



HORIZONS

Vol. 51, No. 1

ST. SCHOLASTICA MONASTERY, Fort Smith, AR

September, 2022



Simply Benedictine

Message from the Prioress



Sister Kimberly Prohaska, Prioress

Gratitude makes sense of our past, brings peace for today,
and creates a vision for tomorrow.

Melody Beattie

We have endured a lot in the last two and a half years. We have transitioned from the former monastery to our new monastery. We have welcomed new members to deepen their relationship with God by committing to the monastic call. We have witnessed the fidelity of those who have sustained a listening heart for many years by marking jubilees and significant time to the calendar of life. We have lived through a pandemic. We have been challenged, charged, and changed with new responsibilities. We have dealt with sudden loss and have grieved loved ones. We have assisted many in various needs and welcomed help when we found ourselves in need. Somehow, we have walked a road we did not fully see before us while anticipating a hope-filled future. We have loved, hurt, missed, encouraged, listened, endured, and lived honestly. We have supported and sustained one another every moment of the way.

We have been resilient in ways that have led us to greater confidence in God, even as we may have occasionally doubted our choices. We have trusted the One who never disappoints but often moves us in a surprising direction. We discovered that we are capable of so much in our monastic life by staying the course.

I have seen us live in benevolence for each other and those connected to us by our call as Benedictine Sisters of St. Scholastica, and I am simply in awe of you my Sisters.

There is much power in living benevolence, and we are capable of so much good.

Nothing is more beautiful than witnessing someone who has been through the struggle and has come out of the rubble to the other side. Humanity needs religious life, and it needs to know us even more in the chronic chaos it often sees in itself and reflects on others. It is up to us to be there; we can do this by living out what the world is missing, which is the grace of gratitude.

To quote our own Sister Macrina, let us not take our littleness lightly. It is a wonderful grace. It is a gift to receive. Remember what God promises. Better still, remember our promises to God and one another. How might we live out this new call for gratitude with eager freshness?

Let us begin to think beyond what has been, respect our limitations, love others for their own, and envision enough to embrace gratitude in the newness of each day. Let us ask ourselves, what am I called to do for God and my vocation that has not been done?

Let us make a conscientious request of God to take us beyond the norm. Test yourself to see if you are making progress or just going through the motion of life. We are here, now, today. We are not just the sum of our yesterdays and what could have been. We are so much more. We are called to be graced persons commissioned to bring gratitude for the life of someone we may not yet know. I invite us to take to heart this next year to live gratitude. In our gratitude is our hope. Our hope contains the witness of our Benedictine values, the values of prayer, listening, simplicity, hospitality, community, obedience, conversion, and good stewardship. Do we recognize the blessing God has given us? Are we ready and awake to live God's call of gratitude on our hearts?

and Financial Report

Thank you is such a small phrase that means so much. Living a life of sincere thanks is sorely needed in our world today. I, for one, thank God for my Sisters each day. We hold gratitude for all of you who know us, for you who support us in unspoken and active kindness. Cultivating a heart of gratitude means appreciating life in the present moment. It's counting our blessings, noticing simple pleasures, and acknowledging the abundance already here. We have much to give thanks for in this life we have together. Even when I sometimes don't want to be grateful for some of the hardships and heartaches, I have discovered that without gratefulness, happiness cannot live. I believe that God does want our joy and asks us to foster it with Him.

Because our sense of monastic gratitude "makes sense of our past, brings peace for today, and creates a vision for tomorrow." What a legacy we can be if we live gratefully. To paraphrase songwriter Danny Gokey, "we can say goodbye to where we've been, take a step, breathe it in, and let our hearts beat again. Our story is far from over, and the journey of gratitude has just begun. Yesterday is a closing door. We don't live there anymore and let every heartbreak remind us who has carried us this far."

