



Sacro Speco Sacred Space

Vol. XXIV, No. 2

Newsletter of the Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

Summer 2014

Discover Benedict, a guide for all times

Benedict, founder of western monasticism, is truly a man for all times. One may often wonder if Benedict ever thought that what he started in the 6th century would endure through “the ages.” Benedict left a legacy of spirituality not only for those vowed to Benedictine life but for all who seek God. What can we glean from St. Benedict in the 21st Century?

While the Rule of Benedict gives a complete picture of Benedictine spirituality, a glance at some of the elements of this way of life may give some insights for the present day. These elements are not inseparable but are intertwined in a life lived in Christ.

“Prefer nothing whatever to Christ” (RB 72). Christ is the center and all that one does should flow from Christ. Benedictine spirituality is steeped in the Gospel, it is a continuous call to seek God.

“Listen ... and attend with the ear of

your heart” (RB Prologue). To truly listen is to be mindful, to foster a reverent attitude. It demands that one be open to every person, event, and circumstance of life. It is a call to active presence which leads to a loving response.

“All who present themselves are to be welcomed as Christ” (RB 53). This is an invitation to hospitality, allowing the God of the unexpected to enter into our lives. It is a willingness to be interrupted. Hospitality is not so much what we do but the way we do it.

“Regard all utensils and goods as sacred vessels of the altar” (RB 31). A simple yet profound approach to stewardship, to grateful acknowledgement of what we have, and to caring for all resources entrusted to us.

“Let all things be done in moderation” (RB 48). This is much needed advice in today’s world which allows us to create a balance in our lives, to

find that equilibrium that focuses us to center ourselves in God.

“Listen readily to holy reading and devote yourself often to prayer” (RB 4). Prayer fosters our relationship with God. It gives us what we need to live the life we are called to live.

Benedictine spirituality challenges us to live ordinary lives extraordinarily well, to be centered in Christ through prayer with an attitude of reverence, to be hospitable and good stewards, and to find the balance in our lives. Benedictine spirituality is not about transcending life but transforming life.

Benedictine spirituality is ageless. Benedictine spirituality is priceless.

By Sister Kathleen Maloney, O.S.B. Sister Kathleen ministers as the Pastoral Associate at St. Peter’s Parish in Skokie, IL and has lived the Rule of Benedict since entering the community in 1981.



Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

Sister Victoria Marconi, O.S.B. moved to our community this spring! Learn more about Sister Victoria on page three of this issue.

**20th Annual
Testimonial Dinner
photos begin
page 12**

Message from the Prioress



Sister Patricia Crowley, O.S.B.
Prioress

Dear Friends,

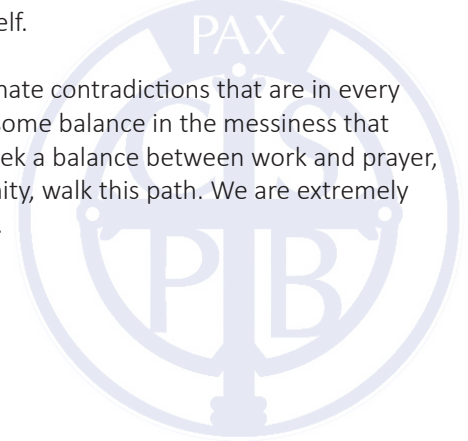
As you receive this issue of *Sacro Speco*, Benedictines throughout the world are celebrating the solemnity of St. Benedict on July 11th. One has to be pretty significant within the array of saints to warrant more than one feast day in a given liturgical year as he does! So, what makes Benedict so significant besides, of course, the enormous number of people who have followed this way of life for the past 1,534 years and the many who live in nearly every country of our current world?

This man escaped decadent student life in Rome and settled in the Italian hills outside of the city. There, he gleaned wisdom from many different sources and from his own lived experience and learned to live fully in the mystery of God. What he passed on to us is called The Rule of Benedict. Its sense of the holy is coupled with guidance to live well in the midst of human foibles. He recognized so clearly the daily challenges of people trying to live together while each one learns to nurture a sense of the sacred in the other and in the self.

Benedict offers a way to live well with the innate contradictions that are in every single human life and gives us a way to find some balance in the messiness that those contradictions tend to produce. We seek a balance between work and prayer, contemplation and action. We, as a community, walk this path. We are extremely grateful to all of you for sharing that journey.

Blessings to you as we celebrate the feast,

Patricia Crowley, O.S.B.



Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

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

Sacro Speco is a publication of the Benedictine Sisters of Chicago for oblates, alumnae, and friends of the community.

St. Scholastica Monastery
7430 N. Ridge Blvd.
Chicago, IL 60645
773.764.2413
osbchicago.org

Letters From You

THE BONDS OF FRIENDSHIP

I spent four wonderful years in high school at the Academy in Canon City, CO. Our class graduated in 1948 and several of us are still corresponding.

