

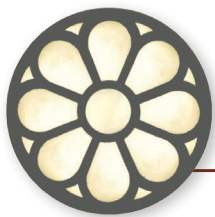
Volume XLVI
No. 2 Summer 2022

Reflections

of the Benedictine Sisters



QUEEN OF ANGELS MONASTERY • MT. ANGEL, OREGON



Welcome



LEGACY OF BEAUTY is our theme for this issue of *Reflections*.

What a fine time to reflect on beauty! With the heaviness of the world's troubles, I am paying more attention to beauty in my life and in the lives of my sisters here at the monastery. We are deeply blessed and very grateful.

God's natural beauty surrounds us at Mt. Angel. The monastery grounds, with their unique array of flowers, blooming shrubs and verdant trees, have been particularly vivid this spring and summer. I first noticed the flowers that began with daphne in January, followed closely by crocus, daffodil, tulip and iris. With summer, the parade of flowers continued, with peonies, roses, petunias, pansies and zinnias all calling to me with their beauty. The various shades of our evergreens and the gentle, soft new growth of all our trees, most notably our historic giant sequoia, do their part to contribute to the beauty of our surroundings. (My gratitude extends to all who take care of our flower gardens and grounds.)

Indeed, beyond nature, the beauty of our God is even more wonderfully manifest. We can see God in our church year, as its seasons track the natural year, moving now from spring through summer, from Pentecost through Ordinary Time. So many feasts for us to celebrate! We can thus experience the overwhelming mysteries of the God who calls us to a deep contemplative journey. And the dearest and most visible signs of the beauty of our God are the precious companions on that journey who help us practice awareness and presence.

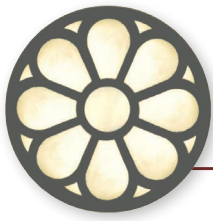
The poet Mary Oliver describes this human "work" in her poem, "Messenger": "Let me keep my mind on what matters, which is my work, which is mostly standing still and learning to be astonished."

The writer Joyce Rupp expresses it this way in her book, Return to the Root: Reflections on the Inner Life: "Gaze and be amazed. When we are filled with wonder, it is as if we've encountered the world in all its beauty for the very first time."

May you always be astonished and amazed at God's beauty everywhere in your life. May your end-of-summer days be blessed with wonder. We are grateful for your friendship and support. Our prayers are always with you and your families. We count on your prayers for us at Queen of Angels Monastery.

Sister Jane

Sister Jane Hibbard, SNJM
Pastoral Administrator



The Beauty in Our Buildings

A look at the historic buildings on the Queen of Angels grounds

If you have ever walked the grounds of our historic monastery, you most likely noticed that there are more buildings than just the monastery, chapel and Shalom building. In fact, the grounds are home to a dozen buildings. Each serving a purpose; each with its own story; each an important part of our history and journey.

The well house (pictured here & on the cover) is home to the water tanks and pumps that bring water from our own well to the monastery. It was built in 1920 by a local man named Mr. Olivotti. Originally, the household and irrigation water was pumped through the well house, but in 1924, the monastery connected to the city of Mount Angel's water supply for household use. Today, the well house provides the water for the countless trees, shrubs, plants and grass throughout the monastery grounds.

The water pumped from the well house nurtured a variety of different fruits and vegetables each year. Many of them would end up in the fruit and nut dryer. This unique structure was built

in 1924 to preserve produce from the orchard. It is listed in the Directory of Historical Buildings in Oregon, and is the only wood-fired fruit dryer in the state.

In 1940, a chicken coop was built to house the laying hens. It served in this role for 27 years. Then, in 1967, after the sisters elected to discontinue farm operations, the space was used to store fruit and renamed the apple coop. Since then, its purpose has changed – from fruit storage, to pottery shop, to general storage. To this day, however, it is still called the Apple Coop.

Each of these buildings was built with a purpose in mind. Over time, its purpose changed and evolved along with our monastic community. Just as the sisters were called to serve those most in need, our historic buildings have been called to serve in ways for which they may not have been originally designed. This summer, we encourage you to walk our grounds and visit these beautiful buildings.



