serving Where There Is Need

Meet three sisters who are excellent examples of faith in action, "serving where there is need."

**Sister Kathleen Maloney, O.S.B.** grew up as the oldest in a family with 13 children. Perhaps that explains her ability to juggle different, and challenging, roles. "I feel I have the best of two worlds," said Sister Kathy. "My responsibilities, as treasurer of the Benedictine Sisters of Chicago, allow me to serve the community in a specific way as we seek God together. As pastoral associate at St. Peter Parish I have the opportunity to be with them at special moments of their spiritual lives. I am blessed in both these ministries – for I find myself enriched by those to whom I minister; they give even more to me than I give to them." The most challenging part of her jobs? "Balancing time

between the two ministries. Thankfully, I work with wonderful staffs who assist in so many ways."

**Sister Mercedes Moore, O.S.B.** can often be found in St. Joseph Chapel, reading her Bible before Mass and morning prayer. "I feel ignorant of the Bible," Sister Mercedes humbly states, "I know Paul a little..." Those who have heard Sister Mercedes speak passionately about Paul or Isaiah would steadfastly disagree with her self-assessment. "I just love the words of Isaiah," said Sister Mercedes, "the words [in Isaiah 27:2] say 'the pleasant vineyard, sing about it!' It makes me think about Jesus and the vineyard in my heart. Studying Scripture is fun ... and so beautiful!" Throughout the year, Sister Mercedes creates beautiful new patterns for afghans and scarves, often trying new stitches and interesting new patterns of color. Saint Paul made

sturdy tents, Sister Mercedes creates beautiful crocheted works of art.

**Sister Vivian Ivantic, O.S.B.** is 95 years young. She has served as the Community Archivist for more than thirty years, and is a member of "the Elders" who meet with the Prioress. "It is nice to know that we can still contribute," said Sister Vivian, "and that our insights are valued." She coordinates talking books for the visually impaired, enjoys gardening, and helping others. Sister Vivian collects used greeting cards for various groups, unused greeting cards for the Sisters' prison ministry, and cancelled postage stamps for missionaries. If you are interested in assisting Sister Vivian with donations of these items, please contact the Development Office.

## In Loving Memory



**Sister Ada Rico, O.S.B.**  
1934 - 2008

**A**loysia (Lois) Rico, daughter of Henry and Mary Ondrias Hrica, was born on April 4, 1918. In September 1934, at the age of 16, she entered St. Scholastica Monastery in Chicago, where an older sister, **Sister Gemma Rico, O.S.B.**, was already a member. Their beloved aunt, **Sister Frances Hrica, O.S.B.**, was also a Benedictine in this community. Lois now had the opportunity to come to know and work with her.

When she received the habit on July 11, 1935, Lois was given the religious name **Sister Ada Rico, O.S.B.** In 1996, she celebrated her Diamond Jubilee, marking 60 years of profession.

After earning a Bachelor of Philosophy degree from DePaul University, Sister Ada became a very skilled educator. Not only was she a successful primary teacher, she also became actively involved in the Chicago Archdiocesan Reading Program and served as a Master Teacher in remedial reading for six years. Her experience proved valuable in supporting beginning teachers with whom she was always willing to share resources and ideas for classroom management.

Sister Ada taught in Illinois, Colorado and Arizona including St. Anthony's in Pueblo, St. Michael's in Cañon City, Colorado, Sacred Heart School, in Tucson, Arizona, St. Joseph's on Orleans Street, St. Symphorosa's, and St. Lambert's in Skokie, Illinois.

One of her earliest assignments was at St. Hilary's where she returned again in the late 1950s. At that time, a number of children enrolled in a special program for the blind spent part of their day in her classroom.

Sister Ada spent many of her teaching years in the primary grades at Queen of All Saints Basilica School. It was at Queens that she taught remedial programs and assisted parents as well as fellow teachers in their efforts to help students reach their potential.

Especially during her years at St. Symphorosa Parish, Sister Ada took an active

role in the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine (CCD) Program in the Archdiocese. She trained teachers of religion who held classes for students attending public schools, and for twelve years served as District Catechist.

After 51 years of teaching, Sister Ada retired and willingly accepted various assignments doing household chores at the monastery. One of her special charges was making sure that coffee was brewed several times a day to be available for Sisters and employees.

Gentle and hospitable by nature, Sister Ada was always ready to share conversations about how she experienced God's presence in her life and to listen with interest to others. Her smile continued to greet people even in the last days of her life.

The community gathered for the Mass of Resurrection for Sister Ada on September 26, 2008. Her burial was at All Saints Cemetery in Des Plaines, Illinois. Sister Ada is survived by her brother, Edward, and a nephew, William, as well as by cousins and other relatives, and the Benedictine Sisters of her community. Her former students continue to remember her fondly.

## Newsbriefs

Outside the Principal's office at Cristo Rey Jesuit High School is a plaque recognizing "Sister Judy Murphy, O.S.B., Founding Principal of Cristo Rey Jesuit High School 1996 -2001, in grateful appreciation for Sister Judy, a faithful leader and committed Catholic educator."

Members of the community, including Sisters Benita Coffey, Jane Smith, Mildred Zember, Joan Gannon, Mary Alice Setnicar, Joanna Trapp, Mary Ann O'Ryan, Hilary Halpin, and Callista Kaley, O.S.B. attended the all school reunion held on October 18<sup>th</sup> for St. Hilary's Elementary School. Sisters were asked to contribute trivia questions (and answers) about the parish and the school.



The first Padres Plus fundraiser for the Association of Chicago Catholic Women was such a success that another session is being planned. Sister Callista Kaley, O.S.B. and Oblate Donna Dehnert (above, l - r) performing one of their two piano duets.

Sister Virginia Jung, O.S.B. will make her final profession of vows on Sunday, December 28<sup>th</sup>. She has begun work on a graduate degree in pastoral studies at Loyola University.

Sister Barbara McCarry, O.S.B. is now serving as the Director of Academics for the United Neighborhood Organization Charter School Network (UNOCSN).

On September 30<sup>th</sup>, the feast day of St. Jerome, Sister Joan Gannon, O.S.B. presented Fr. Jeremy Thomas, pastor of St. Jerome parish, with a group photo of the Benedictine Sisters of Chicago. Sister Mildred Zember, O.S.B. joins Sister Joan at Saint Jerome's for meetings of the "Tip Toppers" bingo group.

In August, Sister Susan Quaintance, O.S.B. attended the American Benedictine Academy. The Academy defines its purpose: "to cultivate, support and transmit Benedictine heritage within contemporary culture. The Academy sponsors and promotes disciplinary and inter-disciplinary research, writing and collaboration among its members. It serves as a catalyst inviting men and women to ponder creatively and to discuss the challenges to Benedictine values in the twenty-first century."



Friends join Sister Belinda Monahan, O.S.B. in celebration. Left to right: Angela Stramaglia, Sister Belinda, Mary Deeley, and Father Ken Simpson.

On August 26<sup>th</sup>, the Monastic Chapter voted to accept Belinda Monahan into the novitiate. Her reception was held after a lovely evening prayer service on Sunday, August 31<sup>st</sup>. Friends from the Sheil Catholic Center were present to share in the celebration.

Sister Suzanne Zuercher, O.S.B. spoke to the International Thomas Merton Organization of Chicago on September 21<sup>st</sup> about the spiritual journey as articulated by Merton, and the contribution the enneagram can make to that journey. On September 27<sup>th</sup> she facilitated a workshop on "Introduction to the Enneagram" at the Cabrini Retreat Center, followed by a book signing of her new book, *Using the Enneagram in Prayer*. Her article about discernment was published in *An Ignatian Spirituality Reader* edited by George Traub, S.J.

In November Loyola Academy will honor five individuals involved in the beginnings of the Cristo Rey Jesuit High School, Chicago. Sister Judith Murphy, O.S.B. will be among the awardees.

On October 23<sup>rd</sup> Sisters Patricia Crowley and Suzanne Zuercher, O.S.B. will make a presentation to the Ignatian Volunteer Corps on Discernment.

The Midwest Center for Justice, Ltd. has established a fund in memory of Sister Miriam Wilson, O.S.B. Sister Miriam served as a chaplain for the Cook County Jail for many years. The fund, which will be administered by the Chicago Legal Advocacy for Incarcerated Mothers (CLAIM), will help to fund the expenses of summer law students traveling to Mississippi to visit clients on death row.

Sister Patricia Crowley, O.S.B., has been selected the Chair of Region 8 for the Leadership Conference of Women Religious (LCWR), and now serves on the LCWR National Board.