-Carolyn Weaver Duncan
Loveland, Colorado

STAYING CONNECTED

It was nice to hear from you through this new online Community Newsletter. This is a great way to keep in touch with SSA. Since I am here in Japan, I will not be able to be in Chicago, but I am grateful for the value system and education I received at SSA. Best wishes on your spiritual endeavor.

-Yuko Sato
Atsugi, Kanagawa, Japan

Editor's note: Ms. Sato's letter references the new e-newsletter that we send via email. If you would like to be part of this email list, sign up at osbchicago.org/email.htm

If you have a letter you would like to share here, please contact:
Benedictine Sisters of Chicago
Attn: *Sacro Speco* Newsletter
7430 N. Ridge Blvd.
Chicago, IL 60645
Or email nsotelo@osbchicago.org with the subject line "For *Sacro Speco* Letters."
We will publish as space permits.

Monastery News

WELCOME SISTER VICTORIA!

This spring, the sisters welcomed Sister Victoria Marconi, O.S.B. when she transferred to our monastery. Sister Victoria comes to Chicago from St. Joseph's Monastery in Pennsylvania. After more than 160 years of ministry, that monastery has been forced to close its doors, and other Benedictine communities across the country are opening their doors to welcome the sisters from St. Joseph's.

When asked what she would like to share with her new community, she said, "They might like to know that I love them whether I know them or not. God loves them, so I love them." The moment we met her, we loved her, too!



Sister Victoria Marconi, O.S.B.



Benedictine Sisters of Pittsburgh

Sister Judith Murphy, O.S.B. (standing) facilitated the election of a new prioress for the Benedictine Sisters of Pittsburgh.

St. Benedict writes that the Abbot (or Prioress) "holds the place of Christ in the monastery" (RB 2. 64). As a result, throughout Benedictine history, the selection of a prioress has been a significant event for a monastery. Sister Judith Murphy, O.S.B. and Sister Susan Quaintance, O.S.B. assisted two fellow Benedictine monasteries in their elections this year. Sister Judith supported the Benedictine Sisters of Pittsburgh, PA, as they selected their 15th Prioress. In February she assisted the community in crafting their new direction statements. In April she facilitated the election process. Sister Susan supported the Benedictine Sisters of Covington, KY for the election of their new prioress.

Sister Benita Coffey, O.S.B. is a member of "Sisters and Brothers of Immigrants," a Chicago-based group of sisters, brothers, and associates from 37 religious communities. They are committed to prayer, pastoral care, legislative action, and support of immigrants. On May 17th, Sister Benita and Oblate Kathleen Myers helped coordinate "Make Straight the Pathway: The Rough Road to Immigration Reform," a half-day event to raise awareness about immigration reform and strengthen the network of those working on the issue.

A group of our sisters recently attended a vigil against violence at the Rogers Park Police Station as part of a National Day of Prayer on May 1st. The sisters joined residents and religious leaders from across the neighborhood to act as a visible sign against the on-going violence that has plagued neighborhood this year. Leaders from the community spoke to the crowd about the recent shootings and the concerns about increased violence during the summer months. Leaders shared prayer in the large group and then small groups formed to pray with one another and to network with their neighbors.



Holy Spirit Learning Center

Sister Mary Melady, O.S.B. (middle) was recently elected chair of the board at the Holy Spirit Life Learning Center.

Sister Mary Melady, O.S.B. was recently Selected chair of the board at the Holy Spirit Life Learning Center in Rogers Park, the neighborhood of our Chicago monastery. The learning center provides tutoring to children and skills-building workshops to women. It also provides counseling and spiritual companioning for women. Sister Mary and Oblate Kathleen Myers both teach ESL at the center.

The Benedictine Sisters of Chicago extend special thanks to the Bernard Heerey Family Foundation for their generous grants to support our infirm sisters.

Sisters

In Loving Memory

Suzanne Zuercher, the fifth child of Charles Robert and Clara Kettenhofen Zuercher, was born on July 13, 1931. The family lived in Park Ridge, Illinois, and Suzanne attended the parochial school at St. Paul of the Cross Parish.

She entered St. Scholastica High School in the fall of 1945. Having already begun musical training of her extraordinary voice, she was granted a music scholarship. In addition to being an honor student with high achievement in academics, she excelled as a soloist, became one of the strongest voices in glee club, was part of the special ensemble, and gave a voice recital before graduation in June of 1949.

In early September of that year, she became a postulant at St. Scholastica Monastery and was invested as a novice on March 19, 1950. She was given the name Sister Clare by which she was known for many years as she continued her education and began teaching.