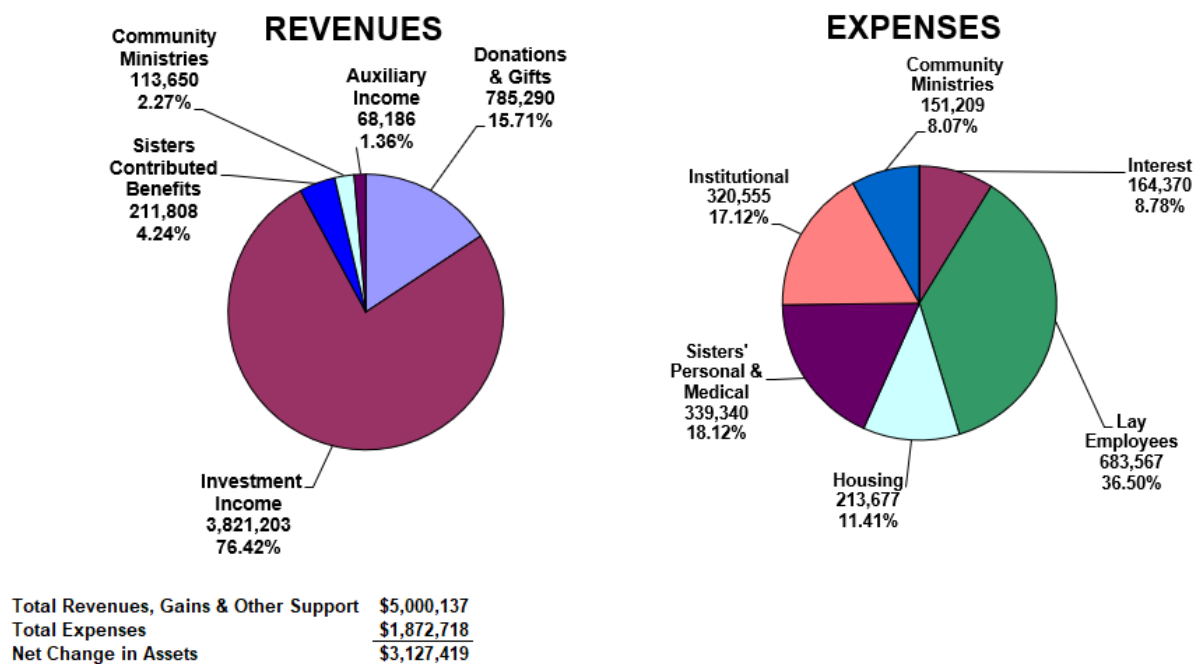
God will work everything for our good. Let the shadows fall away and step into the shining gratitude of grace.

Let our collective heart, the grateful heart of St. Scholastica, beat again in the fidelity and resiliency that she has ever been, and for that, may we all be forever grateful.

Sister Kimberly Rose Prohaska, OSB

(Adapted from my reflection to the Sisters of St. Scholastica Monastery Chapter, July 27, 2022)

ANNUAL REPORT September 1, 2020- August 31, 2021



Income was very good due to good investment returns and the generosity of benefactors.

Obituaries

Sister Catherine Markey

September 29, 1927 - December 11, 2021



Sister Catherine Markey, OSB, 94, of Fort Smith, passed away on Saturday, December 11, 2021 as a resident of Chapel Ridge Health and Rehab.

She was born on September 29, 1927 in Newton, Massachusetts to the late Joseph J. and Rose (Flanagan) Markey. Sister Catherine was a dedicated teacher and activist. Her passion for the poor and exploited touched every

aspect of her tiny frame and gentle personality. She had a love of animals and root beer. She enjoyed traveling and her faith and love of family and friends never waned.

Sister Catherine made her Religious Profession on August 15, 1947 with the Sisters of Most Holy Sacrament. She later entered St. Scholastica Monastery in 1990 and made her monastic profession with the sisters of St. Scholastica Monastery on August 7, 1993.

Sister Catherine earned her Bachelor's Degree in Secondary Education from the University of Louisiana, Lafayette. She earned her Masters in Science from Notre Dame University, Notre Dame, Indiana, with emphasis in Chemistry and Physics in 1961. She obtained her Library Science Degree from LSU in Baton Rouge, LA in 1973.

