

Volume XLVII
No. 1 Summer 2023

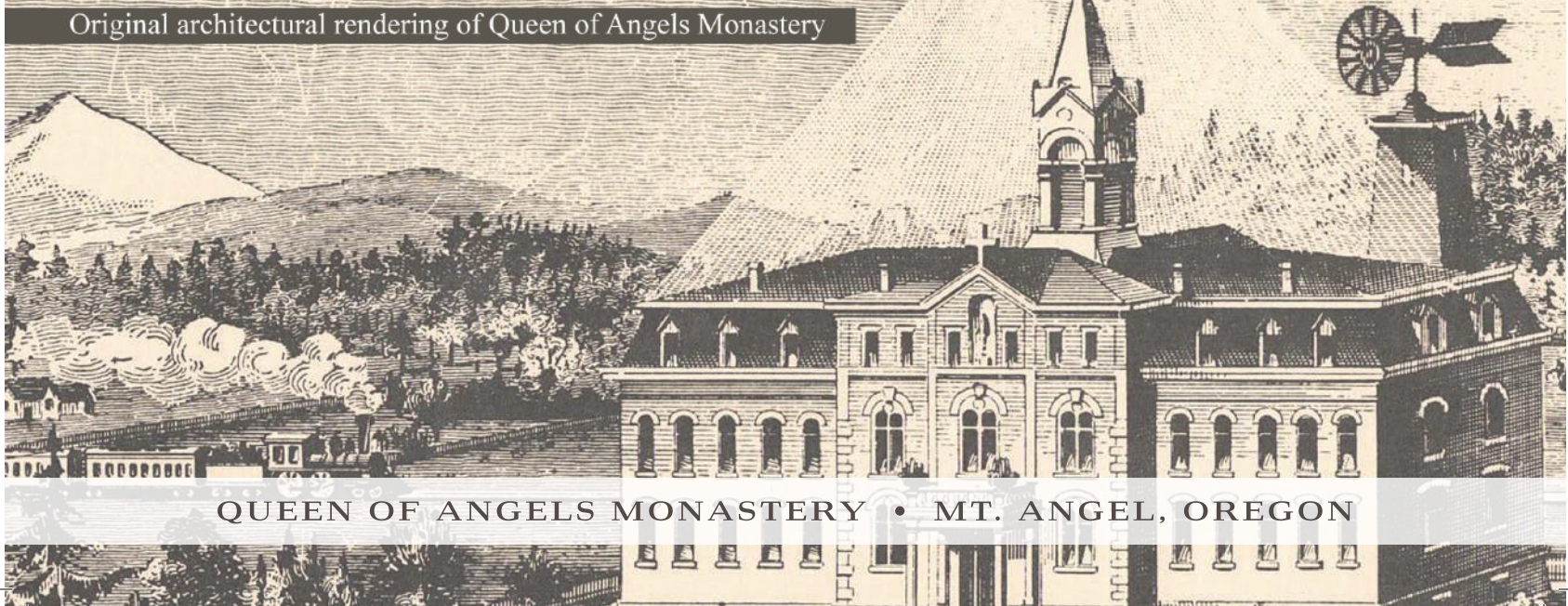
Reflections

of the Benedictine Sisters

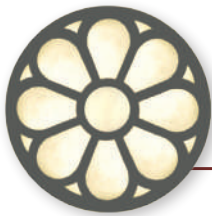


Matt's Saloon (ca. 1882)

Original architectural rendering of Queen of Angels Monastery



QUEEN OF ANGELS MONASTERY • MT. ANGEL, OREGON



Welcome



Dear family and friends,

“Behold, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs forth, do you not perceive it!?” (Isaiah. 43:19)

We have followed our dear Lord through his death and resurrection and received the great gift of the Holy Spirit. Jesus turned suffering and death into the greatest of all graces. We cannot possibly understand the mystery. “We are Easter people and alleluia is our song” first shared by Archbishop Howard many years ago. We are called to rejoice mightily as we live into the final outcome.

As I am composing this, 18 sisters have moved to Providence Benedictine Nursing Center/Orchard House and Mt. Angel Towers. By the time you are holding this summer issue of *Reflections*, in your hands and reading it, all the sisters will be making their new monastery home next door or at Mt. Angel Towers. In planning the actual move the sisters participated in two days of reflection and prayer, recalling the wonderful memories of their lives here at the monastery, grieving the loss of what has been and then looking forward with hope to God’s call in the future days of their rich and varied lives.

On the evening before each sister moved, as we prayed Vespers, we blessed her in these words:

“When you come to the place between
When you have left what you held most dear
When you are traveling toward the life you know not
When you arrive at the hardest ground.
May it become for you a place to rest.
May it become for you a place to dream.
May the pain that pressed itself into you give way to vision, to knowing.
May the morning make of it an altar, a path, a place to begin again!”
-*The Cure for Sorrow* by Jan Richardson

This is a season of change and there is grace in the transition. What a grace-filled journey this is continuing to be!

