



Sacro Speco

Sacred Space

THE BENEDICTINE SISTERS OF CHICAGO MAGAZINE + SUMMER/FALL 2022



Parish Life: Former Hub of Peoples' Lives

By Sister Kathleen Maloney, OSB

Summer/Fall Issue 2022, vol. XXXIII, no. 1



4 Sisters

Read the latest news from the monastery.

7 Oblates

An Oblate of over 20 years, Tammy Perlmutter, shares her experience of finding St. Scholastica Monastery.

8 Sister Story

Parish Life: Former Hub of Peoples' Lives
by Sister Kathleen Maloney, OSB

11 Alumnae

In Memoriam and SSA Reunion Dates

12 Gratitude

Testimonial Dinner Sponsors and Supporters;
Your generosity is remembered daily.

15 Prayer Ministry

We hold you in our prayers.



Sacro Speco is a publication of the 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 biannual publication of the Benedictine Sisters of Chicago for Oblates, Alumnae, and friends of the community.

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We are happy to share *Sacro Speco* with you and want to make sure you don't miss an issue! If you need to update your contact information or are receiving multiple copies of the newsletter, contact jlesanche@osbchicago.org or 773.764.2413 x241. If you know someone who is not receiving the newsletter who would like to be included in a future mailing, please encourage the person to contact us with their current name and address. Thank you and enjoy this issue!

Letter from the Prioress



*Sister Judith Murphy, OSB
Prioress*

*D*ear Friends,

Since the time of printing our last *Sacro Speco*, there's been the Russian invasion of Ukraine; several mass shootings and how best to respond to them; as well as concerns about our American democracy, that have dominated our attention and concern. All these become part of the substance of our prayer for peace. As Benedictines, our prayers for peace never cease. I'm sure you too are praying that peace prevail and that these conflicts end well.

Our community continues to discern how best to respond to Pope Francis' 2015 call for an ecological conversion in his encyclical *Laudato Si*. In our Summer Community Chapter (in July) we have come to agreement about a *Laudato Si* Commitment Statement which we share with you on page 6. The statement describes actions we can pledge to take toward addressing and solving pressing concerns for the environment, our planet, and the living creatures who inhabit it.

An Oblate of over 20 years, Tammy Perlmutter, shares her experience of finding St. Scholastica Monastery and her journey of Monasticism and becoming an Oblate. She reflects on her renewed connection and concern for nature since a good portion of her time during COVID was focused on works of conservation in the absence of opportunities to be in community. Tammy more recently has begun volunteering in the Archives with Sister Virginia Jung, OSB and shares her favorite discoveries in her article beginning on page 7.

As you have seen from the cover, Sister Kathleen Maloney, OSB reflects here on her long-time participation in parish ministry and how that work has evolved over the several decades she has been involved, first as a teacher and now as pastoral associate.

We were disappointed to have had to cancel our annual Testimonial Dinner scheduled on June 8th. We so looked forward to spending that enjoyable time with you, our friends and supporters. Your generosity is remembered daily in our communal prayers.

We look forward to seeing many of you at our Annual SSA Alumnae Reunion in September. Read on for details and join me both in thanking our Testimonial supporters listed on pages 12 and 13 and in remembering those in our prayer ministry.

Peace,

Judith Murphy, OSB

Letters From You

ST. SCHOLASTICA MEMORIES

Dear Sisters,

This is to thank you for my excellent education and your continuing mission to our broken world. I really enjoy *Sacro Speco* and your commitment to social justice.

Again, many thanks,

-Linda Connolly McNeely,
St. Scholastica Academy, Chicago '66

SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS

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 smeluso@osbchicago.org with subject line "For Sacro Speco Letters."
We will publish letters as space permits.



Monastery News

Sister Pat Coughlin, OSB kicked off the New Year with a monthly book group discussing Barbara Brown Taylor's *An Altar in the World*. Each month, the group delves deeper into encountering the Divine daily through twelve spiritual practices, including Waking up to God, Wearing Skin, Walking on the Earth, Saying No, and Pronouncing Blessings.

Acclaimed author Mary Deeley, Pastoral Associate / Director of Christ the Teacher Institute at Sheil Catholic Center at Northwestern University, headlined the 6th Annual Oblate Lecture Series. During her hour-long talk, she delighted the audience with stories describing her ancestral connections to Celtic lands. She also provided insights into the wonders of the saints while interweaving customs and traditions of Celtic Spirituality.

The Benedictine Sisters of Chicago joined other Catholic Sisters to highlight and celebrate Caring for the Earth and Laudato Si during Catholic Sisters Week. This annual tradition, that always begins on March 8 – International Woman's Day, shines a light on women religious whose spirituality, mission, and community building remain constant. Take a look at our website and social media platforms to view the stories of Caring for the Earth as told by our Sisters, Oblates, Alumnae, and Friends.

This spring, Sister Belinda Monahan, OSB, Assistant Campus Minister at Sheil Catholic Center at Northwestern University, accompanied a group of undergraduates to New Orleans to build a home for Habitat for Humanity. Reflecting on her experience, she wrote: "It's always such a privilege to accompany students on these trips. They were amazing – working hard at the building site, sharing honestly during daily reflections, and building community amongst themselves and locals. With the exception of a five-minute power outage, we weren't directly affected by tornadoes; still, the students had a chance to clean up after the storms and serve lunch to 300 folks directly impacted. The experience was incredibly moving. I'm physically exhausted from the work, but it's worth it!" (photo below).



At the end of March, Sister Patricia Crowley, OSB, along with Anthony Fasano, hosted an informative Zoom conversation on Gabriel Moran's final work *What Happened to the Roman Catholic Church? What Now?* Both Sister Patricia and Mr. Fasano have connections with Moran who is considered by many to be a modern-day prophet. Decades ago, he taught Sister Patricia at Manhattan College and, during the 1970s, he and Mr. Fasano were De La Salle Christian Brothers. Moran's book sparked an intense dialogue between the two hosts, while participants posed challenging questions and provided insightful commentary on post-Vatican II Catholic Church reforms and the true meaning of Chapter 10's topic: Presence.

During Lent, preschool students at Sister Hilary Halpin's British Infant School decided to "give alms" to Ukrainians in need. St. Scholastica Academy Chicago 1961 Alumna and former Faculty member, Kathy Leuschner Riordan, a volunteer at the British Infant School, shared that her son John and his family live in Moldova, a country neighboring the war-torn country. Because of their proximity to Ukraine, John and his Ukrainian born wife, Helen, were able to immediately take in Helen's fleeing family and friends. They also donated directly to organizations supporting refugees on the ground in Moldova. The BIS fiscal support helps provide clothing and food to refugees who escaped the Russian invasion with only the shirts on their back. This ordeal has been a learning experience for the family, including John and Helen's children Daniel Patrick (6) and Sophia Rose (3), and a wonderful experience for the preschool students. (photo below).

Our friend and Benedictine Oblate Dan Raven, who is also the Midwest Labyrinth Society Representative, hosted the Annual World Labyrinth Day on Saturday, May 7th. On this sunny and warm afternoon (day), new and familiar friends walked the Labyrinth for Peace in solidarity with others celebrating this yearly event. We welcome all to visit our Monastery Gardens and walk the St. Scholastica Monastery Labyrinth during regular daylight hours throughout the year.



Sister Belinda Monahan, OSB pictured with the Sheil Catholic Center students at the New Orleans Habitat for Humanity building site (left); Riordan Family in Moldova (Right).



Oblate News

We welcome two new Oblate candidates in the Pueblo, Colorado group: Daria Marshall and Linda Rusovick.

Chicago Oblate candidate Betty Jackson, who is being mentored by Oblate Colleen Mullarkey, is nearing the end of her year long preparation for Oblation. "This journey has been so enriching. Exploring the readings with Betty, and listening to her faith journey and sharing mine, has enriched and deepened my experience of faith and affirmed my admiration, love, and gratitude for the Benedictine way of life. Betty has shared so many insights that come from her lived experiences. It's been a blessing and really a joy to mentor Betty," shares Colleen.

