



Sacro Speco

Sacred Space

Vol. XX1, No. 4

Newsletter of the Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

Fall 2011

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.

The Benedictine Sisters of Chicago Celebrating 150 Years as a Community



Benedictine Sisters of Chicago, Kathy Caudillo.

At the corner of Chicago and Wabash Avenues, in front of the newly mounted plaque commemorating the Benedictine Sisters of Chicago, Oblate Kathlyn Myers and Sister Susan Quaintance, O.S.B., directed press conference guests to the Archbishop Quigley Center.

On August 23, 1861, three young Sisters from a new little community in Erie, Pennsylvania, arrived in Chicago to teach the school children at St. Joseph Parish which was staffed by Benedictine monks. A new community – The Benedictine Sisters of Chicago – was founded! Its history had begun!

One hundred and fifty years later, on August 23rd in 2011, the Benedictine Sisters of Chicago gathered with many Oblates, alumnae, and other friends to kick off a year long celebration of the 150 years since the arrival of Sisters Frances, Antonia and Gonzaga.

Due to the heavy rains that began that morning, the plans to gather for a press conference at the corner where the first convent was located (Wabash and Chicago Avenues) were changed to an indoor location – the Archbishop Quigley Center. The Benedictine Sisters were joined by dignitaries from the Archdiocese of Chicago, including the Rev. Msgr. John F. Canary, Vicar General for the Archdiocese of Chicago, and Sister Joan McGlinchey, M.S.C., Director, Office for Religious for the Archdiocese of Chicago.

150 Years

continued on page 6.

Message from the Prioress



Prioress
Patricia
Crowley, O.S.B.

Dear Friends, as we begin this 150th anniversary year, the words of the German poet Rainer Maria Rilke, from his *Book of Hours: Love Poems to God*, speak to me in a special way:

*I live my life in widening circles
That reach out across the world.*

Our community began in the great city of Chicago in 1861, and from there expanded to Nauvoo, IL, Baltimore, MD, Tucson, AZ, and many places in Colorado. Since 1861, we have “widened” our circles through our ministry in some thirteen parishes, two academies, several social service agencies, and many other institutions and roles. You, our readers and friends, “widen our circles” daily. As a monastic community, our prayer and community life are “widening circles”.

As prioress of this community of Benedictine women, I have had many opportunities to “live my life in widening circles” through the U.S. Conference of Benedictine Prioresses which meets twice a year, through the national board, executive committee, and region 8 (state of Illinois) of the Leadership Conference of Women Religious (LCWR), and most recently through the Communio Internationalis Benedictinarum (CIB), the international network of Benedictine women. With CIB, I traveled to Togo and Bénin in West Africa with some 25 other delegates from around the world. The world of Benedictine women is divided into 19 different regions and CIB meets every other year in one of those regions. In the in-between years, CIB meets in Rome.

My only previous travel experience in Africa was in Tanzania in 1974. This trip to West Africa definitely “widened my circles”, calling me to examine and appreciate life in a brand new way, inviting me to look more deeply at the reality of Africans being forced into slavery in the history of our own country. The deep longing, present in West Africa, for African-American people to return to Africa was palpable. I feel blessed to have touched more deeply into that reality.

This issue of *Sacro Speco* arrives with a copy of our FY’11 Annual Report which features our “circles of life” in many different ways. We give thanks for our many generous donors and friends who share with us their invaluable time, their inimitable talents, and often share their worldly treasures. We especially appreciate the prayers of our many friends.

The first two events of our 150th anniversary year are featured in this issue, as well as glimpses of our four summer jubilarians and our very special reunion with our former members on September 24, 2011. This issue also remembers our **Sister Gregory Rohar, O.S.B.** who died peacefully on September 16, 2011. The past few months have been very full.

Long time friends of the community, alumnae, women religious, and many new faces joined us as we began our 150th anniversary year. The August 23, 2011 gathering at the location of our very first house and the wonderful afternoon when over 750 people came to hear Sister Joan Chittister, O.S.B. on September 25, 2011, launched our year of celebration for us and for you. What a way to begin!

We are grateful to each of you for walking this journey of life with us in so many different ways! Please continue to celebrate this anniversary year with us!

In peace,

Patricia Crowley O.S.B.

Books for Spiritual Reflection and Enrichment

As the days grow shorter and the nights grow crisper, autumn is the perfect season to curl up with a good book. The monastery librarian, **Sister Eleanore Hillenbrand, O.S.B.**, recommends the following:

The Art of Saint John's Bible: A Reader's Guide to Pentateuch, Psalms, Gospels and Acts and *The Art of Saint John's Bible: A Reader's Guide to the Wisdom Books and the Prophets*, both by Susan Sink.

Prophets in their Own Country: Women Religious Witness Gospel in a Troubled Church by Sandra Schneiders, I.H.M.

Render Unto Rome: The Secret Life of Money in the Catholic Church by Jason Berry.

Praying our Goodbyes: A Spiritual Companion through Life's Losses and Sorrows by Joyce Rupp, O.S.M.

God's Tender Mercy: Reflections on Forgiveness, Twelve Steps to Inner Freedom: Humility Revisited, and How Shall We Live? Because There is a Monk in All of Us, all three books by Joan Chittister, O.S.B.

The Imitation of Christ: A Spiritual Commentary and Reader's Guide by Thomas à Kempis, translated by William C. Creasy, with commentary by Dennis Billy, CSsR.

Listening to the Music of the Spirit: The Art of Discernment by David Lonsdale, S.J.

Transforming Grace: Christian Tradition and Women's Experience by Anne Carr, B.V.M.

Catholicism: New Study Edition, Completely Revised and Updated by Rev. Richard McBrien.

A Splash of Sunshine and Other Glimpses of Grace by Bishop Robert F. Morneau.

The Holy Twins: Benedict and Scholastica by Kathleen Norris and Tomie de Paola.

Our One Great Act of Fidelity: Waiting for Christ in the Eucharist by Ronald Rolheiser, O.M.I.

Gaia and God: An Ecofeminist Theology of Earth Healing by Rosemary Radford Ruether.

Reforming the Liturgy: A Response to the Critics by John Baldovin, S.J.

In Loving Memory



Sister
Gregory
Rohar, O.S.B.

Anne Rohar, daughter of Matthew and Pauline Hrusovsky Rohar, was born in Rouse, Colorado, on May 11, 1914. She was baptized June 14th of that year. Her large family included six brothers and three sisters.

At age 18, she left Colorado to become a Benedictine Sister of Chicago. On September 8, 1932, she entered the community at St. Scholastica where her aunts - Sister Stephanie, Sister Anthony, and Sister Scholastica - were already members.

On July 11, 1933, Anne received the Benedictine habit. At that time she was given the religious name Sister Gregory. Her first profession was August 16, 1934. She pronounced her perpetual vows August 16, 1937.