She also completed Continuing Education Workshops in Archival and Oral History, Basic Genealogy, Theology and Canon Law from 1975 to 1977. She served as Archivist in the Diocese of Little Rock and the Diocese of Jackson in Mississippi.

In addition to her parents, she is preceded in death by her siblings, Sister Anna James Markey, SC, Sister Mary Richard Markey, MHS, and her brother, Richard Markey.

She is survived by her cousins, Genevieve Duffy and family from Rockville, MD; Mary Behan and family from Valley Stream, NY; the Sisters of St. Scholastica Monastery, Fort Smith, AR; and the Sisters of Most Blessed Sacrament in Lafayette, LA.

Vespers was held on December 28, 2021 at 7:30 p.m. and funeral Mass was held on December 29, 2021 at 10:30. Burial followed at St. Scholastica Cemetery.

Sister Magdalen Stanton

July 23, 1937 - February 15, 2022



Sister Magdalen Stanton, OSB, age 84, a member of St. Scholastica Monastery, died at Chapel Ridge Health & Rehab on February 15, 2022. Lain Swafford Stanton was born on July 23, 1937 in Shreveport, Louisiana, to William Swafford and Jeannette Lain Swafford. She graduated from Germantown High School in Germantown, Tennessee, in 1955. Lain was

a wonderful big sister to her brother and sister who were several years younger.

Before entering St. Scholastica Monastery, Lain was married and worked as an interior designer, bookkeeper, and photographer in Memphis. In the 1970's she attended Memphis State University part time. After her divorce, she moved to Fort Smith to be near her sister, Patty O'Brien. She converted to Catholicism and was baptized at Immaculate Conception Church in Fort Smith in 1993.

A few years before entering the monastery, she lived in Subiaco and worked at the Gift Shop in Coury House.

Lain entered St. Scholastica Monastery in 1997 and became a novice in 1998, taking the name Sister Magdalen. She made perpetual profession on June 24, 2003. In the monastic community, Sister Magdalen taught calligraphy classes at the University of Arkansas-Fort Smith and gave calligraphy workshops. She was proud of the work of some of her students who continued practicing calligraphy. Using her calligraphy skills, she completed a beautiful necrology book, listing all the Sisters of St. Scholastica Monastery who had died. From 2001 to 2012, Sister Magdalen was Director of the Oblate Program. After learning to play the autoharp, she enjoyed playing for some of the community liturgies. Because of declining health, Sister Magdalen moved to the Infirmary in 2009 and later to Chapel Ridge Health & Rehab.

Sister Magdalen was a gracious Southern lady for whom art and beauty were very important. She was a voracious reader. She loved being surrounded by books and beautiful things.

She was preceded in death by her parents and sister-in-law, Cathie Swafford. She is survived by her brother, Bill Swafford in Boulder, Colorado; her sister, Patty O'Brien (Jim) in Fort Smith; her nephews, John Calhoun and Michael O'Brien; her nieces, Kym Wootton and Mary O'Brien; three great nephews and nieces; and members of her Benedictine community.

A Vespers Service was on April 8 at 7:30 p.m. The funeral Mass was on April 9 at 10:30 a.m. with Rev. Cassian Elkins, OSB and Rev. Joseph Chan presiding. Burial followed in St. Scholastica's cemetery.

Memorials may be made to St. Scholastica Monastery Continuing Care Fund, P.O. Box 3489, Fort Smith, AR 72913.