The well house in 2019



The fruit and nut dryer in 2020

Legacy of Beauty


Reflections from the Benedictine Sisters

“Beauty is found in so many forms. I delight to find it in our cemetery! This may seem to be a strange place to find delight and beauty, but it is the first place I thought of. I hear the sound of the tiny birds that flit through the swaying branches of two large American Elms that stand guard over many of the graves. I also find beauty in the lives of the 181 sisters who are buried here. Many of them I remember in my 68 years of community life. Sometimes I let my memory go back to times when we have shared joy, laughter and even grief. Groundskeeper Adan planted brightly-colored pansies at the base of the huge white crucifix that watches over the area. I enjoy the contrast of the color and size. Our foundress, Mother Bernardine Wachter, has a simple cross made of small white stones on her grave. It reminds me of her life marked by the pain of leaving her beloved Maria Rickenbach Convent in Switzerland and eventually founding this community in 1882. Lastly, the atmosphere of our cemetery is one of peace. Its beauty opens my spirit to thoughts of eternity as I find myself wondering when and where I will rest here.”

– Sr. Maureen Niedermeyer

“The cemetery has always been a place of reflection and beauty to me. I have a special connection to it. I helped take care of it for over 20 years. I know many of the sisters buried there. There is one sister there with whom I have a spiritual connection. When I first entered the community in 1947, Sister Marcella Mangish was near death. She told prioress Sister Ursula Hodes that I would ‘take her place’ and that she would pray for me. I feel like I owe her and many of the sisters buried there respect and thanks for their influence on my spiritual life and journey. I still go down and visit, reflect and pray.”

– Sr. Mechtilde Fennimore



“One of my favorite places of beauty is our cemetery. I remember many walks I took there. During retreats, I had more time for daily and peaceful walks. One particular visit was especially memorable. After visiting each sister’s grave, I sat down on a bench near Mother Bernardine Wachter’s grave. Looking up at the big crucifix hanging high, I felt a deep sense of wonder and gratitude for Jesus’ life, death and resurrection. I thought of my sisters who were buried there and rejoiced that they were now at peace with God in heaven. I asked for their prayers for our community and for me.

As I looked around, I found a four-leaf clover by Mother Bernardine’s grave. It felt like a gift to me. I picked it to be pressed. I began watching the birds, especially the crows that seemed to carry on conversations with each other. The ground squirrels came out from hiding in the hedge that surrounded the cemetery, chasing each other. I was enjoying the peace and quiet in nature around me; yes, even the small insects in the lawn.

All at once, God gave me a ‘special’ surprise. I looked up and saw a young deer standing by the edge of the cemetery. We just looked at each other for a moment, then it bounded down the side of the hill. What a memorable walk!

I’m grateful for the groundskeepers who keep the cemetery trimmed and lovely. Since I now find it hard to walk that far, I can always go there in my memories.”

– Sr. Regina Rausch

Legacy of Beauty

Reflections from the Benedictine Sisters

“The place that has the most valued connection for me is our chapel. The 1993 earthquake damaged the 1912 chapel. Our present chapel was rebuilt at the southwest corner of our monastery and has been the consecrated place where we pray the Divine Office and celebrate Mass each day. We worked with our architect in designing our present chapel. I am reminded each day of the reality that it is truly a sacred space of beauty. Every morning I look up at the cedar lined ceiling and I am reminded that it was the wood of the Cedars of Lebanon that lined the inner space, the Holy of Holies, of the temple in Jerusalem. We



were able to ‘re-use’ the organ pipes and various wood features and rosette windows which had been in the earlier chapel. The altar, ambo and presider’s chair are constructed from the 1912 chapel’s beautifully designed altar rail. Our history of prayer and beauty is lived out in this chapel today.”

— Sr. Judith Bloxham

“Each January I begin to notice the small, green spears showing up in the flower gardens and I know the

daffodil is on the way. Then as early as February, a single, brave, bright yellow flower appears. It couldn’t wait to show its happy face. Not long after, bright yellow daffodils appear all over the monastery gardens and roadsides to announce that spring is on the way – regardless of the calendar date for the first day of spring. The daffodil is my favorite flower because it is one of the first flowers to show its bright, happy smile while most everything else is still in its winter bareness.”

