



Sacro Speco

Sacred Space

THE BENEDICTINE SISTERS OF CHICAGO MAGAZINE + SUMMER/FALL 2019



Wisdom from Travel

A Rich Experience of Pilgrimage
By Sister Benita Coffey, OSB
Begins p. 6

Summer/Fall Issue 2019, vol. XXX, no. 1



4 Sisters

Read the latest news from the monastery.

5 Oblates

News from Colorado.

8 Alumnae

Careers of Alumnae.

10 Spirituality

A Deeper Understanding of God
by Sister Belinda Monahan, OSB.

12 Friends

25th Annual Testimonial Dinner photos.

14 Prayer Ministry



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.

Editorial Staff:

Siobhan O'Neill Meluso smeluso@osbchicago.org

Joanne Spata jspata@osbchicago.org

St. Scholastica Monastery

7430 N. Ridge Blvd.

Chicago, IL 60645

773.764.2413

Website: osbchicago.org

Twitter: [/OSBChicago](https://twitter.com/OSBChicago)

Facebook: [/BenedictineSistersofChicago](https://www.facebook.com/BenedictineSistersofChicago)

Instagram: [Benedictine_Sisters_of_Chicago](https://www.instagram.com/Benedictine_Sisters_of_Chicago)

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 them to contact us with their current name and address. Thank you and enjoy this issue!

Letter from the Prioress



Sister Judith Murphy, OSB
Prioress

Dear Friends,

In the first word of the Rule of Benedict, we are enjoined to listen—to *listen with the ear of our heart*, to grow to *run in the way of God's commands*. Jesus came to teach us the law of love.

What are the needs and concerns that surround us? What can we know of the hopes and dreams, sufferings and joy of people and of peoples in our world? How do we bring openness and compassion to our prayer and work? There is much that calls for our attention. How can we be responsibly aware and informed? How can we be at peace with our own limits? Along with prayer and work, we are called to be lifelong learners.

Benedictine vision teaches us to respect and care for humanity by enlarging our awareness and concern for our world, near and far. The face and message of Jesus may come to us in the visitor to our home or in those farther away. Spirituality calls us to be contemplative in a world of action (Thomas Merton), or “... *you will either be a mystic (one who has experienced God for real) or nothing at all.*” (Karl Rahner). Today the balance we are called to is balance of prayer and work *and* lifelong learning.

In this present issue of *Sacro Speco* you hear of the travels of two of our Sisters that bring back to us experience that connects us with the larger world and informs our sense of compassion and concern for that larger world.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Judith Murphy, OSB".

Judith Murphy, OSB

Letters From You

ST. SCHOLASTICA MEMORIES

Dear Editor,
I am one of your few readers probably who remembers the mother superiors you featured in your recent issue back to Mother Imelda.

My English teacher, Sister Cecilia, told me once how much she admired Mother Imelda for completely ridding herself of any vestige of an accent. Sister Cecilia was so adamant about the extent of Mother Imelda's efforts that the story still pops into my brain eighty years later!

-Margery Rowbottom Frisbie
St. Scholastica Academy, Chicago '40

SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS

If you have a letter you would like to share here, please contact:

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



Monastery News

Bishop Mark Bartosic joined us to celebrate the Feast of St. Scholastica on Sunday, February 10th. Cardinal Cupich appointed Bishop Bartosic in July 2018; Bishops Bartosic, Robert Casey, and Ronald Hicks were consecrated in September 2018. Prior to his appointment, Bishop Bartosic served as Director of Kolbe House, the archdiocese's jail ministry. We appreciate Bishop Bartosic commemorating our patroness on her feast day!

The Benedictine Oblates of St. Scholastica monastery hosted a presentation of Sr. Christine Schenk, CSI's original research into iconic motifs of female authority found in early Christian art and archaeology. Sharing findings from her book *Crispina and Her Sisters: Women and Authority in Early Christianity*, Sr. Chris delivered an engaging lecture utilizing an interactive PowerPoint presentation. Following her presentation, Sr. Chris met with guests and signed copies of her book in the Community Room. Special thanks to Sr. Chris and the Oblates for making this event possible.

In March, to honor National Catholic Sisters Week, Vocation Minister Sister Belinda Monahan, OSB organized a "Movie in a Box" event in the Community Room. She premiered "Missions of Hope," a documentary about modern sisterhood that inspired important conversation amongst the Sisters and other guests. At the end of the month, Sister Pat Coughlin, OSB, hosted another one of her popular Dream Workshops. In late March, Sister Patricia Crowley, OSB traveled to London, England to attend the Monastic Muslim Dialogue: a week of dialogue between Muslims from Iran, Argentina, USA, and England and monastics from Belgium, Australia, England, USA, and Tanzania. Sister Patricia also delivered a talk ("Conversion in Monastic Life") to the attendees.

Sister Victoria Marconi, OSB, Sister Mariella Hathorn, OSB, and Nurse Jeannie Silas embarked on a memorable road trip! The voyage marked Sister Victoria's return to St. Joseph's, her prior home for seventy years and the nation's first Benedictine monastery. When Sister Victoria transferred her vows to St. Scholastica at the age of 91, she never knew whether she'd one day return to her beloved family and parishioners in St. Mary's, PA. Joined by her lifelong friend, Sister Mariella, and Nurse Jeannie, the three women embarked on an unforgettable road trip. Read more about their adventures on our blog: www.osbchicago.org

Our Lent was a spiritual journey through the desert, much like Jesus', and a welcome examination of our community history as we prepared for the Discernment Days and Election of Prioress April 25-29th. The community reelected Sister Judith Murphy, OSB to serve a second term as the 16th Prioress of St. Scholastica Monastery.

We celebrated the 11th World Labyrinth Day on May 4th as well as the 20th Anniversary of the building of the St. Scholastica Monastery Labyrinth. Regional Representative of the Labyrinth Society, Oblate Dan Raven shared the day with new and veteran Labyrinth walkers seeking peace. The closing ceremony was particularly picturesque. On Sunday of Memorial Day weekend, Social Justice Promoter Sister Benita Coffey, OSB served as liaison to the Chicago Police 24th District's "Faith and Action" event held on the track field of the Acero-Cruz (formerly St. Scholastica) school. The "Faith and Action" event was marked with lit candles and a show of solidarity, faith, and support, all in an effort to end national and international violence against houses of worship.

On Pentecost Sunday, June 9th, the Installation of Prioress Sister Judith Murphy, OSB was held in the St. Scholastica Chapel. Later that week, we hosted the 25th Annual Testimonial Dinner and Awards at Park Ridge Country Club. The dinner included a presentation of the Spirit of St. Benedict award which this year recognized those in our extended community who work to resolve immigration issues. Honorees included: Fr. Corey Brost, CSV, Sister Benita Coffey, OSB, Sister Patricia Crowley, OSB, Br. Michael Gosch, CSV, Rachel Heuman, Sister Mary Melady, OSB, and Oblate Kathlyn Smith Myers.

