

# Seek. Pray. Share.

Sisters of St. Benedict of Ferdinand, Indiana

VOLUME 9 NUMBER 3 FALL 2018





## Seeking, Praying, and Sharing . . . bringing those words to life



*Seek. Pray. Share.* is more than the title of our magazine. Those words describe our daily lives and activities.

In this issue, you will learn about how we and others are seeking God. Oblate Cathy Meister reveals the benefits she has found in her life as she sought Spiritual Direction. Our newly renovated Benedictine Hospitality Center has already hosted numerous people seeking a peaceful retreat space to reconnect and rejuvenate.

Learn how our Monastery Gift Shop and our Monastery Bakery are more than they seem. Our sisters and our lay employees view their work as opportunities to minister to others in the gift shop or while baking our artisan cookies. Our baked goods are indeed “prayerfully prepared.”

We hope to continually share our light and Benedictine values with others. As we hosted more than 60 young women at Camp Marian this year, we found great joy in knowing that these young women will also go “Light their World.”

In addition to the many good things happening here at the monastery and with our ministries, I also want to address the pain that we are all feeling as well. The Church is suffering. The terrible atrocities that continue to be revealed are truly heartbreaking for us all. Know that the Sisters are praying and discerning how we can best be of service to all those affected. The premise of the Church is to face our problems head on, so that’s what we want to do.

As you too find yourselves seeking God, praying for those in need, and sharing your time, talents, and treasures with others, know that we are joining you. I encourage you to Seek. Pray. Share.

Our prayers are with you.

Sister Barbara Lynn Schmitz, OSB  
Prioress



# Seek.Pray.Share.

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**Mission:** We, the Sisters of St. Benedict of Ferdinand, Indiana, are monastic women seeking God through the Benedictine tradition of community life, prayer, hospitality, and service to others. By our life and work, we commit ourselves to be a presence of peace as we join our sisters and brothers in the common search for God.



# Seek.

*“Turn aside from evil and do good; seek out peace and follow it. And when you have done this, my eyes will be upon you and my ears will open to your prayers.”*

*—The Rule of St. Benedict, Prologue*

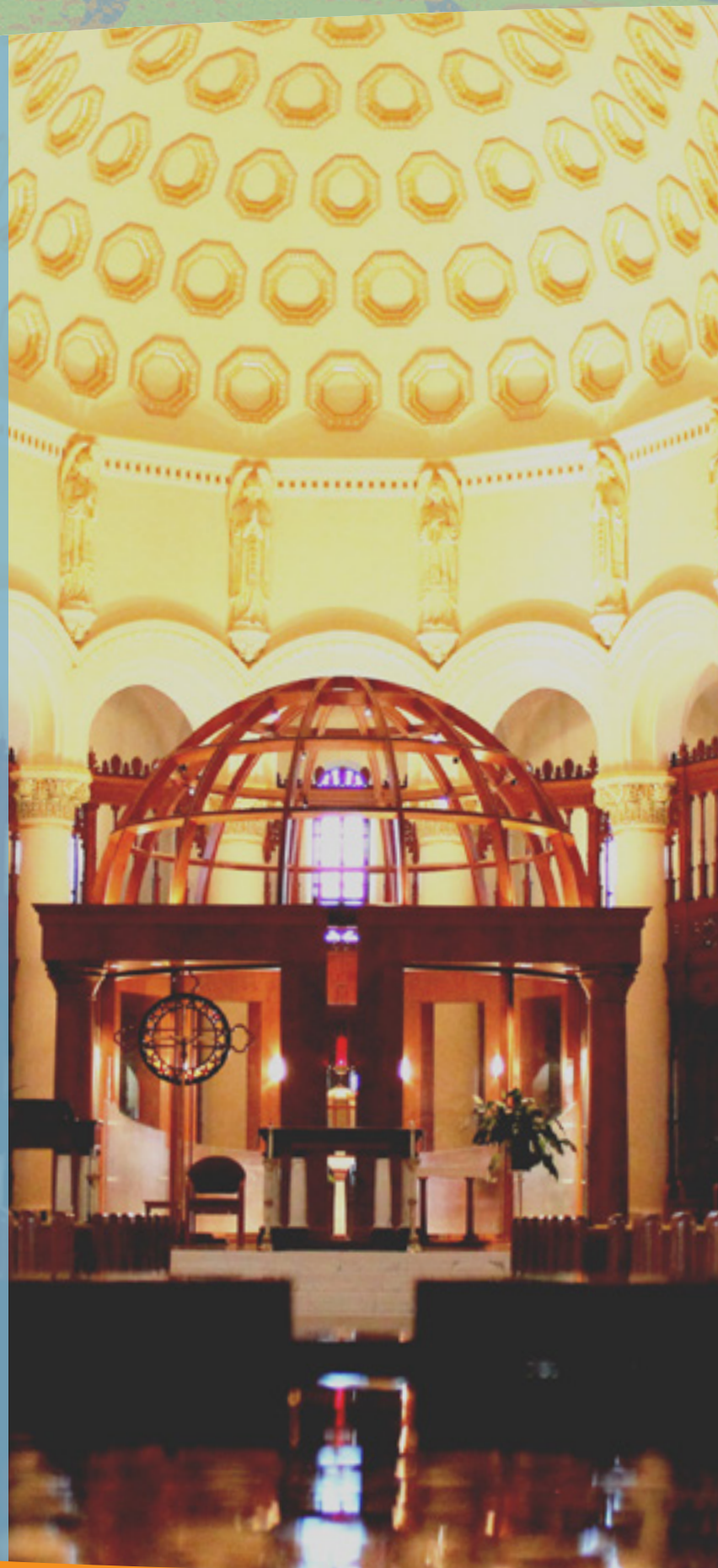
Our path to God may not be the one that we expect. We do not always realize God’s presence by our side, nudging us in the right directions as we stumble through life. God beckons us to see his glorious majesty in the lowly stranger who needs a room or the grandest plan that will expand the future of everyone you know and love.