The Rogers Park/West Ridge Historical Society has conducted oral history interviews with members of the Benedictine Sisters of Chicago to help preserve the stories of the Sisters over the monastery's past 100+ years in Rogers Park/West Ridge.

Sister Louise Eggen, O.S.B. attended a program designed for Benedictine Infirmarians in Beech Grove, Indiana. St. Joseph Infirmary, managed by Sister Louise, has a calendar of activities which all Sisters in the monastery are invited to join as time and schedules permit. From bingo to chair exercises, making ice cream in a bag to creating beautiful fall wreaths to decorate the doors of the infirmary - each day presents an opportunity for new and different happenings in which the Sisters can participate.



Left to right: Sisters Dorothy Van Alstyne, Mildred Scheetz, Mary Martin Gehl, and Gregory Rohar; O.S.B. preparing wonderful decorations with the assistance of Oblate Mary Ellen Stuermer, standing.

Newsbriefs continued on page 4.

# Newsbriefs

continued from page 3.

**S**ister Judith Zonsius, O.S.B. will be attending the Rome Renewal Program in 2009. **Sister Susan Quaintance, O.S.B.** will attend the program as an observer after her service at the St. Scholastica Federation prechapter meeting in June 2009.



**S**ister Mary Melady, O.S.B. joined fellow members of the St. Scholastica Class of 1963 (above, l - r: Sister Mary, Dorothy Vela Crites, Kathy Minogue McDaniel, and Barbara Greer Albright) for their 45th class reunion.

**O**n September 28<sup>th</sup>, the St. Scholastica Academy Alumnae Board hosted its 14<sup>th</sup> annual Woman for the World benefit. This year television journalist Lisa Ling received the Hildegard of Bingen Woman for the World Award, which is given to a woman who exemplifies the Benedictine tradition and values, as Hildegard of Bingen did, with vibrant and educated intelligence, focused commitment to others and their needs, bringing the gift of peace to society, with a passion for life. **Sister Judith Murphy, O.S.B.** received the 2008 Alumnae Acknowledgment Award for her many years of service to education both at St. Scholastica Academy and in her work with Cristo Rey schools. **Sisters Susan Kilduski, Agnes Kelly, Suzanne Zuercher, O.S.B.** and **Oblate Kathlyn Myers** joined voices in the choir that sang a special song composed for the event by St. Scholastica fine arts teacher, Mary Clare Cadieux.

During Advent 2008

Sung Vespers

Sundays

5 p.m.

St. Scholastica Chapel

(Enter thru the monastery door  
at 7430 N. Ridge Blvd.)

## We Love To Hear From You

“Benedictine hospitality is alive and well, and I thoroughly enjoyed my visit. I had a chance this time to become a bit more acquainted with some of the Sisters and find you such a talented, interesting and accomplished group of women.”

“I personally have a special place in my heart for the Benedictines. I received an outstanding education, and was well prepared for high school. We helped the Sisters clean the church and convent, sang in the children’s choir (I was terrible), received piano lessons, and played games like Sorry and Monopoly with the Sisters on their veranda.”

*A triptych of photos (and memories) of the many members of of the Benedictine Sisters of Chicago community who lived and worked at St. Mary’s Parish, in Pueblo, Colorado.*



*The afternoon celebration also provided an opportunity to thank two community members who grew up in St. Mary’s Parish: **Sisters Anne Krall and Rosemarie Rugar, O.S.B.***

(Benedictine Sisters of Chicago, Sister Karen Bland, O.S.B.)

## St. Mary’s

continued from page 1.

been members of the Benedictine community for more than fifty years. Sister Anne currently resides in Cañon City, Colorado, and serves as one of the caretakers for the Benedictine cemetery plots. Sister Rosemarie serves as the database manager for the monastery’s development office in Chicago.

**Sister Joan Hentges, O.S.B.** arranged for the food and the service. **Sister Karen Bland, O.S.B.** acted as the photographer. **Sister Benita Coffey, O.S.B.** invited all to the celebration and shared memories of her many years in Colorado. **Sister Kathleen McNamara, O.S.B.** arranged for a wonderful triptych of photos displaying the history of the Benedictine Sisters at St. Mary’s parish. **Sister Amy Campbell, O.S.B.** greeted guests along with the Prioress, **Sister Patricia Crowley, O.S.B.** who hosted the afternoon’s program. Those in attendance had a wonderful time catching up with old friends, visiting with family, and sharing memories of Sister Anne, Sister Rosemarie, and the other members of the Benedictine community who served over the years at St. Mary’s Parish.

Spiritual Spa Days  
at St. Scholastica Academy  
with Sister Suzanne Zuercher, O.S.B.

December 6, 2008  
“Laughter ... Soul Food”

February 28, 2009  
“The Place for Humor in  
our Spiritual Lives”

To register, call  
773/764-5715, ext. 363

Fall 2008 *Sacro Speco*

# Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

## Stewardship Report, Fiscal Year 2008



(Tintype Studio, Inc.)

## Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

### June 2008

#### **Members of the community of the Benedictine Sisters of Chicago**

*Bottom row (l—r):* Sisters Olivia Schaefer, Dorothy Van Alstyne, Suzanne Zuercher, Mildred Scheetz, Gregory Rohar, Mary Martin Gehl, Ann Sharp, Winifred Sommer, Mary Cornella, Jeanne Hegarty, Ada Rico, and Mary Benet McKinney, O.S.B.

*Second row from the bottom (l—r):* Sisters Patricia Cielinski, Joan Gannon, Joyce Gleeson, Vivian Ivantic, Patricia Crowley, Joanna Trapp, Eleanore Hillenbrand, Agnes Kelly, Mildred Zember, Mary Alice Setnicar, Pierre Marie Moore, Mercedes Moore, Mary Frances Schermerhorn, and Victoria Davis, O.S.B.

*Third row from bottom (l—r):* Sisters Mary Ann O’Ryan, Patricia Coughlin, Karen Bland, Jane Smith, Amy Campbell, Kathleen McNamara, Rosemarie Rupar, O.S.B., Postulant Belinda Monahan, Sisters Mariella Hathorn, Mary Melady, and Margaret Ann Holtz, O.S.B.

*Fourth row from bottom (l—r):* Sisters Judith Zonsius, Marilyn Hattrup, Hilary Halpin, Anne Krall, Mary Susan Remsgar, Callista Kaley, Joan Hentges, Johnette Sawyer, and Susan Kilduski, O.S.B.

*Top row (l—r):* Sisters Judith Murphy, Kathleen Maloney, Susan Quaintance, Benita Coffey, Rita Nowak, Virginia Jung, Barbara McCarry, and Louise Eggen, O.S.B.

## Our Charism

We are Benedictine women called to seek God in prayer and community,  
serving where there is need.

## Our Mission

Reverence:

Through common prayer, stewardship, hospitality and mutual respect,  
we seek to find and honor God  
present in each person and in all created things.

## Message from the Prioress

Dear Friends,

On the previous page is our very first all-community photo taken in June of this year. Amazingly, every single member of our community is in this photo! We are a group whose median age is 75. Equally, we are a group that is actively involved in education, in parish ministry, in homeless services, in group consulting/facilitating, in spiritual direction, in massage therapy, in pastoral counseling, and more! As our numbers grow smaller, our spirit of reaching out to others continues to be strengthened!

You, our supporters, have helped us to begin to remedy the underfunding of our retirement fund. Through your regular donations, your participation in our fundraising events, your remembrance of our community in your wills and other estate planning documents – all of these have helped us to move our retirement fund from a funding level of only 9% in 1997 to a higher level. Our retirement fund is now funded at 43.5

percent. We are grateful, and we are committed to continuing in this positive direction.

This year we decided to enclose our annual report within our fall newsletter. In so doing, we will be saving a little money and many more people will receive this information. We hope this new format, and its theme of hospitality, will open up new vistas for you!

The Benedictine way is often characterized by a strong tradition of “hospitality.” The Benedictine Sisters of Chicago uphold that tradition. In this issue you will find several different descriptions of hospitality written or quoted by some of our members, our oblates, and others.

I invite you to think about “hospitality” as an approach to the brokenness we all experience in our world. I invite you to study the Gospels to see that Jesus approaches people who are experiencing brokenness with a healing openness that might be termed radical hospitality. As Benedictines, our tradition, our teachings, and our practices are all rooted in a gospel sense of welcoming guests and strangers into our midst and seeing in each one the reality of Christ among us. In a society that is engrained with a sense of mistrust, this is not an easy thing to practice. We strive each day to embrace the challenge of being hospitable to each person we meet by listening and by accepting the other person as who he/she is in the moment. May you, and we, grow in hospitality toward all!

Gratefully,

*Patricia Crowley*



Prioress Patricia Crowley, O.S.B.