Sister Patricia Crowley, OSB, will relocate for one year to Namibia, Africa. There she will provide spiritual direction to the sisters in formation at the Tutzing Missionary Benedictine community beginning in August 2019.



During the Discernment Days we were facilitated by, Sister Mary Catherine Wenstrup, OSB (left) from St. Walburg Monastery. The President of the Federation of St. Scholastica Sister Lynn McKenzie, OSB from Sacred Heart Monastery (right) was also present to witness the reelection of Prioress Sister Judith Murphy, OSB (center).



Colorado Oblates gather in downtown Pueblo, CO. monthly for a Silent Peace Walk with Sister Mary Susan Remsgar, OSB (center).

Oblates News in Pueblo:

Peace Walks, Psalms Class, Easter collections, and more...

Our Oblates in Colorado have initiated a monthly Peace Walk along the River Walk in the heart of Pueblo, CO. This 30 minute single file Peace Walk, held the second Sunday of every month, encourages silent meditation and awareness of God's presence. All are welcome and often people spontaneously join, walking in the name of peace. The growing group was inspired by the 2017 Silent Peace Walk in Chicago, led by Sister Benita Coffey, OSB. Oblate Phyllis King suggested the walk would be a good fit for the greater Pueblo community.

Sister Mary Susan Remsgar, OSB, the oblate liaison, hosted an inaugural dedicated Psalms class. Due to the great response, she will offer another Psalms class in the Fall 2019. The Oblates are grateful for her Benedictine presence and her study and insight, as a vowed religious woman, into The Rule of St. Benedict. Sister Mary Susan's powerful perspectives regarding Benedictine Spirituality enhance the Colorado Oblate meetings.

During Lent, the Oblates collected clothes and other items for Sr. Nancy Crafton, SC and her ministry for migrant workers in the Pueblo area. Each interested Oblate was given a bag in which to add one item a day. This '40-day bags' initiative culminated in a collection of full bags the week after Easter.

Additionally, the Oblates have collected items on a monthly basis for an apartment building run by Posada, a group that serves the homeless.

The Colorado Oblates continue to grow. Currently, three women candidates are working towards their oblation. The formation team and teachers present them with the basic teaching of St. Benedict, instilling a sense of clarity and devotion.

To learn more about becoming an Oblate and serving our community, please visit our website today:
www.osbchicago.org/oblate

"...in memory of her."



Sister Agnes Kelly, OSB (1924-2019)

Born in Evanston, she attended St. Scholastica High School and entered the community as a postulant in 1942 and professed her final vows in 1947. She later earned a bachelor's degree in Philosophy and a master's in Education from DePaul University. She taught at the elementary and high school level in math, social studies and music. Sister Agnes also directed freshman chorus, the Glee Club, and taught private voice lessons. She served in Colorado and in Illinois.

In the Archdiocese of Chicago, Sister Agnes taught at Queen of All Saints (1944-1950), (1952-1956); St. Scholastica High School (1963-2012).

In the diocese of Pueblo, Sister Agnes taught at St. Leander, Pueblo, CO. (1950-1952), St. Scholastica Academy Cañon City, CO. as part of the boarding school staff as a teacher and dormitory prefect and also directed joint music programs with SSA students and the glee club of Holy Cross Abbey School for boys (1956-1963).

She passed away on February 17, 2019. To read more about Sister Agnes's dedicated life, visit our news blog at www.osbchicago.org/news and look for her story posted on February 20th.



A Rich Experience of Pilgrimage

by Sister Benita Coffey, OSB

A pilgrimage is often defined as a journey of spiritual significance, typically to a shrine or shrines of importance to a person's beliefs. Israel, a small country with a long border along the shore of the Mediterranean Sea, is a very well-known pilgrimage destination. Christians reverence this area and speak of it as "the Holy Land". It is where Jesus lived. It is this location that the church, the community of Jesus' followers, identifies as its place of origin. Here are its roots. Certainly, we acknowledge that Jews, Muslims, and Bahá'ís too have reason to claim this area as the place of their beginnings. Clearly, this is "holy" land for countless people of many and diverse faiths.

In January of this year, I became a Holy Land pilgrim along with 37 others. A pilgrimage for me was entirely unexpected but my good friends Barbara Logue and Noreen Ferrari offered the pilgrimage as a gift for my birthday (Barb was a year behind me at St. Scholastica High School, graduating in 1950. Noreen was Campus Minister and Athletic Director of SSA, from the mid-1980's until 1990). It was a blessing. When I shared my good fortune and excitement with my friend Kathlyn Myers, one of our Benedictine Oblates, without much hesitation, she said she would go and be my roommate. Here was a second blessing.

My faith is strong and I embrace the Old Testament stories and gospel narratives in the New Testament as "good news", all of them, news generated in the holy land. There is history, tradition, and literal truth. Jesus really did pass through these very towns. Though I felt great anticipation for the pilgrimage, on some level I was concerned. I did not want to waste any part of the experience struggling with "Is this really the place?" "How does anyone know?"

After a while something came to me which turned out to be the most important insight and grace that supported me throughout the pilgrimage: Our God, the abundantly loving, all powerful Source of all Being, is eternal. God exists beyond time. All is present to God. Yes, ALL IS PRESENT. There can be no past or future when there is no time! And in God, the Eternal One, there is no time. When Jesus, walked in that land and when I will walk as a pilgrim in that land, it will be NOW from God's perspective. In Exodus 3:14, God said to Moses I AM WHO AM. Eternity for God is NOW.

In God's view, Jesus and I, a pilgrim, will both be walking in Nazareth and in Cana, both boating on the Sea of Galilee, and trudging to the mount where the beatitudes were spoken. Jesus and I, centuries apart in human time, are before God in the eternal NOW. So, If I could just

remember that God sees Jesus and me together, and savor that reality at each stop, and endeavor to be with Jesus there, I would hopefully be open to receive the full rich experience of pilgrimage.

There is no way that I can share with you the countless details of my pilgrimage, but I offer some that still seem fresh. In addition to the religious sites, we also were taken to museums, Roman and Crusader archeological remains, spectacular amphitheaters, and Qumran where the Dead Sea Scrolls were found.

As pilgrims we were not only passive observers, but actively yet appropriately engaged at times. At Cana, where at a marriage feast Jesus' first miracle was performed, the married couples on the pilgrimage renewed their wedding vows. On our boat ride on the Sea of Galilee we relaxed, sang and danced before disembarking at a seaside village to view an archaeological treasure:

a boat that seems dated from Jesus' time. At the River Jordan, Father Bala Showry, the pilgrimage leader and some of the pilgrims, donned white robes and one by one walked into the river where Father stood and enacted the baptism of each, immersing that individual. Pilgrims are still individuals, though. After walking along the river, downstream a ways, I sat, with just my feet in the water and remembered I was with Jesus right there.