— Sr. Christine Rausch

“One of my favorite places on the grounds is the fish pond. I love to just sit and watch the fish. I enjoy feeding the fish and watching them grow. There are only about 11 fish left, but at one point I was taking care of nearly 50. I don’t know for sure, but I think they recognize my

SPRIT OF OUR TREE

by Sister Angela Meister

What can be more beautiful than our Giant Sequoia tree?

The sisters have loved this tree for over 100 years.

The spirit of the tree and the tree imp lives on.

I see the playful spirit, the imp, the spirit of the tree whenever I visit it...

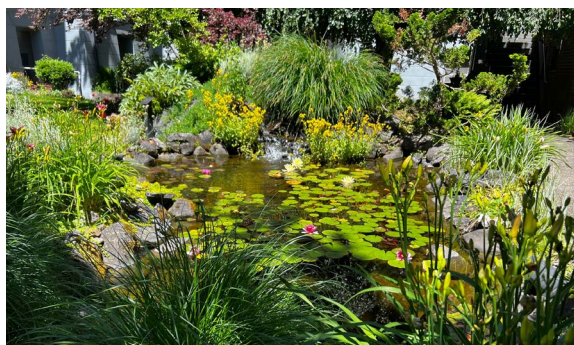
Here they come.
Happy singing Benedictine Sisters.

This is the spot.
Let us plant a seedling.

Branches waving, sweet breeze warming all of their hearts.

Happy, merry imp, the spirit of the tree.

voice or my footsteps. When I would go to feed them, they would come up to the edge of the pond, right to the surface, to get their dinner. The bigger fish were always more interested in the



food than the smaller ones. I loved watching them over the years get bigger and bigger. It is a very special place to me. When my family would come and visit, I would take them to the fish pond and show them the fish. I go there when I need to find peace and quiet.

– Sr. Marietta Schindler

Oktoberfest at the Monastery

September 15 – 18, 2022

Oktoberfest is the largest cultural festival in the Pacific Northwest, and an important part of the community here in Mount Angel. We are proud to have a booth again this year, and, like last year, it will be right here on the monastery grounds. Yes, our Oktoberfest booth will return to our Hospitality Center. We decided to celebrate Oktoberfest in a way that was safe for our sisters to participate. Thanks to you, last year it was a huge success.

Our booth will have our famous buttermilk coffee cakes. These were originally made by Sister Immaculata Tuma, and today we use her same recipe to make these delicious cakes. Make sure you stop by our booth and pick up yours! They can be frozen and kept for the holidays or enjoyed on the ride home.

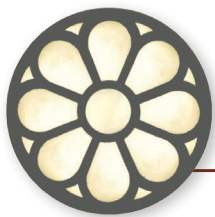
We will also have a selection of handmade items made by the sisters, including rosaries, prayer shawls, photo cards, scarves, baby blankets and much more. Be sure to look for our big flags out front and follow the signs to our “booth.” It is a great first stop on your way into town for all other Oktoberfest festivities. The booth will be located in the Hospitality Center, 840 S. Main Street in Mount Angel. It will be open Thursday through Sunday, from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. each day.

Pre-order your coffee cakes online! You can guarantee yourself one of our delicious coffee cakes by placing your order in advance on our website. You can pay and schedule your pick-up. Orders must be submitted by Friday, September 2.

Go to www.benedictine-srs.org/oktoberfest to order.

Interested in becoming an oblate?

Contact Sr. Maureen Niedermeyer at (503) 845-6141 or visit www.benedictine-srs.org/oblates to learn more.



Benedictine Sisters Celebrate 60th Jubilees at Queen of Angels

Sr. Rebecca Pirkel, Sr. Alice Ann Schaefer and Sr. René Foster celebrated the 60th anniversary of their monastic professions on July 11, 2022, the Solemnity of Saint Benedict, at Queen of Angels Monastery.

Sr. Rebecca Pirkel was born in her grandparents' house in Hubbard, Oregon in 1942 and grew up on her family's farm near Yoder with her parents and three sisters. She attended high school at Mt. Angel Academy, and entered the Benedictine Sisters' community shortly after her high school graduation. Sr. Rebecca earned a bachelor's degree from Mt. Angel College, a master's degree in education from the University of Oregon and a school administrator's credential from Portland State University.