The cover of this issue of *Reflections* focuses on the transition from the meager space in Gervais to our beautiful monastery in Mt. Angel. Now a no less momentous journey we have taken through the grove over to our new home at Orchard House and Mt. Angel Towers.

We are grateful for your abundant support as we continue the journey. You can count on our love and prayers.

Sister Jane

Sister Jane Hibbard, SNJM
Pastoral Administrator



Thank You Oktoberfest!

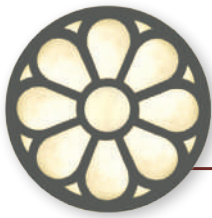
The Benedictine Sisters of Mt. Angel would like to thank the Oktoberfest board of directors for awarding our community with a \$1,500 grant. Money from this grant will be used to update and maintain the grass pathways in the St. Scholastica Garden. This garden holds a special place in the hearts of the sisters, and is a popular destination for reflection, especially during these warm, summer days. We are grateful for the Oktoberfest's support this year and for all they have done to help our monastic community

Please and Thank You
Our 142nd Century Club Appeal

We would like to thank everyone that has already supported our 142nd Century Club Appeal. This appeal is very special to our community as it marks the longevity of the sisters' community and focuses on the community's history. We set out with a goal of raising \$50,000, and we are well on the way to that goal, thanks to the generous family and friends who support this appeal each year. A special thank you to Becker Capital Management for providing a matching grant of \$10,000.

It isn't too late for you to support this wonderful appeal. You can make a Century Club gift online at www.benedictine-srs.org/centuryclub or by returning the remit envelope in this issue of *Reflections* and making a note on the check that says "Century Club." All gifts are welcome and greatly appreciated; gifts of \$142, a dollar for each year of our community's history, are very special. If you have any questions about this important appeal, please call our Mission Advancement Office at (503) 845-2556.





Monastic Life Continuing

the Move to Orchard House & Mt. Angel Towers



Sister Dorothy Jean Beyer, OSB

“Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go.” Joshua 1:9

From the very beginning, the words from the Book of Joshua, have comforted the Benedictine Sisters. When the early founders traveled from Switzerland to the United States, a frontier country in the early 1800’s, I imagine that the young Benedictine women received great comfort from God’s word as they followed the call to be missionaries in Oregon. Surely, they relied on God’s presence in their lives, when they lived in an abandoned, depilated saloon until their monastic home was ready for their occupancy. God’s loving providence came to them in the form of the generous people of Gervais who left food and wood at their door.

Again, the call and the desire to build a monastery in Mt. Angel came several years later, in 1887, when the sisters were just getting used to being in their monastic home in Gervais. With courage, stamina and God’s grace, Mother Bernardine Wachter and several sisters moved to Mt. Angel to supervise and assist with the work of building the first monastery of Benedictine Sisters in Mt. Angel. In the interim, they lived in the old parish church, on Main Street and Marquam Road. Trust in God’s care and belief in the work God was calling them to do sustained these early Benedictines.

Down through the 140+ years, through the ups and downs of life in their new country, the sisters weathered the storms of the two great depressions, World War I and II, the building of Mt. Angel Academy/Normal Schools and Mt. Angel College, financial woes, the harassment of rumors, the pressure to fill the parochial classrooms with sisters, the closing of Mt. Angel Academy and Mt. Angel College, bearing the huge HUD debt from the college, the departure of many, talented sisters after Vatican II. In 1993, the community faced the raising of millions of dollars for the renovation of the monastery and Shalom building after the earthquake. There, God’s providence provided unexpected funds for the projects! The sisters had earthquake insurance and many loyal, generous donors.

In 1998, again, with forethought, the sisters left behind their ministry at the Benedictine Nursing Center and with vision for sustaining the center, turned it over to the Providence Health Services.

More recently, the sisters turned over their St. Joseph Shelter/Mission Benedict ministry to the needy and homeless to Catholic Community Services. About the same time, they closed the Shalom building and moved their retreat ministry to the monastery building.

Now today, in 2023, the Benedictine Sisters have moved from their beloved monastery to Orchard House, an



assisted living facility of the Providence Benedictine Nursing Center and to Mt. Angel Towers. Yes, the monastery and chapel mean so much to the sisters and all the sisters before them. It has been and is a place of community, prayer, and hospitality. Finances and diminishment of age and members have forced the sisters to be realistic about what is best for their community.

Over their history, the sisters, through the chaos of change and sometimes great turmoil, relied on God's protective presence, and found a way forward. The sisters heeded the call of St. Benedict, in the beginning words of his rule, "Listen carefully, my daughters, to God's will for you and attend with the ear of your heart." (RB Prologue 1, adapted.) The sisters have attuned their hearts to what God is asking of them, here and now, knowing that God's love for them is everlasting and faithful.