Chicago Oblates, Benedict and Rachel Hane, baptized their twins, Nathaniel and Lucia, on May 22, 2022 with Director of Oblates, Sister Benita Coffey, OSB, and several Oblates in attendance for the joyous occasion (pictured right).



Obl. Seth Alexander has created an innovative summer school program that examines the "Catholic Imagination" viewed

through a lens of American literature. The course will focus on identifying how American Catholic authors have been formed by their Catholic faith and communicated that faith through their art.

Oblate Barbara Wahler, who has been writing poetry since high school, will help us explore poetry in our lives in an event hosted at St. Scholastica Monastery and via Zoom entitled: "Meeting Your Inner Poet." Join us Sunday Oct. 9th from 3-5 PM. More details: osbchicago.org/programs

If you are interested in learning more, please contact Sister Benita Coffey, OSB, Director of Oblates, at bc Coffey@osbchicago.org or 773.764.2413 x327.

"...in memory of her." Sister Barbara McCarry, OSB (1939-2022)



Barbara Ann McCarry was born in Chicago, Illinois, on June 15, 1939. Her parents were Henry and Mary McCarron McCarry, of Donegal, Ireland. The McCarry's lived and raised their family on the near south side of Chicago, in the Bridgeport neighborhood. Barbara was one of five children, with three sisters and a brother. She was baptized on July 2.

She and her family belonged to the parish of St. Anthony de Padua, where she attended elementary school. She then went on to Maria High School. She enrolled at Mount St. Scholastica College in Atchison, Kansas, where, in 1961, she earned a Bachelor of Arts degree.

On September 12, 1962, Barbara entered the Benedictine Sisters of Chicago. She had had a lifetime acquaintance with the Sisters, as Mary McCarry, one of her older sisters, had been a member of St. Scholastica Monastery for a time. After her postulancy,

on July 11, 1963, Barbara was invested as a novice and given the religious name Sister Mary Justin.

She professed triennial vows on August 16, 1964, and her final profession was December 29, 1968. Her years of fidelity included the celebrations of her Silver Jubilee in 1989 and her Golden Jubilee in 2014. Her fifty-eight years as a vowed Benedictine included further education and a variety of ministries as an educator and principal.

Sister Barbara died peacefully on February 2, 2022. The Mass of Resurrection was February 7, and she was interred at All Saints Cemetery in Des Plaines, Illinois. Sister Barbara is remembered and mourned by her Benedictine Sisters and numerous friends. To read more about Sister Barbara's dedicated life, visit our news blog at www.osbchicago.org/news and look for her story posted on February 3rd.



Laudato Si Commitment Statement

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

The Benedictine Sisters of Chicago continue to work on responding to Pope Francis' call for an ecological conversion leading to care for the earth and care for the poor in his encyclical, *Laudato Si'*.

The community's public offerings on Pope Francis' 2015 encyclical have included: a Zoom class, "Intro to *Laudato Si'*" a "Season of Creation Prayer Service" which was streamed to the public and a lecture, "Living *Laudato Si'*" given by Michael Terrien. Terrien who is a Benedictine Oblate, works closely with the Vatican's *Laudato Si'* Action Platform and Director of the Chicago Archdiocese Care for Creation Ministry. Jerome McDonnell, host of WBEZ's "World View" program from 1994-2019, gave a presentation, "Great Lakes Conservation." Both lectures were attended in person and streamed. Mr. McDonnell was honored for his environmental activism as a *Spirit of St. Benedict Award Recipient*.

The sisters' concern for the environment has led to several actions within the monastery. Neighbors and friends have plots in the community gardens at the north end of the monastery property. Trees have been planted on the grounds as well as native plant species. Invasive species are removed without using herbicides or pesticides. Recycling is done by all departments in the monastery. The 2021 community retreat was entitled, "For the Beauty of the Earth" and focused on soil, air and water and the connection between spirituality and care of the earth. The community has been enrolled both in the *Laudato Si'* Action Platform and Faith Plans, an international interfaith environmental group.

Statement of Ecological Commitment

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

We commit ourselves as Benedictines to practice the value of stewardship and honoring the sacredness of all creation.

We commit ourselves to ecological conversion by joining with others to foster the earth's human and natural environment.

We commit ourselves to discern and implement an action plan to work for the healing of our common home.

We commit ourselves to practice integral ecology, a vision of the world that includes respect for creation and an emphasis on our mutual respect for one another and creation.

We commit ourselves to ecological education, to provide opportunities for our publics to learn about the severity of the climate crisis and opportunities to engage in action and advocacy for a sustainable future.





A Thread in the Tapestry-My Twenty Years As A Benedictine Oblate

By Tammy Perlmutter

My first experience of a monastery was in 2001 when I was invited to a retreat at Our Lady of the Mississippi Abbey in Dubuque. It was a mostly silent retreat which was an entirely new concept for me. The quiet was unlike anything I'd experienced in years and it sparked a craving in me.

I live in an intentional Christian community, Jesus People, on the North Side of Chicago. Our buildings are located in Uptown, that used to be one of the worst neighborhoods in Chicago. It was an area fraught with danger from gang warfare, drug addiction, and the home of many people stuck in the cycle of systemic poverty. I'd grown up in Philadelphia, where I was born into poverty, and was used to, and found comfort in, the frenetic energy of the city.

At that time there were 400 people in our intentional community which provided a different kind of frenetic energy. We lived in very small, close quarters, worked together, ate together, and worshipped together. We were a haven for lost and broken people looking for home so there were new people coming and going all the time. My job in the ministry was to welcome the new women, assign them their jobs and roommates, referee conflicts, and minister to them.

It was a job I loved and felt particularly gifted for, but it was demanding and nonstop. I could be woken up in the middle of the night if someone arrived needing a place to stay. At times I was called on to help resolve conflicts, confront those who were not abiding by our guidelines and covenant, and intercede in times of personal crisis. Sometimes my own brokenness clashed with someone

else's. The truth was that I didn't know how to rest.

Being at Our Lady of the Mississippi introduced me to a new way of being and I was desperate to know how to translate that into my own life. I was alone one afternoon and picked up a copy of the Cistercian Studies Quarterly and found an article entitled "Lay Monasticism" by Mark Plaiss. As I read, my heart leaped and I felt like he had read my heart and was writing to me alone.

"Lay monasticism is essentially the embodiment of Jesus' admonition to 'go to your room, close your door, and pray to your Father in private' (Mt 6:6).

Because the vocation is hidden, a person receiving the call to it is often perplexed. A person can ponder whether to enter the priesthood or religious life, which are known quantities, but how can he or she ponder something about which nothing is known? Consequently, the person stumbles through one door after another trying to follow the voice that calls. Books are read; spiritual directors are consulted. The person persists in the search, though, for he or she feels compelled to do so, a compulsion fueled by the urge to rest in God." CSQ Vol 34.3, 1999.

That was exactly what I was experiencing, "a compulsion fueled by the urge to rest in God." My brain was noisy and cluttered and I didn't know how to stop the assault on my mind, body, and heart. I knew this was not a sustainable state but felt helpless in finding a way out.

I copied most of the article in my journal so I could go back to it. After I returned home I started looking up lay monasticism on the internet, discovered the term *oblate*, and came upon the oblate program at St. Scholastica. I was ecstatic to find a monastery so close to home.

[\(Continued on page 10\).](#)



Parish Life: Former Hub of Peoples' Lives

By Sister Kathy Maloney, OSB

*T*hink of a time when you met someone for the first time. Usually, the conversation wends its way to the question “Where are you from”? If this scene is happening in Chicago, you most probably would hear responses like “Visitation”, “St. Nick’s”, “Queens”. I’m not sure about other places in the country – but for the longest time in and around the Chicago area people identified themselves with their parish.

And why not? The parish was the hub of community. It not only met the spiritual needs of people, but it was the center of social activities, a place to meet others, a place where one belonged, a place to call home.

I grew up in such an environment. My parents knew the importance of parish life and passed that on. I worked in the parish rectory while in high school and college and stayed connected by my involvement in liturgical ministry and faith formation activities. It’s no wonder that my love for parish life eventually brought me to full time parish ministry.

My working career started out in the teaching profession; even during those years of teaching, I found myself involved in parish life – at my home parish as well as at the parishes where I was teaching. When I had the opportunity to further my education, I chose the field of pastoral studies and in time found myself in a newly formed ministry of pastoral associate.