On pilgrimage, an individual is sometimes in a huge area and at other times in a simple quiet place, but both are graced moments. The massive Church of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem is built over the sites

reverenced as the places of crucifixion and the burial site of Jesus. At the Wailing Wall built centuries before Jesus, Jews and Arabs along with Christians and any believers in intercessory prayer, place written petitions in the cracks. As I placed mine, behind me were hundreds of Hebrew women reciting the Old Testament psalms, the same verses we pray in English at the monastery each day. There I felt a deep sense of the Jewish roots of Christianity.

At other sites, we pilgrims were in quieter settings such as when we had Mass outdoors on the Mount where

Jesus taught the Beatitudes. Another such stop was at Abu Gosh, outside the Benedictine Monastery of St. Mary's of the Resurrection believed to be where Jesus appeared on the road that first Easter Sunday. My time in their garden brought me peace.

Toward the end of the pilgrimage, a lunch stop was simply on a street near old Jerusalem. We pilgrims ate standing, sharing good wholesome

bread, delicious fresh fruit, and easy conversation. This remains for me as the most memorable meal.

This pilgrimage was indeed, as defined, "a journey of spiritual significance". Every step of the way during those ten days was significant whether I was conscious of it or not. Somehow, I believe I will "be a pilgrim" always. Since my highlight was the insight and appreciation of the NOW, that word Now has taken on great significance for me. Often each day it comes to mind and somehow seems a quick prayer. I'm on the way. The rest of my life's journey is a pilgrimage and I rejoice knowing I am expected at the destination.

"This pilgrimage was indeed, "a journey of spiritual significance"."

-Sister Benita Coffey, OSB



Photo, on cover, Sister Benita Coffey, OSB, placing her prayers in the Wailing Wall (Western Wall) in Jerusalem. Photo on page 6, from left to right, Kathlyn Smith Myers and Sister Benita Coffey, OSB in Caesarea National Park, Israel.

Photos on page 7, left to right: a) Rev. Joseph Pasala, Kathlyn Smith Myers, Sister Benita Coffey, OSB and Rev. Bala Showry Maduna (leader of the Pilgrimage) b) View of the Rock of the Dome and the Old City of Jerusalem from the Mount of Olives. (All photos courtesy of Kathlyn Smith Myers).

In Memoriam

St. Scholastica Academy, Chicago

Helen Brunk Ueberbacher (1937), sister of Virginia Brunk Lock (1948)

Richard P. Frisbie, (deceased 8/28/2018*)

husband of Margery Rowbottom Frisbie (1940)

Sister Agnes Kelly, OSB (1942), sister of Patricia Kelly Sacco (1949)

Mary Joan O'Reilly Miller (1944), sister of Anne O'Reilly, deceased (1947), mother of Mary Kate MacKenzie (1968), Anne Marie Famartino (1971) and Mary Beth Miller (1969)

Alice Cunningham O'Gorman (deceased 11/3/2018*) (1944), sister of Mariellen Cunningham Sabato (1939), Monica Cunningham O'Brien (1941, deceased) and Margaret Cunningham Ahmann (1948)

Patricia (Collette) Nelson Baumann (1946, deceased 9/10/2019*), sister of Sigrid Nelson Pauli (1948) and Sara Nelson Shephard (1956)

Jeanne Culhane Shannon (1948)

Mary Jane Henneman Crawford (deceased 8/28/2018*) (1949)

Vivien Foley Gorman (1949), mother of Bonnie Gorman Wilkins (1969) and Julie Gorman Rice (1971)

Kathy Crumley Horning, daughter of Margaret Farrow Crumley (1949) and mother of Jessica Horning (2002)

Theresa Klein Schaeffer (1949)

Jacquelin Liautaud Schippers (1949)

Helene Gertrude Simons Tenley (1949)

Mary Jo "Fran" Harwas (1952), sister of Dolores Harwas (1958)

Barbara Gibson Halloran (1952)

Therese M. O'Leary Rose (1952)

Michael C. Dollahan, brother of Mary Dollahan Close (1954)

Donald Ehlert, husband of Jean Dorband Ehlert (1954)

John Atz, brother of Evelyn Atz Fullen (1958) and Virginia Atz Collings (1965)

David J. Manning, husband of Carole DeCoster Manning (1958)

Patricia Ellen Dowey (1959), sister of Adrian Dowey Gartner (1962) and sister-in-law of Joy Panucci Dowey (1968)

Elaine Zacek Caselli (1960)

Daniel Dunlap, husband of Louanne Spitzner Dunlap (1960)

Maureen Sheridan Hennelly (1960)

Judith Lamping Jolie (1960), sister of Barbara Lamping (1965), Mary Jo Lamping (1968) and Betsy Lamping Sklena (1973)

Mary Ann Delisi Steppke (1960)

Matthew Paul Lund, son of Patricia Tracy Lund (1960)

Kathleen Christmann Partlow (1960), cousin of Gloria Thomas Batterson (1963)

Frances Bartilotta, mother of Francine Bartilotta Ciulla (1964)

Robert D. Beaulieu, father of Cynthia Beaulieu Oliver (1965) and Kathleen Beaulieu (1972)

Matthew S. Raimondi, father of Margaret Caminiti (1966) and Anne Natale (deceased) (1969)

Ryan Andrzejewski, grandson of Barbara Rohde Andrzejewski (1968)

Patricia Diane Marshalok Dodt (1969)

Linda Pabst Haake (deceased 7/3/2015*) (1969)
Marguerite Haberman (deceased 12/21/2010*) (1969)

Betty Lou Keefe, (deceased 3/12/2016*) mother of Kathleen Keefe DeCarlo (1969)

Charles Anthony Feit, father of Margaret Feit Clarke (1977), Catherine "Katey" Feit (1979), Madeleine Feit Cusick (1982), Jane Feit Goldberg (1984), and Rosemary Feit (1989)

Carmel Mary Tekdogan, mother of Suzan Tekdogan Maddox (1980), Deborah Tekdogan (1982) and Sherry Tekdogan MacLean (1983)

Thomas E. Hergenrother, father of Eileen Hergenrother Duban (1986)

John Kardasz, father of Jordan Kardasz Fairbank (2000)

Pamela Joyce Bradley, mother of Elizabeth Labeledz (2004) and Annie Labeledz (2008)

Elisabeth Meyers, sister of Stephani Meyers (2006)

St. Scholastica Academy, Cañon City

Eileen Starika Erjavec (1949)

Loretta Sramek Boyarski (1956), sister of Ann Sramek Morehead (1956)

Rebecca Key (1974)

Catharyn Alva Butler-Turner, mother of Catharyn Turner (1987)

The above represents notices received November 2, 2018 - June 1, 2019.

** Denotes that death was prior to November 2, 2018 but we received notice of their death in the last several months.*

Careers of Alumnae

The Rhythm of an Academic's Life

Judith Knorst, Ph.D. attributes the teaching of the Benedictine Sisters of Chicago as "one of the best experiences of my life" inspiring her to study in Europe. After graduating from St. Scholastica High School in 1955, Dr. Knorst attended Northwestern University where she earned a Bachelor's of Science in Music. Influenced by the languages of famous Italian, German, and French composers, she traveled to Italy and she studied opera for a year.