Not unusual for that period, her undergraduate studies were pursued at a number of colleges and universities. The majority of her work was at Loyola University, Chicago, and her Bachelor of Arts in English was awarded there. She also attended DePaul, Alverno College, Georgetown University, Quincy College, and Mt. St. Scholastica. She completed her MA in Clinical Psychology at Loyola University in 1967 and then went on to

become a licensed clinical psychologist.

As a teacher Sister Suzanne served on the elementary level at Queen of All Saints Parish in Chicago and St. Lambert Parish in Skokie. She joined the faculty at St. Scholastica in fall of 1960. She taught English, religion, and Latin I. After completing her MA she taught psychology to seniors, and became school psychologist, Guidance Director, and College Counselor until 1972.

At that time Sister Suzanne began to serve as Campus Minister at the Water Tower campus of Loyola University. In 1976 she began teaching at the Institute of Spiritual Leadership of Loyola (ISL) and she ministered there until 1987, serving as co-director from 1979-1985.

After a sabbatical year, Sister Suzanne's life began to take a new turn, including more writing as well as more travel. Through contacts with men and women from abroad who had been students at ISL, she was invited by religious communities in many countries to teach, to make presentations, to direct retreats, and to facilitate workshops. Hundreds of people around the world have benefited from her sharing. In many places afar, such as Wales, Tokyo, Germany, Indonesia, Hong Kong, as well as those closer to home in the United States, people remember her.

Sister Suzanne has had six books published, since 1991, her latest having come out in March (see book on page five of this issue). Before her last illness, she had already received some congratulatory messages from those who read it. Many of her articles appeared in *Sisters Today*, *Living Light*, *Praying* and other publications.

Sister Suzanne was on the editorial board of *Review for Religious* for five years and was an active member of the International Thomas Merton Society. Of the many honors she received were a Rotary Club Paul Harris Fellow and Damen Scholar of Graduate School at Loyola University, Chicago awards.



Sister Suzanne Zuercher, O.S.B.
1931-2014

From 1994 through 2006 Suzanne was President of St. Scholastica Academy, during which time she was active in Together for You, the network of all girls' high schools. Having completed that service she worked with Right Directions, consultants to faith based organizations. Most recently Sister Suzanne has had her own practice, offering executive coaching and other services to business professionals. In addition, she has continued to offer spiritual direction, retreats, and workshops.

Over the 65 years of fidelity within her Benedictine community, Sister Suzanne has been First Councilor, Formation Directress, and assistant Oblate Director. She served on the Monastic Council three times and was active on the Liturgy Team, the On-Going Formation Team, the Schola, and many committees over the years.

Sister Suzanne died at St. Scholastica Monastery on June 14, 2014. Her siblings, Eleanor Holmgren, Robert, Paul, and Father Jack, S.J. all preceded her in death. She is mourned by generations of nieces and nephews, her Benedictine community, and friends across the world. [A funeral mass will be held Sunday, July 13th at 2 p.m. in St. Scholastica Chapel at the Monastery, 7430 N. Ridge Blvd. Chicago, IL 60645.](#)



A photo of Sister Suzanne Zuercher, O.S.B. teaching at St. Scholastica Academy, Chicago, in 1968.

Benedictine Generosity

Sister Amy Campbell, O.S.B. and Sister Ann Krall, O.S.B. were given a gift card for Christmas. In true Benedictine generosity, the sisters decided to share the gift. On the Feast of St. Joseph the Worker, May 1st, the sisters surprised everyone with an ice cream social!



Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

Sister Amy Campbell, O.S.B. pushes a cart of ice cream for the sisters in the infirmary.



Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

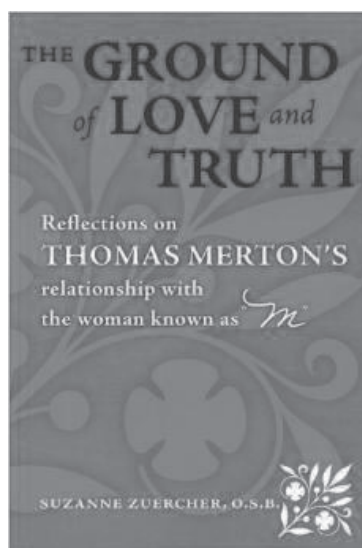
Sister Mildred Zember, O.S.B., chose "Royal Fudge" as her ice cream of choice.



Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

Sister Mary Frances Schermerhorn, O.S.B. smiles for the camera after the party.

Sister Suzanne's Last Book



Did the well-known monk, Thomas Merton, know what it was like to fall in love? In her last book, published this spring, Sister Suzanne Zuercher, O.S.B. explored Merton's life as he came to know a young woman and strove to understand the nature of love that ultimately resides in God. The book, *The Ground of Love and Truth* (2014) is now available from ACTA publications (actapublications.com or 800.397.2282).