# Donors

July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008



*(Benedictine Sisters of Chicago, Kathy Camilli)*

*left to right: (seated) Sisters Belinda Monahan and Sister Zeno Sagong, O.S.B., (standing) Sister Jane Smith, O.S.B., Aden A., and Sister Seraphine Andjama, F.M.Y.*

*We, the Benedictine Sisters of Chicago, welcome you to our "circle" with deep gratitude and appreciation. We thank you, our benefactors and friends, for your dedication, financial and volunteer support. These contributions help advance the mission and ministry of the Sisters, as well as to provide for the care of the retired members of the community. The Benedictine Sisters pray daily for many blessings for those who work on behalf of the monastery: donors, volunteers, and their families, as all have a special place in the Sisters' hearts.*

## Founders' Circle

*Three young women came to Chicago in 1861 to found a new monastery. Since that time, over 500 women have followed the monastic life and served thousands of young people through various educational endeavors. Founders' Circle donors have made gifts in excess of \$10,000 to the community.*

- Anonymous
- Helen Brach Foundation
- Howard S. and Ursula Dubin Foundation
- Kathryn A. Eckstein I.R.A.
- Ray A. & Kathryn A. Eckstein Benedictine Sisters Trust Fund
- Raymond A. Eckstein I.R.A.
- Estate of Bertha E. Bishop
- Marilee Hegarty
- Frank J. Lewis Foundation
- Queen of All Saints Parish
- Retirement Research Foundation
- Florence Gunnarson Spraker Foundation

## Prioress' Circle

*In the Benedictine tradition, the Prioress/Abbess serves a special role in the monastery community. There have been fifteen women who have served as Prioress/Abbess of the Benedictine Sisters of Chicago, from Mother Theresa Krug, O.S.B. to Sister Patricia Crowley, O.S.B. Donors in the Prioress' Circle have made a gift totaling \$5,000 - \$9,999.*

- Florence Allie
- Stephen and Margaret Lombardo
- Irene Nowak
- The Patricia Foundation
- ResCare, Inc.
- James C. Sharp

## Saint Benedict's Circle

*Saint Benedict, author of the Rule of Benedict, is the father of western monastic tradition. Saint Benedict's Circle acknowledges those who have donated gifts totaling \$ 1,000 - \$4,999 to the Benedictine Sisters of Chicago.*

- Dr. and Mrs. Anthony F. Altimari
- Anonymous
- Al Augustine
- Mr. and Mrs. Robert L. Berner, Jr.
- Andrea Billhardt
- Bertha F. Blattner
- Bob and Mary Bolt
- St. John Brebeuf Parish
- Nancy P. Bryers
- Joyce Byron
- Dr. Edward and Josephine Colbach

The smile of welcome to the one approaching me says, "Come and rest. You are home."  
It is not so much what we do,  
but the way – the manner in which we interact –  
that says we value one another.  
Sister Jeanne Hegarty, O.S.B.

Holy God,  
 hospitality  
 does not always come easily.  
 There are so many other things to do,  
 important things.  
 I have responsibilities  
 that get in the way  
 of my best intentions.  
 Give me eyes to see the possibilities  
 and a heart big enough  
 to make room for someone else.  
 Amen.

Excerpt from *Benedict's Way: An Ancient Monk's Insights for a Balanced Life* by Lonnie Collins Pratt and Father Daniel Homan, O.S.B. (Loyola Press, 2000). Reprinted with permission of Loyola Press. To order copies call 1-800-621-1008 or go to [www.loyolapress.com](http://www.loyolapress.com).

(Benedictine Sisters of Chicago, Kathy Canadillo)



left to right: Naomi Thomas, Cathy George, Catherine, Sisters Patricia Crowley and Mary Alice Setnicar, O.S.B. and Al Gehrke.

- Joseph and Lena Cornella
- Patty C. Crowley Estate
- Therese Dokman
- Jerome and Joan Duffy
- Margaret Evans
- Carolyn M. Fields
- Marilyn C. Fields
- Richard Fields
- Betty G. Finucane
- Gordon and Eileen Fitch
- Anna Flaherty
- Loretta I. Garrett
- Albert and Katherine Gehrke
- ✠ Evelyn Gerth
- William and Ann Marie Gradishar
- Dodie Haas
- Jeanne Adele Hafner
- Rose Halle
- John Halston
- Mary Ann Harrington
- Charlie and Madeleine Hegarty
- Marilyn Hennessy
- John and Sylvia Hourihane
- Agnes M. Ivantic
- William and Ruth Ivantic
- Frank J. Jallits
- Jim and Dorothea Jung
- Herman B. Kamlage
- Sue Kisielewski
- Mr. and Mrs. Michael Kneafsey
- Gary and Mary Ann Kono
- Late Nite Catechism
- David and Mary Lerps
- Thomas and Sheila Letscher
- Patricia Lundblad
- Paul and Joan Maas
- John and Mary Madden
- Mrs. Robert Mahoney
- Frances Marsolais
- Edward and Mary Matthei
- Dr. Gregory and Judith Matz

- Eleanore M. McCarthy
- Ellen Munro
- Loretta Namovic
- Dr. Andrew L. Ondo and Karen Price
- Linda Pickering
- Resurrection Health Care
- William and Kathleen Riordan
- Patrick and Joanne Rooney
- Patrick and Kathleen Rooney
- Richard and Connie Rosler
- Ben and Linda Ruf
- Jim Rhodes and Anne Scheetz
- J.P. and Claire Schermerhorn
- Richard and Patricia Schermerhorn
- Thomas and Patricia Schermerhorn
- Smith-Corcoran Funeral Home
- Gregory and Elvira Steele
- Bernice Steinhauser
- Eleanor J. Taylor
- John and Terese Terry
- William and Judith Trapp
- Peter and Joan Wrenn
- Zielinski Companies

Lamp  
 Warm, golden  
 Living, glowing, inviting  
 Keep trimmed and filled  
 Welcome

Sister Virginia Jung, O.S.B.

### Saint Scholastica's Circle

*Saint Scholastica, thought to be the twin sister of Saint Benedict, was described by St. Gregory the Great in "Dialogues II" as a strong and devoted woman. Saint Scholastica's Circle recognizes those who have made a donation of \$500 - \$999 to support the care and ministries of the Benedictine Sisters of Chicago.*

- Mark and Patricia Aijian
- Anonymous
- Claudette Austin
- Gerrie Barosso
- Rev. James Barrett
- Paul and Suzanne Betts
- Barbara Blough
- Judith Borchers
- Patricia Ann Born
- Therese Brzezinski
- Irene Bucher
- Jeffrey and Kathryn Caudill
- Yvonne Chan
- Steven M. Cielinski
- Rev. Denis Condon
- Thomas and Kathleen Conrardy
- Michael and Nancy Daley
- John Davidson and Shirley Schaeffer
- Donna Dehnert
- Joan Diamond
- Valerie Downes
- Dr. Denis and Barbara Drennan
- Jackie Dupon
- Thomas and Amy Ewert

**Stewardship Report FY 2008**

Fettes, Love, & Sieben  
 Joan Fickinger  
 Edward and Carol Finnegan  
 Richard Fortmann and Anne Crowley  
 Joe and Marion Goetz  
 Ralph and Marilyn Graybill  
 Mari L. Harrer  
 Sheila Harrington  
 Emily L. Hartman  
 Dolores E. Harwas  
 Gregory and Sherry Hegarty  
 Daniel and Margaret Henrick  
 Don and Helen Heyrman  
 William and Cay Hillenbrand  
 Robert and Sheila Hulseman  
 Mary Ann Jewell  
 Joseph and Mary Ellen Kadleck  
 Michael and Joanne Kelly  
 Georgette Kesselring  
 Dennis La Liberty  
 Lynn Ann Laughlin  
 Dorothy Lescher  
 Barbara Lynch  
 Larry and Christine Magoncia  
 Angeline Mani  
 Margaret Marren  
 Dr. Edward and Joan Matuga  
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 Terry and Ruth Mitter  
 Joseph and Martha Monastero  
 Colleen Mullarkey  
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 Jim Richter  
 Santo and Denise Riportella  
 Roofing by Matthews  
 George and Barbara Rourke  
 Alan and Eileen Samuelson  
 Margaret A. Schermerhorn  
 William and Linda Senica  
 Frances A. Setnicar  
 Helen E. Sieben  
 Rita Six  
 Most Rev. Arthur N. Tafoya  
 Jeffrey and Nancy Wagner  
 Iva Williams  
 Michael P. Wrenn  
 Michael and Mary Zonsius  
 Peter and Barbara Zonsius