Sr. Rebecca began her ministry as a teacher at St. Edward's School in Lebanon and went on to serve as a teacher and principal in parochial schools in Oregon City, St. Paul and Arcata (CA). After nearly 30 years of serving in schools, Sr. Rebecca began ministering in hospitality settings. She worked at the Franciscan Renewal Center in Portland, and then spent 13 years at Salishan Lodge and the Inn at Spanish Head on the Oregon Coast.

In 2011, Sr. Rebecca returned to Mt. Angel, and, soon after, was on the Shalom Prayer Center staff, where she served as a hostess. In 2016, she was appointed Hospitality Coordinator for the monastery. In that position, she is responsible for the guest buildings and schedules private retreats.

"Being a member of this community has been such a blessing in my life. I'm grateful to my family and my fellow Benedictine sisters for their support, love, prayers and guidance all of these years," Sr. Rebecca said about her 60-year milestone.

Sr. Alice Ann Schaefer was born in Hoven, SD in 1934, the second youngest of seven children. She attended Mount Marty College in Yankton, SD, became certified as a teacher, taught in South Dakota for three years, and earned her undergraduate degree in 1958. She then moved to Oregon, and taught at St. John the Apostle School in Oregon City, with the Benedictine Sisters.

Two years later, she entered the community, and began teaching at St. Mary School in Mt. Angel. She later taught in parochial schools in Woodburn, Lebanon, Albany, and returned to Oregon City. During the summer vacations, Sr. Alice Ann taught religious education classes in various locations around the state. Later, she earned a master's degree in religious education from Seattle University and served for 18 years as the religious education coordinator at St. Mary Parish in Mt. Angel.

The three jubilarians at their 60th Jubilee.





Sister René Foster



Sister Rebecca Pirkl



Sister Alice Ann Schaefer

The three jubilarians at their 25th Jubilee.

Her life-long love of music and aptitude for it led her to serve as music and liturgy director for her community for more than ten years. Sr. Alice Ann has also served as Eucharistic minister at the Providence Benedictine Orchard House and helped with the monastery switchboard.

“The time has gone by quickly. The Lord has been good to me. I have had many wonderful sisters, family and friends along the way. I am so grateful,” Sr. Alice Ann said.

Sr. René Foster was born in Denver, Colorado in 1942, and moved to Oregon with her mother at age ten. Sr. René met the Benedictine Sisters through catechism classes she attended in Lebanon, and she attended Mt. Angel Academy as a high school student. She entered the Sisters of St. Mary in Oregon in 1960 and made her religious profession in 1962. She later transferred her vows to the Benedictine Sisters of Mt. Angel.

Sr. René earned her undergraduate degree at Marylhurst College and her master’s degree in library science from the University of Portland. She served as a teacher and a librarian for several years before studying accounting and investing, and moving into the financial services field.

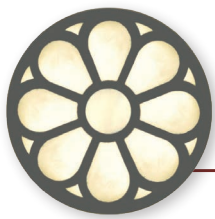
After working as a bookkeeper for the Benedictine Nursing Center for five years, Sr. René was employed by a mutual fund company and an investment firm. She also worked in the trust department of U.S. Bank before the effects of rheumatoid arthritis forced her to retire at the age of 50. She helped with the monastery switchboard for a number of years.

Sr. René said, “I am grateful to be a member of the Benedictine Sisters for all the support and love that has been given to me through the years. God has blessed me abundantly.”

The Benedictine Sisters proudly celebrate the commitment these three women have made to God, their monastic community and the people of God.

The Sister Marilyn Schwab Memorial Lecture

is returning after a two-year hiatus. The Benedictine Sisters of Mt. Angel and Providence Benedictine Nursing Center are working together on this free community health presentation. The lecture will take place in historic Agatha Hall this fall. The topic and date of the lecture are still being finalized. Please check our website, www.benedictine-srs.org/lecture, for more information and details once they become available. We hope to see many of you at this wonderful lecture held in honor and memory of Sister Marilyn Schwab and her contribution to the health and wellness of the Mount Angel community and beyond.



Veni, Sancte Spiritus

Artwork by Susan Black

If you have visited the monastery lately, you may have noticed a display of four watercolor paintings lining the main hallway on the monastery's second floor. The piece, entitled "Veni, Sancte Spiritus," or "Come, Holy Spirit,"

was created by Queen of Angels oblate candidate and friend of the sisters, Susan Black. An artist and writer, she founded of Black Star Studio (www.blackstarstudio.me). Susan's artwork has been on display in the monastery before, but this series of watercolors has a very special story.