Who would have known that from a beginning where people weren’t sure who I was or why I was there, my ministry would blossom into one where I was with people at key moments of their lives: births, baptisms, sacramental celebrations, family gatherings, sickness, death. It was truly a growing experience for all of us – I learned how to minister day by day. But through it all, I discovered that presence was the most important aspect of my ministry. For me that happened week after week greeting people after each liturgy: being there just to say hello, or to chat about their week or their families, to talk about the events of the day. Each opportunity was an occasion to

meet people where they were and journey with them. It is a gift being with people ... and listening to them. In the prologue of the Rule of Benedict we are invited to “listen with the ear of the heart” - to be truly open to God and to the other. Listen with the ear of your heart:

- Listening when parents of a child with developmental disabilities are looking for a way for their child and family to feel a sense of belonging; and then with the support of the parish staff and the generosity and dedication of volunteer catechists, a special catechetical program was begun. It was a joy to see how a small group formed a loving community and brought with it this sense of being part of something bigger.

- Listening when a homeless person came looking for food for a few days; just something to “tide him” over as he waited for a job interview; and then rejoicing with him when he stopped in church one Sunday morning in gratitude for the help given and sharing the news that he had been hired.

- Listening as people were looking for something “more” in the parish- and inviting them to be more involved, to share their gifts and talents with the larger parish community. It was a venture in a new direction for some and with encouragement they began to take on more active roles in liturgy, in outreach, in parish social and spiritual life.

- Listening when people are craving to grow in their faith and offering opportunities for adult formation and bible study.

- Listening when people ask for prayers for a loved one; ask for someone to visit a sick parent or child; have questions or concerns or don’t understand something.

And though I didn’t and still don’t always have answers, people find comfort in just being heard and supported and cared for. It is a matter of walking with another and being a part of their journey, of learning with them and from them and realizing that God has entered my life though them.

The role of Pastoral Associate differs from parish to

parish – all depends on the needs of the parish. Though I had some specific tasks, things could change day by day. It is both exciting and challenging. I have learned that one cannot really plan one's day- for my agenda can quickly change or be adjusted to respond to a person's or a parish need.

Parish life has changed in many ways throughout the years. While parish was once the hub of peoples' lives, a more mobile society lessened the parish as center for some. But the core "idea" of parish still remains. There is something innately foundational about belonging; and parish is a place where one belongs. People may drift away but, in my experience, many times something draws them back. It could be the birth of a child, or a family crisis, or a death.

There is truly something inside them that calls them to return.

Now parishes are undergoing another transition – parishes are merging, unifying, and in some instances closing. In the Archdiocese of Chicago, this process is Renew My Church where the hope is to build a stronger church, one steeped in evangelization and invitation and participation. Yet the process is a painful one because change is not easy. Each parish has its own character and merging or closing means a loss of identity. It is hard to let go of the familiar and venture out into the unknown not only for the parishioners but also for the parish staff.

It takes time and energy and effort to recognize and honor what was and to somehow incorporate this into something new- to start new traditions; to refrain from speaking about "mine" and "yours" – and come to a place where it is "ours".

It is important to recognize the hurt, the pain, the reluctance, the resistance, and then walk together by taking slow, small steps to make something new; to encourage all to see the possibilities. And this takes presence and listening.

How does one prepare for the ministry of pastoral associate? Graduate studies were formational and educational and proved to be a wonderful background for this ministry. What I recognized as the most essential element was the sense of family. Growing up in a loving family with all its ins and outs formed the foundation; being part of my Benedictine family enhanced this value of family and both experiences further helped me to appreciate parish as family. What a blessing it is to be part of such loving families!

The life of a pastoral associate is not always in sync with Benedictine community life. Evening parish commitments often do not allow me to be home for evening

prayer and meals. It is a challenge to balance community and parish life. It is not a question of priority- both were important for I feel a vital part of both my community family and my parish family. Choices have to be made and there are times when I miss out on both sides.

My community has been and continues to be very supportive of me in my pastoral ministry. Their understanding of my varied schedule allows me the freedom to be present to my parish family. Their interest in what I am doing and what is happening in the parish speaks to me of their love, care, and concern. They rejoice with me in the good things; and most importantly they are present to me when I need a listening ear- offering comfort and

encouragement.

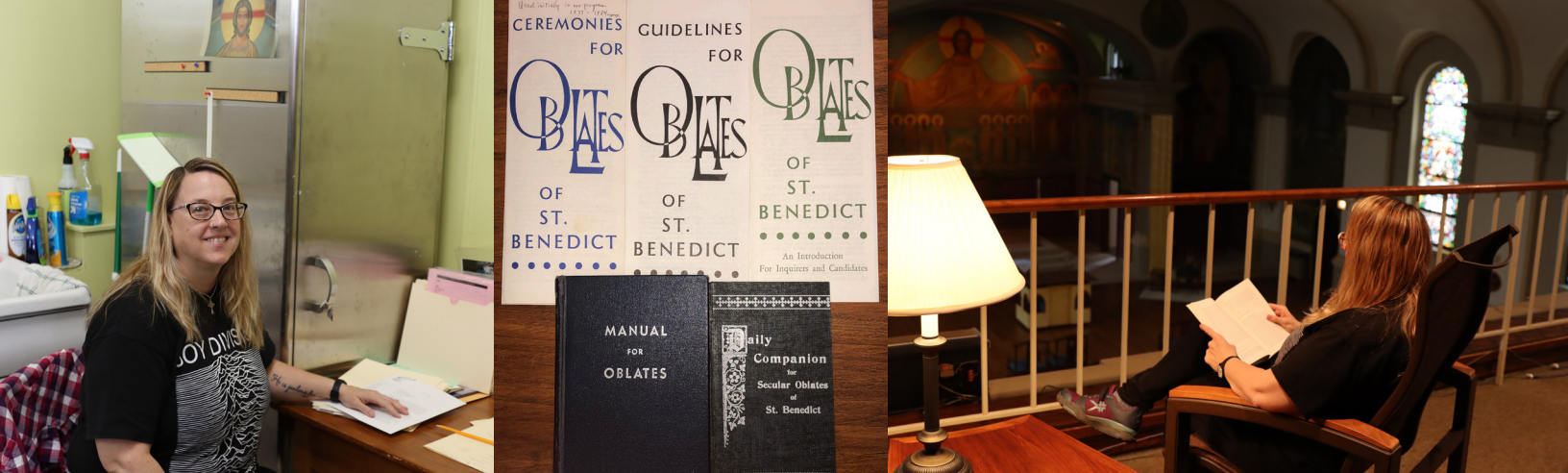
I am so very grateful to my community and to the members of the parish communities of which I have been a part. They continue to invite me to be who I am, to grow in faith and to serve our loving God as I am called.

"Parish life has changed in many ways throughout the years...But the core 'idea' of parish still remains. "

-Sister Kathleen Maloney, OSB



Various photos of Sister Kathleen Maloney, OSB as pastoral associate of St. Peter's (upper left pg. 8) during the annual St. Francis blessing of the animals, and hosting a Religious Ed. retreat. Above, page 9, Sister Kathleen is pictured with the STARS First Communion students from St. Monica and (bottom) with a STARS student at the baptism of his younger brother all at St. Monica.



(Continued from page 7).

I applied and was interviewed by S. Benita Coffey, who was so welcoming, encouraging, and faithful, and began my oblate journey in early 2002. I attended the monthly meetings as I was able, participated in retreats, and walked the labyrinth as often as I could. The lessons on the Rule of Benedict were food for my hungry soul. One of my favorite aspects of being an oblate was the invitation to spend time at the monastery.

I would spend a few hours at the monastery regularly. I was especially drawn to the chapel where I perch in the balcony surrounding myself with beauty and light to read my Bible, pray, journal, and meditate. Lunch with the sisters has always been a highlight and I consider myself blessed to have the privilege of sharing a meal and conversation with these incredible women. I have encountered Jesus in a unique way through the labyrinth and have led retreats at the Monastery and introduced others to Benedictinism. These times were precious to me and it is a profound and generous gift to be a part of the monastery for the last twenty years.