**Hospitality Circle**  
*Chapter 53 of the Rule of Benedict describes Benedictine hospitality: "All guests who present themselves are to be welcomed as Christ....In the reception of the poor and pilgrims the greatest care and solicitude should be shown, because it is especially in them that Christ is received." The Hospitality Circle members have donated \$100 - \$499 to the Benedictine Sisters of Chicago.*

Maria Abeyta  
 John and Katherine Ackerman  
 Rev. Albert Adamich  
 Ellen Ahern  
 Terrence Ahern  
 Judith Alexander  
 Robert and Kathleen Anderson

Donald and Dorothy Andries  
 Anonymous  
 Gary and Debbie Anton  
 Robert and Nellie Aprahamian  
 Joseph Auer and Kathleen Kelly  
 Ron and Margie Auer  
 Pamela J. Babler  
 Angela and Fiona Bailey  
 Danuta Bajda  
 Deborah Barclay  
 Pamela Barnett  
 Mary Frances Barney  
 Dr. Margaret Barron, M.D.  
 Bears Manufacturing  
 Martha Beauchamp  
 Bee Zee Auto, Inc.  
 Norbert and Virginia Bergmann  
 Juliet Bergner  
 Joan Berry  
 John and Judith Bertacchi  
 Rev. Stephen Bevans, S.V.D.  
 † Norman Bickart  
 Jane Billyeald  
 Margaret Birmingham

*(front row) Sister Mary Benet McKinney, O.S.B., visits with (back row, l - r) daughters of Mary Miller, Mary Miller, LaVerne Damlos, and Sister Mariella Hathorn, O.S.B.*



*(Benedictine Sisters of Chicago, Kathy Caudill)*

Hospitality is welcoming, warm, caring and giving.  
 It is a good thing to give as well as to receive.  
 But it also has something of the difficult about it.  
 As my friend, Joan Chittister puts it: "Hospitality is saying to the visitor, 'Come right in and disrupt my perfectly organized life.'"  
 Obviously no guest intends to be disturbing.  
 Nor do we ever want to treat them as such.  
 But the fact remains that things change a bit  
 in the presence of additional people in the monastery.  
 And so it should be!  
 But nothing in our behavior, speech or attitude should make this obvious.  
 We are to welcome such disruptions as coming from Christ  
 who is present in every guest!

Sister Mary Benet McKinney, O.S.B.

William and Cheryl Blum  
 Ruth Hazle Bode  
 Mary Margaret Boesen  
 Bob and †Bridget Borchers  
 Marilyn Borucki  
 H. Woods Bowman  
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 Mary Ann Boyle  
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 Mary Ellen Brady  
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 George Courtney and Patricia Cowhey  
 Jim and Gerry Coyne

Many years ago, our community was using space at the north end of our property to grow large patches of rhubarb and other vegetables (especially beans which were picked by us novices). As years went by, our need for the space diminished and at the same time we were sponsoring some newly arrived Vietnamese families who were most interested in having some space "to farm." Thus began our community gardens. Soon relatives, friends and acquaintances became interested and wished to "have a plot of land" to raise vegetables, etc. The number of gardeners has grown to include neighbors and neighbors' friends so that we now have a considerable waiting list of people who want to "get their hands dirty."

Sister Rita Nowak, O.S.B.

Mary Theresa Coyne  
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 Julee Ann Illner  
 Salvatore and Catherine Ingraffia  
 Barbara Isaacson

When I enter the monastery,  
 a sense of calmness and peace  
 overtakes me.

For me, the hospitality of  
 the Sisters means  
 unconditional love and acceptance.  
 I always feel welcomed.

The Sisters welcome me  
 just for being me.  
 I don't need to do anything to  
 earn that welcome, except to be.

The hospitality of the Sisters  
 is an open door  
 and a welcoming spirit.

Bertha Blattner, Oblate

Edward and Patricia Jablonski  
 Dr. Charles and Loretto James  
 Jim and Barbara Jank  
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 John and Theresa Kepic  
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 Rita Killean  
 John and Madeline Kiss  
 Debra A. Kleban  
 Ann Klein

I remember the warm receptions I have received elsewhere  
 and recall visitors I have encountered over the years  
 at our own monastery and missions.

There was the lady I met on our grounds one Sunday morning  
 who hoped it was all right to just sit there, it was so quiet and relaxing.  
 I recall the elderly lady who chose to visit "because it is so peaceful here."

I think of the appreciation shown by family members  
 when we have visited with "shut-ins."

I think of the friends who have been Oblates for many years,  
 and those in the latest new class with us now.

Through generous men and women such as these,  
 St. Benedict's admonition to show hospitality to all  
 continues to spread God's love in families, in the work place,  
 and among strangers.

May God be praised!

Sister Jeanne Hegarty, O.S.B.

left to right: Linda Rongey visits with Sisters Eugenia Lucas, sTh, and Seraphine Andjama, F.M.Y. at the Testimonial Dinner.



(Benedictine Sisters of Chicago, Kathy Caudill)

Hospitality can help us to pray....

In a world tempted to hurry too much, welcoming one another gets more important rather than less.

Perhaps one of the disciplines of prayer can be found here, preparing welcoming times and places set aside for listening to one another's unimportant stories and by listening, to savor one another's beauty.

*Sensual Prayer - Electronic Context: Ignatian Prayer for Internet Users*

by John M. Staudenmaier, S.J.

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Phillip and Mary Margaret Lainson  
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Kay La Moreaux  
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Alois and Susan Lang  
Joan C. Langhenry  
Judy Lee and Judy Beaumont  
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Terrence and Julie O'Brien  
Wayne and Violet Odell  
K. Angela O'Donnell  
Mary M. O'Donnell

Each of us  
in the monastery  
came as stranger  
and was received first  
as a guest.  
Here we work together  
to build a home wherein each  
one can feel  
"I belong."

Sister Jeanne Hegarty, O.S.B.

Cathleen O'Donoghue  
 Richard and Jane O'Grady  
 Joan O'Halloran  
 J. Ward and Susan O'Neill  
 James O'Neill  
 Joseph and Betty O'Ryan  
 Kevin and Jean O'Ryan  
 Michael and Patsy O'Ryan  
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 Michael and Michelle Rastatter  
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 Agnes Reiningger  
 Mary Farrell Reis  
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 Joyce Renz  
 Myron and Alicia Resnick  
 Harry and Catherine Riley  
 Steve and Deanne Riportella  
 Anthony and Susan Rizzato  
 Rosarina Rizzato  
 Dr. and Mrs. Harold E. Robinson  
 Allan and Victoria Rodrigues

*It is this home we cherish  
 and into which  
 we welcome guests who come.  
 As daughters of Benedict,  
 we stand ready to share  
 our blessings as we are able.*

*Sister Benita Coffey, O.S.B.*

Barbara Rogers  
 Jadwiga Roguska-Kyts, M.D.  
 Edward Rolfsen  
 Daniel and Heidi Rooney  
 William and Audrey Rooney  
 Dr. Robert and Beverly Rowden  
 Richard and Marybeth Runnion  
 Jean Hellman Ryan  
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 Kenneth and Donnaruth Schaul  
 †Raymond Scheetz  
 Harry and Mary Liz Schermerhorn  
 Robert and Joan Schermerhorn  
 Le Anne Schreiber  
 Angela M. Schrimpl  
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 Sheila H. Schultz  
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Kathleen V. Schwegel  
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 Catherine M. Setnicar  
 Tim Sheehan  
 James and Kathleen Sheehy  
 William and Jean Sheffield  
 Susan Shelton  
 Lisa Shipley  
 Lois Ann Simms  
 Dr. Marc and Joan Sindler  
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 Helen LaPat Smith  
 Joseph and Tao Xiong Smith  
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 Rev. Michael Solazzo  
 Martha Sook Song  
 †Charles and Mary Sotir  
 Jeanne Spanknebell  
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 Peter and Margaret Steinfeld  
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 Dennis and Judith Stephens



*(Benedictine Sisters of Chicago, Kathy Caudill).  
 Friends join the Benedictine Sisters of Chicago at the annual  
 donor appreciation liturgy in St. Scholastica Chapel.*

**The Eucharist is the place where Jesus becomes more present to us  
 because he becomes not only the Christ living within us  
 but also the Christ living among us.**

**Just as the disciples at Emmaus who had recognized Jesus  
 in the breaking of the bread discovered a new intimacy between themselves  
 and found the courage to return to their friends,  
 we who have received the Body and Blood of Jesus  
 will find a new unity among ourselves. As we realize that Christ lives within us,  
 we also come to realize that Christ lives among us  
 and makes us into a body of people witnessing together  
 to the presence of Christ in the world.**

Excerpt from *Bread for the Journey: A Day Book of  
 Wisdom and Faith* by Henri Nouwen (Harper Collins, 1997).  
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Ann Trandai

Milton and Mickie Trujillo

Tim and Elizabeth Uligian

Rudolph and Theresa Unger

Kamillus and Caecilia Urban

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(Benedictine Sisters of Chicago, Kathy Caudill)



left to right: Sisters Benita Coffey and Belinda Monahan, O.S.B.