While working at the American Embassy in Rome, Dr. Knorst visited Monte Cassino, the monastery of St. Benedict. During this visit, a kind German Benedictine monk allowed her to play a beautiful pipe organ that survived the bombings of World War II.

After returning to the states, Dr. Knorst began teaching at Marillac High School, but deep down, she knew her true calling: higher education. A Master's in Spanish from Loyola University was a natural next step given her

affinity for language. At Loyola, she was awarded a fellowship at Northwestern to pursue a doctorate in modern languages. Armed with her doctorate, she taught in the College of Business at the University of Illinois in Chicago, serving her students as both a professor and academic advisor. At one point, she even pursued an MBA from UIC, but did not complete that degree program. Even in retirement, Dr. Knorst continued teaching language at local community colleges.

Dr. Knorst credits her SSA influences, including music teacher Sr. Beatrice, as the initial catalyst fueling her lifelong interests in music, European culture, and academia.



Cabrini Green to the Nation's Capital

Clinical psychologist Dr. Gayle Porter grew up in Chicago's Cabrini Green housing projects. Although she came from humble beginnings, she learned at an early age to strive for success. She had a wonderful role model in her mother who became one of the first African-American female Postal supervisors in the city of Chicago.

Additionally, Dr. Porter was influenced by the Benedictine Sisters starting with her teachers at St. Joseph's Parish School. Because of her strong academic record and work ethic, Dr. Porter was invited to take a Robert Kennedy citywide aptitude test. Her exceptional performance on the exam resulted in a St. Scholastica High School scholarship (SSA Chicago Alumna '63). Dr. Porter has many fond memories of her time at SSA Chicago: deep friendships, nurturing learning environment, and close mentors, especially Sister Miriam Wilson, OSB.

After SSA, Dr. Porter received another scholarship to attend Loyola University. Although she lost her scholarship because she lost focus, the lessons of that disappointment served as the foundation for the many accomplishments she ultimately achieved. She eventually completed her undergraduate degree at Roosevelt University (Chicago), then studied at a joint program between the University of Illinois Chicago and the Illinois School of Professional Psychology where she fulfilled her dream and became a doctor of Clinical Psychology with a sub-specialty in Children and Family. Dr. Porter found her way to Washington D.C. first through an internship at Howard University and then through various

career opportunities including: directing two outpatient mental health clinics for the Washington, DC Department of Health and Human Services; a faculty position in the Child and Adolescent Psychiatry department at Johns Hopkins University, and in her current role as Co-Director of the Gaston



& Porter Health Improvement Inc. (GPHIC), a nonprofit she runs with Dr. Marilyn Gaston a physician and former Assistant Surgeon General. Drs. Gaston and Porter address women's health issues, particularly those related to African American women. Their PrimeTime Sister Circles® is a free intervention support system designed to holistically impact lifestyle change and encourage self-improvement. The program serves middle-aged women, helping them develop more effective stress management techniques, improve nutrition, and reduce hypertension and sedentary behaviors. Dr. Porter continues to give back to the St. Scholastica community through her relationship with the Sisters. She was the 103rd Commencement Graduation Speaker in 1992.

Empowered to Serve the Elderly

Faith plays a deep role in Mary Ann DeSloover Collins' life. Her time at St. Scholastica High School (SSA '71) laid the foundation for a life of service for this social justice-minded pioneer.

Mrs. Collins founded Heart to Heart Ministry, an organization that assists the elderly, and served as its director for over 30 years. An organization that began in 1986 as neighbors helping neighbors, continues to thrive today, serving the elderly of St. Gertrude Church and the Edgewater Community.

During a gerontology class at Northern Illinois University in DeKalb, Mrs. Collins discovered her lifelong passion: tending to the elderly. As a volunteer at St. Gertrude, Collins began an intergenerational program/ministry of assisting seniors with daily tasks: grocery shopping and providing transportation to doctor's appointments and outings. As the demands for direct support grew, Mrs. Collins knew that earning an advanced degree in social work would help her better serve and expand the community.

With the support of Cardinal Joseph Bernardin, Mrs. Collins earned her Master's Degree in Social Work from

Loyola University Chicago in 2000.

Over the years, Heart to Heart has grown from serving 30 people in the parish to serving over 100 people throughout the Edgewater community. Mrs. Collins credits most of the ministry's success to the many volunteers who provide an average of 2000 hours of service annually, from grocery shopping to companion visits.

In 2003, Mayor Richard J. Daley awarded Mrs. Collins with the Neighborhoods Alive with Seniors Award which recognizes excellence in services provided to Chicago's senior citizens. Now retired, Mrs. Collins cares for her aging parents. She also volunteers with Heart to Heart, returning to how she began her illustrious, impactful career.





Sister Belinda at the Excavation of Gegharot Kurgan in 2014.

A Deeper Understanding of God

by Sister Belinda Monahan, OSB

I spent much of the month of May traveling. On May 1st, I flew to Zurich, Switzerland for a gathering of *Pietre Vive*, or Living Stones: an international communion of Christian youth communities which aims to announce Jesus Christ through the beauty of sacred and religious heritage. From Zurich, I flew to Yerevan, Armenia, where I spent nearly two weeks, coding animal bones for Project ArAGATS, with which I have been working since before I entered the community.

I became involved in *Pietre Vive* through students at Northwestern who have begun the first group in the United States. It seemed like a good opportunity to walk with a group of young adults who are serious about maturing in their faith. Since one of the main pillars of *Pietre Vive* is spiritual formation of its members, each group is required to have a spiritual assistant. I act in that capacity for the Chicago group. I attended the formation camp in order to learn more about the group and I certainly did that. The gathering consisted of more than 100 people, most of them young adults actively involved in

Pietre Vive or hoping to start them. They came from Italy, France, Malta, Switzerland, Romania, Portugal, Chile, Spain, and Slovenia; including a few from one fledgling residential community in Rome. We prayed, visited churches, celebrated Mass, and attended workshops and lectures together. Since most of the young adults were sleeping on mats on the floor and the leaders were concerned about my jetlag, I, along with three other women, were hosted by a very generous Swiss/Guatemalan family about a mile away from the conference site. Although it was an exhausting three days, I am grateful to have spent the time with such a thoughtful and vibrant group of young adults who are committed to the Church and its future.

Armenia was somewhat of a different focus than my time in Zurich. I have been working with Project ArAGATS since 2002 and I usually live in a group doing faunal analysis while other archaeologists excavate. However, this year I lived alone in a rented apartment focusing on the animal bones and archaeological research analysis. I was able to catch up on nearly three years of

excavated faunal material; which wraps up many aspects of the excavations which began in 2001. This time, the quiet provided an opportunity for reflection not only on the conference, but the busy-ness that is my life most of the time.