I felt the loss of community acutely during the last two years of Covid. Most of the first year my daughter, Phoenix, wasn't in school. Right after the quarantine was required we decided we would visit as many forest preserves as we could. Phoenix would peel off the bark off dead trees to find bugs underneath, use her butterfly net to catch frogs, and chase after snakes to grab them. I passed the time using an app called Seek that identified wildlife, plants, insects, and fungi. It rekindled my deep love of nature and the outdoors, filled me with wonder and curiosity, and led me to pursue more education about the natural world.

I found the Notebaert Nature Museum's Chicago Conservation Corps Sustainability Leadership course and dove right in. It ended up rekindling my love for nature, filled me with wonder, curiosity, and a longing to get involved with creation care as an outpouring of my love for our Creator God. Being in the woods felt a lot like being in the chapel balcony; it gave me space to breathe, contemplate, and soak up the beauty around me. I found peace and rest and felt closer to God there than anywhere else.

We learned about waste management, water systems, citizen science, recycling, circular economies, and more.

For the final assignment, C3 gave us \$250 towards a sustainability project in our neighborhood. My friend Laura and I decided to build a rooftop garden at Hannah House, one of the homeless shelters for women and children which Jesus People owns and operates. This project served an audience that is not often engaged in sustainability conversations and activities and presented an example of how we can be inclusive and far reaching in our efforts.

The Hannah House Hope Garden is an opportunity for families experiencing homelessness to access green space as a way to collaborate with others on a meaningful, measurable sustainability project, cultivate social capital as well as flowers, vegetables, native grasses, and pollinators, and activate a connection with the earth using basic gardening skills as a way to relieve stress and anxiety. The garden won the Painted Turtle Audience Engagement Award from the Notebaert Nature Museum.

The oblates are called on to volunteer for events or gatherings and are encouraged to serve the community. A need arose to assist Sister Virginia Jung as she organizes and prepares the Benedictine Sisters of Chicago archives dating back to the mid-1800s and I jumped at the chance to help preserve this distinguished history. I enjoy categorization, classification, and bringing order from chaos and was excited by the opportunity to get to know the influential story of the monastery and the timeline of the sisters in a broader context.

For my first archives project I prepared finding aids on the history of the oblate program, which are partially available for research. My favorite discoveries were a copy of *The Daily Companion for Secular Oblates of St. Benedict* published in 1941, a *Manual for Oblates* from 1956 that belonged to Gertrude Hentges, mother of Sister Joan Hentges, who was an oblate of Holy Cross Abbey in Cañon City, Colorado, and pamphlets from 1977 with instructions and guidelines for oblates as well as a handbook for ceremonies.

(Continued on page 11).

Since 1861 St. Scholastica Monastery's faithful contributions to inclusive, equitable education and fighting poverty, racism, war, and injustice have been a bright beacon in Chicago and beyond. I am honored and blessed to be a small thread woven into the exquisite tapestry that is the Benedictine Sisters of Chicago.

Benedictine Oblate Tammy Perlmutter (left) pictured working in the Archives and instructions and guidelines for oblates (middle) as well as a handbook for ceremonies Tammy discovered in her research in the archives. Tammy seated (right) taking time to read and reflect in peace and quiet in the balcony of the St. Scholastica Chapel.

St. Scholastica Academy



Join us for
Reunion 2022

September 17-18

www.osbchicago.org/reunion

In Memoriam

St. Scholastica Academy, Chicago

Jane Marie Smith (1944)
Ann Marie McGrath Dee (1945)
Mary Jo Bornhofen Wiltgen (1946)
Patricia Anne Olson Dolan (1949), sister of deceased Margaret Olson Forrest ((1950)
Lois M. Malone Guerin (1949), sister of Arlene Malone Behrndt (1952)
Jacqueline Ferrone Labahn (1949)
Martha Houle Tomashek (1949) (*10/26/2020)
Jane Ward Moris (1952) (*4/3/2020)
Homer Gonzalez (*2/1/2020), husband of Ruth Freres Gonzalez (1953) and father of AnaMaria Gonzalez (1975)
Alex Joseph Pritscher, grandson of Catherine Golden Pritscher (1953)
Therese Byrne Schuentman (1953)
Nancy Laura Witte Stuercke (1953)
Mary Ellen Graham Walsh (1953)
Evilin B. Lyons McHugh (1954), sister of deceased Nancy Lyons Byrne (1953)
Mary Anne Liske Woodcock (1954), sister of deceased Eleanor Langton (1958), Beatrice Liske Finn (1960), and Rita Liske Steiner (1966)
Barbara Stineman Murphy (1955), sister of Susan Stineman Endre (1956) and deceased Janet Stineman Valtierra (1970)
George Courtney, husband of Patricia Cowhey (1955)
Sheila Colleran Clerkin (1956)
Maryann Jago Cristante (1957)
Christa L. Carl Knechtel (1957)
Anna Marie Merryman Madeksho (1957) (*11/26/2021)
Dennis Carlson, husband of Sharon Ladner Carlson (1959) (*8/8/2021)
Susan May Davis Vigil (1959) Sister of Sr. Victoria Davis SSA '65
Kevin Cogan, husband of Maureen Smith Cogan (1960)
David Marion Green, brother of Therese Green (1961)

Mary Kay Cullen Olsen (1961), sister of deceased Barbara Jan Cullen Varga (1954)
Thomas J. Bauer, son of Mary Roche Bauer (1962), nephew of Sheila K. Roche (1967)
Marilyn Sanders Majeri (1962), sister of Judith Sanders Geati (1956)
Rosemary Eileen McHugh, M.D. (1962)
Patrick Kenneth Murray, husband of Sheryl Schuett Murray (1962)
Mary-Lynne Doetsch Trendler (1962) (*7/3/2012)
Richard M. Ziemba, brother of Cathy Ziemba (1962), Patricia Ziemba (1968), Janet Ziemba Parker (1972), and Susan Ziemba Woloszyk (1977)
Robert R. Stowe, husband of Delia Brady Stowe (1963)
Geraldine Fogarty Bernacchi, mother of Gerrie Bernacchi Pretzel (1964) and Martha Bernacchi Olivier (1965)
Carolyn N. Pretzel, daughter of Gerrie Bernacchi Pretzel (1964) and niece of Martha Bernacchi Olivier (1965)
Elaine Beaulieu, mother of Cynthia Beaulieu (1965) and Kathleen Beaulieu (1972)
Francine VanMensbrugge Bauer (1967) (*2/2021)
Lauretta M. Burke (1967) (*9/3/2019)
Bonnie Mielczarek Bush (1967)
Monica Luby McDonough (1967) (*4/21/2018)
Tommy Weston, husband of Virginia Burnell Weston (1967)
Mary Fisher Hames (1968)
Dorothy Thornton Menze (1968), sister of Kathy Thornton Fergus (1963) and Mary Beth Thornton Balcarcel (1977)
Gregory D. Buchberger, husband of Christella Killeen Buchberger (1969), brother-in-law of Mary Killeen Nahser (1958) and Rita A. Killeen (1967)
Noreen B. Clohisy, mother of Nora Jean Clohisy Norkus (1970)
John Evans Hopkins, husband of Jacqueline Minwengen Hopkins (1970)
Karen Elizabeth Staib Duffy (1971), sister of Brenda Staib Dwyer (1976) and Maria Staib Clark (1982)

Helen Melle Derengowski (1972) (*6/26/2018)
Adriana Zic Groeling (1972) (*5/18/2015)
Patricia Lanahan Hardy (1972) (*4/12/2020)
Rosemary Favaro Mete (1972) (*11/2/2020)
Elizabeth Roman Szramek (1972) (*7/29/2014)
Hildegard Yauch Teufel (1972) (*4/17/2020)
Rose Fohr, mother of Maria Fohr Moreno (1973)
Mary Ellen McCluskey Marra (1973), sister of Kathy McCluskey Eggert (1975)
Pamela McKay Nikitow (1973)
Judith Lakowski Ordonez (1976) (*5/28/2021), sister of Nancy Lakowski Thomson (1978)
Robert Bruce Rattenbury, father of Ruth Rattenbury (1976), Jeanne Rattenbury Grove (1979), Margaret Rattenbury (1981) and Theresa Rattenbury (1983)
Patricia Ann Messbarger, mother of Rebercca Messbarger (1979) and Rachel Messbarger (1982)
Paul M. Knuerr, husband of Eileen McKenna Knuerr (1981)
Deborah Tekdogan, DDS (1982), sister of Suzan Tekdogan Maddox (1980) and Dr. Sherrie Tekdogan MacLean (1983)
Melody Douglas-Tate, mother of Cassandra Tate Worrick (1998)
James L. "Jim" Johnston, grandfather of Margaret Johnston (2014)

St. Scholastica Academy, Cañon City

Bridget Gallegos (1964), mother of Rozx Gallegos (1987) and sister of Rebecca Gallegos (1982)
Cristina Araujo (1990) (*6/6/2021)

The above represents notices received November 2, 2020- June 11, 2021.