"On the Feast of Pentecost in 2021 (May 23), I attended in-person Mass for the first time since the pandemic began -- and was blessed to be able to do so at the monastery. This was also my first opportunity to receive the Eucharist since February of the preceding year. Quite a day! As I was pondering the immense significance of all this, an idea came to me -- to paint four symbols of the Holy Spirit. The

idea -- and the questions of how to depict water, wind, fire and the dove (abstractly, in watercolor, my usual method and medium) -- percolated in my imagination and my prayers for about nine months, until the beginning

of Lent 2022. I then set to work, putting brush to paper, and finished the fourth painting exactly one week after Easter.

I showed the paintings to Sister Joan at one of our regular spiritual direction meetings. She insisted that we show them to Sister Jane and Sister Dorothy Jean. Several other Sisters also saw them that day. Almost before I knew it, I had an invitation to hang the series in the main hallway of the monastery. In time for Pentecost 2022! A dream come true for me." -- Susan Black

The artwork is still on display and open to the public. To view them, enter through the main doors, next to the Giant Sequoia, at the top of the stairs, Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.





Monthly Workshops

Supervision for Spiritual Directors via Zoom
2nd Friday, 9:30 am–11:30 am, Sep–May
\$20 per person

Book Talk via Zoom
3rd Saturday, 9:30 am–12 pm, Sep–June,
Donation

Check our website for a full reading list and future dates.

A Time to Journal with Evelyn Wemhoff via Zoom
2nd Saturday, 1–3 pm, All Year, Donation

This opportunity is for anyone who has previously attended a Progoff Intensive Journal Workshop and desires to strengthen his/her own work in the Journal. Email Evelyn at evelynwemhoff@mtangel.net, or by phone at (503) 845-9847 if you are planning to attend.

Dream Group: Language of the Soul, Agatha Hall

3rd Saturday, 10 am–12 pm, Sep–May
\$20/person

Listening to dreams in a group can help us pay attention to God's presence in image and word in our awakened life. Led by Clara Jean Dawson, spiritual director and oblate.

Prayer of the Heart, Chapel

3rd Tuesday, 3:30–4:30 pm, All Year
All are welcome to join this contemplative prayer group.

The Creative-Spiritual Life Circle via Zoom
3rd Saturday, 1:15 – 2:30 p.m., September through May.

A Benedictine-centered discussion group whose concept is simple: people who gather together on a regularly scheduled basis to share whatever is gratifying us or amazing us or troubling us or puzzling us about the intersection of creativity and spirituality. Led by Susan Black, Black Star Studio and Gallery, Aurora, Oregon. Made possible by and in gratitude to Jan Alsever

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

Taize Prayer Service

3rd Sunday, 7–8 pm, Oct–May, Donation

Join us for our monthly Taizé Prayer Service in the Chapel. This special service features sung and chanted prayers, meditation and personal reflection.

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.

The Monastery Gift Shop is open and filled with a wonderful variety of items made by the sisters. Open Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., 840 S Main St, Mt. Angel, OR 97362 and online at www.benedictine-srs.org/giftshop



Shalom at the Monastery Upcoming Retreats

***The Blue Sapphire of the Mind: Notes for a Contemplative Ecology* presented by Stephen Coffey, OSB Cam**

August 12 – 14, 2022

3:30 p.m. Friday – 1:00 p.m. Sunday

Via Zoom

\$99 / Scholarships Available

This weekend retreat will focus on chapter 7 of Douglas E. Christie's *The Blue Sapphire of the Mind: Notes for a Contemplative Ecology*. We will consider the theme of Eros as it occurs in the classical Christian spirituality of the ancient Church. We will explore the major sub-themes of exchange, intimacy and reciprocity from both psychological and spiritual perspectives and how this exploration contributes to a contemplative ecology.

Presenter: Stephen Coffey, OSB Cam, is an ordained monk of the Camaldolese community of California.