IS GOD CALLING YOU?

- Do you feel God is calling you to something but you're not sure what?
- Did you originally dream about marriage but do you now find yourself wondering if God has other plans for you?
- Do you wonder what direction your life will take?

The Benedictine tradition invites each of us to discern God's call in our lives. Whether you are called to single life, religious life, or married life, God has a plan for you.

If you have wondered if religious life might be for you, explore your calling with Sister Benita (bcoffey@osbchicago.org) or Sister Belinda (bhemonahan@yahoo.com) at 773.764.2413 x327 or x246.

Meet a Benedictine Oblate



Courtesy of Matthew Ambre

Matthew Ambre, Oblate

The Oblates of the Benedictine Sisters of Chicago number over 100 members. One of the Oblates, [Matthew Ambre](#), is a long-time member. We connected with Matthew to learn what inspired him to join the Oblates.

Reading the Acts of the Apostles and letters of Paul inspires me and teaches me of the zeal that is possible to follow Christ.

-Oblate Matthew Ambre

Q: When did you first learn about the Benedictine Sisters of Chicago?

A: My lovely wife was teaching at St. Scholastica Academy, and I got to know the Sisters and the community over the years. It was a wonderful close-knit group of teachers and staff that was so welcoming, and God's spirit was so evident through the worship and liturgies at the Monastery.

Q: What drew you to become an Oblate?

A: I was searching, not necessarily for a certain religious community that was aligned to my way thinking but for a path that would help deepen my faith by establishing a setting wherein my prayer life could be nurtured and improved. I came to understand Benedict's emphasis on Christ and scripture as a "way of life" which is a constant stretching and reaching but also quieting and opening of our hearts to God.

Q: Has becoming an Oblate changed your life in any way? If so, how?

A: Our monthly small group gatherings have been so enriching. Sisters Benita and Suzanne bring wisdom and clarity to our discussions that are appreciated by all. Our praying and sharing together has helped me learn what being in community is about. We pray, laugh, talk, and listen to each other as part of a small community in Christ that undoubtedly brings Benedict's monastic teachings back to our homes, offices and daily lives.

Q: What is your favorite line from the Rule of Benedict?

A: I must admit that I don't have a favorite line at this time but I have a favorite chapter. The chapter on Humility speaks of a "humbled spirit." Sounding simple at the onset but actually starts the "humbling" as you read and traverse each step to twelve!

Q: What biblical character or saint has inspired you and how have they inspired you?

A: Reading the Acts of the Apostles and letters of Paul inspires me and teaches me of the zeal that is possible to follow Christ. Through trials, sorrows, and joys Paul's focus never wavers but remains true to love of Christ to the finish.

Q: What would you say to someone who is thinking about becoming an Oblate?

A: I would encourage them to test the waters and try it out! I believe the fact that they might be interested is God's way of working through them already in his calling for us to live our lives more fully through Him.

Colorado Oblates Practice Benedictine Hospitality

The Benedictine Oblates of Colorado have made a commitment to follow the Rule of Benedict and to serve where there is need. They are living out their “obligation to the human community and dependence on God” in many ways within the Pueblo community, seeking to live out the call to justice, honesty and compassion. Therefore, we wish to affirm our Christian values by taking a stance on issues of homelessness and poverty by supporting Posada, a community based non-profit organization in Pueblo.

The Oblates felt it was important to confine their service to a Pueblo based organization so that “hands on” involvement could be part of the community action. Our first step in discernment was to have the director of Posada, Anne Stattlemen, attend a monthly meeting of the Oblates to give us an in-depth understanding of the organization. The second step, as a follow-up to the presentation, was to make an on-site visit to the new Youth Drop-in Center which cemented the commitment to support this non-profit.

The involvement with this area of Posada has been on a fast track the past two months. One of the Oblates belongs to the Daughters of Mary, and she submitted a request to the State level of the organization for financial help for Posada. The request was honored and a donation of \$1,000 was made. Anne Stattlemen said that the money would be used to install a shower for the Youth Center.

The services of the Youth Drop-in Center are geared to homeless and unaccompanied youth, ages 15 to 24. In particular need of these services are individuals just exiting the foster care system, who find themselves with no family support, thus no emotional or financial support.

The philosophy of the Center is to offer a space that feels like home for young adults and youth. Posada believes that a sense of security, warmth and care can give a young person the internal spaciousness to begin considering a future off the streets. The Center provides that by offering a place to eat, study, fill out applications, access resources and receive individualized case management. There is a list of at least a dozen other benefits available at the center in addition to bus tokens, laundry vouchers and health services.

The Center is open: Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. – noon; Monday 4:00 to 7:00 p.m.; Friday 4 to 6:30 p.m. Additional hours of operation will be possible through the volunteer hours of the Oblates and other committed adults. There will be an orientation for volunteers, and a staff person will always be present when the facility is open. An update on our activities with this organization will follow as our activities increase.