*The space within the monastery was changing as we renovated various rooms, providing comfortable places for guests, for meetings, for socializing, for retreat work, etc. We have also been developing our outdoor spaces, providing places to walk, to sit for a while, to listen or to simply be.*

Sister Rita Nowak, O.S.B.

### Community Circle

*How does Saint Benedict describe community? Chapter 4 of the Rule of Benedict says: "The workshop where we toil faithfully ... is the enclosure of the monastery and stability in the community." The Community Circle donors have made gifts of \$1 - \$99 to benefit the community of the Benedictine Sisters of Chicago.*

Therese Alexander

Therese and Jamie Altimari

Lisa Anastasia

Walter and Joslyn Anderson

Howard J. Andrews

Anonymous

Annette M. Aragon

Patricia Askew

Loretta Astorino

Jim and Jackie Bader

Herman and Valerie Baker

John and Milena Bakula

Nelly Bakula

But hospitality means even more to a monastic person.  
It carries beyond the monastery space to all of life's encounters.  
It begins with an attitude of personal availability.  
This implies a suspension of judgment,  
a simple presence, to each individual.  
It includes respectful attention to the other  
and an effort to understand that person's experience.  
It focuses on a place beneath differences in opinion, education or culture  
where all can truly be together,  
because all are united in a common humanity.  
At the center of hospitality is the call to know one's self  
so that one has a presence to offer another.  
This presence is rooted in humility,  
in an acceptance of one's personal limitations  
that allows one to embrace others, limited like one's self.

Sister Suzanne Zuercher, O.S.B.

Thomas Baley  
 Greg and Linda Barnard  
 Angela Barosso  
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 Nancy Boros  
 Christine Bowen  
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 Naomi Foreman-Fleming  
 Nancy A. Frazier  
 Catherine Frey

Kindness  
 includes far more than  
 bread and breakfast!  
 Benedictines today  
 continue to respond in various ways.  
 For us in this monastery,  
 it includes the invitation to share  
 our daily Mass and common prayer life,  
 as well as our table.  
 Many people who visit  
 do not even realize their own need  
 until they experience respite  
 under the mantle of Benedict's spirit.  
 Sister Jeanne Hegarty, O.S.B.



Benedictine Sisters of Chicago, Kathy Caudill

left to right: *Sister Jeanne Hegarty, O.S.B. and Peggy Cusick visit during the annual Testimonial Dinner.*

Robert and Joyce Fucik  
 Lillian Galich  
 Loretta Gallagher  
 Ellen Galush  
 James and Gayle Gambill  
 Joe and Ruth Garcia  
 Rev. Michael Garcia, O.P.  
 Bettye Garrett  
 Therese Gavin  
 Louis and Gloria Gazda  
 Sam and Judith Geati  
 Geraldine Gehrke  
 Walter and Janet Gengler  
 Gerard Chimney Company  
 Lawrence and Kathleen Gietl  
 Scott and Amy Gilbert  
 Hope Gillespie  
 Rosemarie Gilmartin  
 Edward and Mary Ann Glach  
 Lorraine Glach  
 Mary Jo Glavich  
 Matthew and Agnes Glavich  
 Most Rev. Raymond E. Goedert  
 James M. Goff  
 Dianne Goldman  
 Jack and Carol Green  
 Richard and Barbara Greenwood  
 Michael and Joanne Gregorich  
 †Dr. Hugh and Rose Ann Grimes  
 Sister Elaine Grondin  
 Gerald and Beverly Gust  
 Nancy Gutreuter  
 Bonnie Jean Haghirian  
 Deanna Hallagan  
 Lisa Schmid Halpin  
 Richard and Marilyn Halvorsen  
 Josephine Hammer  
 Olga M. Hankins  
 Judy Hanson  
 Jane Hardick  
 Thomas and Ellen Hardy  
 Brian and Ann Harrington

From the very beginning hospitality  
 has been characteristic of Benedictine monasticism.  
 The Rule of Benedict devotes a chapter to the reception of all kinds of guests,  
 monastic and otherwise, who might happen by in their travels.  
 As Motel 6 marketing puts it today,  
 monasteries since the sixth century have left the light on  
 for those looking for shelter, food, and safety;  
 and they continue until the present  
 with a welcome for contemporary travelers in this country and beyond.

Sister Suzanne Zuercher, O.S.B.

Geraldine Harrington  
 James and Kristin Harrington  
 Mary V. Harrington  
 Mark and Joan Harris  
 Santina Harris  
 Thomas and Gertrude Hart  
 Margaine M. Hartney  
 Katherine Hartzler  
 Josephine Hartman Healy  
 Joan Heffernan  
 Fr. Robert Heidenreich  
 Patricia A. Heineman-Vernon  
 Catherine Hennessy  
 Phyllis M. Henrich  
 Mrs. Lucy G. Henry  
 Peter and Molly Heraty  
 Robert Herdrich  
 Margaret Hermes  
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 Patricia Jautz  
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 Dr. Patricia Jersin  
 Bruce and Louise Jewett

Benedictine hospitality at its best.  
 He did what was not natural for him;  
 he overcame his inherent shyness  
 to reach out to me.  
 Something about my discomfort  
 compelled him to make me  
 the object of  
 his deepest graciousness.

Excerpt from *Benedict's Way: An Ancient Monk's Insights  
 for a Balanced Life* by Lonnie Collins Pratt  
 and Father Daniel Homan, O.S.B.  
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Sharing the sign of peace at a Jubilee Mass.

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*Hospitality is a simple thing,  
 a uniting thing.  
 It is a gift of the true monastic spirit,  
 a gift that Jesus modeled for us  
 and Benedict articulated  
 in his Rule for Monasteries.  
 Our divided world needs hospitality.  
 All of us, monastics or otherwise,  
 would do well to pray  
 that we may grow in this openness to  
 every person we meet.*

*Sister Suzanne Zuercher, O.S.B.*

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Benedictine hospitality  
 is also a return of gifts.  
 The stranger is shown  
 both presence and service....  
 From the point of view  
 of the Rule of Benedict,  
 it isn't so much what we do  
 for those curious others  
 in our lives, the strong,  
 the needy, the unscrubbed,  
 as it is the way we do it.  
 We can give people charity  
 or we can give them attention.  
 We can give them  
 the necessities of life  
 or we can give them its joys.  
 Benedictine hospitality  
 is the gift of one being to another.

Excerpt from *The Rule of Benedict: Insight  
 for the Ages*  
 by Sister Joan Chittister, O.S.B.  
 (The Crossroad Publishing Company, 1992).  
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*(standing, l-r): Ethel Turner,  
Lenore Renteria, and  
Marcia Joseph join  
Sister Ada Rico, O.S.B. at the  
Infirmary Tea Party.*



*(Benedictine Sisters of Chicago, Kathy Caudill)*

Besides the fact that situations constantly change,  
I was reminded of the words of Jim Leahy,  
the President of American Hotel Register Company.

These words appeared in the company's recent newsletter:

"Live in the moment! Spend less time remembering unhappiness  
or worrying about the future.

Be aware of the sounds, the people, and the beauty around you."

Perhaps this expresses a reason for hospitality, so significant to Benedictines.  
As Jim said, "Be happy and share (your)happiness with (your) guests,"  
words which I would like to think are ours also.

Sister Rita Nowak, O.S.B.

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Daniel and Christine Schiffer  
Mary Schill

*In the Benedictine tradition,  
opening one's space to others  
has always meant much more  
than a mere fulfilling  
of physical needs.  
Following the initial exhortation  
of the Rule to listen to all of life,  
monastics have opened their doors,  
their minds and their hearts  
to those they meet along the Way.  
The guest is seen as one sent by God,  
and monastics pay attention  
to the messages God gives  
through the person  
who comes to their home.*

Sister Suzanne Zuercher, O.S.B.

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*Sister Patricia Coughlin, O.S.B. shares a poem of hospitality.*

## PERHAPS THE WORLD ENDS HERE

The world begins at a kitchen table. No matter what, we must eat to live.

The gifts of earth are brought and prepared, set on the table.  
 So it has been since creation, and it will go on.

We chase chickens or dogs away from it. Babies teethe at the corners.  
 They scrape their knees under it.