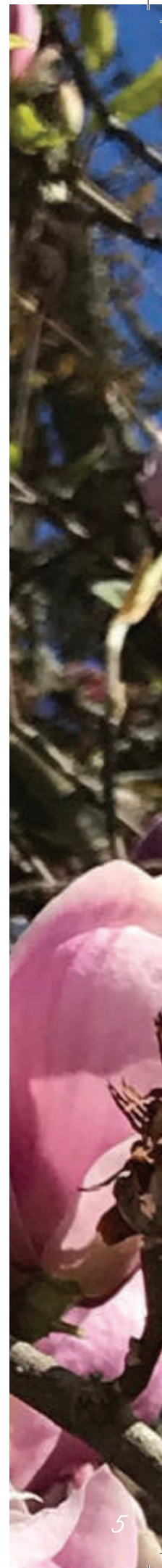
Today, the sisters, give thanks for being very fortunate and blessed with founders who had perseverance and courage under duress and trial to move forward into the future with hope and trust.

The good news is that the Benedictine Sisters will continue to be a monastic

community of "Ora et Labora" (Prayer and Work), living out the paschal mystery of Christ. They will continue to reach out with their prayers for local and global needs, to be of service to those in need, to provide hospitality to those who come to visit them, and to support spiritually their Oblates as they have done before. In other words, the sisters have moved, but they are still a monastic community, building up the body of Christ and living out their Benedictine promises of obedience, stability and fidelity to the monastic way of life.

Now, the Orchard House and the Towers are the sisters' monastic dwelling, where they continue to seek God in everyone and in everything. The sisters live among other residents who also seek God. The sisters pray, "May Christ bring us all together to everlasting life." (RB 72:12)

The nice thing is that the sisters may be under a different roof, but they are right next door to their previous monastery in Mt. Angel. Thanks be to God. And we, the sisters of Queen of Angels, are not afraid or discouraged, for God is with us.





The Sisters' Reflect

We recently asked the sisters to talk about one thing they will remember or a story from their time at Queen of Angels Monastery, as well as something they are looking forward to or are already enjoying about Orchard House or Mt. Angel Towers. Here is what they said:



“One thing I will remember about the monastery was how little I knew about monasteries or monastic life before I came to Queen of Angels. At Orchard House, there will be fewer of us, and we will rely on each other more. That is something I am looking forward to, community life in a new form.”

– Sr. Angela Meister

“Something that I will always love and remember about the monastery was the way that it brought people, earth, and creation together in prayer. I’m looking forward to continuing my life at Orchard House with the sisters and my family and friends in prayer and community.”

– Sr. Joan Pokorny



“The monastery has been my home for over 60 years. Even when I was away doing ministries, I knew I could always come home. It was safe, sturdy and stable and always welcomed me back with love and care. In retirement, I’m looking forward to the more leisurely pace of Orchard House.”

– Sr. Joseph Fennimore

“We used to have many activities under the Linden trees at the north end of the monastery. We even had special Masses and celebrations. It became like an outdoor theater or living room, one of which I have many fond memories. I’m looking forward to a joyous quality of life with many activities and a supportive, caring staff at Mt. Angel Towers.”

– Sr. Rebecca Pirkel



“It wasn’t just the sisters at the monastery, we had a wonderful staff. I’ll never forget how helpful, kind and caring they all were. We are very thankful for them. I look forward to getting to know the staff here at Orchard House.”

– Sr. René Foster

“A long, long time ago, I remember us young ones doing folk dancing together in the old gym, now Agatha Hall, or out back on the road during the summer. It was such a fun time. I’m really looking forward to all of us being together at Orchard House”

– Sr. Christine Rausch

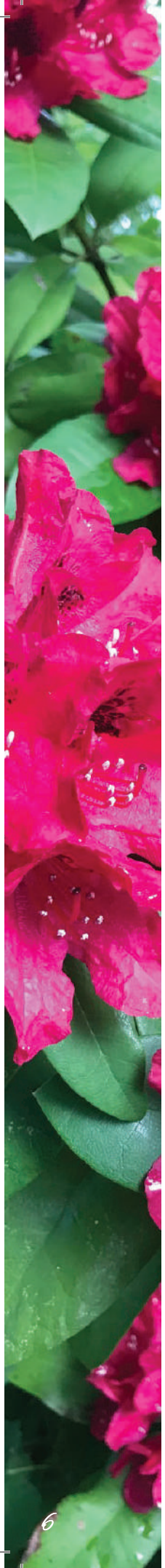


“My fondest memory of the monastery is our Chapel and the times we prayed our Liturgy of the Hours and Mass. I look forward to our times of prayer together at Orchard House and the opportunity to share our prayers with others.”

– Sr. Judith Bloxham

“A magical memory I have is when Sister Mercedes would come around and play the “Christmas Rose” on the violin to wake us up for Christmas Midnight Mass. It was so beautiful! I’m looking forward to moving my downsized belongings to a new space that is quiet, peaceful and less cluttered.”

– Sr. Donna Marie Chartraw



"I have many memories of our evening recreations. In the summer, we used to sit in a big circle outdoors to share stories. When it got cold, we gathered in the community room to play table games, crochet, or knit. I look forward to having more time for reading and being a part of a bigger community. I'm finding I have a new ministry of reaching out and sharing conversations with others at Orchard House."