-By [Phyllis King, Oblate](#)



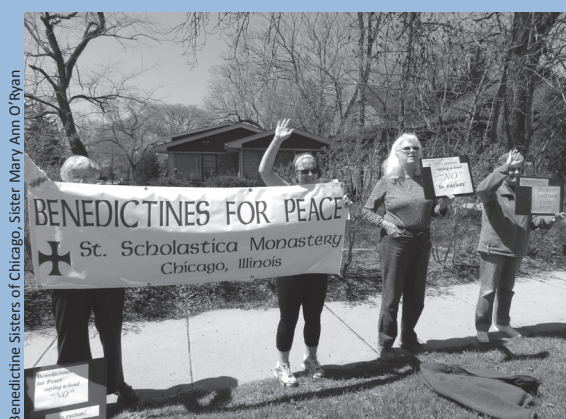
The Center has a computer lab to help residents search for jobs or stay connected with friends.

Join Us!

Are you looking for a way to deepen your faith? Are you looking for a community to support you on the Christian journey? The Benedictine Sisters of Chicago welcome you to become an Oblate. To learn more, contact:

CHICAGO OR NATIONWIDE: Sister Benita Coffey, O.S.B,
773.764.2413 x327, bcoffey@osbchicago.org

COLORADO: Sister Joan Hentges, O.S.B.
719.250.1309, jmhentges@q.com



Chicago Oblates and Sisters gather near the monastery for the annual Stand Against Racism this April.

Alumnae



Photos courtesy of Margaret Pajakowski

Jeff Moore and Colleen Brewer, former St. Scholastica Academy faculty and staff, came out to show their support.

2nd Annual SASSY Dash Raises Funds for Young Women

The young alumnae of St. Scholastica Academy, Chicago, came together again to host this year's Second Annual SASSY Dash. This fun 5K run/3K walk supports single-gender education for young women at Chicago-area Catholic schools.

Runners and supporters alike gathered at Indian Boundary Park in Chicago on Saturday, April 12, at 9 a.m. It was one of the first 70 degree days after a long, cold winter, giving alumnae and friends even more reason to join and enjoy the event. Attendees received race bags and t-shirts to sport their SASSY look.

Close to 70 people participated, and even one dog joined in the excitement. At the end of the day, more than \$3,500 was raised to support low-income young women. SASSY coordinators are grateful for everyone's support and look forward to having you join us next year as we race for women's education.

Scholastica Alums Still Serving Youth (SASSY) was formed by young alumnae from the classes of 1990-2013. If you are interested in joining SASSY's socials and events, or if you would like to make a donation to support their work, contact Sister Susan Quaintance, O.S.B. at susquain@juno.com.



Photos courtesy of Margaret Pajakowski

Smiling runners pick up their race bags and t-shirts.

St. Scholastica Academy, Chicago 2014 Reunion

St. Scholastica Academy, Chicago, will be holding the 2014 Annual Reunion the weekend of November 1-2, 2014. This reunion will be for the classes of 1954, 1959, 1964, 1969, 1974, 1979, 1984, 1989, 1994, 1999, and 2004. Those who are members of classes prior to 1954 are also invited to attend.

Join us for a reception, dinner, and class photos the evening of November 1st and a memorial mass, reception, and campus tours the morning of November 2nd. Invitations will be sent in early autumn to the reunion classes. Coming from out of town? Visit osbchicago.org/alumnae.htm to find a list of nearby hotels which currently have availability that weekend. Book now and start planning for a memorable weekend!

St. Scholastica Academy, Cañon City

St. Scholastica Academy, Cañon City, and the Abbey school will host their Annual All Classes Reunion August 15-17, 2014 at the Abbey Events Complex. Visit theabbeycc.com for more information.

Academy News

Preparations are underway to make this year's St. Scholastica Academy, Chicago, reunion a fun and memorable event. Each class celebrating its reunion has a representative who is leading the way in preparing their class mailing list and helping to shape the event's agenda. Some class representatives are working with others in their class to plan a special event during reunion week-end just for their class such as a post-dinner party at a local bar and restaurant. To see if your class is planning a special event, visit osbchicago.org/alumnae.htm. At right, some class representatives meet at the monastery to work with the Sisters as they prepare to host the reunion. We look forward to seeing you there!