Sister Agatha Knittig

March 31, 1922 - March 18, 2022

Sister Agatha Knittig, age 99, a member of St. Scholastica Monastery, died March 18, 2022, at Chapel Ridge Health & Rehab in Fort Smith, Arkansas, thirteen days before her 100th birthday. Anna Marie Knittig was born March 31, 1922, in Morrison Bluff, Arkansas to Albert and Mary

Neuman Knittig. She was the oldest of eight children. Sister Agatha entered St. Scholastica Monastery in 1940, made first profession on June 24, 1943 and final profession on June 24, 1946. She loved her 46 years teaching elementary students in Clarksville, Atkins, Fort Smith (St. John's and St. Boniface), Russellville, Rogers, and Little Rock (St. Theresa's) in Arkansas and in Moberly and Lebanon in Missouri. After retiring from teaching, she worked in the diet kitchen at St. Scholastica's for seven years, then was director of religious education at Subiaco for four years. After retiring to the monastery in 2000, she helped in various household duties and was a regular visitor to residents in nursing homes.

She earned her Bachelor of Science degree at Incarnate Word College in San Antonio, TX and attended many workshops on religious education. As long as she was able, Sister Agatha enjoyed baking breads and cookies and making candy for the monastery's bake sales. She faithfully kept in touch with family and friends through phone calls.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her sisters, Marie Zaloudek and Rose Enderlin; and her brother, Charles Knittig. She is survived by her sister, Lona Weisenfels; and three brothers, Edward Knittig (Annette) of Fort Smith, Eugene Knittig of Southfield, MI, and Louis Knittig of Conway; her sister-in-law, Mary Alice Knittig; her many beloved nieces and nephews; and members of her Benedictine family. Her brother, Eugene, died two days after Sister Agatha.

Vespers Service was Wednesday, March 23 at 7:30 p.m. The Mass for Christian Burial was Thursday, March 24 at 10:30 a.m., with her former student, Fr. Jerome Kodell, OSB,



as presider, Fr. Joseph Chan as concelebrant, and Deacon Greg Pair as deacon. Burial followed in St. Scholastica Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to St. Scholastica Monastery Continuing Care Fund, P.O. Box 3489, Fort Smith, AR 72913-3489.

Obituaries Continued

Oblate Theresa Da Costa

May 2, 1955 - December 6, 2020

Dr. Theresa Da Costa, 65, of Canyon, Texas died December 6, 2020.

Theresa was born in Kamuli, Uganda on May 2, 1955, to Christostomos and Anastasia D'Costa. She was a member of St. Ann's Church in Canyon and St. Mary's Church in Amarillo.

Survivors include her children, Adam, Faruk, and Shabir Jiwa; brothers, Anthony, Francis, John, and Joseph D'Costa; sisters, Josephine Desouza and Hortencia, Lucia, Cecily, and Martha D'Costa.

Theresa Da Costa made her oblation on April 13, 2002, in Canyon, Texas.

Oblate David A. Novak

January 20, 1944 - November 16, 2021

David Novak passed away on November 16, 2021, at the age of 77.

He was a son of the late Andrew and Emily Novak. He is survived by his sister, Susan Novak.

David made oblation in Columbia, Missouri on February 11, 2006.

Oblate Clare Trelc-Lang

March 9, 1936 - November 21, 2021

Clare Mary Trelc-Lang, 85, of Boonville, Missouri passed away November 21, 2021.

Clare was the daughter of August and Clara Eimer. Survivors include her husband, William Lang and her sons, William and David Trelc.

Clare made oblation on July 11, 2009 in Columbia, Missouri.

Oblate Jannie Marie McCreary

January 1, 1941 - January 6, 2022

Jannie Marie McCreary departed this life on January 6, 2022 at Mercy Hospital in Fort Smith.

Jannie was born on January 1, 1941 in Omaha, Nebraska to the late Peggy Hollingsworth and Eugene Bush, Sr.

Survivors include her daughter, Rynette McGee; brothers, Ricardo and DeForest Hollingsworth and Kenneth and Earl Bush; sisters, Carolyn Harvey, Anna Rose Hollingsworth, Sherry Corley, and Joanne Walker.

Jannie made her oblation on May 19, 2013.

News Briefs

Jan. 27-Feb. 1, Sister Kimberly Prohaska participated in the virtual meeting of the Conference of Benedictine Prioresses.