Sister Gregory attended DePaul University in Chicago and earned a Bachelor of Philosophy degree. She majored in education and taught primary and intermediate grades in the parochial schools of the Archdiocese of Chicago and the Dioceses of Pueblo, Colorado and Tucson, Arizona.

With the education of little ones as her ministry for more than fifty years, Sister Gregory remained young at heart and was able to say at the time of her Golden Jubilee in 1984, "Today with so many changes, I find teaching interesting and challenging."

Her first teaching assignment was at Mother of God School in Waukegan, Illinois, where she remained for six years. Next she spent two years at St. Joseph School in Chicago and then moved on to St. Symphorosa's.

In 1946 she returned to live in her beloved home state, Colorado, where most of her family lived. Her teaching positions there were at St. Leander's in Pueblo, St. Michael's in Cañon City, St. Michael's in Delta, and then St. Mary's in Pueblo.

For two years, beginning in 1954, Sister Gregory had the opportunity to teach in Tucson, Arizona, at Sacred Heart Parish during the period when the Benedictine Sisters were serving there. Sister Gregory spent many of her summers teaching religion classes in various towns in Colorado, on both the eastern and western slopes of the Rocky Mountains.

When Sister Gregory celebrated her Golden Jubilee in the summer of 1984, she was still teaching at St. Symphorosa's. There and wherever she served she always enjoyed getting to know parishioners, visiting with them, and showing support and interest in their concerns.

After she left teaching, Sister Gregory lived for several years at St. Mary's in Pueblo, Colorado, assisting with the parish's ministry of care, and then retired at the monastery in 1995. In addition to doing many services for the Sisters, she devoted hours to crocheting beautiful dresses and hats for dolls.

An avid sports fan, Sister Gregory enjoyed watching games on television while cheering, giving commentaries, and prompting players and umpires.

At the community retreat in 1994, Sister Gregory said this passage from Isaiah was her favorite Scripture text: "Fear not for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name; you are mine." She answered that call by a life of kindness and service.

Sister Gregory died peacefully on September 16, 2011. The Mass of Resurrection was celebrated at 5 p.m. on Monday, September 19, 2011, at St. Scholastica Chapel. Her great-niece, Beth Berends, played a classical piece on her clarinet during Mass. Her interment the following morning, was at All Saints Cemetery, Des Plaines, Illinois. Along with the Benedictine Sisters of her community, Sister Gregory is survived by many nieces and nephews and their families.

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

Serving where there is need
Antonia August 23
Erie

Gonzaga

Rock Island

Hospitality

Frances
Community

Four Benedictine Sisters Celebrate Jubilees

Serving God and God's People

for Two Hundred and Fifty Years

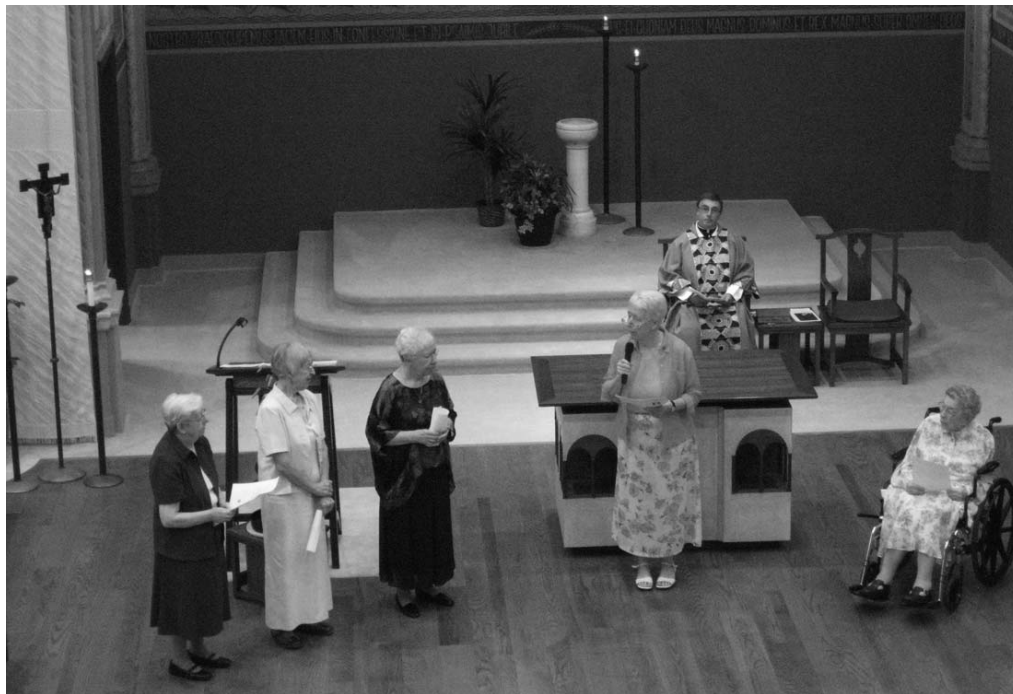
Four Benedictine Sisters of Chicago were honored by their community members, family and friends as they marked the anniversaries of their first profession of vows. They celebrated their jubilees on Sunday, July 31st, at St. Scholastica Monastery in Chicago. After the Liturgy of the Word each Sister jubilarian renewed her vows. The guests in attendance joined the Benedictines for a buffet luncheon immediately following the ceremony.



(Benedictine Sisters of Chicago, Kathy Caudill)

Sister Winifred Sommer, O.S.B.

Sister Winifred Sommer, O.S.B., who pronounced her vows 70 years ago, entered the Benedictine Sisters of Chicago in 1939, after having been an aspirant for three years while a student at St. Scholastica Academy in Chicago. Initially prepared for a career in education, she earned a Bachelor's degree at De Paul University in Chicago. Her many years as a primary grade teacher included three years at St. Michael's in Cañon City, Colorado, where she taught the primary grades while resident at St. Scholastica Academy in that city. She left St. Michael's in 1956 when her career took a significant turn after she was asked to attend Catholic University of America. There she earned her Master's degree, preparing her to teach blind children in the newly established Chicago Archdiocesan pro-



(Benedictine Sisters of Chicago, Kathy Caudill)

Oblate Fr. Michael Solazzo officiated at the Mass celebrated in honor of this year's four Jubilarians. From left to right: Sisters Mary Frances Schermerhorn, O.S.B., Benita Coffey, O.S.B., and Suzanne Zuercher, O.S.B., each celebrating sixty years since pronouncement of vows, Sister Patricia Crowley, O.S.B., Prioress, and Sister Winifred Sommer, O.S.B., celebrating seventy years of vowed service to God and God's people.

gram, initiated to meet a growing need of families seeking a Catholic education for their visually impaired children. Not only did she develop the course, "Special Methods for Teaching the Blind", but she taught Braille in special classrooms set up at St. Hilary School during the eight years the program was conducted. In 1964 she again returned to elementary school teaching until she retired in 1997. Since then, she assists, as she is able, with clerical tasks in the infirmary.