It is here that children are given instructions on what it means to be human.  
 We make men at it, we make women.

At this table we gossip, recall enemies and the ghosts of lovers.

Our dreams drink coffee with us as they put their arms around our children.  
 They laugh with us at our poor falling-down selves  
 and as we put ourselves back together once again at the table.

This table has been a house in the rain, an umbrella in the sun.

Wars have begun and ended at this table.  
 It is a place to hide in the shadow of terror.  
 A place to celebrate the terrible victory.

We have given birth on this table, and have prepared our parents for burial here.

At this table we sing with joy, with sorrow.  
 We pray of suffering and remorse. We give thanks.

Perhaps the world will end at the kitchen table,  
 while we are laughing and crying, eating of the last sweet bite.

*Excerpt from How We Became Human, New and Selected Poems,*

*by Joy Harjo (W.W. Norton, 2002). Used with permission. All rights reserved.*

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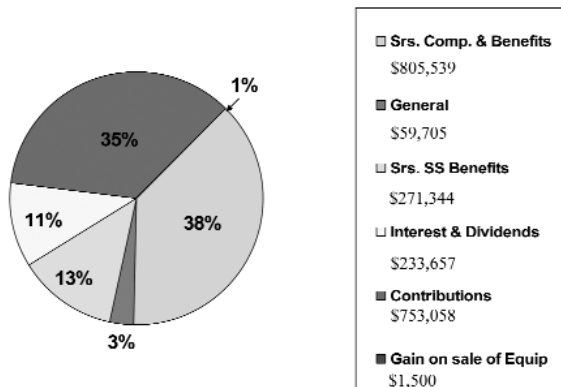
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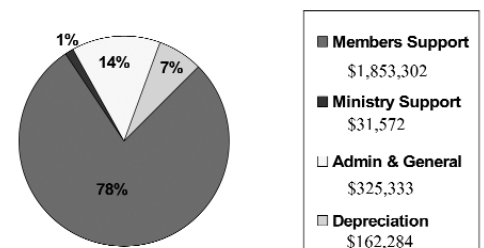
## Revenues & Gains - 2008



Total Revenues & Gains=\$2,124,803

As fewer Sisters are able to work outside of the community, the support received from Sisters' compensation is decreasing. Contributions must increase. These donations include gifts to the Sisters, bequests, trusts and gifts from estates or wills, and grants from foundations. The monastery's Development Office must raise a minimum of \$635,100 in FY 2009 to support operating expenses. Money is raised from special project appeals, donations from the quarterly newsletter *Sacro Speco*, memorials, and the annual Testimonial Dinner.

## Expenses and Losses – 2008



Total Expenses = \$2,372,634 (realized loss on investments of \$143 is not shown)

Over 78% of the expenses for the Benedictine Sisters of Chicago are for the support of the community including Sisters' health care costs, food, clothing, maintenance of the monastery and utilities. The administrative and general costs include office expenses, technology, postage, vehicles, gas and insurance. Frugal in their expenditures, the Sisters operate with a minimal budget.



## Benedictine Legacy Society

The following benefactor remembered the Benedictine Sisters in her will or trust for which bequests were made during the 2007 – 2008 fiscal year:

Bertha E. Bishop

This generous friend joins fellow legacy society members who remain in the Sisters' thoughts and prayers:

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Every effort is made to accurately acknowledge our donors' gifts for the period of July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008. We apologize for any errors and encourage you to call any inaccuracies to our attention. Please contact Kathy Caudill (773/764-2413, ext. 233 or [kcaudill@osbchicago.org](mailto:kcaudill@osbchicago.org).)

Top (l - r): *Sister Benita Coffey, O.S.B. and Oblate Kathlyn Myers visit at a jubilee celebration.*

Middle (l - r): *Erica Hall and Testimonial Dinner honoree Peter Zonsius smile for the camera as they visit during the Testimonial Dinner cocktail hour.*

Bottom: *Sister Kathleen Maloney, O.S.B. (center) and her parents, Dorothy and John Maloney, at her silver jubilee celebration.*



(Benedictine Sisters of Chicago, Kathy Caudill)

(Vintage Studio, Inc.)



**Hospitality  
 is not to change people,  
 but to offer them  
 space  
 where change  
 can take place.**

Excerpt from *Reaching Out: The Three Movements of the Spiritual Life* by Henri Nouwen (Doubleday, 1975).  
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(Benedictine Sisters of Chicago, Kathy Caudill)



“Benedictine hospitality is the gift of one human being to another ... it is home and family,”  
 as Sister Joan Chittister, O.S.B. says in her commentary on the Rule.

“Home and family”  
 speaks acceptance and welcome given our different histories, personalities, likes and dislikes.

Sister Jeanne Hegarty, O.S.B.



# 2007-08 Monastic Council, Development Council and Testimonial Dinner Committee



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The following Sisters contribute their time and talents to assist with development office projects:  
Benita Coffey, Jeanne Hegarty,  
Eleanore Hillenbrand, Vivian Ivantic,  
Mercedes Moore,  
Mary Alice Setnicar,  
Winifred Sommer,  
Jane Smith and Mildred Zember.



Above: *Sister Mercedes Moore, O.S.B. with one of her beautiful handmade afghans.*



Left: *Development Council member, John Hourihane and his wife, Sylvia join the Sisters at the annual Donor Appreciation liturgy.*

*(Benedictine Sisters of Chicago, Kathy Caudill).*

*(Benedictine Sisters of Chicago, Kathy Caudill).*

# How to Help

## Donations

Monetary gifts are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. Checks should be made to the **Benedictine Sisters of Chicago** and mailed to:

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago  
7430 N. Ridge Blvd.  
Chicago, IL 60645-1913

Credit card and PayPal donations can be made by visiting the Benedictine Sisters of Chicago web site ([www.osbchicago.org](http://www.osbchicago.org)). If you prefer, call the Development Office and we will be happy to assist you with your credit card or PayPal contribution.

The Benedictine Sisters of Chicago proudly sponsor St. Scholastica Academy. However, in order for your generosity to assist in providing for the support and care of the Sisters, the gift must be made payable to the **Benedictine Sisters of Chicago**.

## Bequests in Wills

Planned gifts to the Benedictine Sisters of Chicago help us carry on ministries and assist with the care of retired Sisters. Are you interested in learning more about remembering the Sisters in your will or trust? Please contact Kathy Caudill, Director of Development.

*(Benedictine Sisters of Chicago, Kathy Caudill)*



*Above (l - r): Sister Victoria Davis, O.S.B., Alice Melady, and Sister Mary Melady, O.S.B. gather for a photo after Mass in St. Scholastica chapel.*

*(Benedictine Sisters of Chicago, Kathy Caudill)*



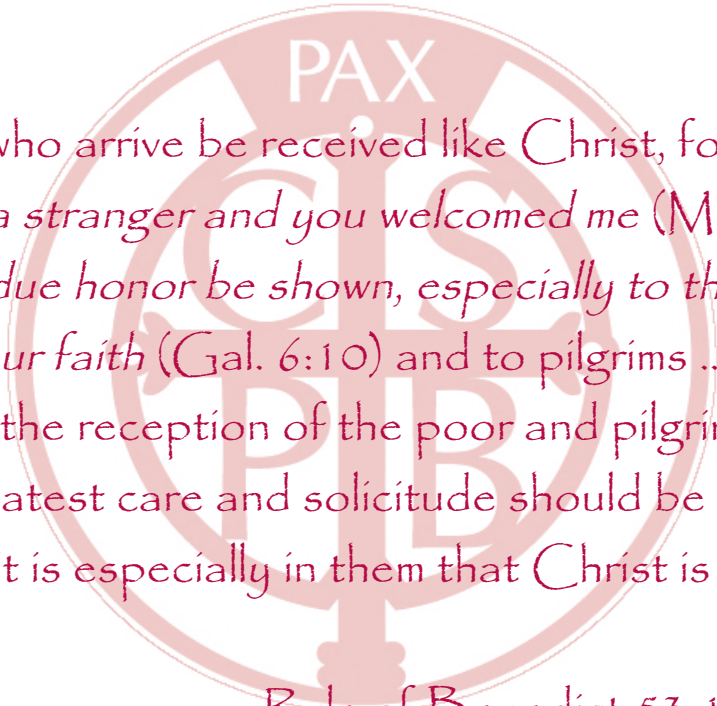
*Left (l - r): Father James Barrett, Margaret Caminiti, Patricia Cowhey, Dominic Caminiti, and George Courtney visit in the north room of the monastery.*

## Matching Gifts

Double the value of your contribution. Contact your employer about charitable donation matching gifts. Many businesses double or triple an employee's donation. Gifts of property, appreciated stock or real estate allow you to avoid the penalty of capital gains tax and receive a charitable income tax deduction for the gift.