– Sr. Regina Rausch



"When I first arrived at the monastery, there was a terrible smell. My mom said it was the sisters raising their pigs. I remember her asking me if I was sure I wanted to join. I loved it here so I quickly responded, 'yes!' I'm looking forward to joining the sisters who have already moved to Orchard House. I have missed being around them and can't wait until we are all together again"

– Sr. Maureen Niedermeyer

"I have always appreciated the daily Eucharist. It is the reason I came to the monastery all of those years ago. It is a memory I will always cherish. At Orchard House, I have a wonderful view. One night, as I sat in my chair reflecting, looking toward the eastern sky, the moon rose over the hill and danced with the clouds in the sky. It was a lovely sight!"

– Sr. Mechtilde Fennimore



"Our chapel. That is one of my favorite memories. Singing together in there is something I will miss. I love the beautiful icons, too. I'm no spring chicken anymore, so I'm looking forward to the great, loving care we will get at Providence Benedictine Nursing Center"

– Sr. Alice Ann Schaefer

"On September 3, 1961, I crossed the street from my family home and entered Queen of Angels. I dressed in the postulant dress that day and said, 'farewell' to my parents. Now, in 2023, I am next door to our monastery and in Mt. Angel, close to my family. I will be able to visit the beautiful grounds and buildings, which I love very much."

– Sr. Dorothy Jean Beyer



"A memory I will never forget from the monastery was when the entire community, except for me, took a covered wagon on a pilgrimage to Gervais. I stayed behind to cook fish – which I had never cooked before. I'm certain I didn't cook it right, and when everyone returned the whole downstairs smell like fish. Here at Orchard House, someone else is doing the cooking, and I'm happy about that."

– Sr. Susan Casey

"I remember feeding the fish in the small pond behind the monastery. I would go out in the mornings when it was quiet, and peaceful and just sit with them. I'm looking forward to everyone being close together here in our new home."

– Sr. Marietta Schindler



"I'll never forget the beautiful grounds. The flowers, the gardens, the trees – they all reminded me of God's beauty. Here, there are many new flowers and trees and areas that I'm looking forward to enjoying."

– Sr. Dorothy Rausch



Sister Dorothy Jean Beyer and Sister Marietta Schindler Celebrate their 60th Jubilee

On July 11, 2023, on the Feast of St. Benedict, thirteen of our sisters will celebrate their jubilees. For two of our sisters, Sister Dorothy Jean Beyer and Sister Marietta Schindler, it will be a very special jubilee – their 60th.

Sister Dorothy Jean, the second oldest of seven children, was born to William J. Beyer and Delphine (Ebner) Beyer, on February 7, 1943, in Silverton, Oregon. She was baptized at St. Mary Church in Mt. Angel, Oregon, and attended St. Mary Grade School and Mt. Angel Academy in Mt. Angel. She received her Bachelor's degree from Mt. Angel College and Master's degree from the University of Oregon in Eugene. In 1987, she also earned a Master's of Ministry from Seattle University in Washington.

The Benedictine Sisters taught Sister Dorothy Jean in the primary grades as well as in her secondary education. She grew up in the shadow of the monastery, since she and her family lived across the street at 815 S. Main St. She entered the monastery on September 3, 1961 as a postulant. She professed her monastic promises on July 11, 1963, taking the name of Sister Damian. In 1997, she returned to her baptismal name of Dorothy Jean.

Sister Dorothy Jean has served in a variety of ministries during her community life, many of which continue to this day. Her first teaching assignment was 5th and 6th grades at St. Paul's Catholic School in

Silverton, Oregon. In 1968, she was both the 5th and 6th grade teacher and principal of the school. From 1969-1985, she served as part-time 6th grade teacher and principal of St. Luke School in Woodburn, Oregon. From 1985-1987, she taught freshman and sophomore religion as well as being department chairperson for religion and social studies at St. Mary Academy, Portland, Oregon.

She served as prioress of the Benedictine Sisters from 1987-1995, and again from 1999-2007. During her tenure as prioress, a successful \$6.2 million

Appeal of Angels Capital fundraising campaign was completed for the repair and rebuilding of the monastery, chapel and Shalom Prayer Center after the 1993 earthquake. During this time, she was a member of the Federation of Saint Gertrude Council for six years. She also served as chairperson of the monastery's Construction Task Force, before and after the 1993 earthquake.

Sister Dorothy Jean was the director of the Shalom Prayer Center from 1998-99, and again from 2008-2011. Since 2016, she has served as the coordinator of Shalom at the Monastery retreat ministry, retreat



Left: Sr. Dorothy Jean with her parents Delphine and William and her brother Gregory. Right: Sr. Marietta with her parents Fred and Jeanette, brothers Fred and Frank, and sister Diane. (ca. 1961)

presenter, spiritual director and supervisor as well as the Donor Relations officer for the Mission Advancement Office. She currently serves on the Benedictine Sisters Board of Trustees, a position she has held since 2016, and served on the Strategic Planning Committee from 2020 – 2022. Since 2018, she has served on the St. Joseph Shelter Advisory Committee. Since 2012, she has been the coordinator of the Ministry to the Sick and Homebound/Prayer Shawl ministry at St. Mary Catholic Church, Mt. Angel.