For Sister Suzanne Zuercher, O.S.B. this summer marked her 60th anniversary of vows. After her triennial profession in 1951, she attended Alverno College in Milwaukee for a year. She then completed her Bachelor of Arts degree with an English major at Loyola University in Chicago, where she also later earned her Master's in Clinical Psychology. While her first years of ministry were in Chicago parish schools, in 1960 she became a

teacher at St. Scholastica Academy in Chicago. Later, having been licensed, she served as School Psychologist. From 1974 until 1978 she was Campus Minister at Loyola



(Benedictine Sisters of Chicago, Kathy Caudill)

Sister Suzanne Zuercher, O.S.B.

University, moving from that work to the staff of the Institute for Spiritual Leadership, a program for both national and international students preparing to serve in various formation programs and as spiritual directors. Over the years, she has served in the formation of new members of the Benedictine community, written five books, and conducted numerous workshops and retreats. Along with her Jesuit brother, the late Jack Zuercher, S.J., she led summer programs for Elderhostels at St. Scholastica Academy in Cañon City. She served for twelve years as President of St. Scholastica Academy in Chicago and currently assists with fundraising there. In addition, she ministers as an executive coach, psychotherapist and spiritual director, and is actively involved in the Chicago Chapter of the International Thomas Merton Society.



(Benedictine Sisters of Chicago, Kathy Caudill)

Sister Benita Coffey, O.S.B.

Sister Benita Coffey, O.S.B. also professed her vows as a Benedictine in 1951 and renewed those vows at this jubilee. She attended Alverno, was awarded a Bachelor of Humanities degree from Loyola University in Chicago, and later a Master's degree in Theology from St. John's University in Collegeville, Minnesota. One of her earlier parochial school assignments was at St. Mary's in Pueblo. Following two other Chicago assignments, she returned to St. Mary's as principal and upper grade teacher from 1960 until 1966. For the following six years she taught English and Theology at St. Scholastica Academy in Chicago, until taking the position of Religious Education Director for two years, again at St. Mary's. Later she ministered for a year on the staff of the Christian Brothers Retreat House in St. Helena, California. In

1977 she became Vocation Minister for the Benedictine Sisters and, having completed training at Claret Center in Chicago, served as a spiritual director. From 1989 until 1995, she was on the administrative team of St. Scholastica Academy in Cañon City, first as Campus Minister, then as Principal. She then became Director of Alumnae at the Academy in Chicago, until assuming the position of Subprioress of the Benedictine Sisters of Chicago for eight years. Currently she serves as Director of Oblates, Promoter of Social Justice, and as Vocation Minister.



(Benedictine Sisters of Chicago, Kathy Caudill)

Sister Mary Frances Schermerhorn, O.S.B.

The third 60 year Jubilarian is Sister Mary Frances Schermerhorn, O.S.B. who entered the community after attending St Teresa College in Winona, Minnesota for a year after

high school graduation. She earned Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Education at Loyola University in Chicago. After a few years teaching in Chicago, she was assigned to St. Mary's in Pueblo where she taught for two years. From there she was asked to serve at St. John Nepomucene Parish in Chicago where she taught for two years, then later served as local superior and principal for six years. She held the same position at St. Lambert's in Skokie, Illinois. Her career included several other grade school assignments. Next she resided at the monastery in Chicago, teaching mathematics at St. Scholastica Academy and serving as supervisor of food service for the community. In 1981 she joined the administration of St. Scholastica Academy in Cañon City and held the position of treasurer there for seven years. Since leaving Colorado, she has lived at the monastery and held several positions. She again taught at the Academy and served as a substitute teacher at a local parish. Her next appointment was serving as treasurer of the community for four years. A later service was as teacher and financial officer for the British Infant School, conducted by Sister Hilary Halpin, O.S.B. Having retired now from teaching, she continues to handle the finances for the British Infant School.

We give thanks for the many years of service that these four Sisters have shared with God's people!



(Benedictine Sisters of Chicago, Kathy Caudill)

Those gathered in St. Scholastica Chapel extend their hands, joining together in a prayer of thanksgiving for the many years of good works and services humbly offered by the Jubilarians.



(Benedictine Sisters of Chicago, Sister Belinda Monahan, O.S.B.)



(Benedictine Sisters of Chicago, Sister Patricia Cielinski, O.S.B.)

Above left: Sisters Phyllis McMurray, O.S.B., Prioress of St. Mary's Monastery, Rock Island, Illinois, and Anne Wambach, O.S.B., Prioress of Mount St. Benedict Monastery, Erie, Pennsylvania, join Matt Ambre, artist and Oblate, and Sister Patricia Crowley, O.S.B., in admiring Matt's beautiful watercolor painting commemorating the 150th anniversary year. Above right: Judith Beaumont (formerly Sister Mary Daniel) visits with Sister Ann Sharp, O.S.B. during the weekend reunion of former members.

Below: Former community members join the Benedictine Sisters of Chicago for Mass on Sunday, September 25th.

Alderman Brendan Reilly of the 42nd Ward read a city council resolution honoring the community. Also present were his chief of staff, Madeleine Hill, Joe Moore, Alderman for the 49th Ward, and his chief of staff, Betsy Vandercook, and the Reverend Vance Henry, deputy chief of staff representing Mayor Rahm Emanuel. Sisters from Erie, Pennsylvania, and Sisters from Rock Island, Illinois, joined the community for this opening anniversary celebration. After the press conference, the Sisters and guests walked past the corner of Wabash and Chicago Avenues, where a plaque had been affixed to the building declaring "Benedictine Sisters of Chicago founded their community at this site on August 23, 1861". They continued on their way to enjoy a luncheon at the Loyola University Museum of Art.

That evening, the community, along with the Sisters from Erie and Rock Island, celebrated Vespers honoring their foremothers, followed in true Benedictine fashion with a festive dinner. A watercolor painting by Oblate Matt Ambre, commemorating the Sisters' presence in Chicago, was then unveiled. The Sisters from Rock Island and Erie spoke about the courage and faith of the women who came from Germany and founded all three communities. At the end of the dinner, the gathered assembly prayed the prayer, composed by Sister Susan Quaintance, O.S.B.:

God of past, present, and future - you who brought Gonzaga, Antonia, and Frances to this city on this day in 1861 - we thank you for their courage, strength, and faith. They, and the Benedictine Sisters of Chicago who followed them, listened with the ear of their hearts, created community, and served where there was need. Enable us to do the same. May this celebration make us grateful for what has been, present to the realities of our life today, and hopeful for what will be. We ask this through Benedict, Scholastica, and all the women who have come before us. Amen.



(Benedictine Sisters of Chicago, Kathy Caudill)

A blog entry written by a St. Scholastica Academy alumna who attended the August 23rd press conference can be found at <http://www.uscatholic.org/blog/2011/08/150-ways-applaud-benedictine-sisters-chicago>.