** Denotes that death was prior to November 2, 2020 but we received notice of their death in the last several months.*

26th Annual Testimonial Dinner and Awards

Thank you!

Gold Sponsors

Jenny and Nick Semaca

Silver Sponsors

Rev. Albert Adamich

British Infant School

Eileen and Gordon Fitch

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Mike and Mary Maloney

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Rosemary and Leonard Palicki

Daniel J. Raven and Wencke Braathen

Kathleen and William Riordan

Joanne Rooney

Patricia L. Shaw

Timothy and Elizabeth Uligian



Spirit of St. Benedict Awardee, Jerome McDonell with Prioress, Judith Murphy, OSB in the St. Scholastica Chapel following his lecture, Great Lakes Conservation held on May 1st, 2022.



Spirit of St. Scholastica Awardees, Sister Pat Coughlin, OSB, Sister Mary Melady, OSB, and Sister Rita Nowak, OSB, also known as the "green team" for the Monastery. Ecological Conservation is at the forefront of their work.

Copper Spoonors

Janet Cullen Abowd
Alfred and Amy Avakian
Charlene O'Donnell Baizer
Rev. James Barrett
Doris Hoyle Batt
Kathleen Beaulieu and James Peterson
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Patricia and John J. Coffey III
Peter J. Coffey and Molly Cavanaugh
Tom V. Crowley
Peggy and Ken Cunniff
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Marta E Maso
Maureen Garrity McCarthy
Kathleen Minogue McDaniel
Pilar Meyers

Carlotta Miller
Mary E. and James E. Morstadt
Helen Murtaugh
Timothy J. and Janet F. Murtaugh
Kathlyn Myers
Marilyn Oettringer
Siobhan O'Neill Meluso
and Edgar Andres Meluso
Edward and Maryjo Osowski
Mary Ellen and John Quinn
Renate Reichs
Jerry Rhea
Lizabeth Riggs
Madonna Rodgers McCutcheon
Dorothy Rosch
Jean Hellman Ryan
Mary Ryder-Marsden
Mary Beth Schulien
Robert J. Schwendau
Patricia Scott
Ruth French Sender
Jeanine M. and Dean N. Silas
Nancy Sheila Simonian
Mark and Donna Smith
Thomas and Gladys Smith
Michael Solazzo
Elizabeth Speziale
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Anita Thies
James and Jean Welter
Arthur and Rosemary Whiteside
Iva Williams
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Kimberly Borchers Jockl
Tim Johnson Landscaping, Inc.
Judith Kennedy
Rita Killean
Janice and John Mayr
Marianne Littau and Jean O'Keefe
Kathleen and Richard Pfleeger
Mary Ellen and John Quinn
Theresa Randall
Mary Beth Schulien
Robert and Katherine Sherman
Arthur and Rosemary Whiteside



The Benedictine Sisters of Chicago held the Annual Cash Raffle drawing on June 8th, in lieu of the 26th Annual Testimonial Dinner which was cancelled with an abundance of caution as the Covid-19 cases continue to rise in Chicagoland. Congratulations to all of the winners! We are grateful for all who participated.

Prayer Ministry

We remember you in our daily prayers.

The following represents Memorial and Special Occasion prayer requests
from November 1, 2021- June 7, 2022

Memorials

In memory of deceased members of the Class
of 1953

Susan McMahon O'Neill

In memory of "Anne"

Judy Joy

In memory of Cristina Araujo

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

In memory of Marguerite O'Brien Bailey

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

In memory of Louis and Genevieve Balkin

Charlene Balkin

In memory of Alice Barnhart

Judith Borchers

In memory of Thomas Bauer

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

Francine O'Connor

In memory of Elaine Beaulieu

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

Lynn Blie Brand

Margaret Gibbons

Ken and Helen (Paspalas) Rubenstein

In memory of Bill Beckmann

Thomas and Elizabeth Kneesel

In memory of Daniel Bergman

Patricia Sacco

In memory of Geraldine Fogarty Bernacchi

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

Janet and Frank Parrilli

Geraldine (Gerrie) Pretzel

In memory of Aldo Bottalla

Siobhan O'Neill Meluso and Edgar Meluso

In memory of Patricia Ann Born

Kathleen Krieger and family of Patricia Ann
Born

In memory of Joe Bottalla

Siobhan O'Neill Meluso and Edgar Meluso

In memory of Robert Joseph Braasch, Sr.

Virginia Braasch

In memory of deceased members of the Brizz
Family

Carole Broadbent

In memory of deceased members of the
Broadbent Family

Carole Broadbent

In memory of Gregory D. Buchberger

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

Mary and Ron Nahser

Mimi Meeker Wherfel

In memory of Jim Buffa

Judith Borchers

In memory of Barbara Bulla

Teresa and Richard Brown

In memory of Barbara Krasovic Burkhart

Willamae Vinci

In memory of Mildred DeVic Burns

Celeste Sullivan

In memory of Evelyn H. Burris

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

In memory of Bonnie Mielczarek Bush

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

In memory of Barbara Campbell-Stinneford

Dennis LaLiberty

In memory of Bud and Marisa Carlson

Diane Huntington

In memory of Dennis Carlson

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

Sharon Ladner Carlson

In memory of Dorothy Ann Clarke

Judith Borchers

In memory of Hunter J. Clemons and Ann Marie
Clemons

The Tysiak family

In memory of Sheila Colleran Clerkin

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

In memory of Noreen B. Clohisy

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

In memory of Joan Coffey

Edward and Mary Coffey

In memory of deceased members of the Coffey
and Sweeney families

Edward and Mary Coffey

In memory of Kevin Cogan

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

Judith Graf

Mary Jo Graf

Dan and Margaret Henrick

John and Kay Kyle

Mrianne Littau and Jean O'Keefe

Ly Family

Barbara Lynch

Lisa Lyon

Lorianne McGuire

Ann Cannon Miller

Al and Eileen Samuelson

Donald Sprague

Barbara and Jerry Thompson

In memory of Marilyn Considine

Laura Hehemann

In memory of Nancy Nolan Cooper

Barbara and Kenneth Cooper

In memory of Jack and Mary Corrigan

Michael and Mary Noonan

In memory of Joseph Cotteleer

Marilyn Cotteleer

In memory of George Courtney

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

Patricia Cowhey

Alicia and Myron Resnick

Al and Eileen Samuelson

In memory of Kathleen Cowley

Francine O'Connor

In memory of James Crean

Sister Frances Crean, R.S.M.