When she isn't serving on one of the many volunteer committees or groups, or hosting a retreat at the monastery, Sister Dorothy Jean enjoys photography, especially of nature, crocheting, and reading. When asked to reflect on her 60th Jubilee, Sister Dorothy Jean said, "God has blessed me in so many ways throughout my life. Too many blessings to count. On the top of my list are my parents, my brothers and sisters and their families. I am grateful for all that God has given me, especially my Benedictine monastic vocation. I have dedicated my life to God and to be of service to others. This is what I have tried to do."

Sister Marietta Schindler grew up in Woodburn, Oregon, one of five children of Fred and Jeanette Schindler. She attended St. Luke School and Mt. Angel Academy, which provided plenty of contact with the Benedictine Sisters during her formative years. After graduating from Mt. Angel Academy in 1961, she entered the sisters' community, and, in 1963, professed first vows. She later earned her Bachelor's in Education from Mt. Angel College, and her Master's Education from Oregon College of Education (now Western Oregon University).

Sister Marietta served as a teacher at St. Mary School in Albany, Oregon, for 13 years, and spent the last 4 years also serving as the principal. In 1978, she returned to Mt. Angel to serve as assistant prioress to Sister Marilyn Schwab. She then served one and two years, respectively, teaching at St. Mary Public School in Mt. Angel, Oregon and St. Paul Catholic School in St. Paul, Oregon. She also spent five summers (1973-77) working as assistant to the director of the summer school program at Mt. Angel Seminary.

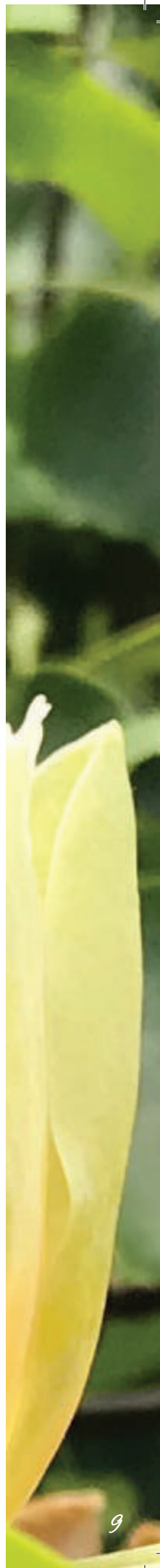
In 1984 Sister Marietta began a new ministry of parish work at Our Lady of the Valley Parish in La Grande, Oregon. This challenging but rewarding work found her responsible for adult education, RCIA, campus ministry, and visiting the sick.

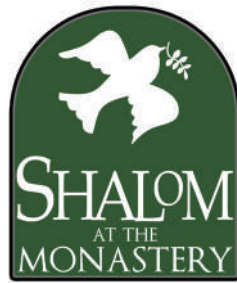
In 1991 Sister Marietta was called to return home to Queen of Angels Monastery to serve as vocation director and volunteer coordinator. Two years later, she became community treasurer, as well. For the past 22 years, she has continued her work in these three positions, while also serving on the sisters' monastic council throughout this period. Sister Marietta has also served as the secretary-treasurer for the Regional Vocation and Formation Committee, and has been a long-time member of the Vocation Team for the Archdiocese of Portland.

Sister Marietta is an exceptional crocheter, crocheting 100's of prayer shawls that have been sold in the Monastery Gift Shop and given away to family and friends. She was also an avid photography, making 100's of photo cards, which are still cherished by the recipients.

Sister Marietta expressed gratitude for the richness of her life and service as a Benedictine, saying, "I am so grateful for my family and my Benedictine community. My life has been very enriching and beautiful. I am very grateful to God for all the blessings"

Both sisters now live at Orchard House and welcome visitors. Currently Sister Marietta keeps up her ministry of crocheting prayer shawls and scrubbies, which are in great demand. Sister Dorothy Jean will continue to have an office in the monastery for spiritual direction, mission advancement, and Shalom at the Monastery Retreat ministry.





Monthly Workshops

Spiritual Companion Meeting for Spiritual Directors

(via Zoom)

2nd Friday, 9:30 am–11:30 am,

Sep–May

\$20 per person

Book Talk (Agatha Hall)

3rd Saturday, 9:30 am–12 pm,

Sep–June, Donation

Monthly Book Talk led by Tim Nelson and Linda Jensen. The group meets to discuss the book of the month and share their insights.

Check our website for a full reading list and future dates. Contact Sr. Dorothy Jean at (503) 845-2556 to register

Dream Group: Language of the Soul (Monastery)

3rd Saturday, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., September - May

\$20 per person

Listening to dreams in a group can help us pay attention to God's presence in image and word in our awakened life. Presenter is Clara Jean Dawson.

Prayer of the Heart (Chapel)

3rd Tuesday, 3:30 – 4:30 p.m., All Year

Free

All are welcome to join this contemplative prayer group. Meetings take place in the Chapel, located on the second floor of the Hospitality Center.