The 150th Anniversary events continued on Saturday, September 24th, when the Sisters welcomed former members of the community to the monastery. Those attending gathered in the infirmary, visiting with the Sisters. Tours of the monastery were offered, followed by Vigil



(Benedictine Sisters of Chicago, Sister Belinda Monahan, O.S.B.).



Left: Sister Joan Chittister, O.S.B. addresses a packed auditorium of enthusiastic listeners on Sunday, September 25, 2011. Below, left: Sister Joan signs one of her books. Below, right: Oblates Bertha Blattner, Carolyn Fields, and Eleanor Taylor take a moment during their volunteer service at the 150th anniversary event to pose for a picture.



(Benedictine Sisters of Chicago, Sister Belinda Monahan, O.S.B.).



(Benedictine Sisters of Chicago, Sister Belinda Monahan, O.S.B.).

in St. Scholastica Chapel, and then a picnic-style supper. The visiting continued in the monastery dining room and community room. On Sunday, September 25th, the former members joined the community for Mass and dinner.

At 2 p.m. on Sunday, September 25th, over 750 people joined the community to hear Sister Joan Chittister, O.S.B., a Benedictine from the Erie, Pennsylvania, community that founded the Chicago Benedictines. Joan's chosen topic was: "Only the Ancients Can Serve Our Needs". She highlighted how Benedictine communities, "small, local, and lay" can model and address issues faced by today's troubled world.

Following Sister Joan's presentation, three people affiliated with the Benedictine Sisters of Chicago shared how the Benedictine spirit has touched them. **Oblate Kevin Cheers** reflected on what becoming an oblate has meant to her, noting that it is like trying to describe the person you love. "You can list all of their qualities, but even as you do so, you know there is more." Anthony Rizzato, a mem-

ber of the monastery Development Council, described his family's long relationship with the community, through schools and personal connections to its members. Jenn MacKenzie, St. Scholastica Academy class of 2005, discussed the values instilled in her as a student by which she still strives to live.

After the presentations, Sister Joan participated in a question and answer session with the audience. She graciously remained to sign her books for many admirers, then visited with the many people who wished to speak with her. One special moment came when a group of women, who had read Sister Joan's *Monastic Musings* each day while they were in prison, met with Sister Joan to express their gratitude.

Cookies and drinks were provided by the Oblates and other volunteers and served to the guests. At the close of the day, many guests joined the community for Evening Prayer in St. Scholastica Chapel.

Sister Benita Coffey, O.S.B. wrote the following for the September 25th event:

"Our beginnings were small. Our founding mothers obviously were risk-takers. Right from the start we had a uniqueness about us. Chicago, a flourishing city where business and politics kept pace with the population, provided us, as it still does, with big challenges and rich experiences.

We are an urban community with all the strengths and limitations provided by a large metropolis. We ARE the Chicago Benedictines! We rejoice and are grateful for how history has shaped us, and we renew our commitment to pass on our charism to future generations:

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

For more information on the 150th anniversary celebration events, please visit "News of the Monastery" on the home page of our website (www.osbchicago.org).

We Love To Hear From You

Dear Benedictine Family,
Congratulations on celebrating
150 years in our great city!
We are especially grateful
for the past 20+ years.
Thank you for welcoming
our family into yours.
May God continue to bless you
with stability,
security and peace.

Thank you for your influence
on the world
and me!

Sister Winifred,
the Lord has surely blessed you
through these 70 years
of religious profession.
May He keep you in His loving care.
"Thank you"
for the fine work you did
at St. Symphorosa's
those many years ago.

Thank you for
a beautiful afternoon
... and your good work.

Most of all, I am grateful
for the warmth and kindness,
the faithful friendship, and
the prayers and ongoing support
I have received from you.

THANKS!
WHAT A GIFT TO BE HERE!

I attended Mother of God
grade school in Waukegan
and fondly remember
the wonderful Sisters
who taught there.
Please keep us all in your prayers.

Thanksgiving
for my Benedictine education.

Thank you all for the wonderful lecture.
We are still talking about it.

*Thank you for everything today.
It was fabulous.
I so appreciated
all the dedication and hard work
in providing
such an excellent education
that has carried me far!*

God bless you all!

We have many wonderful memories
of our visits with Sr. Gregory
in the infirmary.

Thank you so very much
for your gift to us
on Sunday afternoon.
It was such a lovely event
and everyone I spoke to
had such high praise
for Joan, her presentation,
you, your Sisters and Oblates,
the organization of the event
and all the attention to details.
It was a very inspiring afternoon.
I was honored to be present
and wanted to say thanks.

We are comforted and grateful
for all the prayers and support
we have received.

**We love
having you
in our midst.**

Congratulations
on your big anniversary.
Thank you for the day.

I knew Sister Pierre Marie
for over 70 years.
She was a profound influence
in my life.

The faces of your alumnae
tell of tons of gratitude
for all you've given to us.

Many continued blessings
on all that you are doing!

Thank you for the beauty
of a peaceful
Sunday afternoon respite.

**YOU ARE IN MY PRAYERS
ALWAYS.**

Before my sister died,
she told me how important
it was to let you know
her gratitude
to her Benedictine family
for giving her
the core understanding
of her faith.
She was so thankful
for the blessings
of love and relationship
you gave to her.

Please accept my thanks
for arranging the program
on Sunday
with Sister Joan Chittister.
She is always inspiring
and challenging.
Please thank everyone
who had a part to play in the day.

God bless the Benedictines
for their sanctuary
in the midst of urban Chicago!
We are always restored
by our day
at St. Scholastica monastery.
Thank you!

Newsbriefs



(Benedictine Sisters of Chicago, Sister Belinda Monahan, O.S.B.)

Sister Mary Melady, O.S.B. leads the Sisters in prayer during the community retreat.

In July, the Benedictine Sisters of Chicago participated in a retreat, presented by Kitty Nagler and Sister Rita Nowak, O.S.B. The retreat was entitled "The Universe Story" and examined the new cosmology. By focusing on the interconnectedness of all living and non-living systems of the earth, and beyond, this story allows us to grasp our own interconnectedness with the earth and with each other. It grounds us in creation and confronts us with the awesomeness of God's creative work. Kitty and Sister Rita presented conferences which led the community from the origins of the universe to our own emergence as humans and our journey from Africa to the ends of the earth. They shared illustrations by both artists and scientists to provide the community with a visual image of the wonders they describe. They also laid out a "cosmic walk", a spiral on which significant events in the history of the universe were marked.



(Benedictine Sisters of Chicago, Sister Belinda Monahan, O.S.B.)

The "cosmic walk" displayed in St. Scholastica Chapel during the community retreat focusing on the universe story.

From August 2nd through August 5th, the Benedictine Sisters of Chicago assembled for community days. These days are an annual event at which all of the Sisters gather to discuss the matters of community life. The time spent together allows the Sisters to enjoy each others' company without the concerns of outside work and provides them with a chance to become better acquainted with each other. Community days ended with Friday Evening Prayer, during which the Rite of Commissioning was held. During this ritual each Sister's individual ministry is confirmed and she is blessed by the prioress for her year's work. Following the Rite of Commissioning each year, the Sisters renewed their vows, promising to persevere in this Benedictine Community.