## Questions...

Please contact Kathy Caudill  
Director of Development  
Benedictine Sisters of Chicago  
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e-mail - [kcaudill@osbchicago.org](mailto:kcaudill@osbchicago.org)



Let all guests who arrive be received like Christ, for he is going to say: *I was a stranger and you welcomed me* (Matt. 25:35).  
*And to all let due honor be shown, especially to those who share our faith* (Gal. 6:10) and to pilgrims ....  
In the reception of the poor and pilgrims the greatest care and solicitude should be shown, because it is especially in them that Christ is received.

Rule of Benedict 53:1-2, 15



### Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

St. Scholastica Monastery  
7430 N. Ridge Blvd.  
Chicago, IL 60645-1913  
[www.osbchicago.org](http://www.osbchicago.org)

# Israel

continued from page 1.

from the Sea of Galilee and listened to stories of the early days from a long time member of the kibbutz.

The Christian Arabs are a minority within a minority. Of the seven million people in Israel, approximately 80% of the population is Jewish, 15% is Muslim Arab, and 5% is Christian Arab, with smaller populations of Arabs who are Druze, an offshoot of Islam, and of Muslim Berbers, a nomadic population.

We spent a morning in a small town of Fassouta, populated entirely by Christian Arabs. Here the Archdiocese of Chicago and the JCRC collaborated to build a community center. We met the mayor, school teachers, and various officials, toured the church, school and community center, and ate grapes and figs from a tiny but flourishing backyard garden. We went up the Golan Heights east of the Sea of Galilee, occupied by Syria before 1967 and since then by Israel. The border is too dry for human habitation, and for forty years there has been no violence along the border with Syria nor along the border with Jordan.

In the south of Israel we visited Kiryat Gat, a new city built to accommodate Jewish people who come to live in Israel from all over the world, most recently from Russia, Ethiopia, and Sudan. We visited with second-generation high school students and heard their hopes for the future, and met with some women very recently arrived from Ethiopia who

told their heart-breaking stories of the past. We visited a cooperative farm right on the border between Israel and the West Bank, an area with much violence until a wall was put up in 2004. We toured the ruins of Masada in the desert and went wading in the Dead Sea. The shores of the Dead Sea are resort areas on both the Israeli and Jordanian sides. The day was hot and sunny, 108 degrees.



*The Church of the Primacy of Peter, located on the shore of the Sea of Galilee: "Upon this rock I will build my church."*

We visited several synagogues and churches in the northern hill country: the beautiful modern Church of the Annunciation in the Muslim Arab town of Nazareth, the octagonal Church of the Beatitudes on a hill overlooking the Sea of Galilee (which is actually a freshwater lake), the Church of the Loaves and Fishes and the Church of the Primacy of Peter, on the shore of the Sea, and the modern, round, all-windows church at Capernaum, which is right next to the ruins of the town's first-century, Greek-style synagogue. We went for a boat ride on the Sea of Galilee at sunset.

Jerusalem is built on hills shaped like a volcanic crater with a dome inside. We spent a morning at *Yad Vashem*, the memorial to the

Holocaust. We visited the Church and enclosed Garden of Gethsemane, the exquisite Church of Dormition Abbey (on August 15<sup>th</sup>, the Feast of the Assumption), and Notre Dame Church, originally built for French Christians but now with English language Masses for a mostly Filipino congregation. In the Old City, we visited the Christian Quarter and the dark Church of the Holy Sepulcher with throngs of other Christians in the morning, the hot sunny Western Wall in the Jewish Quarter with throngs of Jewish people in the afternoon, and the Via Dolorosa, amidst the souvenir shops, and the Chapel of the Sisters of Zion in the Muslim Quarter at sunset and twilight.

On our last day in Israel, a Sunday, we visited Bethlehem. Bethlehem, a Muslim city five miles from Jerusalem, has been under the control of the Palestinian Authority. We passed through the checkpoint, leaving Jewish Israeli guides behind and joining Christian Arab guides on the other side. We visited the big, dark, incense-filled Greek Orthodox Church of the Nativity where we honored the traditional site of Jesus' birth, and the beautiful modern Catholic Church of the Nativity next door. Our Christian Arab guides drove us back to the checkpoint where our Jewish Israeli guides were waiting for us.

I hope I have given you a little taste of how wonderful our trip was, how fortunate we were to see so many places and to visit so many holy sites, and how complex the society and situation is in Israel. May you, too, have a chance to visit this amazing place!

## News from St. Scholastica Academy (Cañon City) Alumnae

The SSA Cañon City class of 1983 gathered for a reunion in Chicago. The itinerary included dinners at Chicago restaurants, a visit to the Art Institute of Chicago, shopping and sightseeing, trolley rides around the city, a concert in Millennium Park, visiting the Benedictine Sisters of Chicago at St. Scholastica Monastery, and Mass at Holy Name Cathedral. The reunion included students who graduated from SSA Cañon in 1983, a few students from other SSA graduating classes in the 1980s, and "honorary SSA Cañon friends" who joined the graduates for their reunion.

Jane Brown (SSA Cañon '58) and Julie Brown (SSA Cañon '61) continue to share reports of their busy retirement years in letters to **Sister Jeanne Hegarty, O.S.B.**



*(Photo by Tim Lain)*

*Class of 1983 and friends, left to right: (front row) Tess Wilkinson, Courtney Covington-Nichols, Mary Ann Vinton with daughter Sally, Patti Watson Morris, Angelle Schmidt Stuart, Kathy Jenkins Howard, Silvia Valle, Debbie Brown, Jennifer Parkes Van Roie, Monica Villa, (back row) Jessica Stricklin Gaderick, Kathie Brown Roberts, Janet Schmanski Zingale, Catherine Schneider, Mary Byrd Gordon, and Alexandra Mihalas.*

# Memorials

July 9, 2008 through October 7, 2008

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## In memory of:

### **Virginia Altman**

Kathlyn Myers

### **Michael Balen**

Betty Gerzel

### **Lee Barrett**

Helen Moore

### **Edward Begley**

St. Vincent de Paul Society  
of St. John Brebeuf Parish

### **James Bell, Jr.**

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago  
Sr. Suzanne Zuercher, O.S.B.

### **Rosanna Berry**

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago  
Jeff and Kathy Caudill  
Sr. Suzanne Zuercher, O.S.B.

### **Frank Borsnik**

Betty Gerzel

### **Mary Boyle**

Sr. Barbara McCarry, O.S.B.

### **Sister Bonita Brand**

St. Vincent de Paul Society  
of St. John Brebeuf Parish

### **John Breen**

St. Vincent de Paul Society  
of St. John Brebeuf Parish

### **James Byers, Sr.**

Ann Byers

### **Donald Zeke "Dago" Carello**

Rich and Stephanie Klingelsmith

### **Bishop Edwin Conway**

St. Vincent de Paul Society  
of St. John Brebeuf Parish

### **Mary Elizabeth Crean**

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago  
Crean Family  
Sr. Winifred Sommer, O.S.B.

### **Patrick Crowley**

Sr. Patricia Crowley, O.S.B.

### **Puddy Crowley**

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago  
Jeffrey and Kathryn Caudill  
Roberta Pierick

### **Patty Crowley**

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago  
Gladys Paul

### **Corinne Dillon**

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

### **Lillian Edelstein**

Lauren Giometti

### **Lawrence and Alice Eggen**

Sr. Louise Eggen, O.S.B.

### **Elizabeth Eimerman**

Joe and Vivian Nemanich

### **Randy Enger**

Tom and Ellen Hardy

### **Jack Evans**

Agnes Ivantic

Julie Evans

Frank Jaronik

### **Mayme Fabian**

Al and Marilyn Busa

### **Joseph Ferraro**

St. Vincent de Paul Society  
of St. John Brebeuf Parish

### **Msgr. John Flanagan**

St. Vincent de Paul Society  
of St. John Brebeuf Parish

### **Marc Frankfort**

St. Vincent de Paul Society  
of St. John Brebeuf Parish

### **Evelyn Gerth**

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago  
Sr. Mary Martin Gehl, O.S.B.

### **Sr. Carolyn Glach, O.S.B.**

William and Helen Davis

Martha Sook Song

### **Gleeson Family**

Sr. Joyce Gleeson, O.S.B.