What, one might ask, do these trips have to do with each other or with being Benedictine? As Benedictines, we often speak of the importance of being in community. These trips took me away from the Benedictine Sisters of Chicago for an extended period of time. Missing prayer, meals, and work among my Sisters is not something I take lightly; it is difficult for them and for me. For me, however, both of these experiences are a response to a call from God and both of them lead me closer to God. Through a deeper understanding of God's people, they help me build community, not just among my Sisters, but in my other ministries.

Archaeology is something I've always wanted to do: I participated in my first archaeological excavation at seventeen and have been doing archaeology in one form or another for 30 years. Although I did not always think of it in these terms, I now consider archaeology to be part of my vocation. Through it, I have learned not only about the lives of people in the past, but the present life of the people among whom I work. The nearly 20 years I have spent working in Armenia allowed me to witness the development of a nation as it rebuilds after the collapse of the Soviet Union.

While walking with young adults as they discern their own vocation is something that has emerged only recently for me, it too feels like something I am called to do. I began walking with students at the Sheil Catholic Center at Northwestern University about two years ago--I see individual Catholic Scholars several times a quarter for spiritual direction and I direct RCIA. My work as community vocation director also gives me the opportunity to journey with young women as they discern their call and allows me to reach out to young adults (and younger children) to share my own journey into religious life and to spread Benedictine values and news about religious life today to people who may never encountered a religious sister before. The Pietre Vive formation camp this year brought me a clearer understanding of the need for young adults to encounter the church as more than simply a set of rules, to a way to build community, and a way to be of service and deepened my sense of call to journey with them as they mature in their own faith. Through discussions of church architecture, I also deepened my own understanding of the importance of liturgy in shaping the church.

All of these different experiences help me broaden my own understanding of community. Listening for and responding to these calls in my own life helps me to deepen my own understanding of God.



Sister Belinda coding bones in 2010.



Sister Belinda (center) pictured after the 2019 Easter Vigil with RCIA candidates at Sheil Catholic Center.



(left) 2019, Pietre Vive Formation Camp Zurich; (above) PV Service-Shrine of Our Lady of Pompeii, Chicago.



25th Annual Testimonial Dinner & Awards



Prioress, Sister Judith Murphy, OSB with honoree, SubPrioress, Sister Mary Melady, OSB.



(l to r) Honoree, Sister Benita Coffey, OSB with Sister Stella Akello, OSF and Honorees: Sister Patricia Crowley, OSB, Br. Michael Gosch, CSV and Fr. Corey Brost, CSV.



(l to r) Above: honorees Kathlyn Smith Meyers and Rachel Heuman; Below: Sister Judith's welcome.



(l to r) Above: Judy Matz, Sister Susan Quintance, OSB, Sister Judith Zonsius, OSB and Susan Matz Rizzato; Below: Second from the right Sister Kathy Maloney and her family.





Members of the (Sister Mary Frances) Schermerhorn family.



Members of the (Sister Mary Ann) O'Ryan family.



Benedictine Oblates Fr. Mike Solazzo and Maureen Kaucher SSA '73.



Benedictine Oblates Paula Kowalkowski and Kathy Caudill.



Honoree Sister Benita Coffey, OSB (second from right) with St. Scholastica Academy Chicago 1969 Alumnae who will celebrate their 50th Reunion September 21-22, 2019.



SSA Chicago 1977 Alumnae and Testimonial Dinner Committe members (l to r): Maureen Tobin Healy, Carole Sowa Kash, and Mary Ellen Storey Healey. (Not pictured: Mary Gander Kulinski)

Thank You!

Over 200 friends and supporters gathered at the Park Ridge Country Club on June 12, 2019, as we hosted our 25th Annual Testimonial Dinner and Awards: A benefit for the Benedictine Sisters of Chicago. This year we honored members of our community who live out the value of Benedictine hospitality in response to immigrants: Fr. Corey Brost, CSV, Sister Benita Coffey, OSB, Sister Patricia Crowley, OSB, Br. Michael Gosch, CSV, Rachel Heuman, Sister Mary Melady, OSB, and Kathlyn Smith Myers. Hundreds more participated by donating auction items, purchasing raffle tickets, sponsoring the event, placing ads in the program book, and countless other ways. Thank you to everyone who participated and helped us meet our budget this year. Through your continued support you have assisted us in meeting our expenses for our ongoing ministry and mission. We are truly grateful!

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Rita and Ronald Nemchausky
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Maureen Healy
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Maureen Martin
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Daniel J. Raven and Wencke Braathen
Renate Reichs
Rosalie Riegle
Kathleen and William Riordan
Royal Gorge Bridge & Park
Scandia Catering
John J. Shedd Aquarium
Joanne Spata
Elvira Steele
Union League Club of Chicago
Eugene and Katharin Vix

Prayer Ministry

We remember you in our daily prayers.

The following represents Memorial and Special Occasion prayer requests
from November 7, 2018 - June 1, 2019

Memorials

[In memory of Ryan Andrzejewski](#)

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

[In memory of Albert A. Aspito](#)

Joanne Spata

[In memory of John Atz](#)

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

Virginia Atz Collings

[In memory of Louis and Genevieve Balkin](#)

Charlene Balkin

[In memory of Helen Bantz](#)

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago and Oblates

[In memory of Frances Bartilotta](#)

Charlene Balkin

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

[In memory of Anna Basiorka](#)

Michael and Eileen Moorman

[In memory of Jacob H. Bass](#)

Coach James Sullivan

[In memory of Patricia \(Collette\) Nelson Baumann](#)

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

Sigrid Nelson Pauli

[In memory of Megan Joyce Baumgartner](#)

Fran Baumgartner

[In memory of Robert D. Beaulieu](#)

Elaine Beaulieu

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

[In memory of Judith Beaumont](#)

Judith Lee

[In memory of Jeffrey S. Berman](#)

Helga Ruby

[In memory of Douglas P. Berry](#)

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

Patricia Cielinski, OSB

Jackie LeSanche

Susan Quaintance, OSB

Judith Zonsius, OSB

[In memory of Bernard J. Beverley](#)

Bernard P. Beverley

[In memory of Dorothy A. Beverley](#)

Bernard P. Beverley

[In memory of Robert \(Bob\) Billideau](#)

Holly Rumpel

[In memory of Bridget Borchers](#)

Ellen Galush

[In memory of Robert Borchers](#)

Judith Borchers

[In memory of Lorretta Sramek Boyarski](#)

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

[In memory of Pamela Joyce Bradley](#)

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

[In memory of Constance "Connie" Bromer](#)

Patti Cielinski, OSB

[In memory of Catharyn Alva Butler-Turner](#)

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

Anastasia Betterton-Fike

[In memory of Bill Capre](#)

Barbara Carlo

[In memory of Louis Caracci](#)

Joanne Spata

[In memory of Elaine Zacek Caselli](#)

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

[In memory of Irene Castles](#)

Francine O'Connor

[In memory of Joanne Cella-Easton](#)

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

[In memory of Nora J. Centella](#)

Bernard P. Beverley

[In memory of Mary Cielinski](#)

Kathy and Jeff Caudill

[In memory of deceased members of Coffey family, especially Joan Coffey](#)