(Benedictine Sisters of Chicago, Sister Belinda Monahan, O.S.B.)

Left: Sister Patricia Crowley, O.S.B., blesses Sister Kathleen McNamara, O.S.B. as Sister Patricia Coughlin, O.S.B. looks on.

Above: Sister Mary Alice Setnicar, O.S.B. receives her ministry blessing for the coming year from Sister Patricia Crowley, O.S.B. as Sister Judith Zonsius, O.S.B. look on.



(Benedictine Sisters of Chicago, Sister Belinda Monahan, O.S.B.)

One small group, including Sisters Patricia Cielinski, O.S.B., Rosemarie Rugar, O.S.B., Kathleen McNamara, O.S.B., and Judith Zonsius, O.S.B., discuss the community's future.



(Benedictine Sisters of Chicago, Sister Belinda Monahan, O.S.B.)

From August 9th through 12th, Sister Patricia Crowley, O.S.B. attended the meetings of the Conference of Benedictine Prioresses (CBP) and Leadership Conference of Women Religious (LCWR) in Garden Grove, CA. The theme for the LWCR Assembly was "Mystery Unfolding: Religious Life for the World". While in California, she had a chance to visit the Benedictine community in Glendora, and two Vietnamese families sponsored by the community in 1976.

This summer, Sister Patricia Coughlin, O.S.B., a well-known lecturer, presented a course entitled *Dreams and Spirituality* at Loyola's Adult Spiritual Renewal.

Thirty-four monastic men and women from twenty-two communities gathered July 16th-20th at St. Meinrad Archabbey in southern Indiana for the bi-annual Monastic Worship Forum. Sister Callista Kaley, O.S.B., director of liturgical music for the community, and Sister Judith Zonsius, O.S.B., liturgy team member, attended the forum. Hosted by the St. Meinrad monks and Sisters of Immaculate Conception monastery in nearby Ferdinand, Indiana, the Monastic Worship Forum is the result of a recent merger of the Monastic Liturgy Forum and the Benedictine Musicians of the Americas. This conference for Benedictine musicians and liturgists focused on the implementation of the 2010 Roman Missal, which begins during Advent 2011 in Catholic churches nationwide.



(Benedictine Sisters of Chicago, Sister Belinda Monahan, O.S.B.).

Top left: DePaul students gather for a group photo.

Below: Kitty Nagler and a DePaul student rake and spread mulch under campus trees.

Below, left: Two DePaul students cleaned and prepared flower pots that will be donated to a botanic garden in the spring.



(Benedictine Sisters of Chicago, Sister Belinda Monahan, O.S.B.).

In early September, twenty-four freshmen from DePaul University, along with their faculty advisors and student mentor, spent several hours working on the grounds of the monastery and the school. The service project takes place on the final day of DePaul's Immersion Week, in which the students spend time visiting various places in Chicago. Under the supervision of Sister Rita Nowak, O.S.B. and Kitty Nagler, the students spread wood chips under trees, raked the labyrinth to remove moss and weeds, pruned the grape vines in preparation for the grape harvest, and washed flower pots, which will be brought to the Chicago Botanical Garden for recycling next spring. The students ended their day at the monastery with a group reflection, led by campus minister Rob Gilmore, who meditated on St. Vincent DePaul and St. Louise de Merillac's approach to service: "It is not enough to do good, it must be done well." The students noted that they had seen a lot of need this week and that it felt good to be able to help out. They also discussed the way in which their service allowed them to build community, giving voice to a very Benedictine, as well as Vincentian, ideal.



(Benedictine Sisters of Chicago, Sister Belinda Monahan, O.S.B.).

From September 30th to Oct. 2nd, Sister Suzanne Zuercher, O.S.B. presented an Enneagram Spirituality Workshop at the Benet Retreat House of St. Mary's Monastery, Rock Island. She also spoke on *lectio divina* at St. Athanasius Parish on October 6th. On October 28th and 29th, Sister Suzanne will be offering a workshop on Enneagram Partners for couples, business associates, and siblings. For more information, or to register for the program, please call 773-764-5715, ext. 363.

Sister Benita Coffey, O.S.B. attended the Partners Conference of Catholics On Call which took place at the Catholic Theological Union on Sept. 22nd - 23rd. The Benedictine Sisters of Chicago are associated as a "partner" to this program which is for young adult women and men (ages 18 - 30) who seek insight into life and wonder how God speaks. These young adults are considering the possibility of a life of service in the Church, as a lay minister, religious sister or brother, or priest. Those interested in more information, please contact Sr. Benita at bcoffey@osbchicago.org or Catholics on Call at catholicson-call@ctu.edu.

From September 26th - 30th, Sister Judith Zonsius, O.S.B. attended the annual gathering of sub-prioresses and house coordinators at Immaculate Conception Monastery, Ferdinand, Indiana. Sister Judith and twenty-five Sisters representing twenty-one monastic communities, and all four Benedictine Federations, participated. Sister Joella Kidwell, O.S.B., former prioress of the Ferdinand community and current president of the Federation of St. Gertrude, facilitated their days together, and presented four conferences on this year's theme: *A House Built on the Rock of Christ*.



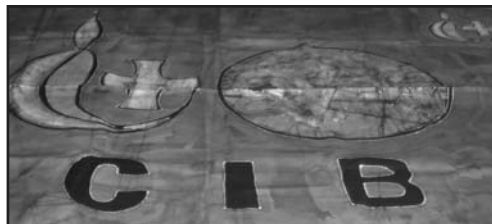
(Benedictine Sisters of Chicago, Sister Patricia Crowley, O.S.B.).

On October 9th, the Benedictine community welcomed members of the Arzer family, a German immigrant family sponsored by the community in the 1940s. Left to right: Sister Hilary Halpin, O.S.B., Rose (Emma) and her husband, Frank, Gabriel and his wife, Ann.

Newsbriefs

continued from page 10.

On July 19, 2011, a Vespers Service was celebrated at St. Michael's Church in Cañon City, Colorado to give thanks for one hundred and eleven years of ministry by the Benedictine Sisters of Chicago, and to offer a farewell to three Sisters, **Sisters Amy Campbell, O.S.B., Kathleen McNamara, O.S.B., and Anne Krall, O.S.B.**, who were moving back to St. Scholastica Monastery in Chicago. Bishop Fernando Isern of Pueblo, Colorado, Fr. Kevin Nowak, pastor of St. Michael's, and **Sister Patricia Crowley, O.S.B.**, presided at the prayer service attended by over 150 people. At this "celebration of the circle of life", those present raised their voices to "Sing to the Mountains", and recited Psalm 141 and 121, noting "My help comes from you, O God, who made heaven and earth....You will protect our goings and comings, both now and forever." In the reading from Ecclesiastes 3:1-15, **Sister Kathleen McNamara, O.S.B.**, proclaimed, "...there is an appointed time for everything." The Benedictine Sisters of Chicago presented a gift to St. Michael's Parish – the St. Scholastica statue that had always stood in the lobby of St. Scholastica Academy, Cañon City.