May 17-28, Sister Maria DeAngeli and Novice Siena Fisk attended the Novices and Directors Institute in Atchison, Kansas.

July 9, Several sisters participated in the virtual American Benedictine Academy Conference.

Aug. 8-13, Sister Kimberly Prohaska attended the Leadership Conference of Women Religious Assembly in St. Louis, Missouri.

Mary C. Adams	Carolyn Lensing
Kristen Ahlert	Nancy Labiak
Geraldine August	Dory Lamont
Silvia Balsara	Gray Langston
Katherine Barnhart	Rita Lipin
Cindy Barr	Rose Elaine Lynch
Robert Baugh	Elaine Magruder
Stephen and Lorraine	Renee Mauzy
Beckham	Andrea Meade
Alma Benavides	Fred & Maryanne Meyerriecks
Lucy Benavides	Cynthia Meyers
Benedictine Convent of	Diane Minden
Perpetual Adoration	Pat Moix
Debbie Bentley	Jim and Pat Moore
Judy Bock	Monica Anne Moore
Marna Boltuc	Día O'Connor - in memory
Nora Bryant	of Dorothy Hutchison
Shelley Buonaiuto	Tamara Oberbeck
Tyna Burrows	Brenda Partin
Maria and Elizabeth Cabrera	Claire Price, M.D.
John and Vicki Casey	Jim and Mary Rogers
Apolo and Azucena Castillo	Carl and Elizabeth Rose
Jeffrey and Anne Champlin	Rose Family- in honor of
Glenn and Maria Constantino	Father John Antony
Deborah Cooper	Jeffrey and Jennifer Ruthven
Susan Dolan	Saint Bartholomew's
John and Susan Duckett	Episcopal Church
Candy Foster	Saint Joseph Catholic School,
Veronica Frederick	Anderson, South Carolina
Beth Fritsch	Saint Scholastica Benedictine
Ann Furr	Sisters
John and Sandra Gass	Leo and Debbie Sharum
JoAnn Gedosh	Kathleen Shields
Edward and Cecilia George	Doug Skokos
Mark and Haymee Giuliani	Judy Stetson
Deacon Roy Goetz	Subiaco Academy
Dennis and Christine	Gloria Tran
Gonzales	Trinity Catholic School
Helen Hays	Catherine Upchurch
Charmaine Haunert	Brian and Brandy Verkamp
Leona Hoelting	David and Katrina Wewers
Cher Horwedel	Julia Williams
Kathy Jarvis	Dewey and Annie Woody
Rebecca Johnson	
Joyce Jones	
Marguerita Joyce	
Margaret Karr	
Kristin Keilty	
Jo Kerns	



Above: The youngest scholar in the G.E.M. program takes a break from studies for smiles.

G.E.M. Donor List

We humbly thank all of the 2021 G.E.M. Scholarship Program Donors for their continued support!

Testimonial

"During my time in medicine, I have realized how fragile we are. The same day a human being is born, another can be dying. Therefore, we must value every second and live it as if was the last. I commit to my community to continue preparing myself for the service I must provide. The fear that is felt when starting something new should serve as an impulse to be able to grow. Fear is not always bad; it indicates that something great is coming and God will always be in control. I feel happy to be able to serve a community. It is a pleasure to be able to give a little compared to how much they have given me."

~ Marielos; G.E.M. Scholar and recent graduate from medical school in Guatemala.

G.E.M. News

December 3, 2022: The Fiesta of Solidarity will return at Christ the King Catholic Church. Subiaco Jazz Band (below) will headline. There will be a Christmas theme with a Guatemalan flavor, including a (taped) presentation from our students in Esquipulas.

2023: The 10th anniversary of the G.E.M. program is coming quickly.

Thank you to all of our loyal friends who support this program and the wonderful children in Guatemala. Gracias!



Novice Siena Makes Temporary Profession

By Carly Flanagan



On August 15, 2022, Novice Siena made temporary monastic profession. Three years of prayer, study, and anticipation led to this day.