Ed and Mary Coffey

[In memory of Carolyn Collins](#)

Nancy Butler Slagg

[In memory of Ignacio Cor্দova](#)

Sister Eleanore Hillenbrand, OSB

[In memory of Mary Jane Henneman Crawford](#)

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

[In memory of Pat and Patty Crowley](#)

Joseph and Patricia Crowley

[In memory of Kathy Crumley](#)

Peggy Schermerhorn

[In memory of Richard J. Cullen](#)

Margaret Cullen

[In memory of Michael Davajon](#)

Mary Ellen and John Quinn

[In memory of Sister Victoria Davis, OSB](#)

Steven and Gwenn Suvada

[In memory of Dominic DiFrisco](#)

Joanne Spata

[In memory of Michael C. Dollahan](#)

Dorothy Andries

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

[In memory of LaVerne and Eugene Dondlinger](#)

Mary Lynne and Douglas Hixson

[In memory of Patricia Ellen Dowey](#)

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

Mary Ann and Fred Henning

Bonnie J. White

[In memory of Daniel Dunlap](#)

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

[In memory of Mae Dyer](#)

Patricia Cielinski, OSB

Don C. Winslow

[In memory of Donald Ehlert](#)

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

Genevieve Delana

[In memory of deceased members of Ehrmann family \(mom, dad and brother\)](#)

Virginia Koerber

[In memory of Eileen Starika Erjavec](#)

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

Edward and Alice Skerjanec

[In memory of Dorothy Ewert](#)

Judith Borchers

[In memory of Frank J. Fatur](#)

Betty Rose Fatur

[In memory of the deceased members of the Farrow, Schermerhorn and Van Der Bosch families](#)

Peggy Schermerhorn

[In memory of Charles Anthony Feit](#)

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

Judith Borchers

[In memory of John Fix](#)

Genevieve Delana

[In memory of Virginia and William Flynn](#)

Dorothy Flynn

[In memory of Richard P. Frisbie](#)

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

[In memory of Nikolaus F. Fuss](#)

Carol Popovich

[In memory of Mary Gagliano](#)

Dominic and Margaret Caminiti

[In memory of Esther and William Galush](#)

Ellen Galush

[In memory of Kathy Geroski](#)

Jill Newberger

[In memory of Mary P. Gilpin](#)

Lois Gleason

[In memory of Lorraine Glach](#)

Sister Jean Glach, O.P. and Lorraine Glach family

Ursula and Chuck Perko

[In memory of Matthew Glavich](#)

Agnes Glavich

[In memory of Sister Joyce Gleeson, OSB](#)

Suzanne Walsh

[In memory of Robert Gonnella](#)

William Fitzgerald

Prayer Ministry - November 7, 2018 - June 1, 2019

[In memory of Vivien Foley Gorman](#)

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

Lois Guerin

[In memory of Barbara Gibson Halloran](#)

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

Doris "Dodie" Haas

[In memory of Sister Bernadette Harrison, OSB](#)

Barnard Henry

[In memory of Mary Jo "Fran" Harwas](#)

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

Doris "Dodie" Haas

[In memory of Maureen Sheridan Hennelly](#)

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

[In memory of Edward and Jean Hennessy](#)

Ellen Galush

[In memory of Duke and Lucy Henry](#)

Barnard Henry

[In memory of Thomas E. Hergenrother](#)

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

[In memory of Tom Hillenbrand](#)

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

Patricia and Richard Hillenbrand

[In memory of Toni Hillenbrand](#)

Lucia and Jim Smith

[In memory of Sister Georgine Hodnik, OSB](#)

Dina Buck

[In memory of Ignatius "Iggy" Hodnik](#)

Ron and Karen Celesnik

[In memory of Tom Hogarty](#)

Margaret Hogarty

[In memory of William Hohnemann](#)

Francine O'Connor

[In memory of Kathy Crumley Horning](#)

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

[In memory of Sam Ingraffia](#)

Kenneth and Judith Bartels

Barbara Berndt

Alice Bova

Martha Bova-Banks

Lois Carlson

Stephanie and Michael Cassidy

Geraldine Balut Coleman

Patrick and Patricia Drendel

Mary and James Gerke

Kim Grunewald

John and Maria Harrington

Catherine Ingraffia

Nancy and Vincent Ingraffia

Hans and Dawn Kristensen

Lane Tech High School, Colleen Contreras,

2019 Sophomore Baseball Team, Sam's

grandson, Andy Ingraffia #34

Bonnie Martin

Rachel Nguyen

George and Mary Jo Olen

Jamie Rozak

Margaret Schroeder

Martin and Jeanne Stanton

Mary Lou and John Waechter

Peg and Wayne Wagner

Ellen and Bill Wirth

Barbara Zonsius

Eddie and Beth Zonsius

Judith Zonsius, OSB

Michael and Mary Zonsius

[In memory of Judith Lamping Jolie](#)

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

[In memory of Mary Terese Jordan](#)

Margaret Heaphy

[In memory of Jeffrey Kamykowski](#)

Peg and Wayne Wagner

[In memory of John Kardasz](#)

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

Laura Fairbank

Susan Quaintance, OSB

Jill Watson

Judith Zonsius, OSB

[In memory of Violet Karpinski](#)

Bernard Karpinski

[In memory of Karl Kaucher](#)

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

[In memory of Marshall Kearney, IV](#)

Mary and Mike Noonan

[In memory of Betty Lou Keefe](#)

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

Kathleen DeCarlo

[In memory of Sister Agnes Kelly, OSB](#)

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

Patricia Campion

Mary Ann Harrington

Rev. Carl Langdorf

Jackie LeSanche

Marjorie McDevitt

Kathlyn Myers

Brian and Wanda Pabich

Patricia Sacco

William and Aleksandra Sacco

Jeanine and Dean Silas

[In memory of Anne Kenter](#)

William Kenter

[In memory of Rebecca Key](#)

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

[In memory of Sister Ann Krall, OSB](#)

Patricia Hartmann

[In memory of Stanley Krezel](#)

Mariann Chase

[In memory of Virginia L. Laskowski](#)

Patricia Cielinski, OSB

[In memory of Theresa Lamas](#)

Josephine and Raymond Krasovic

[In memory of Adolph Lauriski](#)

Ursula and Charles Perko

Ed and Alice Skerjanec

[In memory of Dennis Logisz](#)

Dolores Mundt

[In memory of Matthew Paul Lund](#)

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

Patricia and Donald Lund

[In memory of Edwin J. Majewski](#)

Bernard P. Beverley

[In memory of David J. Manning](#)

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

[In memory of Tim McGinnis](#)

Patricia and Donald Lund

[In memory of Sister Kathleen McNamara, OSB](#)

JoAnn Grenard

[In memory of James Meehan, Jr.](#)

Tamiye Trejo Meehan

[In memory of Billy Meyer](#)

Judith Borchers

[In memory of Father James E. Michaletz, C.S.V.](#)

Dorothy Andries

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

[In memory of deceased members of Miholic-Bentley families](#)