Engaged Spirituality: East and West, Meditating with Thich Nhat Hanh and Thomas Merton presented by Peggy Lindquist & Terry Moe

September 24, 2022

9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. / Chapel

\$65 includes lunch / Scholarships Available

On May 28, 1966 two monks from separate corners of the world met. Thich Nhat Hanh, a Buddhist Zen Master in the Order of Interbeing, on a visit to the United States sponsored by Fellowship of Reconciliation traveled to meet Thomas Merton, a Trappist monk and priest. They met at the Abbey of Gethsemani in Kentucky where Thomas Merton, then 51 years old, embraced Thich Nhat Hanh, then 39, as a brother.

"I have said Nhat Hanh is my brother, and it is true. We are both monks, and we have lived the monastic life about the same number of years. We are both poets, both existentialists. I have far more in common with Nhat Hanh than I have with many Americans, and I do not hesitate to say it." First published in the magazine Jubilee in 1966, and later reprinted in Thomas Merton's essay collection, *Faith and Violence* (1968).

This day retreat offers spiritual practices from their respective traditions, reflections on their lives and writings, especially from the period 1966–1968. Focus on the meaning of their meeting and subsequent teachings, especially related to an engaged spirituality east and west. An invitation for personal and collective discernment around the practices of an engaged spirituality for 2022 and beyond.

Presenters: Peggy Lindquist, Order of Interbeing, and Terry Moe, Lutheran Pastor, have worked together 2007 – 2012 piloting a variety of seminars and retreats featuring Buddhist and Christian practitioners and teachers including Thich Nhat Hanh and Thomas Merton, Joanna Macy and Thomas Berry, Thich Nhat Hanh and Ilia Delio, to name a few.

Progoff Intensive Journal Workshops via Zoom presented by Evelyn Wemhoff

October 5-6, 12-13, 19-20

9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. with breaks

\$225 per session

In a deep and quiet atmosphere, you will learn techniques to enable you to use the Intensive Journal workbook. The workbook is the active instrument of the program. Its structure makes it a dynamic vehicle for journal feedback techniques. The Journal clarifies and helps to self-adjust the needs and potentials of your life. There are three Workshops:

Life Context: (Oct. 5-6) Gaining a Perspective on Life

Depth Context: (Oct. 12-13) Symbolic Images and Meaning in Life

Life Integration: (Oct. 19-20) Integrating the Life Process

To register, contact Evelyn Wemhoff at (503) 845-9847 or by email evelynwemhoff@mtangel.net. Mail payment to One Towers Lane, #2243, Mt. Angel, OR 97362.

**Exploring the Willamette Valley at
Queen of Angels Monastery presented by
Gay Gomez, PhD**

October 8, 2022

9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. Outdoors/Chapter Room
\$50 includes lunch / Scholarships Available

This outdoor retreat will provide a guided bird hike in the morning and a tree/flower hike in the afternoon on the grounds of Queen of Angels Monastery situated in the Willamette Valley. Retreatants will enjoy discussions about the birds, trees and flowers that inhabit the monastery grounds as well as the ecosystem and geology of the monastery environs.

Presenter: Gay Gomez, PhD, is a retired professor of Geography, naturalist guide and author of two books on coastal wetlands. She now devotes her time to nature study in western Oregon, gardening and sampling craft beers.

Note: Please bring materials for note taking. Binoculars are welcome but not required. Limited to 12 participants. The retreat will be held rain or shine.

**Teilhard de Chardin's *The Divine Milieu*
presented by Stephen Coffey, OSB Cam**

October 21-23, 2022

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

\$99 / Scholarships Available

This weekend retreat will focus on Teilhard de Chardin's masterpiece, *The Divine Milieu*. We will consider the major themes of this seminal work, which the Jesuit scientist and mystic wrote during his exile in China. Special attention will be paid to his cosmic Christology and the centrality of the mystery of the Incarnation in his thought. The retreat will include extended periods of lectio divina on key texts from the *The Divine Milieu*.

**Living the Beatitudes presented by
Nancy Hendricks**

February 11, 2023

9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Chapter Room

\$50, includes lunch / Scholarships Available.

Jesus' most important instruction to us is to love one another. In this retreat, we will delve into the Beatitudes of Jesus. We will explore how to live this teaching of love in our everyday, ordinary lives with the Beatitudes as our guide.

**World Labyrinth Day: Take Steps
Together for Peace**

May 6, 2023, 1:00 p.m.