Although the culmination of these years living within the community led to her profession, her communal and daily personal prayer life opened the eyes of her heart to how God meets each of us where we are in our journey:

“I realize that He truly speaks to us in different ways.... One will be able to find and hear God in so many different ways if one is truly seeking, and listening, for Him.”

She moved to the United States in 1996 after growing up in the Philippines. She heard the call of God in her childhood. Her mother, a devout Catholic, often took Siena to visit a cloistered convent in their hometown in the Philippines. She stated she would watch in awe as the sisters filed into the chapel, “I thought to myself, ‘I want to be like them.’”

Siena attended Catholic schools until high school and after college, she began a career in IT (information technology). Finally, after a lifetime of “promptings”, Siena pursued her call.

Her time at St. Scholastica has unearthed talents she possessed that she would not have discovered had she not entered the monastery. As she continues to share her gifts and talents with the sisters of St. Scholastica, Sister Siena desires to work in a parish ministry as well: “I’m looking forward to doing some kind of ministry in the community, like in a parish, helping in any way to bring others closer to God.”

It is this desire to be close to God that echoes through Sister Siena. Her life seems to center around drawing close to Him, a perfect fit for the monastic life of a Benedictine Sister.

Save the Date - Bake Sale on December 10

On December 10, the St. Scholastica Bake Sale will be held in the new monastery building. Items for sale may include but are not limited to cookies, cakes, jams, and more. More information to come in the coming months.

Sister Pierre Vorster was born before cars and airplanes were common modes of transportation. She was born before broadband internet and cell phones, and before the interconnectivity that has become synonymous with “today”. And yet, for all that she remembers seeing for the first time throughout her century of life, the Benedictine charism was never one of them, it was always the normal way to live.

Sister Pierre was born Benedictine. Her parents were German Catholic immigrants who farmed land in Logan County. Not far away from their home were the monks at Subiaco Abbey. Her grandfather worked at St. Scholastica’s original Arkansas monastery at Shoal Creek. Bordering all sides of her horizon was a Benedictine future, and she loved it.

So began her lifetime of work, prayer, and service. Her beautiful life journey that traverses the growth of civilization and hurdles the millennia includes impactful experiences of teaching, vital accomplishments with the state legislature, and friendships that cut through all the changing times to hinge on what matters most; faith, love, and stability.

On March 19, 2022, friends and family gathered at the Trinity Center, a day after her 100th birthday, to celebrate Sister Pierre and her century of service to those around her. She received the Apostolic Blessing from Pope Francis and accolades from the city of Fort Smith and the state of Arkansas. Many of those in attendance were either taught by Sister Pierre or grew up learning about her work as a vital part of life on equal par with the societal changes.

One hundred years is a long time to live. A lot can change. And a lot can stay the same. We wish Sister Pierre the happiest of birthdays and offer our gratitude to her for remaining steadfast and interconnected in faith within this ever-changing world. Her work, prayer, and service have been a blessing to us all.



Above: Sister Pierre greets a guest at her 100th birthday party on March 19, 2022.

Left: Arkansas State Representative Jay Richardson presents Sister Pierre with a Citation from the Arkansas House of Representatives.

Below: Fort Smith Mayor George McGill presents Sister Pierre with a Proclamation.



Sister Pierre Celebrates a Century of Life

By Jennifer Burchett

Beneath the Rubble

By Jennifer Burchett

The skyline of St. Scholastica's monastic grounds has changed in recent months. The Former Monastery Building, a staple of the Benedictine, Catholic, and Fort Smith communities, has been demolished after a decade of research, prayer, and discernment. And while at first glance the process and aftermath may seem like a pile of rubbish, what ultimately lies beneath the rubble encompasses much more than what first meets the eye.

For the sisters, the decision to demolish the Former Monastery Building was about much more than a building, not least of which was the history cemented within its walls. For a hundred years, the sisters lived in that building, they worked and prayed and bled and grew and taught and persevered within the gothic structure's walls. To the sisters, it was not merely a building, it was a home. And they know that to many of you, their friends and family, it was like a second home.