In memory of Maryann Jago Cristante

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

Kathy Statz Rees

In memory of Pat and Patty Crowley

Mary Ann and Gary Kono

In memory of Patrick Crowley

Judith Borchers

Nancy Bryers and Sandra Slifer

Gladys Paul

In memory of Richard J. Cullen

Margaret Cullen

In memory of Joseph Davis

Sister Judith Zonsius, OSB

In memory of Ann Marie McGrath Dee

Patricia Ballard

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

In memory of Al and Pearl Delacoma

Marguerite Delacoma

In memory of Maria Demos

Kathy G. Walsh

In memory of Barbara Ann Cassidy De Smet

Harry De Smet

In memory of Leo Devarenne

Suzanne Devarenne

In memory of Patricia Olson Dolan

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

Madonna Rodgers McCutcheon

In memory of Melody Douglas-Tate

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

In memory of Dolores Dries

Ann Fink

In memory of Karen Elizabeth Staib Duffy

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

In memory of Carolyn Fields

Nga-Ting Sin

In memory of Cynthia J. Halpin Fairchild

John Fairchild

In memory of Lee Anne Farrell, SSND

Mary Kay Farrell Reis

In memory of Rita Fischer

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

In memory of Rose Fohr

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

Prayer Ministry - November 1, 2021 - June 7, 2022

In memory of deceased members of the Fortman family
Janet Gengler
In memory of Loretta Gallagher
Th Gallagher Family
In memory of Bridget Gallegos
Benedictine Sisters of Chicago
In memory of Sister Joan Gannon, OSB
Ellen Ward
In memory of Barbara McDonough Gauer
Nancy Huber
In memory of Stanley Gersick and Mary Gersick
Barbara Greenwood
In memory of Sister Joyce Gleeson, OSB
Suzanne Walsh
In memory of Rabbi Douglas Goldhamer, PhD
Sister Susan Kilduski, OSB
In memory of Homer Gonzalez
AnaMaria Gonzalez
Ruth Freres Gonzalez
In memory of Ralph E. Graybill
Marilyn Graybill
In memory of David Marion Green
Benedictine Sisters of Chicago
Joe Green
Catherine Heck
Teresa McCartin
Thomas Mueller, Susan Ruscheinsky and family
Art and Margie Seyler (nee Henry)
Cecilia Wilson
In memory of Kenneth Green
Barbara Green
In memory of Lois Malone Guerin
Benedictine Sisters of Chicago
In memory of Kathryn Lucretia Guthrie
Sister Hilary Halpin, OSB
Ruth Lochner
In memory of Doris Haas
Julie Scheuring
In memory of Joseph Haas
Sister Judith Zonsius, OSB
In memory of Erica Hall
Benedictine Sisters of Chicago
In memory of Mary Fisher Hames
Benedictine Sisters of Chicago
In memory of Genevieve Hane
Kathryn and Jeffrey Caudill
In memory of Robert Hangartner
Barbara Windsor
In memory of Sister Mariella Hathorn, OSB
Mary Jo and David Lanzel
In memory of Sister Jeanne Hegarty, OSB
Mike Hegarty and Kristi Arellano
In memory of Neal D. Helsel
Ann M. Helsel
In memory of Sister Eleanore Hillenbrand, OSB
Mary Jane and Michael Cole

Dennis LaLiberty
In memory of John Evans Hopkins
Benedictine Sisters of Chicago
Katherine Gehrke
In memory of Ken Hoppensteadt
Eileen and Michael Moorman
In memory of Harriet Hull
Thomas and Elizabeth Kneesel
In memory of Sheila Hulseman
Paul J. Hulseman
In memory of Florence E. Hurter
Arthur Hurter
In memory of Connie Jersin
Patricia Jersin
In memory of Paul Jewitt
Louise Jewett
In memory of James L. "Jim" Johnston
Benedictine Sisters of Chicago and Oblates
In memory of Martina H. Kalalo
Norma Aleta
In memory of Marshall V. Kearney IV
Michael and Mary Noonan
In memory of Donna Keating
Steve and Pam Hillenbrand
In memory of Ann Marie McDonnell Keenan
Mary and Michael Zonsius
In memory of Martin Kellner
Francine O'Connor
In memory of Mary Arrowood Kennedy
Mary Ann Jewell
In memory of Anne Marie Kenter
William Kenter
In memory of Christa L. Carl Knechtel
Benedictine Sisters of Chicago
In memory of Paul M. Knuerr
Benedictine Sisters of Chicago
In memory of Walter and Gena Kozlowski
Cynthia Bachmann
In memory of Joseph Krasovic
Kathy and Judy Kochevar
In memory of Jacqueline Ferrone Labahn
Benedictine Sisters of Chicago
Carlotta Ferrone Gonzales
In memory of Richard "Dick" Lee
Kelly Lee Steinhauer
In memory of Theresa Leighton
Benedictine Sisters of Chicago
In memory of Katherine Lerps
Angela Schrimpl Oldershaw
Rev. Robert Oldershaw
In memory of Mary Lerps
Angela Schrimpl Oldershaw
Rev. Robert Oldershaw
In memory of Patty Lochner
Sister Hilary Halpin, OSB
In memory of Asteria Lolerg
Nomma Aleta

In memory of Sister Catherine Lynch, OSB
Virginia Braasch
In memory of Margaret Duffy Lynn
Francine L. O'Connor
In memory of Anna Marie Merryman
Madeksho
Benedictine Sisters of Chicago
In memory of Marilyn Sanders Majeri
Benedictine Sisters of Chicago
In memory of Donald Malina
Mary Claire Cadieux
In memory of Dan Maloney
Judith Borchers
In memory of Sister Victoria Marconi, OSB
Steven Vatch
In memory of Louis L. Marino
Siobhan O'Neill Meluso and Edgar Meluso
In memory of Mary Ellen McCluskey Marra
Benedictine Sisters of Chicago
In memory of Marianne Leto Maslek
Rita Vega
In memory of Jim Martin
Judith Borchers
In memory of Sister Barbara McCarry, OSB
Mary Ann (Sharp) Agee
Benedictine Sisters of Chicago
Andrea Ciccone
Jerry, Erin, Anthony and Annie DeSimone
Mary Kay Dougherty
Katherine (Kitty) Gehrke
Marilyn Graybill
Dolores Keating
Ann Cannon Miller
Rev. Robert Oldershaw
Brian and Wanda Pabich
Barbara and Robert Perkaus
Jim Sharp
Jeanine and Dean Silas
Nancy Tomz
Mary Carol Vanecko
Dr. and Mrs. Robert Vanecko and family
In memory of Evie McEwan
Benedictine Sisters of Chicago
In memory of Evilin B. McHugh
The Loving Members of the SSA Alumnae Board
Marilyn Ballard
Benedictine Sisters of Chicago
Alicia Resnick
In memory of Jeff Marsh
Elizabeth Marsh
In memory of Jim Martin
Judith Borchers
In memory of Victor Martinez
Francine O'Connor
In memory of Rosemary Eileen McHugh, M.D.
Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

Prayer Ministry - November 1, 2021 - June 7, 2022

In memory of Margaret McGill
Bridget McGill
In memory of Dorothy Thornton Menze
Benedictine Sisters of Chicago
Patricia Justice
In memory of Thomas and Mary Meskel
Sister Hilary Halpin, OSB
In memory of Patricia Ann Messbarger
Benedictine Sisters of Chicago
In memory of Sister Mercedes Moore, OSB
Dennis LaLiberty
In memory of David Moorman
Wayne and Peg Wagner
In memory of Jane Ward Moris
Benedictine Sisters of Chicago
In memory of Richard Mundt
Dolores Mundt
In memory of Barbara Stineman Murphy
Benedictine Sisters of Chicago
Maureen Quinn
In memory of Margaret Schriver Murphy
Kathie Murphy Anderson
In memory of Frances Murray
Edward and Mary Coffey
In memory of deceased members of the Francis J. Murray family
Ann C. Murray
In memory of Patrick Kenneth Murray
Benedictine Sisters of Chicago
Kathy Janessa
In memory of Marie Mutz
Sister Susan Remsgar, OSB
In memory of William J. Nemanich
Family of his brother, Joseph A. Nemanich
In memory of Ronald J. Nemchausky
Benedictine Sisters of Chicago
In memory of Jane Neuhaus
Genevieve Delana
In memory of Richard Niemi
Mary Jean Niemi
In memory of Pamela McKay Nikitow
Benedictine Sisters of Chicago
In memory of Patricia Noonan
Kathy and Bob Murray
In memory of Terry O'Brien
Greg O'Brien
In memory of Ann E. O'Donnell
Benedictine Sisters of Chicago
In memory of John Oldershaw
Rev. Robert Oldershaw
Angela Schrimpl Oldershaw
In memory of David Olivier
Margaret and Dan Henrick
Marlene S. Senesch
In memory of Mary Kay Cullen Olsen
Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