(Benedictine Sisters of Chicago).

As an elected delegate, **Sister Patricia Crowley, O.S.B.** attended the gathering of the *Communio Internationalis Benedictinarum* (CIB). The CIB was founded in 2001 to bring together the Nuns and Sisters consociated with the Benedictine Conference. In February of this year, Sister Patricia was one of three delegates to represent North America. Sister Patricia's trip to Africa included the official meeting of the CIB, at Monastère de L'Assomption de Dzogbégan, Togo, and included visits to several other monasteries of both Monks and Sisters in Togo and Bénin. At the end of the official conference, the group made a pilgrimage to memorials erected in Oidah, Bénin, recalling the martyrs of the slave trade and the historical horror of those African people sent to the United States as slaves.



(Benedictine Sisters of Chicago).

Above, left: Batik cloth designed and prepared for the *Communio Internationalis Benedictinarum* and presented to the CIB delegates as gifts.

Above, right: **Sister Patricia Crowley, O.S.B.** standing beside native artwork painted on the wall of the guest house at St. Joseph's Monastery in Bénin.

Below: **Sister Josephine, O.S.B.**, from Cameroon, West Africa, and **Sister Patricia Crowley, O.S.B.**, pose within one sculpture located on the beach of the Atlantic ocean, down the road from the UNESCO monument, called *La Porte de non Retour*, which translates as "the gate of no return" commemorating the place where slaves were shipped to United States from Africa.



(Benedictine Sisters of Chicago).

Above, left: **Sister Amy Campbell, O.S.B.** greets a young member of the St. Michael's Parish community.

Above, right: **Sisters Kathleen McNamara, O.S.B., Anne Krall, O.S.B., and Amy Campbell, O.S.B.** share a final moment together in Cañon City.

Right: **Sister Karen Bland, O.S.B.** proclaiming from the beautiful ambo at St. Michael's Church in Cañon City.



(Benedictine Sisters of Chicago).



(Benedictine Sisters of Chicago).



(Benedictine Sisters of Chicago).

Benedictine Sisters Then ... And Now



**Sister Agnes
Kelly, O.S.B.**

Then: Sister Agnes Kelly, O.S.B., born Lois Mae Kelly, entered the Benedictine Sisters of Chicago on September 15, 1942. She says that because she had a four-year voice scholarship to St. Scholastica Academy, she entered the Benedictines instead of joining her grammar school teachers, the Sisters of St. Agnes, at St. Nicholas Parish in Evanston. She began her teaching career in elementary schools: Queen of All Saints, St. Leander's in Pueblo, Colorado, and various summer schools in Colorado. Her high school teaching years included seven years at St. Scholastica Academy, Cañon City, Colorado, and then for some forty years at St. Scholastica Academy in Chicago. In her younger years, Sister Agnes enjoyed traveling and remembers especially trips to the Canadian Rockies, eastern Canada, and the United States.

Now: With many interests, Sister Agnes does not find much time for television, etc. Rather, she spends her octogenarian years gardening on the monastery grounds with faithful assistance from her great-niece, Magda, who is a college senior this year, and **Oblate Rosie Newton**. Both have learned many new techniques and gained appreciation for the art of gardening from this woman who first learned to garden from her paternal grandmother, Elizabeth Kelly, many decades ago.



If you were to join the Benedictine Sisters for Easter Vigil, with Sister Agnes' faithful rendition of the *Exsultet*, you would witness her amazing vocal gifts. Over the years, she has shared that talent with her students, her family, and the monastery community. We know that singing is twice praying! The Music of the Baroque, the opera, and the concerts of the North Shore Choral Society all appeal to her whenever tickets are available. She will tell you that good music uplifts and renews her.

These days you will find Sister Agnes as a chanter at Sunday Mass and Vespers, and as a member of the monastery schola, the Liturgy Committee, and the Prioress' Council of Elders, but most often you will find her beautifying the monastery gardens.

**Sister
Mercedes
Moore, O.S.B.**



Then: Before entering the Benedictine Sisters of Chicago on September 7, 1933, Sister Mercedes Moore, O.S.B. (born Mary Catherine Moore) attended one year of college at St. Xavier in Chicago. Her life approach as a learner, a master teacher, and one who was always willing to serve where there was need, led her to fill many different roles as teacher and principal both in Chicago and in Colorado.

In 1977, after many years as a social studies teacher 'extraordinaire' and team consultant with several university professors on the use of systems analysis in the teaching of the social sciences, she decided she did not want to be a "crabby old teacher". After that, she trained and worked as a parish and hospital chaplain for St. Athanasius Parish in Evanston, volunteered at Misericordia, worked with the homeless in the Virgin Islands, learned sign language and helped at Trinity School in Chicago, served as sub-prioress for **Sister Mary Benet McKinney, O.S.B.**, Prioress, and worked in the St. Scholastica Academy Development office.



Now: Walk into Sister Mercedes' room and you will get clear clues to the quality of her present life. Within reach of her chair by the window is a pile of books, including *The Summa*, Teilhard de Chardin's *The Divine Mileau*, and Thomas Cahill's *Desire of the Everlasting Hills*, even though her eyes are not strong enough to read at present. At her feet and in her lap you will find yarn of every color and texture, as well as crocheted scarves or afghans to sell, raffle off,

or give away to others. On a shelf across from her chair is an address book packed with names of people from her multi-faceted life. If you are lucky, she may ask you to dial a number before you leave so she can return a call from one of her many friends. Outside her room is her faithful electric wheelchair which takes her daily to chapel for both personal and communal prayer and, on good weather days, takes her outside where she befriends every living thing on the monastery grounds, especially the various trees dedicated to people in her life – including her three Benedictine Sisters, her Jesuit brother, and her married brother, all of whom have gone to God before her.

At 97, Sister Mercedes is still one amazing woman!

A Good Steward



Joanne Rooney

We are called in the Rule of Benedict to be good stewards. For thirty years, Joanne Rooney has been working in kitchens (in addition to her home kitchen) - first, for fifteen

years in the St. Scholastica Academy cafeteria, and second, for the past fifteen years she has helped to feed the Benedictine Sisters and their guests on a full-time basis. "Joanne is very versatile," says **Sister Hilary Halpin, O.S.B.**, who works closely with Joanne in menu preparation for the monastery meals. "She has always been prompt and conscientious. She can juggle many different tasks." Joanne has also been sharing the value of Benedictine hospitality with others in her volunteer work at St. Margaret Mary Parish. Four days a week she assists in the extended care program for 3 - 14 year olds where she assists with projects including storytime and homework help. Joanne and her husband have one son and two daughters who are both St. Scholastica Academy graduates. We are grateful for Joanne's presence and stewardship at St. Scholastica Monastery!