Alumnae - In Memoriam

St. Scholastica Academy, Chicago

Jeanne Lochner Keuth (1938), mother of Julie Keuth Kent (1960)

Jane Kowalski Cote (1940)

Lorraine Wuerth Hankins (1941), sister of Frances Marsolais (1940)

Patricia Kearns Warrick (1941), (deceased date unknown, we received notice based on a memorial done for her in December, 2013)

Joan Frances Bernhardt (1943) (deceased in 2011, we received notice in April, 2014)

Joseph Bredemann, husband of Sara J. "Sally" Noonan Bredemann (1944)

Angelo L. Coluzzi, husband of Marilyn Otter Coluzzi (1944)

Walter Mulvihill, husband of Germaine Rohlfing Mulvihill (1946)

Anita Constance McGrath Garrity (1949), mother of Maureen McCarthy (1973), Colleen McCague (1978) and Megan Garrity (1983)

Barbara Johnson (1949)

Marjorie Riedl LaSota (1949)

James McCutcheon, husband of Madonna Raboin Rodgers-McCutcheon (1949)

Ann Rutherford Karambelas (1953) (deceased in 2003, we received notice in January, 2014)

Robert O'Reilly, husband of Jean A. O'Neill O'Reilly (1953)

Anne Marie Reinen Kenter (1954)

Penny Murphy Landauer (1956)

Merikay Lenell Lance (1960)

Joseph Koucky, husband of Margaret McMahon Koucky (1961)

Dolores Klein O'Farrell (1962)

Louise DeVoy Schneider, mother of Ellen DeVoy Burgess (1963)

Mary Theresa Gleason (1964)

Dorothy Meyer, mother of Janis Meyer (1964)

Michael Zasiebida, husband of Sheila McManus Zasiebida (1966)

Marie E. Tremmel Schmidt, mother of Carol Hines (1967) and Nancy Mattheussen (1969)

Lorraine Murphy, mother of Janet Murphy Andrus (1968)

Janice Palmer (1971)

Elayne Tootelian, mother of Nancy Tootelian Wagner (1975)

Tom Storey, brother of Mary Ellen Storey Healey (1977)

Patricia Ann Wrenn, mother of Anne

Marie Wrenn O'Leary (1977)

Virginia Burkhart, mother of Audrey Burkhart (1974) and Deborah (Scott) Haines (1974)

Marilyn Feit, mother of Margaret Clarke (1977), Catherine "Katey" Feit (1979), Madeleine Cusick (1982), Jane Feit Goldberg (1984), Rosemary Feit Moren (1989), and grandmother of Hannah Cusick (2012)

Mary Kearney Reveley (1979)

Kathleen Erwin Gruber, mother of Therese Gruber D'Souza (1980)

Richard J. Westley, father of Clare Westley (1982) and Ruth Ann Westley (1983)

Richard P. Byrne, father of Cheryl Byrne Nowak (1983) and Catherine Byrne French (1985)

George Ruby, father of Linda Ruby (1983) and Christina Ruby-Ziegler (1986)

St. Scholastica Academy, Cañon City

Janet Grover (1969) (deceased April 16, 2013, we received notice in April, 2014)

(The above listings are based on notices we received from the last newsletter through May 19, 2014.)

Friends of the Monastery

Meet the New Director

The Benedictine Sisters recently welcomed Joanne Spata to the monastery staff as Director of Development. Ms. Spata comes to us from St. John Brebeuf Roman Catholic Parish where she served as the Business Manager for thirteen years, overseeing all aspects of fundraising, special events, and staffing.

Ms. Spata is deeply involved in the Italian American community in Chicago and formerly served as the Executive Director of The Shrine of Our Lady of



Pompeii, the oldest continuing Italian Catholic Church in the city of Chicago. She is also the Chairperson of Casa Italia, an Italian Cultural Center, and was the first woman elected President of the Joint Civic Committee of Italian Americans Congress.

Ms. Spata is a graduate of our very own St. Scholastica Academy (Class of '77) and went on to earn her B.S. in Business and Management from Northeastern Illinois University. We are happy to have her join us with her dedication to the Benedictine community and mission.

Connect with your Benedictine Community

Join the Facebook Community

Like us at facebook.com/BenedictineSistersofChicago.

Sign up for Email

Register your email at osbchicago.org/email.htm.

Enjoy Daily Prayer or Sunday Mass

Visit osbchicago.org/prayer.htm for a list of times.

Become a Supporter

Donate at osbchicago.org/donate.htm or call 773.764.2413, x372.

A sense of peace

It's what you feel when

- you know your affairs are in order,
- your will or trust reflects the values you hold close to your heart;
- your estate plan is not just done, but you know it's done right.

Please join us for...

A Free Seminar on Wills, Trusts, and Estate Planning

When: Sunday, September 21, 2014, 12 noon
Light refreshments will be served.

Where: St. Scholastica Monastery
7430 N. Ridge Blvd., Room 100
Chicago, IL 60645

Enrollment is limited and reservations are required.
Please call 773-764-2413 Ext. 233 to register before September 12th.