Outdoor Labyrinth, West End of Shalom Building
Free

The Benedictine Sisters at Shalom at the Monastery invite you to walk with them their outdoor labyrinth. Please gather at the labyrinth at the west end of the Shalom building. The event will take place rain or shine!

At 12:45 p.m., there will be a brief explanation of the Peace Walk on the labyrinth. We will then walk the 20-minute Silent Peace Walk, using the format of Benedictines For Peace. Following the walk, refreshments will be served in the Benedictine Sisters' dining room. All are welcome!

***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
840 S. Main St, Mt. Angel, OR 97362
at least three days before the start of the
retreat. Scholarships available, call to
learn more.***

2022 Founder's Day

VIRTUAL CELEBRATION

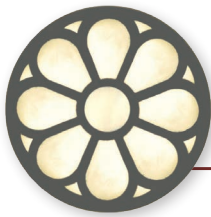
Our annual Founder's Day Virtual Celebration will kick-off this September. This celebration highlights and celebrates our founding in 1882. It has become an important part of our fundraising efforts and we hope you are able to participate this year.

Table Sponsorships are available and provide the largest portion of direct support to our monastic community. Each table sponsor will be thanked and recognized in a very special way and will receive a surprise gift from the sisters.

This is also a wonderful time to become a monthly or recurring donor. All new and renewing donors will have the first twelve months of their gifts double matched thanks to generous grants from the Larry & Jeanette Epping Family Foundation and Becker Capital Management. That means a \$10 per month gift becomes a \$30 per month gift for the first year. There is no better time to become a monthly supporter!

**For Sponsorship Opportunities, visit
www.benedictine-srs.org/FoundersDay**

**For more information on becoming a monthly donor and having
your gift double matched, call our Mission Advancement Office at
(503) 845-2556 or email info@benedictine-srs.org**



Monthly Gifts, The Foundation of Giving

by Michael Trevino, Director of Mission Advancement

Over the past few years, our Society of St. Benedict has grown from just a handful of family and friends to a group of nearly 60. This group supports the sisters with a monthly or recurring gift. It is truly a blessing to be able to count on these wonderful supporters each month.

We are tremendously appreciative of our Society of St. Benedict members for their continuous support throughout the year. Each month, even in the slow fundraising months of the summer, we know the sisters are still being supported through sustained giving. This is such a wonderful blessing, and you can help keep this society growing.

Becoming a member of this important society is easy. Members are able to stop and start whenever they'd like, the amount and withdrawal date is up to them as well. A debit or credit card can be used. If you'd like to have even more of each dollar go towards supporting the sisters directly, you can set up a monthly or recurring gift directly from your checking account. With this option, we pay less in fees and you don't have to worry about your debit or credit card expiring.

If you have ever considered making a monthly or recurring gift, I encourage you to explore the option. A gift of just \$10 a month has a significant and direct impact in the lives of the sisters. During our Founder's Day Celebration, new and renewing monthly/recurring donors can have their monthly gift tripled for the first year, thanks to grants from the Larry & Jeanette Epping Family Foundation and Becker Capital Management. To learn more about monthly giving, please call me at (503) 845-2556 or reach out by email michael@benedictine-srs.org. I look forward to having you join this indispensable society!

All gifts made to the Benedictine Sisters are tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law. The Benedictine Sisters Tax ID is No. 93-0387331



Thank You!

for Supporting Our Century Club

Our Century Club Appeal is our historic annual appeal. It holds a very special meaning to us. This appeal brings in so many prayer requests and intentions. Nearly half of the donations we received included a request for prayers, and we read each and every one of them. Every appeal gives our family and friends the opportunity to send in their intentions, but the Century Club Appeal surpasses the others. We are always humbled by the responses we receive from this appeal.

Our community would like to thank the nearly 200 family and friends who supported our annual Century Club Appeal. We appreciate every single one of you. With your support, our journey is significantly better. Thank you for being there for our monastic community.