Memorials

July 1, 2011 through September 30, 2011

In memory of:

In memory of Frances Adler

Betty Gerzel

In memory of

deceased Benedictine Sisters

Meg Kranzfelder

In memory of Ida Benincasa

Jeff and Kathy Caudill

In memory of Irene

Senini Berrafato

Gabriel S. Berrafato

In memory of Katrina Bond

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

In memory of Betty Brannon

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

In memory of Irene

Stock Carmack

Linda Carmack

In memory of Jerry Cielinski

Elissa Feldman Curth

In memory of Regina Corfman

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

In memory of Susan Cox

Gertrude Miholic

In memory of Joseph Crean

Sr. Frances Crean, R.S.M.

In memory of Mary Eizabeth

Connolly Crean

Sr. Frances Crean, R.S.M.

In memory of Richard Cullen

Margaret Cullen

In memory of Ronald Curth

Elissa Feldman Curth

In memory of Joseph P. Danahy

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

In memory of Louis DiOrio

Arleen DiOrio

In memory of Nancy

Pannier Donnelly

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

Marilou Ducey

Joseph and Mary Marren

In memory of Ginny Dontrich

Mr. and Mrs. William Milleker

In memory of Kathy Geroski

Jill Newberger

Martin Wojcik

In memory of Martin

and Catherine Gersick

Margaret Cullen

In memory of Sr. Carolyn

Glach, O.S.B.

Bill and Helen Davis

Sook J. Song

In memory of Sr. Joyce

Gleeson, O.S.B.

Suzanne Walsh

In memory of John E. Golden

Sr. Susan Kilduski, O.S.B.

In memory of Margaret Gregorin

Bettu Gerzel

In memory of Cheryl Hamilton

Jim and Dorothea Jung

In memory of Ann Hardick

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

In memory of Sr. Bernadette

Harrison, O.S.B.

Joseph Rhodes

In memory of Robert A. Heelan

Don C. Winslow

In memory of John A. Hillenbrand

Joe and Marion Goetz

Iris Hillenbrand

In memory of Pat Javernick

Edward and Alice Skerjanec

In memory of William R. Jones

Anonymous

Linda Cankar

Joan M. Clay

The Donahue Family

Elizabeth Marsh

Joe Magdziarz

Gerald Tait

In memory of Mary Lou

Maher Kane

Anne Marie Alessio

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

Kathleen McEldowney

Jeanne Presslak

In memory of Martin Kesselring

Jane and Pat Ellwood

Georgette Kesselring

In memory of Florence Klinger

Elizabeth Klinger

In memory of John Kloet

Linda Butkovich

In memory of Nancy Kelly Kohl

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

Ann Cannon Kohl

In memory of Marian

Horne Kuhlman

Loretta Kuhlman Astorino

In memory of Adeline Lenihan

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

In memory of Cliff and

Anne Leuschner

Bill and Kathy Riordan

In memory of John Longstreet

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

In memory of Patricia Margherio

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

In memory of Edward Matthei

Arlene Andersen

Sam and Marilyn Battaglia

Paul and Karin Bell

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

C. John Blankley

Motohiro and Diana Brown

Jeff and Kathy Caudill

Margaret Dojnik

Joseph and Jennifer Dunne

Judith Erickson

Charles and Marilyn Feit

Maureen Foley

Joe and Ingrid Frankian

Marie Galoney

Mark and Nancy Garrigus and family

Jim and Joan Gilbert, Jr.

Mary Ann Harrington

Marilyn Hennessy

William and Elizabeth Heun

Ann Jardine

Henry Jaskowiak

Paul and Lorraine Kaiser

We remember daily those entrusted to our prayers . . .

Betty Kirby
Harriet Klinger
Carol Kranforst
Joe and Donna LaLuya
Kathleen Lynch
Matthei and Colin Associates
Mary Matthei
Nancy Matthei
Dick and Nancy Merrill
William and Mariann Mueller
Mr and Mrs. Tim Nugent
Terry and Pam O'Neill
Michael and Amy Perlow
George and Judy Provance
Kathleen Blankley Roman
Mr and Mrs. Herbert Schrage
Sr. Ann Sharp, O.S.B.
David Sheppard
Gloria Struzynski
Lilli Taraschewsky
Mr and Mrs. Robert Williams
Martin and Claudia Wojtalewicz
In memory of Eugene McGuire
Scott and Amy Gilbert
In memory of Jeannette Miholic
Gertrude Miholic
In memory of Patricia Miller
Benedictine Sisters of Chicago
**In memory of Sr. Pierre Marie
Moore, O.S.B.**
Willard and Mildred Burns
Jeffrey Gottstein
Nancy Gutreuter
Agnes Ivantic
Ivantic family
Marjorie June
Anthony and Joan Lippis and family
George and Barbara Lynch
Eleanor Nauman
Brian and Wanda Pabich
Michael and Mary Penich
Mafalda Pennington
Margaret Schermerhorn
Leona Schulze
Mary Ellen Stuermer
St. Juliana School

In memory of Bernadette Murphy
Jan E. Bell
Benedictine Sisters of Chicago
Andrea Ciccone
Rosemary Steffes
In memory of Louise Neafsey
Judy Neafsey
In memory of Joy Hitzeman Nixon
Benedictine Sisters of Chicago
In memory of James Oxé
Christa Boroskin
In memory of Eileen Roche Parker
Benedictine Sisters of Chicago
In memory of Robert Pecho
Benedictine Sisters of Chicago
Kay Pecho
In memory of Marc A. Perse
Margaret Cullen
In memory of Richard M. Perse
Benedictine Sisters of Chicago
Bill and Helen Davis
Agnes Glavich
Raymond and Josephine Krasovic
Charles and Ursula Perko
Marian Radacy
Sr. Rosemarie Rugar, O.S.B.
Edward and Alice Skerjanec
In memory of Ruth Pierick
Roberta Pierick
**In memory of Carol
Heckrotte Power**
Benedictine Sisters of Chicago
Mike Power
In memory of Bud Raboin
Benedictine Sisters of Chicago
**In memory of Margaret
Mary Reinert**
Benedictine Sisters of Chicago
**In memory of Sr. Gregory
Rohar, O.S.B.**
Paul and Carol Brimstin
Kathlyn Myers
Robert and Marilyn Hammer
Anna Kepic
John and Theresa Kepic
The Sulkowski family

In memory of Mildred Sawyer
Judith Borchers
Marilyn Graybill and family
Toma and Angela Janus
Les and Barbara Parker
Merle and Sonia Rust
**In memory of Mary Elizabeth
Schermerhorn**
Benedictine Sisters of Chicago
Roseanne Hugunin
Sheila Schultz
Jeanne Culhane Shannon
**In memory of Gloria
Berger Schetter**
William and Kathryn Hoban
**In memory of Roberta
Burns Schrafel**
Benedictine Sisters of Chicago
In memory of Irene H. Stellar
Larry and Judy Brod
**In memory of deceased members
of the Sullivan Family**
John L. Wren
In memory of Sue O'Neil Toland
Don and Dorothy Andries
In memory of Sammy Vainisi
Benedictine Sisters of Chicago
Dr. Sam Vainisi
In memory of Elinor Van Houghton
William Van Houghton
**In memory of Sr. Laura
Walker, O.S.B.**
Georgette Kesselring
**In memory of Sr. Mariam
Wilson, O.S.B.**
Mary E. Desmond
**In memory of deceased members
of the Wren family**
John L. Wren
In memory of Estelle Wroblewski
Donna Dehnert

... let us serve one another in love.