History is a friend. It is the smile that echoes down long, abandoned corridors from afar. It is the warmth that burns

in our hearts in the dreariest of seasons. It is the tangible, intangible, and part of us that can never be demolished. If you're one who thinks St. Scholastica's history is now buried beneath the rubble, then trust that just as the sun shines life upon the horizon, history can never be buried when we continue to be enlivened by the spirit of our past.

But, the pain is still very real.

One thing the sisters refuse to bury is pain. Your pain, the sisters' pain, and the community's pain is an aspect of the situation that they will not turn idly from. They hear you, and they feel you. This decision has not been an easy road, just as it is not an easy road to face the pain incurred thereof. St. Scholastica continues to believe that pain is no deterrent from doing the right thing.

The sisters or any representative from the monastery could recite the reasoning behind the decision a thousand times and always hear the voice of opposition. So, at the end of the day the only thing left to say is this. Thank you.

To friends, family, oblates, alumnae, employees, and many others, the sisters love you. They love you despite this pain, and thank you for remaining steadfast throughout this difficult road. Thank you for sticking with the sisters through the pain. Thank you for sticking with the sisters even when it wasn't easy. Thank you, for even though you may have disagreed with the decision to demolish the Former Monastery Building, you respected it and did not let it sever our shared history, or our shared future.

Yes, the skyline of St. Scholastica's grounds has changed, but what lies upon the horizon remains the same, just as it was yesterday. So long as we are a community bound by love, so long as our history remains in the heart, our tomorrow will never be buried beneath the rubble.

Re-Homed Items

Otto Hoffman Organ: The Jubilee Museum in Cincinnati, Ohio removed the organ and donated it to the Benedictine Sisters of Mary Queen of Apostles in Gower, Missouri.

Mary Side Altar: Men from St. Luke's Parish in Warren, Arkansas collected the side altar. It was dedicated by Bishop Taylor on November 23, 2019.

10-14 Sets of Blue Stained-Glass Windows, Reliquary, and Statues: Donated to St. Leo's Catholic Campus Ministry Church in Russellville, Arkansas.

Large Tabernacle: Donated to the Stanley Rother Shrine in Oklahoma City that is scheduled to open November 4, 2022.

Household Items including beds, sinks, toilets, light fixtures, vanities, furniture and smaller items donated to River Valley agencies in need.

Baby Grand Piano: Donated to a public high school in Oklahoma.



Happy 102 Birthday



Sister Marcella Schmalz celebrated her 102nd birthday on July 5, 2022. She was born in Carbon City, Arkansas to Helen Agnes Blunk and Ed Schmalz in 1920. On August 11, 1943, Sister Marcella entered St. Scholastica Monastery and eventually became one of the founding

members of St. Scholastica's second daughter house, St. Benedict's Monastery in Canyon, Texas. Please join us in wishing Sister Marcella a joyous and happy birthday!

Conference Time

Sister Maria and Sister Kimberly (pictured) attended the National Benedictine Vocation and Formation Directors Conference in Atchison, Kansas on May 2-6, 2022. This year the theme was Intergenerational Living: Infusing Joy-Reverence-Love Into Community. Presenters included Brother John Mark Falkenhain, OSB, and Sister Susan Rose Francois, St. Joseph of Peace.



Amazing Employees

Every year the Sisters of St. Scholastica Monastery take time to celebrate our hardworking and devoted employees. This year, we honored Wesley Shelly for 20 years as Maintenance Staff, Debbie Williams for 10 years as Healthcare Supervisor, Jennifer Dotson for 10 years as Kitchen Staff Manager, Cheryl Duxbury for 5 years as Kitchen Staff, and Perolyn Salada (not pictured) for 5 years as Healthcare Staff. We offer our gratitude to these and all

of our staff.



Gift Shop

St. Scholastica Monastery's gift shop is open for all of your gift needs. We have books, rosaries, jellies, and imported items all the way from Guatemala. Come take a look at our selections Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., and Saturdays from 12:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.. The gift shop is closed the second Saturday of the month and every Sunday, Tuesday, and Thursday. For more information, please call the monastery.