Reflections



Reflections

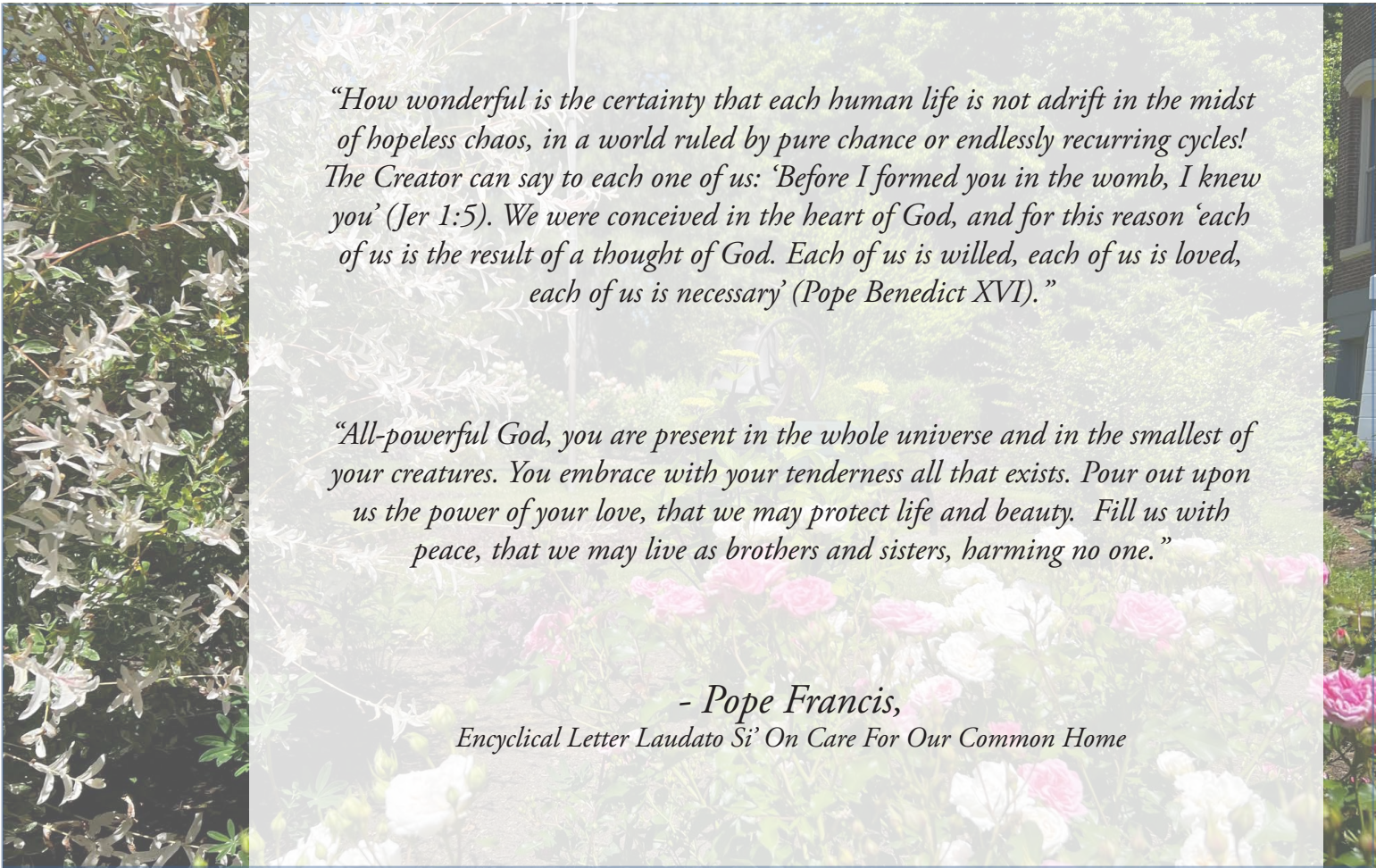
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“How wonderful is the certainty that each human life is not adrift in the midst of hopeless chaos, in a world ruled by pure chance or endlessly recurring cycles! The Creator can say to each one of us: ‘Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you’ (Jer 1:5). We were conceived in the heart of God, and for this reason ‘each of us is the result of a thought of God. Each of us is willed, each of us is loved, each of us is necessary’ (Pope Benedict XVI).”

“All-powerful God, you are present in the whole universe and in the smallest of your creatures. You embrace with your tenderness all that exists. Pour out upon us the power of your love, that we may protect life and beauty. Fill us with peace, that we may live as brothers and sisters, harming no one.”

*- Pope Francis,
Encyclical Letter Laudato Si’ On Care For Our Common Home*