Dorothy and Matthew Miholic

[In memory of Katharina Milleker](#)

Helga Ruby

[In memory of Mary T. Miller](#)

Campanelli School

[In memory of Mary Joan O'Reilly Miller](#)

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

[In memory of Thomas Miller](#)

The E. J. Zonsius family

[In memory of Leonard "Lenny" Minelli](#)

Mike and Debbie Cielinski

Patti Cielinski, OSB

[In memory of Vincent Mirtich](#)

Ann Mirtich

[In memory of Lillian Trznadel Montejo](#)

Lillian Montejo Braunstein

[In memory of Richard Mooney](#)

Peg and Wayne Wagner

[In memory of Virginia Moroney](#)

Mara Moroney McHugh

[In memory of Maryanne Newton](#)

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

[In memory of Peter Anthony Nutini](#)

Madelaine Finn

[In memory of deceased members of O'Donnell family](#)

Charlotte O'Donnell

[In memory of Alice Cunningham O'Gorman](#)

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago

[In memory of Jack O'Ryan](#)

Michael O'Ryan

[In memory of Kevin O'Ryan, Sr.](#)

Michael O'Ryan

[In memory of Mary Yvonne O'Ryan](#)

Michael O'Ryan

Prayer Ministry - November 7, 2018 - June 1, 2019

[In memory of Barbara Kob Ostdiek](#)
Glen Ostdiek
[In memory of Kathleen Christmann Partlow](#)
Benedictine Sisters of Chicago
[In memory of Camille Sabia Paulson](#)
Florence Sabia
[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 Rocky Peters](#)
Dominic and Margaret Caminiti
[In memory of John Frank Pfeiffer](#)
Benedictine Sisters of Chicago
[In memory of Elizabeth Pirman](#)
Margaret Pirman
[In memory of Katie Pitz](#)
Francine O'Connor
[In memory of Frances Rafferty](#)
William Fitzgerald
[In memory of Matthew S. Raimondi](#)
Benedictine Sisters of Chicago
Dominic and Margaret Caminiti
Ronald and Monica Caminiti
Gayle and James Gambill
Becky and Jack Lampe
Daniel Leonard
Matt S. Raimondi, Jr.
Vito Raimondi
Sister Jane Smith, OSB
[In memory of Leonard Reiffel](#)
Nancy Reiffel
[In memory of Jim Rhodes](#)
Benedictine Sisters of Chicago
[In memory of Nancy Richey](#)
Kathy and Jeff Caudill
[In memory of Joyce Robinson](#)
Virginia "Ginny" Malter
[In memory of Rolland, Lara Veon's dad](#)
Benedictine Sisters of Chicago
[In memory of Kelli Nelson Rooney](#)
Noreen Ferrari
Barbara Logue
Virginia "Ginny" Malter
[In memory of Bernard Rosauer](#)
Helga Ruby
[In memory of Therese M. O'Leary Rose](#)
Benedictine Sisters of Chicago
[In memory of Sister Rosemary Rupar, OSB](#)
Patricia Hartman
[In memory of Frank Rutledge](#)
Fran and Paul Fredricks
[In memory of Edward Sarsha](#)
Janet Sarsha
[In memory of Theresa Klein Schaeffer](#)

Benedictine Sisters of Chicago
Rita and James Testin
[In memory of deceased member of Schermerhorn family, especially Claire Schermerhorn](#)
Ed and Mary Coffey
[In memory of Jacquelin Liautaud Schippers](#)
Benedictine Sisters of Chicago
Rita Testin
[In memory of Robert \(Bob\) E. Schoen](#)
Christine Allen
Benedictine Sisters of Chicago
Mary Bimba
Richard and Ruth Blohm
George and Tracy Breen
Anne Dennison
Tiffani Garr
Amy Hoffman
Richard and Bonnie Hulina
Kelly Ridges
Peter and Nannette Vanderheyden
Joyce Williamson
[In memory of Evelyn Charlotte Sevaldson](#)
Patti Cielinski, OSB
[In memory of Jeanne Culhane Shannon](#)
Benedictine Sisters of Chicago
Kathleen Ryg
Sheila Hogan Schultz
[In memory of Elaine Sharp](#)
Sister Ann Sharp, OSB
[In memory of Sister Beatrice Singler, OSB](#)
Dr. Judith Knorst
Richard Singler
[In memory of Carol Smith](#)
Patricia Crowley, OSB
[In memory of John Starceovich](#)
Kathleen Starceovich
[In memory of Mary Ann Delisi Steppke](#)
Benedictine Sisters of Chicago
[In memory of Elsie A. Stupar](#)
Olga Marie Zorc
[In memory of Adeline Suchy](#)
Nancy and Jeffrey Watner
[In memory of John Sullivan](#)
Coach James Sullivan
[In memory of Carmel Mary Tekdogan](#)
Benedictine Sisters of Chicago
Gerry and Gunars Kulans
[In memory of Helene Gertrude Simons Tenley](#)
Benedictine Sisters of Chicago
[In memory of Lisa Torres](#)
Ellen and Bill Wirth
[In memory of Sister Joanna Trapp, OSB](#)
Norene Mahoney
David and Dorothy McCarty
[In memory of Helen Brunk Ueberbacher](#)
Maribeth Babler

Pamela Babler
Benedictine Sisters of Chicago
[In memory of Anna Unterreiner](#)
Helga Ruby
[In memory of George N. Weber](#)
Carol M. Weber
[In memory of deceased members of Wieland/Sullivan families](#)
Maurice Wieland Sullivan
[In memory of Amelia Winchester](#)
Peggy Schermerhorn
[In memory of Dale Winslow](#)
Don Winslow
[In memory of Sister Anna Wrenn, OSB](#)
Patricia Hartmann
Michael J. Wrenn
[In memory of Louis J. Zember](#)
Raymond and Patricia Erjavec
[In memory of Sister Suzanne Zuercher, OSB](#)
Patricia Hartmann

Special Occasions

[In honor of the Class of 1968](#)
Maria Ule
[In honor of the Class of 1968 on their 50th Reunion](#)
Carol Lavin Bernick Family Foundation through Kathleen Murphy Anderson
[In honor of Sister Benita Coffey, OSB for her continued fight for social justice](#)
Lynn Brand
[In honor of Sister Benita Coffey, OSB for sharing beauty of chapel and history of OSB Sisters in Chicago](#)
Alissa Ballot
[In honor of Sister Benita Coffey, OSB](#)
Margie Auer
Ed and Mary Coffey
Susan and Raymond Kehm
[In honor of Sister Patricia Coughlin, OSB](#)
Denise E. Coughlin
[In honor of Sister Patricia Crowley, OSB on her 80th birthday](#)
Robert and Sheila Berner
Mary Pat Buckley
Mary Ann Harrington
[In honor of Sister Hilary Halpin, OSB](#)
John Brady family
[In honor of Abigail Bernadette Henry on the occasion of her birth](#)
Bernard family
[In honor of Sister Vivian Ivantic, OSB on her 105th birthday](#)
Margaret Heaphy
[In honor of Sister Callista Kaley, OSB](#)
Jeffrey and Mary Ann Liautaud