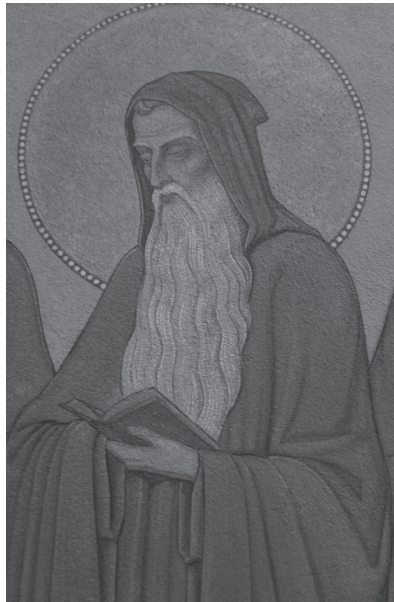
Sponsored by the Benedictine Sisters of Chicago and presented by Richard S. Goode, JD.

Thank you!

Thanks to friends of the monastery, like you, our spring appeal raised enough funds to complete the repairs on the infirmary in a timely manner to ensure our elderly sisters will have a warm and secure home this winter. We are so grateful for your help! Here is a photo of the repair work in-progress.



Benedictine Sisters of Chicago



Celebrate St. Benedict

Join us for the Feast of St. Benedict on July 11th. We will be celebrating mass at 5 p.m. in St. Scholastica Chapel at the monastery. St. Benedict is considered the founder of the Order of St. Benedict, or Benedictines. Approximately 1,500 years ago, he wrote the Rule of Benedict that became a foundational text for monastic community life and continues to inspire Christians today.

Prayer for the Feast of St. Benedict

O God, you have endowed your servant Benedict with the gifts of prayer and universal charity. His life, like the good tree planted near living water, has born fruit in countless women and men who have embraced his way of life. Bless your laboring church whose valiant defender he was and whose inspiration he continues to be. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

-from "The People's Companion to the Breviary" by the Carmelites of Indianapolis

From the Monastery Bookshelves

Can't get away for a full retreat? Consider one of the following books related to St. Benedict or Benedictine spirituality recommended by [Sister Eleanore Hillenbrand, O.S.B.](#), our Monastery Librarian.

The Monastery of the Heart: An Invitation to a Meaningful Life
by Joan Chittister, O.S.B. BlueBridge, 2011.

The Rule of St. Benedict: Initiation into the Monastic Tradition
edited by Patrick F. O'Connell. Cistercian Publications, 2009.

Seventy-Four Tools for Good Living: Reflections on the Fourth Chapter of Benedict's Rule
by Michael Casey, OCSO. Liturgical Press, 2014.

The Life and Miracles of St. Benedict by St. Gregory the Great
edited by Dom. Edmund J. Luck. Cosimo Classics, 2007.

A Guide to Living in the Truth: St. Benedict's Teaching on Humility
by Michael Casey, OCSO. Liguri Press, 2001.

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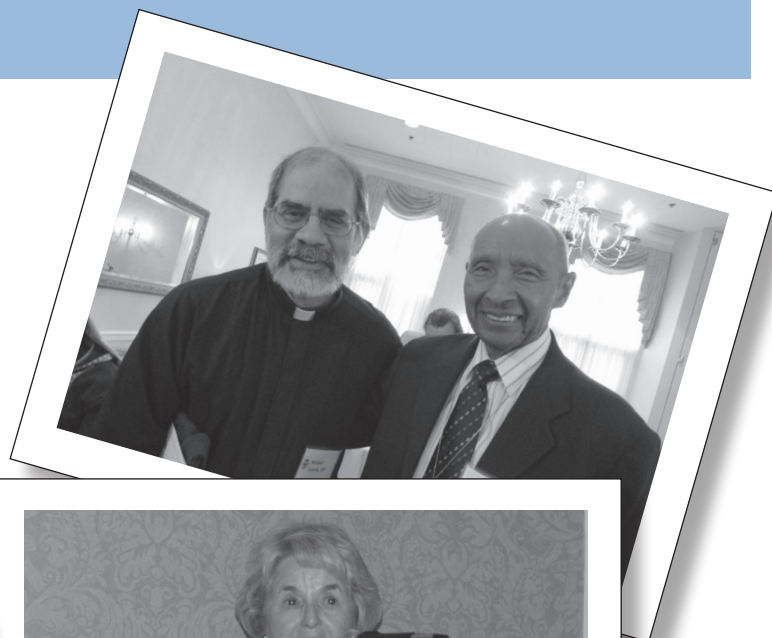
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Sister Mary Melady, O.S.B.
mmeladyosb@yahoo.com

PASTORAL COUNSELING
Sister Virginia Jung, O.S.B.
773.764.2413 x262

Testimonial Dinner



Photos clockwise from upper left: 1) Evilin McHugh 2) Oblate Rev. Michael Garcia, O.P. and Oblate Richard Fields 3) Judy Matz 4) a group of attendees enjoy the evening 5) Linda Oddo and Sister Agnes Kelly, O.S.B.