The Creative-Spiritual Life Circle (via Zoom)

3rd Saturday, 1:15 – 2:30 p.m., September - May

Donation

A Benedictine-centered discussion group whose concept is simple: people who gather together to share whatever is gratifying us or amazing us or troubling us or puzzling us about the intersection of creativity and spirituality.

Spiritual Direction

By Appointment

\$60 with Sliding Scale Available

Sr. Dorothy Jean Beyer and Sr. Joan Pokorny are currently offering Spiritual Direction sessions via Zoom or in person. For more information, please contact Sr. Dorothy Jean at (503) 845-2556 or Sr. Joan at (503) 949-6284.

To learn more about these retreats, to register for a retreat or to see other upcoming events at the monastery, visit Benedictine-Srs.org or call (503) 845-2556



Benedictine Sisters Gift Shop

The Benedictine Sisters Gift Shop offers prayer shawls, rosaries, baby blankets, scarves, and scrubbies made by our sisters.

Call (503) 845-2556 for more information, or check our website at www.benedictine-srs.org.

Shalom at the Monastery Upcoming Retreats in 2023

“The Virtue of Holy Surprise: What it Means for Your Practice of Joy” presented by Susan Black

June 24, 2023

9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Chapter Room
\$55, includes lunch and materials

Whether or not you “like” surprises, have you ever stopped to consider their place in your spiritual life? Since all things come from God, surprises are potential sources of holiness.

Surprises can lead to a keener awareness of God’s presence, deeper self-knowledge, and a greater appreciation for the world. And if you are committed to living joyfully, cultivating “holy surprise” as a virtue can be a source of invaluable support for your practice.

This retreat will explore the twinned natures of surprise and joy, and the power they hold to reveal God’s truth, beauty, and goodness. Through discussion, reflection, art and writing experiences, prayer, music, other activities and quiet time, participants will learn how surprise and joy can transform ... everything. 2 Corinthians 5:17-18: “So whoever is in Christ is a new creation: the old things have passed away; behold, new things have come. And all this is from God ...”.

The retreat will be led by Susan Black, who also leads our monthly Zoom-based discussion group, the Creative/Spiritual Life Circle. Earlier this year, she conducted the well-received “Enter the New Year with Joy” retreat. Susan is an Oblate, an artist, and a writer; to learn more about her, go to the website www.BlackStarStudio.me

“Women Mystics” presented by Nancy Hendricks

September 16, 2023

9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. Chapter Room
\$50, bring your own lunch

Women Mystics, Catherine of Siena, Teresa of Avila, Therese of Lisieux and Hildegard of Bingen, will join us for the day. How do these women mystics speak to us today? We will delve into the lives of these four fascinating women mystics to see how they can inspire us on our own spiritual journey, how they can encourage us to seek God and how to live our faith in joyfully profound ways.

Presenter: Nancy Hendricks, MA, OblSB, recently received her master’s degree in Pastoral Ministry from the University of Portland. She now spends time presenting retreats, being active with the QAM oblate community, creating a 2-acre peace garden with her husband, and spending time with her family.

“Exploring Teilhard de Chardin’s *The Human Phenomenon*” presented by Stephen Coffey, OSB Cam

September 29 – October 1, 2023

3:30 p.m. Friday – 1:00 p.m. Sunday
Via Zoom
\$99

Pierre Teilhard de Chardin’s book *The Human Phenomenon* developed many of the fundamental scientific concepts of his evolutionary thinking. They provided the foundational ideas for his integration of evolution with Christian theology and spirituality. This retreat will explore connections between Teilhard’s evolutionary scientific ideas and his spirituality and theology.

Stephen Coffey, OSB Cam, is an ordained monk of the Camaldolese community of California. He is engaged in extensive retreat ministry as well as spiritual direction for priests, religious, and laity.

“Finding Treasure in Ancient Practices: Walking the Labyrinth and Making Mandalas” presented by Susan Black

October 28, 2023

9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Chapter Room
\$50, supplies included, bring your own lunch

What treasure do we seek in our lives, and where can it be found?

As people of faith, we seek God, the ultimate treasure. And our faith tells us that God can always be found, anywhere and everywhere, including within ourselves. “Seek and you shall find,” the Gospel assures us.

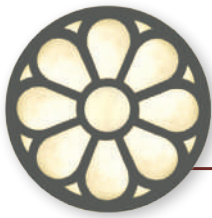
The search can be daunting! We often shy away from the kind of deep introspection that can lead to true self-knowledge and reveal God’s intimate presence. But remember that the Gospel also assures us: “Do not be afraid.”

In this retreat, you will learn about two time-honored practices known for their ability to bring us closer to God. You will discover how to fold these meditative practices into your lives, gently and easily. You will enjoy time spent walking the Monastery’s labyrinth (accessible alternatives available), making your own mandalas (all materials supplied) and sharing new experiences with others also seeking to find the treasure that is God.