### **Edward Gordon**

Mr. and Mrs. Barry Burke

Mr. and Mrs. Gary Seffrin

Mr. and Mrs. Pete Wessels

### **Ray Ginocchio**

St. Vincent de Paul Society  
of St. John Brebeuf Parish

### **Dr. Hugh Grimes**

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

### **Jack Hannon**

Bob and Murph Anderson

### **John Hardyman**

St. Vincent de Paul Society  
of St. John Brebeuf Parish

### **Patricia Havermann**

Bill and Cay Hillenbrand

### **Wilbert Hegener**

Frances Marsolais

### **John A. Hillenbrand, Jr.**

Iris Hillenbrand

### **Deceased members of Hobby Lobby Club**

Gertrude Miholic

### **Sally A. Hogan**

Sheila Schultz

### **Harlan Dale Hoover**

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

### **Mary Kadienc**

Agnes Ivantic

### **Patrick Keller**

Mary Zonsius

### **Martin Kesselring**

Pat and Jane Ellwood

### **Mary Remigia Kish**

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

### **Chester Kociczewski**

Danuta Bajda

### **Joseph B. Lahart**

Elizabeth Lahart

### **Charlie Lamana**

Georgette Kesselring

### **Langan Family**

Sr. Joyce Gleeson, O.S.B.

### **Joan Lavezzorio**

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago  
Sr. Suzanne Zuercher, O.S.B.

### **Aileen Lorenzo**

Tom and Ellen Hardy

### **Sr. Catherine Lynch, O.S.B.**

Patricia Olson Dolan

### **Rose Maesano**

Agnes Ivantic

### **Frank Marcello**

Joseph and Vivian Nemanich

### **Ann Marino**

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

### **Philip McCarthy**

St. Vincent de Paul Society  
of St. John Brebeuf Parish

### **Elsie Medonich**

Anna Knific

Charles and Ursula Perko

### **John G. Miks**

Ivantic Family

Emily Petrusky

### **David J. Moore**

Helen M. Moore

Sr. Mercedes Moore, O.S.B.

Sr. Pierre Marie Moore, O.S.B.

### **Francis Murray**

Ann Murray

### **Julie Ann O'Donnell**

Mary M. O'Donnell

### **F. Robert "Bob" Olson**

Jeff and Kathy Caudill

### **John Pajakowski**

Margaret Pajakowski

### **William Pajakowski**

Margaret Pajakowski

# We remember daily those entrusted to our prayers ...

**David Parlapiano**

Anna Knific

**Frank Petric**

Gertrude Miholic

**Lavergne Pianke**

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

Sr. Victoria Davis, O.S.B.

**George Quinn**

St. Vincent de Paul Society

of St. John Brebeuf Parish

**Sr. Ada Rico, O.S.B.**

Kathy Almaney

Jeff and Kathy Caudill

Denise Christenson and family

Anne Frigo

Mary Ann Harrington

Roberta Pierick

Kathlyn Myers

**Patricia Ford Ryberg**

Mary Ann Lynch Jewell

**Michael Sauer**

Helga Ruby

**Margaret Mary Scheetz**

Sr. Mildred Scheetz, O.S.B.

**Richard Siepkowski**

St. Vincent de Paul Society

of St. John Brebeuf Parish

**Grace Chambers Singleton**

Charlotte O'Brien

**John Sharp**

Sr. Ann Sharp, O.S.B.

**Sister Beatrice Singler, O.S.B.**

William Singler Murray

**Joseph Skeba**

Gerrie Pretzel

**Robert Smith**

Dolores Cole

**Nicholas and Anna Sommer**

Sr. Winifred Sommer O.S.B.

**Eva Solazzo**

Sr. Joyce Gleeson, O.S.B.

**Robert Staib**

Al and Kitty Gehrke

**Richard Tivy**

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

Sr. Ann Sharp, O.S.B.

**Anthony Toledo**

Helen Moore

**Philip and Fay Toledo**

Helen Moore

**Vincent Vollpe**

St. Vincent de Paul Society

of St. John Brebeuf Parish

**Sr. Laura Walker, O.S.B.**

Patricia Olson Dolan

**Sherri Walsh**

Barb Jank

**Frank Wendel**

George and Helga Ruby

Barb Jank

**Carroll Wille**

Georgette Kesselring

**Sr. Anna Wrenn, O.S.B.**

Patricia Hartmann

**Roy Zechlin**

St. Vincent de Paul Society

of St. John Brebeuf Parish

**Edward Zelesnik**

Betty Gerzel

Dr. Stephen and Carol Douglas

Penny Kerndt

Albert and Dorothy LaMere

Ronnie Lamperis

Jackie LeSanche

Mrs. J.V. McCormick

James and Eileen McQuillan

Loretta Namovic

Margaret Pajakowski

Ron and Ann Robinson

George and Terry Trapp

**Sr. Joanna Trapp, O.S.B.**

for her many years of teaching

Ted and Louann Van Zelst

## Special Occasions

### In honor of:

**Ronald and Margie Auer on their 50<sup>th</sup>****Wedding Anniversary**

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

**Jerry and Mary Cielinski on their 60<sup>th</sup>****Wedding Anniversary**

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

Sr. Patricia Cielinski, O.S.B.

**Sr. Mary Cornella O.S.B.**

on her 75<sup>th</sup> Jubilee

Paul and Carol Brimstin

Joseph and Lena Cornella

Ronnie Lamperis

**Sr. Victoria Davis, O.S.B.**

Denise Christenson and family

**First Profession of Fred Devett**

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

**75<sup>th</sup> Birthday of Mary G. Kaye**

Jeff and Kathy Caudill

**Wedding of John**

and Katherine Keech

Sr. Patricia Cielinski

**80<sup>th</sup> Birthday of Bernice Krasovec**

Joe and Ruth Garcia and sons

**Sr. Winifred Sommer, O.S.B.**

James Crean

**Sr. Joanna Trapp, O.S.B.**

on her 60<sup>th</sup> Jubilee

James Aussem

Paul and Carol Brimstin

Willard and Mildred Burns

Ken and Peggy Cunniff

Michael and Cathy Curran

Michael and Jeannie Dominik

## Cañon City Academy Deceased Alumnae

Sharon Jones Lovell '56

The following prayer was written by  
**Sister Mary Benet McKinney, O.S.B.**  
for a historical display of a chapel bench  
originally located in St. Hilary's convent.

God of history and memory,  
as I hold this card and  
sit in this holy place,  
I unite myself to  
all the Benedictine women  
who have gone before me,  
praying in the chapel  
of St. Hilary's convent.  
They praised you twice each day  
and served you all day as they  
opened the minds and hearts  
of the young people of the parish  
to the joy of learning.  
They were holy, happy women,  
excellent teachers and  
committed witnesses  
to their educational mission.  
May we, whose young lives  
were touched by their care  
and competence, and those who  
know them only  
by this brief introduction,  
rejoice in their service to you, God,  
and to St. Hilary Parish.  
And may they continue  
to pray for all of us.  
Amen.



## Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

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Are you receiving two copies of this newsletter? Please let us know.

Contact Director of Development Kathy Caudill  
([kcaudill@osbchicago.org](mailto:kcaudill@osbchicago.org) or 773/764-2413, ext. 233).

## Directions in Development

We asked for your help, and you answered in great numbers! With your generous donations, we now have sufficient television converter box coupons for all of the Sisters' televisions in the monastery. Many, many thanks!

The recently enacted Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008 renewed the provisions allowing individuals who are 70½ to make contributions totaling up to \$100,000 directly to a qualifying charity (like the Benedictine Sisters of Chicago) from a traditional Individual Retirement Account (IRA) or a Roth IRA without having to count the donation as taxable income. This special provision is available for tax years 2008 and 2009. Please discuss with your IRA custodian or tax advisor to determine if this is advisable for your specific tax situation.

Are there other specific ways that you can donate to benefit the care and ministries of the Benedictine Sisters? One specific item on the "wish list" for the monastery is a video camera for taping the Sisters as they share oral histories of the community.

Another way you can help various ministries of the Sisters is through donations of cancelled postage stamps and greeting cards (new and/or used). The Sisters send the postage stamps to the missionary Sisters, new greeting cards are shared with women in the Sisters' prison ministry, and artwork from used greeting cards are "recycled" for a new life in schools and projects for the developmentally disabled.

If you are interested in donating items mentioned above, learning about IRA contributions, planned giving opportunities, or discussing other donations to assist the Benedictine Sisters of Chicago in their care and ministries, please contact Kathy Caudill in the Development office ([kcaudill@osbchicago.org](mailto:kcaudill@osbchicago.org) or 773/764-2413, ext. 233).

Tuesday,  
November 4,  
is Election Day.  
Please be  
a good steward  
of all of God's  
gifts and blessings,  
and exercise your  
right to vote  
in the 2008 election  
for federal,  
state,  
and local offices.