See a full album of photos from the evening on our facebook page!
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Left Photo: (left to right) Marcia Vigil Mally, Sister Kathleen McNamara, O.S.B. and Oblate Donna Dehnert. Right photo: (left to right) Sister Susan Quaintance, O.S.B., Jamie Chabura, and Anne Matz.

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William Murray

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In memory of Helen A. Slattery

Helen M. Slattery

In memory of Thomas J. Slattery

Helen M. Slattery

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Kelley Zerfahs

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In memory of Terry Temple

Grayce Testa

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In memory of Hank Testa

Grayce Testa

In memory of Elayne Tootelian

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In memory of George Trapp

Jim and Mary Jane Aussem

Ken and Peggy Cuniff

Alice Curran

Jeanne and Michael Dominik

Jim Girard

Sister Eleanore Hillenbrand, O.S.B.

Nancy and Michael Love

Norene Trapp Mahoney

Dorothy McCarty

Ann and Ronald Robinson

Terry Trapp

In memory of John Trapp

Norene Trapp Mahoney

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Carikube Tripicchio

In memory of Gladys Elizabeth Ulsh

Sister Jane Smith, O.S.B.

In memory of Mary Frances Vanderbrucke

Sister Ann Sharp, O.S.B.

In memory of Steve and Mary Vatch

Steven J. Vatch, Jr.

In memory of Mona Vunovich

George and Ida Mae Vunovich

In memory of Don Vito

Robert and Linda Newton

In memory of Mary Wagner

Eileen C. Moorman

In memory of Patricia Kearns Warrick

William and Mary A. Kearns

In memory of deceased members of the Raymond Watson family

Mary Watson

In memory of Thomas H. Walsh

Josepha Walsh

In memory of Patricia Wenzel

Thomas J. and Elizabeth Kneesel

In memory of Richard J. Westley

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

In memory of Dale Winslow

Don C. Winslow

In memory of Virginia Winter

Charlene C. Balkin

In memory of Sister Miriam

Wilson, O.S.B.

Gayle Porter

In memory of Andreas Wolf

Helga Ruby

In memory of Arthur and Pauline Wood

Barbara Jurcin

In memory of Estelle and Sig Wroblewski

Donna Dehnert

In memory of John Yengich, Jr.

Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Krasovic

In memory of Jane Yusuf

Sister Francisca Nzeke, HHCI

In memory of Micahel Zasiebida

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

Linda and Rick Peisko

In memory of Ted Zelewsky

Marianne Zelewsky

In memory of Louis J. Zember

Pabricia Erjavec

In memory of John P. Zimmer

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

Kathleen Murray

In memory of Robert Zimmer

Shirley Zimmer

In memory of Peter Zonsius

Sister Eleanore Hillenbrand, O.S.B.

Richard Klingelsmith

Barbara Zonsius

In memory of deceased members of the Zonsius family

Sister Eleanore Hillenbrand, O.S.B.

In memory of deceased members of the Louis Zupec family

Mary Watson

Special Occassions

In honor of Judy Beaumont's birthday

Juliet Bergner

In honor of Sister Patricia Crowley's election as CBP President

Woods Bowman and Michele Thompson

In honor of Nick and Erin Donner on their wedding day

Dorothy Donner

In honor of our grandchildren, Maggie, Mollie, Katie, Ellie, Branden, Kelli, Joe and Drew

Martin and Jeanne Stanton

In honor of Marilyn and Richard Halvorsen on their 60th wedding anniversary

Mary Futter

In honor of Sister Vivian Ivantic, O.S.B. on her 100th birthday

Lynn Hoffman

In honor of Jean and Michael Levine on their Marriage

Sister Eleanore Hillenbrand, O.S.B.

In gratitude for friendship with Norene Mahoney and family

Jeri Shanahan

In honor of Sister Mercedes Moore, O.S.B.

Marie Queenan

In honor of Vicki Quade

Ron Dorfman and Kenneth Ilio

In honor of Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Ryan on their anniversary

Dominic and Margaret Caminiti

In gratitude for friendship with Sr. Joanna Trapp, O.S.B.

Jeri Shanahan

In honor of Aunt Barbara Zonsius' 90th birthday

Martin and Jeanne Stanton



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SAVE THE DATE FOR REUNIONS

Reconnect with your classmates! St. Scholastica Academy, Chicago, and St. Scholastica Academy, Cañon City, will both be celebrating reunions this year for various classes. Is this a reunion year for your class? [See pages 8 and 9 to learn more!](#)