The retreat will be led by Susan Black, who is an Oblate, an artist and a writer; to learn more about her, go to the website www.BlackStarStudio.me

To Register for a Shalom at the Monastery Retreat:

Call the Benedictine Sisters at (503) 845-2556, or send a check payable to the Benedictine Sisters of Mt. Angel, Attn: Sr. Dorothy Jean Beyer and mail to 840 S. Main St, Mt. Angel, OR 97362 at least three days before the start of the retreat. Scholarships available, call to learn more.



Oblate update

by Mary Blankenship, Oblate Coordinator

Challenged by the adjustments caused by the pandemic and the great changes brought by the Sisters' transition, the Oblate group has focused on stability and discerning our own plan for change. We ventured into the Zoom world during the first months of COVID and have built strong attendance at hybrid meetings. We are now able to serve not only those who can come to the monastery, but Oblates in southern Oregon, the Oregon coast, Baja, Mexico, Washington and Nevada, as well as others who are no longer able to travel to Mt. Angel. We have established a reflection circle ministry, in which members attend monthly small group meetings. The reflection group focuses on prayer, contemplation, book study and connection.

We have a Zoom reflection circle for those who cannot travel. We are making connections with two other NW Benedictine communities. We produced a book of reflections for the sisters, with memories submitted by individual Oblates to express their gratitude for the role the sisters play in their lives. We are planning a weekend retreat in July for all Oblates. In our Formation program, we have three Inquirers (first-year formation) and three candidates (second-year formation). The goals we established for this year have been to 1) sustain and grow our own Oblate community, 2) sustain our connection with the sisters of Queen of Angels Monastery and 3) to establish connections with the wider Benedictine community. We look forward to finding new ways to accompany the sisters in the next steps of our journey together.

**To learn more about becoming an oblate,
please contact Sr. Maureen at (503) 845-2556**



Congratulations Sr. Dorothy Jean!

At the 19th Annual St. Joseph the Worker Fundraising Dinner on May 7, 2023, Catholic Community Services presented Sister Dorothy Jean Beyer with The Caritas Award for outstanding service to the St. Joseph Family Shelter, Mission Benedict and Casa Adele.

Thank you, Sister Dorothy Jean, for all of the work you continue to do for this worthy cause.



Remembering Sister Terry Hall

Sister Terry Hall was there at the beginnings of St. Joseph Shelter and Mission Benedict with Sister Adele Mansfield in 1988. Sister Terry was a compassionate presence to those who came to the doors of this ministry of the Benedictine Sisters as well as a strong advocate for justice. She once said, “We never know who will come to the doors of the shelter, but we must be ready to treat each and everyone as if they are Christ.” Sister Terry served in the shelter ministry until 2015. She passed on November 17, 2022. The Benedictine Sisters are grateful for her 27 years of dedication and service to St. Joseph Shelter, Casa Adele, and Mission Benedict.

Sisters to Attend Federation Chapter Meeting

Sisters Jane Hibbard and Dorothy Jean Beyer will attend the Chapter of Federation of Saint Gertrude at Our Lady of Grace Monastery in Beech Grove, Indiana from June 11 - 17. The Federation consists of 12 member monasteries and two affiliated ecumenical monasteries of Benedictine women in Canada and the United States. The theme of the Chapter is “See, I am doing something new.”



Thank You to Those Who Helped Us Move

The Benedictine Sisters would like to send a special ‘thank you’ to the wonderful and dedicated staff that helped our sisters move to Orchard House and Mt. Angel Towers. We would like to thank Doug, Keenan, Anita, Jolyn, Carrie, Judy, Adan, Eileen, Sr. Jane, and Michael for their help in getting our community moved into our new home. Although it was difficult for us to leave Queen of Angels Monastery, this group helped make it much easier, and for that we are grateful!

Queen of Angels Monastery *** Estate Sale ***

Come and sift through years of treasures! Agatha Hall will be filled with household items, trinkets, furniture, books, lamps, and other items our community has collected over the years. For three days only, you have the opportunity to make one of our treasures your own!

August 4 - 6

Friday & Saturday 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

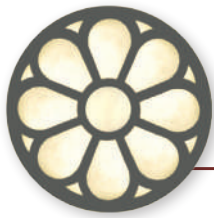
Sunday 9:00 am - 3:00 pm



Queen of Angels Monastery
840 S Main St
Mt. Angel, OR 97362

For Questions or More Information Please Call
(503) 845 - 2556





One Gift, Three Huge Benefits



by Michael Trevino, Director of Mission Advancement

Over the past few years, our monthly giving society has grown to become one of the largest sources of regular support for the sisters. A small gift of even \$10 per month provides three essential benefits to the sisters' monastic community. First, consistent, and reliable support allows us to plan and budget more effectively – meaning a better use of the sisters' resources. Second, it is easier and more convenient for both the sisters and you, our donors. Once a gift is set up, it becomes automatic, but still leaves you the flexibility of changing or canceling at any time. Lastly, regular monthly gifts, even small ones, over time have major impacts on future, long-term projects and expenses.

As the sisters transition into a new home, this becomes even more important.