Deceased SSA Cañon City Alumnae

Mary Ohmes Zeorlin (1950)
Irene Stock Carmack (1952)

Deceased SSA Chicago Alumnae

Bernadette Murphy (1938)
Mary Liz McCabe
Schmerhorn (1945)
Eileen Roche Parker (1947)
Bud Raboin, brother of Madonna
Rogers-McCutcheon (1949)
Mary Lou Maher Kane (1950)
Nancy Pannier Donnelly (1954)
Nancy Kelly Kohl (1957)
Roberta Burns Schrafel (1957)
Judith Kellen Paschke (1959)
Betty Brannon, mother of
Karolyn Tucker-Brannon (1961)
John Longstreet, husband of
Deborah Walsh Longstreet (1961)
Joy Hitzeman Nixon (1961)
Carol Heckrotte Power (1962)
Adeline Lenihan mother
of Patricia Lenihan-Barbee (1963)
Regina Corfman (1979)

Special Occasions

In honor of:

**In honor of the 150th Anniversary
of the Benedictine Sisters
in Chicago**

Joseph Rhodes

In gratitude for

all Benedictine Sisters

Meg Kransfelder

**In honor of the birthday
of Sr. Benita Coffey, O.S.B.**

Madonna McCutcheon

**In honor of Sr. Benita
Coffey, O.S.B.**

on her 60th Jubilee

Ronald and Marjorie Auer

Tom and Christina Auer

John and Patricia Coffey

Dominic and Margaret Caminiti

Genevieve Delana

Patricia Dohr

Carolyn Fields

Richard Fields

Ray and Sue Kehn

Ann C. Murray

Mary Ellen Stuermer

**In honor of the 50th Wedding
Anniversary of**

Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Geis

Mr. and Mrs. William Milleker

In honor of the 2011 Jubilarians

Rosie Randle

**In honor of the 55th Wedding
Anniversary of Richard
and Dorothy Lind**

Jeff, Kathy, Tom and Pat Caudill

**In honor of the 60th Wedding
Anniversary of**

Mr. and Mrs. Matt Miholic

Gertrude Miholic

Fred and Marie Zalaznik

**In honor of Sr. Winifred
Sommer, O.S.B.**

on her 70th Jubilee

Richard Fields

Valentine Kulczak

Rev. Francis Maniola

Joseph Rhodes

Sr. Ann Sharp, O.S.B.

**In honor of the birthday
of Sr. Suzanne Zuercher, O.S.B.**

Mary Lynne Hixson

Mafalda Pennington

**In honor of Sr. Suzanne
Zuercher, O.S.B.**

on her 60th Jubilee

Anonymous

Genevieve Delana

Carolyn Fields

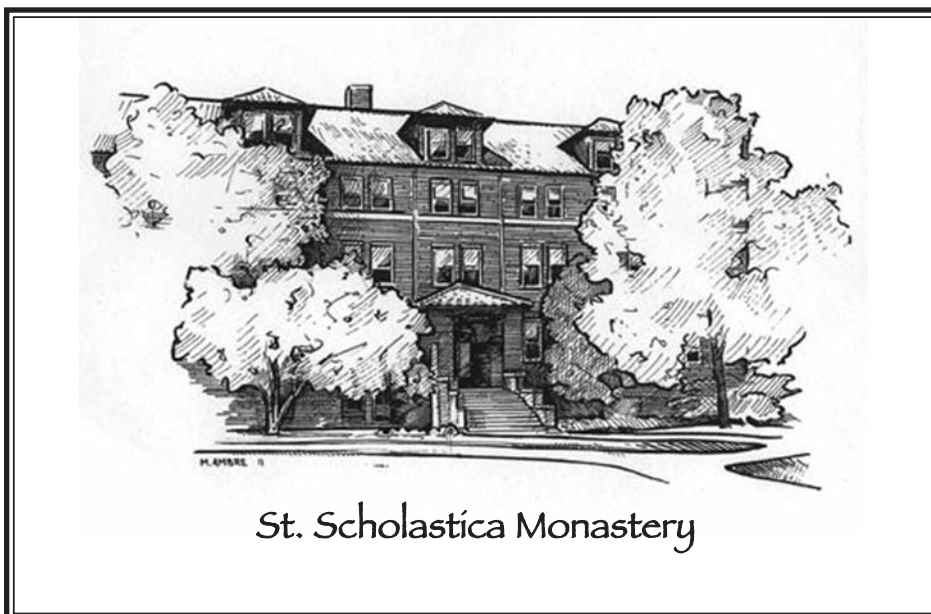
Richard Fields

Mary Lynne Hixson

Kay McSpadden

Mary Ellen Stuermer

Richard and Patricia Wright





Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

St. Scholastica Monastery

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Directions in Development

On September 25th, over 750 individuals gathered to listen to powerful messages about the Rule of Benedict, to experience Benedictine hospitality, and witness first-hand the spirituality that this monastic community lives and shares with others as they strive to “serve where there is need” and to welcome all as Christ.

Sisters gather together for prayer several times a day – some might be coming via a wheelchair or walker from a room in the infirmary, others may be arriving just at the start of prayers after a long day of teaching, writing, or providing spiritual direction. But they gather together to hear God’s word, to seek God’s assistance for those in need, and to give thanks for God’s many blessings.

As the end of the calendar year approaches, I would ask you to prayerfully ponder the many gifts and blessings that God has brought to your life, and to consider specific ways that you can help to provide for the care of the elderly and infirm Sisters, and to support the ministries of the Benedictine Sisters of Chicago who “serve where there is need”. A few of these charitable giving options include:

- ~ IRA distributions to the Benedictine Sisters of Chicago;
- ~ Gifts of life insurance;
- ~ Naming the Benedictine Sisters of Chicago as a beneficiary in your Will or Trust; and
- ~ Donations of stocks or bonds.

On behalf of the Benedictine Sisters of Chicago, thank you for your presence and your on-going generosity.

Gratefully,
Kathy Caudill, Director of Development

During
Advent 2011

Sung Vespers

Sundays

5 p.m.

St. Scholastica Chapel

(Please enter through
the monastery door at
7430 N. Ridge Blvd.)