Prayer Ministry - November 7, 2018 - June 1, 2019

In honor of Josephine Krasovic on her 88th birthday

Agnes Glavich

In honor of Sister Belinda Monahan, OSB

Robert and Lorraine Henry

Northwestern University, Norris University Center Students

In honor of Sister Susan Quaintance, OSB for her leadership at CLL

Alissa Ballot

In honor of Joanne Rooney's wedding ceremony

Joanne Miller

In honor of Irene Rotter on her 80th birthday

Helga Ruby

In honor of Richard and Patricia Schermerhorn

Ed and Mary Coffey

In honor of Sister Ann Sharp, OSB

Janet Sarsha

In honor of Sister Ann Sharp, OSB on her birthday

Karen and Brian LeBlanc

Julius and Marilyn Kolas

In honor of Bernard Sir

Brian and Nadine Sir and family

In honor of all the Sisters

Joseph and Sally Cipolla

In honor of members of the Bartels, Cassidy,

Ingraffia, Olen, Palm and Zonsius families

Martin and Jeanne Stanton

In honor of Aunt Barbara, Eddie, Tony Ingraffia,

Kenny Bartels and John Olen

Martin and Jeanne Stanton

In honor of the Martin D. Stanton family

Martin and Jeanne Stanton

In honor of my teachers at St. Lambert School, 1954-1962:

Mother Adelaide

Sister Sheila

Sister Joanna

Sister Clare

Sister Mary Thomas

Sister Stanislaus

Sue Gudgeon Reilly

In honor of the birth of our grandsons: Gregory

Quinn Stegeman, May 8, 2016 and James Ryan

Stegeman, November 13, 2018, Grand-

Nephews of Sister Mary Ann O'Ryan, OSB

Mary Jo and Gregory Stegeman

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 Stock 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.

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

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

85th Jubilee of Profession
Sister Vivian Ivantic, OSB

80th Jubilee of Profession
Sister Ann Sharp, OSB

75th Jubilee of Profession
Sister Eleanore Hillenbrand, OSB

60th Jubilee of Profession
Sister Patricia Coughlin, OSB
Sister Mariella Hathorn, OSB



Join us for Reunion

*T*he Alumnae of both St. Scholastica Academies, Cañon City and Chicago will gather in the next few weeks to walk down memory lane and celebrate their reunions. Cañon City alumnae will join together August 16-18 at The Abbey Events Complex for an all-school reunion, along with the alumni of The Abbey School. Alumnae of St. Scholastica Academy in Chicago, who graduated in years ending in 4 or 9, will celebrate their Reunion Weekend September 21-22. For more information, visit www.osbchicago.org/reunion.

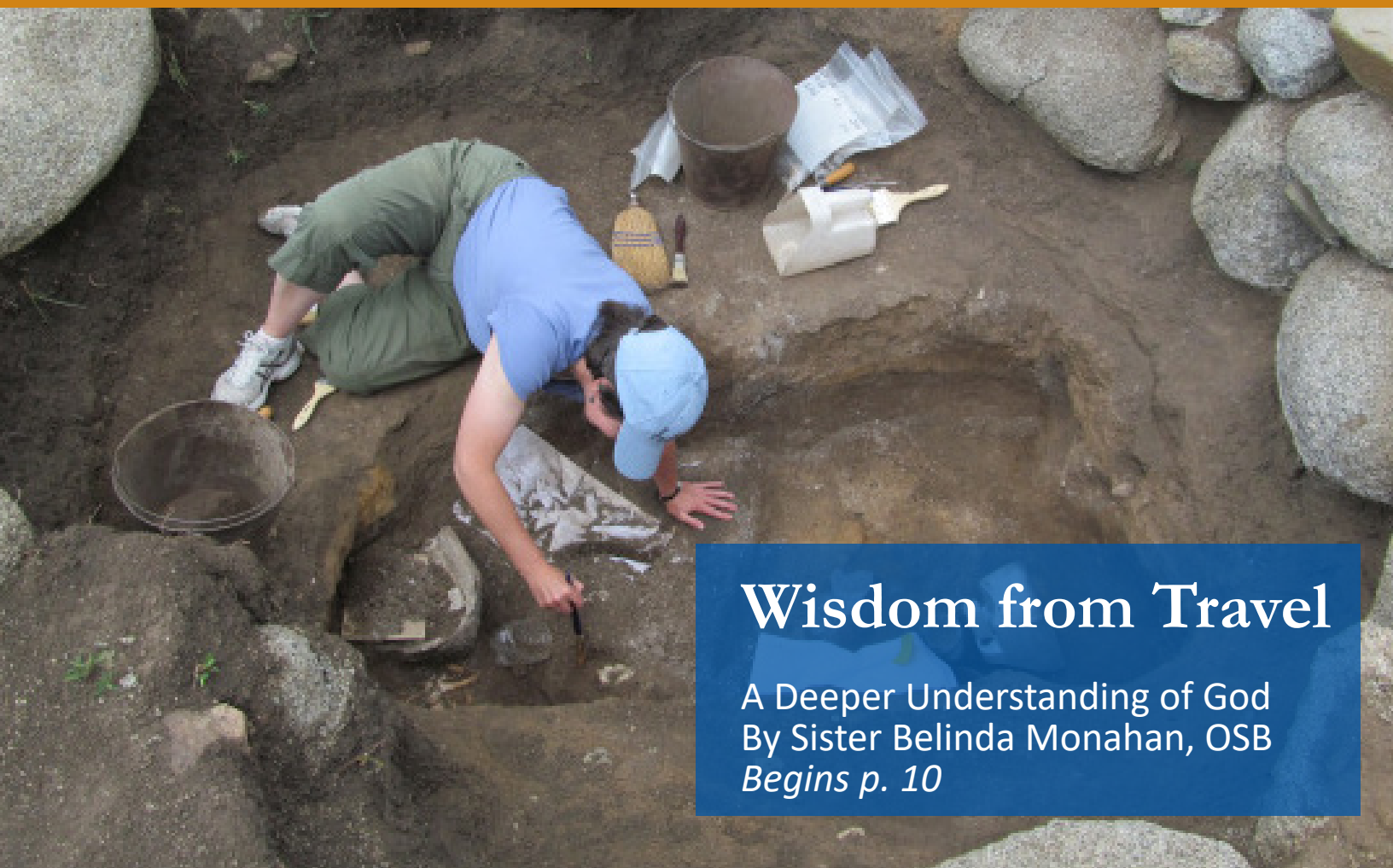
Members of the class of 1993 (left) celebrated their silver 25th reunion in Chicago last year.



Benedictine Sisters of Chicago
St. Scholastica Monastery
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Chicago, IL 60645-1913
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Wisdom from Travel

A Deeper Understanding of God
By Sister Belinda Monahan, OSB
Begins p. 10