There is no better time to become a monthly donor than during our Founder's Day Virtual Dinner. Thanks to a grant from the Larry & Jeanette Epping Family Foundation, any new or renewing monthly donors will have their gifts double-matched for the first 12 months, up to \$60,000. That means your \$10 a month gift becomes a \$30 monthly gift to the sisters. To take advantage of this, or to learn more, visit www.benedictine-srs.org/foundersday or call our Mission Advancement Office at (503) 845-2556.

2023 Founder's Day VIRTUAL CELEBRATION

We are happy to announce that our 2023 Founder's Day Virtual Celebration will return this fall. This appeal marks our founding in 1882. Our community has gone through so many changes since then, and this celebration helps us mark the beginning of our journey here in Mt. Angel. Keep a look out in your mailboxes this August for all of the details. Thank you, and we hope you will help support our annual Founder's Day Virtual Celebration.

Reflections

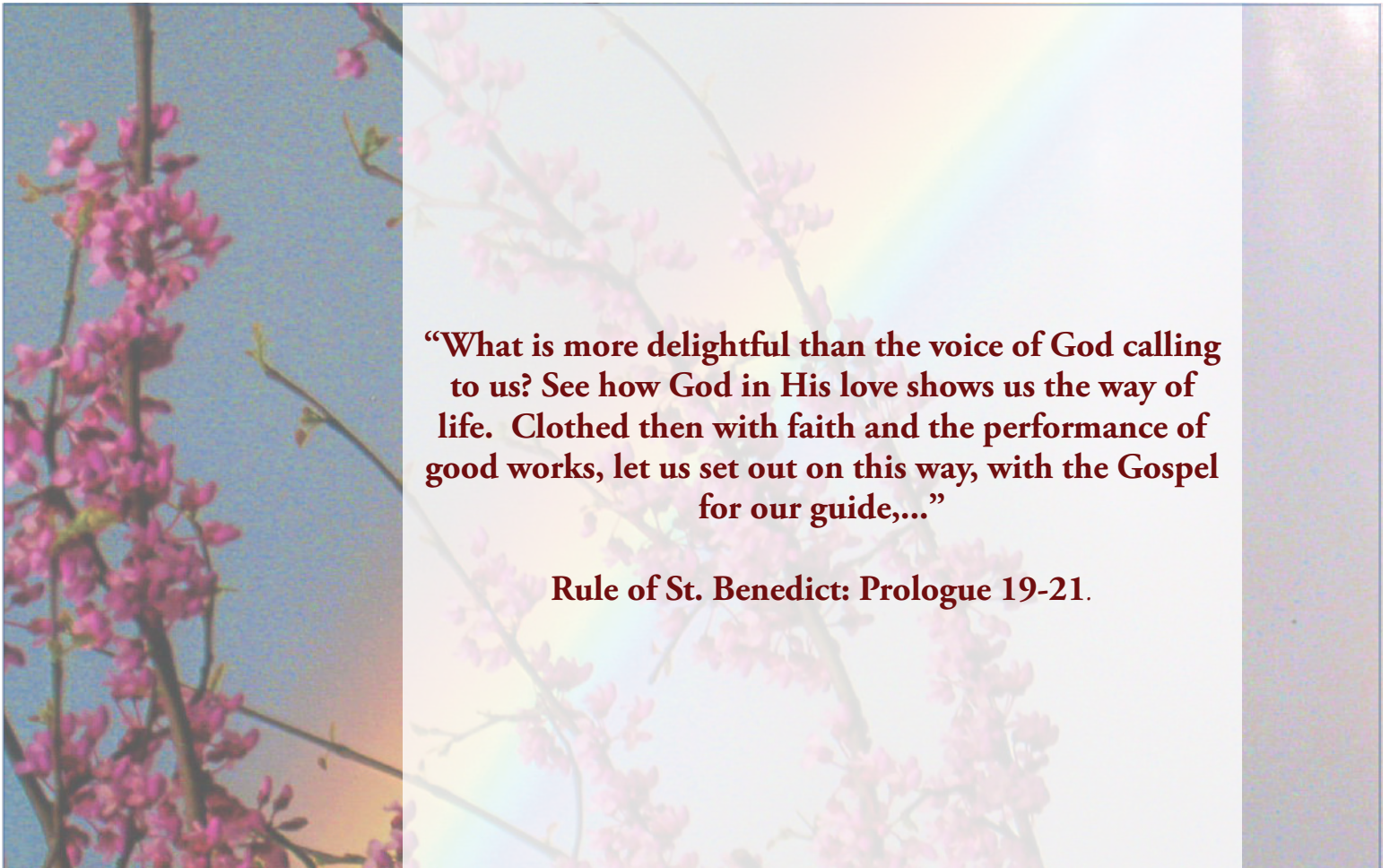
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- email info@benedictine-srs.org
- call 503.845.2556
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“What is more delightful than the voice of God calling to us? See how God in His love shows us the way of life. Clothed then with faith and the performance of good works, let us set out on this way, with the Gospel for our guide,...”

Rule of St. Benedict: Prologue 19-21.