In memory of Rev. John L. O'Malley, S.J.
Joanne O'Malley Kelly
In memory of William and Joan Ruppe O'Malley
Joanne O'Malley Kelly
In memory of Judith Lakowski Ordonez
Benedictine Sisters of Chicago
Nancy Thomson
In memory of Sister Mary Ann O'Ryan, OSB
Angela Schrimpl Oldershaw
In memory of Gino Pasquinielli
Joanne Spata
In memory of Aileen Pelrine
Judith Borchers
In memory of Paul Pennacchio
Teresa and Richard Brown
In memory of Edmund A. Perse
Margaret Cullen
In memory of Mary Gersick Perse
Margaret Cullen
In memory of Peter A. Perse, Jr.
Margaret Cullen
In memory of Carolyn N. Pretzel
Benedictine Sisters of Chicago
Martha Olivier
Gerrie Pretzel
In memory of Alex Joseph Pritscher
Catherine Golden Pritscher
In memory of George Radacy
Susan Ernst
In memory of David Radler, Sr.
Virginia Radler
In memory of Rosie Randle
Class of 1961
Judith Alexander
Danuta Bajda
Sharon Bordui
Catherine (Kitty) Nagler
Brian and Wanda Pabich
Catherine and Harry Riley
In memory of Robert Bruce Rattenbury
Benedictine Sisters of Chicago
In memory of deceased members of the Rhodes family
Joseph L. Rhodes
In memory of Sister Clement Marie Riva, OSB
Judith DePasquale
In memory of Sharon Rodie
Susan Ernst
In memory of Mary Christine Roman
Shirlee and Raymond Pasko
In memory of Charles Romey
Benedictine Sisters of Chicago
Siobhan O'Neill Meluso and Edgar Meluso
In memory of Harold W. Rupell
Siobhan O'Neill Meluso and Edgar Meluso
In memory of Carmen Santiago
Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

In memory of Maureen Gibbons Sadowski
Carol Manning Thompson
In memory of Sister Johnette Sawyer, OSB
Marilyn Graybill
Michele Smith (Mickey)
In memory of Sister Mildred Scheetz, OSB
Annette Scheetz
In memory of Sister Mary Frances Schermerhorn, OSB
Edward and Mary Coffey
Patricia Hartmann
Brian and Wanda Pabich
In memory of Michael J. Schermerhorn
Benedictine Sisters of Chicago
In memory of Charles T. Schmit
Benedictine Sisters of Chicago
Marynell and Frank Mayfield
In memory of Kathleen Schrimpl
Angela Schrimpl Oldershaw
In memory of Robert Devine Schriver
Sister Judith Zonsius, OSB
In memory of Therese Schueneman
Benedictine Sisters of Chicago
In memory of Jane Marie Smith
Benedictine Sisters of Chicago
Joann Poplar
In memory of Luella M. Smith
Phil Smith
In memory of Robert R. Stowe
Benedictine Sisters of Chicago
In memory of Douglas Streff
Nancy Slagg
In memory of Nancy Witte Stuercke
Benedictine Sisters of Chicago
Jean Dolan
Carol Manning Thompson
In memory of Bernice Szostak
Angela Dunaway
David M. Szostak
In memory of Jean Tate
Patricia Martin
In memory of Preston Taverna
Benedictine Sisters of Chicago
Mimi Meeker Wherfel
In memory of Deborah Tekdogan, DDS
Benedictine Sisters of Chicago
In memory of Terese Mulkern Terry
John Terry
In memory of Donald Thompson
Sister Kathleen Maloney, OSB
Marguerite Thompson
In memory of Martha Houle Tomashek
Benedictine Sisters of Chicago
In memory of Kazimerz Torba
Sister Judith Zonsius, OSB and Uncle Pete's Ministry
In memory of Sister Joanna Trapp, OSB

Prayer Ministry - November 1, 2021 - June 7, 2022

Dorothy and David McCarty
[In memory of Mary-Lynne Doetsch Trendler](#)
Benedictine Sisters of Chicago
[In memory of Jan Troy](#)
Judith Borchers
[In memory of Renato \(Ron\) Turano](#)
Joanne Spata
[In memory of Veronica, maternal grandmother of Kurt Vanderhoef](#)
Miranda Lukatch
[In memory of Susan May Davis Vigil](#)
Benedictine Sisters of Chicago
Family of Susan May Davis Vigil
[In memory of Mary Ellen Graham Walsh](#)
Jean Redenski Dolan
Ann McMahon Metzger
[In memory of Virginia Leah Wands](#)
Benedictine Sisters of Chicago
[In memory of James Ward](#)
Jackie LeSanche and John LeSanche
[In memory of Rick Wenger](#)
Margaret Clarke
[In memory of Tom Weston](#)
Benedictine Sisters of Chicago
Nancy Butler Slagg
[In memory of Roland Wilson](#)
Patricia Hartmann
[In memory of Mary Jo Wiltgen](#)
Benedictine Sisters of Chicago
[In memory of Mary Anne Liske Woodcock](#)
Benedictine Sisters of Chicago
Cecile and James Mikulski
[In memory of Sister Anna Wrenn, OSB](#)
Michael Joseph Wrenn
[In memory of Father Michael Wulsch](#)
Sam and Lou Alog
Anonymous
Carole Chambers
Mary Pat Collins
Therese Dokman
FIL-AM Club of St. Peter Church, Skokie, IL
Gloria Frett
Mario and Neny Chy Gotanco
Gloria Gualberto
Mark and Joan Harris
Linda Herrick
Fernando and Teresita Jatco
Carol Lyons
Nanette Mayer
Mary Melone
Jen Nguyen
Imelda Sanedrin
Margaet Schramm and the Roque family
Mary Sebastian
Lawrence and Virginia Stasica
Margarite Thompson
Fernando and Julieta Tolentino
Lauro Villegas

[In memory of Raymond Wulsch](#)
Sister Kathleen Maloney, OSB
[In memory of John Yena](#)
Kathryn Andres
Barbara Bencur
Dave and Judy Hinni Berg and family
Joseph and Julie Bocian
Colleen and Joseph Brosnan
James and Amy Casey
Thomas and Margaret Cunningham
John and Erin DiCapo
Deborah Dixon
Lisa Dombro
Caitlin Drzewiecki
Patricia Green
Elizabeth and Steven Hahn
Robert and Karen Koncel
Linda Meyers
Kathy and Darryl Owens
Carrie Page
Mary Ann Polivka
Jeanne Potokar
Matthew Pusatera
Laura and Rick Smith, The McGrath/Smith family
Richard and Rosemarie Stanek
Mary and William Thonn
Karen Tiemann
Billy Treece
Mary Yena
Phyllis and Richard Yena
[In memory of Louis J. Zember](#)
Raymond and Patricia Erjavec
[In memory of Sister Mildred Zember, OSB](#)
Raymond and Patricia Erjavec
[In memory of Richard M. Ziemba](#)
Benedictine Sisters of Chicago
Janet Ziemba Parker
[In memory of Peter Zonsius](#)
Mary Lou and John Waechter
Barbara Zonsius
[In memory of Sister Suzanne Zuercher, OSB](#)
Virginia Braasch
Kathleen McChesney
Sylvia Rdzak
David and Claudia Zuercher
Joseph Zuercher, Jr. and Julie Zuercher

Special Occasions

[In honor of James H. Berger](#)
Jim Berger
[In honor of Deacon John Chavez on his ordination to the Permanent Diaconate in Pueblo, CO on August 6, 2021](#)
Sister Susan Remsgar, OSB
[In honor of Sister Benita Coffey, OSB](#)
Samantha Voxakis