Oblation Elation

St. Scholastica Monastery is delighted to welcome new Oblates into our Benedictine community. This year Katherine Goetz, Katie Shields, and Jennifer Burchett were welcomed into the program. Stephanie Carbrey-Singmuongthong, Sister Judith Weaver (consecrated hermit), and Alice Nahas

celebrated making final oblation.

St. Scholastica's oblate program is a spiritual ministry that welcomes lay individuals



Above: Sister Hilary Decker, Katherine Goetz, Katie Shields, Stephanie Singmuongthong with her daughter, and Sister Maria DeAngeli

into the Benedictine way of life. Women and men of any religion or denomination are welcome to join this program.

If you'd like to become an oblate please contact Sister Hilary Decker, Director, at oblates@stscho.com.



Above: Sister Judith Weaver and Alice Nahas with their oblation certificates.

Spiritual Direction

The Spiritual Direction Ministry celebrated five new graduates under the instruction of the program's director, Alice Nahas. Tongva Williams, Terri Fontenot, Sr. Judith Timmerman, Janet Fuller, Alice Nahas, and Debbie Vaught (pictured below) participated in their graduating ceremony at St. Scholastica Monastery.



St. Scholastica Monastery's Spiritual Direction program will end after next year and is not accepting new enrollees.

Hesychia H.O.P.



Hesychia House of Prayer located in New Blaine is quietly nestled in the Arkansas countryside. The ministry offers hermitages for individuals to enjoy and to be alone with God. For those who so choose, spiritual direction is available with one of the three sisters who reside at and oversee Hesychia. For more information, please email Sister Lisa at hesychia@stscho.org or call (479) 938-7375.

HONOR ROLL OF BENEFACTORS FOR 2021

The Sisters of St. Scholastica Monastery thank each of our benefactors and volunteers for your generous support. You are remembered in our love and prayers. On the first Tuesday of each month, a Mass is offered for you and your intentions. Benefactors and volunteers listed here supported the Monastery during the year 2021.

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Elsa Aboytes	Henry & Judy Bertrand	Gary & Jo Ann Campbell	Jo Ann Detta
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Acme Janitor & Chemical Supply	Ed & Barbara Biersmith	Stephanie Carbrey-Singmuongthong	Cindy Devine & Daniel Graves
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Rick & Mary Llew Anders	Kanyin Bodeharrison	Dr. E.J. Chauvin	Duffey's Shoe Repair
Leo & Barbara Anhalt	Bill & Theresa Boekholder	Myrna Chensam	Jane Dugan
Anonymous (48)	Linda Boen	Arlene Childress	Richard Dunks
Cindy Ashley	Laura Bogner	Edward & Barbara Clare	Constance Durkin
Sr. Lisa Atkins, RSM	Bordertown Belles	Mina Clemmons	Mary Ealum
Lon Atkins	Ron & Ramona Bowman	Deborah Coddington	Gayle Easter
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Murl & Concetta Baker	William Brass	Clearinghouse	Robin Eggert
Lynil Balistrino	Barbara Brazear	Estella Conatser	Anne Marie Ellison-Johnston
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Anna Baltz	Mona Brockman	Bill & Mary Cooper	Don & Benita Essler
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*Do you struggle in
knowing God's will for you?
So did the Saints.*

*What did they do?
It's Simple really . . .*

*They simply
Prayed. Listened.
Responded.*

**Be Simply
Benedictine.**

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Alumnae Reunion

The St. Scholastica Academy Alumnae Reunion was held on April 23-24, 2022. Scho Girls gathered for lunch and a business meeting at St. Anne's and for dinner at Taliano's. On April 24, Mass and brunch were at St. Scholastica Monastery. Below, Debbie Bentley, Emily Soller, and Dorothy Sullivan serve at the brunch. The next reunion will be on September 9-10, 2023.