[In honor of Sister Benita Coffey, OSB on her 70th Jubilee and 90th birthday](#)
Ellen M. Schuller
[In honor of Sister Patricia Coughlin](#)
Denise E. Coughlin and Ralph Levy III
Mike Hogan
[In honor of Sister Patricia Coughlin for her generosity in sharing her knowledge of dreams every month on Tuesdays at 3 pm.](#)
Anita Thies
[In honor of Sister Patricia Crowley, OSB](#)
Edward and Mary Jo Osowski
[In honor of Sister Marilyn Hattrup, OSB on her 60th Jubilee](#)
Andrea Ciccone
[In honor of Sister Hilary Halpin, OSB](#)
Michael Kneafsey
Sharon Wang
[In honor of Ann and Neal Helsel's 53rd wedding anniversary](#)
Ann M. Helsel
[In honor of Sister Margaret Ann Holtz, OSB on her 70th Jubilee](#)
Andrea Ciccone
[In honor of Sister Vivian Ivantic, OSB on her 108th birthday](#)
Carol Czapar
[In honor of Sister Vivian Ivantic, OSB](#)
Edward and Carol Finnegan
[In honor of Patricia and Charles Lagges' 50th wedding anniversary](#)
Patricia Pruitt
[In honor of Sister Kathleen Maloney, OSB](#)
Gilbert and Eugenia Krebill
[In honor of Sister Kathleen Maloney, OSB and her work at St. Peter Parish](#)
Margaret Schramm
[In gratitude for Sister Kathleen Maloney's dedication and friendship](#)
Mary Pat Collins
[In honor of John McGill](#)
Bridget McGill
[In honor of Sister Mary Melady, OSB](#)
Annette Dluger
[In honor of Sister Mary Melady, OSB for the 2022 Spirit of St. Scholastica Award](#)
Jenny and Nick Semaca
[In honor of Sister Belinda Monahan, OSB](#)
Robert and Lorraine Henry
[In honor of Carolyn Murphy](#)
Anonymous
[In honor of Sister Judith Murphy, OSB](#)
Jackie LeSanche
[In honor of Sister Judith Murphy, OSB on her 60th Jubilee](#)
Andrea Ciccone
[In honor of Rosemary Palicki](#)
Kathy Riordan

Prayer Ministry - November 1, 2021 - June 7, 2022

In honor of Joanne Rooney
Patrick and Kathleen Rooney
In honor of my siblings birthdays
Jeanne Stanton
In honor of the Sisters (Sister Adelaide,
Sister Sheila, Sister Joanna, Sister Clare,
Sister Mary Thomas and Sister Stanislaus) who taught Susan Reilly at St. Lamberts School in Skokie, IL
Susan and Tom Reilly
In honor of OSB Sisters who served at St. George Parish
Joseph L. Rhodes
In honor of Sister Jane Smith, OSB
Marian and Timothy Briggs
In honor of Barbara Ann Willis Stryker
Mary Willis
In honor of Jennifer Walter
Adam Rom
In honor of Sister Margarita Walters, OSB on her 25th Jubilee
Andrea Ciccone
In honor of Sister Judith Zonsius, OSB
Jackie LeSanche
In honor of Linda Zienty on her birthday
Kathy Riordan

If you have a loved one that you would like the Sisters to remember in prayer, please share their names with us via the envelope provided in this newsletter.



Other ways to Partner with us in Mission

Pray for the Benedictine Community

Please keep the Sisters, Oblates, Alumnae, and friends in your prayers. Your prayer support helps sustain us!

Become a Monthly Donor

Automatic monthly donations are an easy way to support the Sisters. To learn more about making donations directly from your checking account or credit card, please contact us.

Matching Gifts

Many employers sponsor matching gift program that match, double, or even triple any charitable contributions that their employees make. Consider asking your Human Resources Department.

Donor-Advised Fund DAF

As a registered 501(c)(3) charity, the Benedictine Sisters of Chicago are legally able and truly grateful to accept your thoughtful donation through your Donor-Advised Fund.

IRA Charitable Rollover

A deeply appreciated donation and a major tax benefit all in one! If you are 70 ½ plus, you can make a transfer directly from your IRA to the Benedictine Sisters of Chicago. This gift will not only save you tax on the donation you transfer, but it also counts toward your required minimum distribution.

Appreciated Stock

Your kindness through the donation of stocks will not only help support the Sisters, but may also lower your Capital Gains Taxes.

Memorial Gifts

Families may choose to name the Benedictine Sisters of Chicago as their preferred recipient for a memorial tribute, instead of flowers. Pre-printed envelopes are available for use at the funeral home.

Memorial Card

At your request, a lovely card can be sent to the bereaved, expressing your sympathy and notifying them that a donation was made in memory of their loved one.

Celebration or In Honor of Someone Special

A thoughtful gift for the person who has everything; a donation in their honor to the Sisters. Or, you may consider stating, "In lieu of gifts, a donation to the Benedictine Sisters of Chicago may be made". An acknowledgment card on your behalf will be sent to the honoree.

Legacy Society

More than just a legal document, your will is a testament to your life's work, your values and your beliefs. The Benedictine Sisters of Chicago would be honored to be remembered as a part of your legacy.

Of course all donors, deceased loved ones, and honorees will be listed in *Sacro Speco* and remembered daily in the Sisters' prayers.

Questions? Contact Joanne Spata, Director of Development, at 773-764-2413, ext. 233.

Deepest gratitude to the Bernard Heerey Family Foundation for their generous support of our Elder Sisters!

In Memory of...

Richard 'Dick' Heidkamp

May 9, 1931 - March 12, 2022

Both Dick and his twin brother Donald (Don) Heidkamp, became fond of the Benedictine Sisters of Chicago, primarily through Sister Catherine Lynch, OSB, during their formative years at St. Hilary parish school. She was definitely one of their heroes. When they were honored at the Testimonial Dinner in 2001 for their commitment to the community and to social justice in general, they received the Spirit of St. Benedict Award. They had been masters of ceremony for testimonial dinners for many years. Over the years, both Heidkamp twins generously shared their fundraising skills and their more than life presence at many events for St. Scholastica Monastery.

Dick, particularly, was a vibrant presence during the days of the apostolic visitation and he was influential in the community becoming a part of the Chicago Religious Leadership Network (CRLN) through strongly encouraging Sister Patricia Crowley to join him on their board. Dedication to the Benedictine Sisters and to the causes of Social Justice marked the lives of Dick and Don Heidkamp. Don preceded Dick in death in 2017. We remember them both fondly and are grateful to them for their presence to the community for so long.

Evilin Lyons McHugh SSA Chicago '54 Alumnae

September 24, 1936 - April 16, 2022

Evilin, age 85, of Wilmette and formerly Kenilworth was the beloved wife of the late John J. McHugh and loving mother of Jack (Carolyn) McHugh, Bryan (Jenny) McHugh, Thomas Lyons McHugh, and Michael (Margy) McHugh. She was the proud grandmother of 8 grandchildren. We are grateful to '54 Alumna Evilin for her dedication to Benedictine values, most especially, hospitality, throughout her life. We remember her and thank her for initiating the St. Scholastica Academy, Chicago, Alumnae Board which helped raise money for the school and supported the students who needed scholarships.

Rev. Michael A. Wulsch

September 30, 1945-April 27, 2022

Ordained a priest May 10, 1972, Fr. Mike served the Archdiocese of Chicago at St. Catherine Labouré Parish, Glenview; Our Lady of the Ridge Parish, Chicago Ridge; St. Frances of Rome Parish, Cicero; St. Veronica Parish, Chicago; St. Monica Parish, Chicago; and St. Peter Parish, Skokie. Beloved son of the late Anthony and Pauline, née Viana; loving brother of Leonard (Sharon) and the late Raymond; dear uncle of Jodie and Dan; also survived by his caretakers and friends, Alan Velez and Sr. Kathy Maloney, OSB.

The Benedictine Sisters of Chicago
invite you to rejoice with them
in prayer

70th Jubilee of Profession
Sister Margaret Ann Holtz, OSB

60th Jubilee of Profession
Sister Judith Murphy, OSB
Sister Marilyn Hattrup, OSB

25th Jubilee of Profession
Sister Margarita Walters, OSB

Your Gifts Support our Elder Sisters



The Benedictine Sisters of Chicago, charter member of the St. Scholastica Federation marked 100 years with the Federation on Feb. 25, 2022.

Thanks to your prayers, donations, and well wishes, we are able not only to care for our elder Sisters' basic needs, but also provide a life of dignity that enriches their days in community. We are deeply grateful.



Benedictine Sisters of Chicago
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osbchicago.org

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A Thread in the Tapestry-My Twenty Years As A Benedictine Oblate

By Tammy Perlmutter
Begins p. 7