Many days we do not recognize these miracles for what they are. We are caught up in the hubbub of our fast-paced lives and forget that God is with us, revealing the right paths with neon signs. With our blinders on, we may fall into a path that leads to darkness and misery. Here, we call out to God for help, and he again forges a path for us to return, if only we should seek it out.

We, the Sisters of St. Benedict, our Oblates and our friends, dedicate ourselves to seeking God in every moment. Though we are human like everyone else, at times following our own paths, we always return to the stability of God and our community. We support each other and remind everyone we see that God always seeks us out and that we must seek God as well.

Seek the peace of God’s calling. As you read these miracles within our lives, see how God works through others.

Seek God with us.







# Seeking God

Oblate Cathy Meister reveals the benefits of Spiritual Direction.

Cathy Meister, administrator of St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Louisville, knows that life is sometimes difficult.

But thanks to her spiritual direction sessions with Sister Jane Will and her current studying to become an Oblate of the Ferdinand Benedictines, she says, "I think I've been able to handle life better now than I had been in the past."

A few years ago, in the midst of coping with the deaths of seven people very close to her, including her parents, Cathy says she was probably "depressed and overwhelmed, and not in a good place."

She felt she needed someone to guide her a little bit. "I felt I was missing something, like my relationship with God wasn't deep enough. I needed someone to guide me through my spiritual journey. I wasn't feeling like I was moving in my spiritual growth that much."

While on a retreat at the Ferdinand monastery, she asked if there was a sister she could talk to. Sister Jane was there, and their monthly spiritual direction sessions quickly ensued, in January 2015. Later, when Cathy decided to become an Oblate, Sister Jane became her mentor for the required year of study.

"Sister Jane has made me more aware of God's presence in my life, where I never would have thought about that years ago," says Cathy. "You can always find something God is doing in everyday life, that God is there with you. I'm finding more peace in people than I had before, more acceptance, and not judging people as much as I used to. It's made me so much more aware that God's working in your life. She's taught me how to trust God more, and to go with the gifts God has given you."

Cathy notes that Sister Jane is a great listener and has the wisdom that helps people understand where God is in their daily life. Cathy

now recognizes how God puts people in our lives to help us.

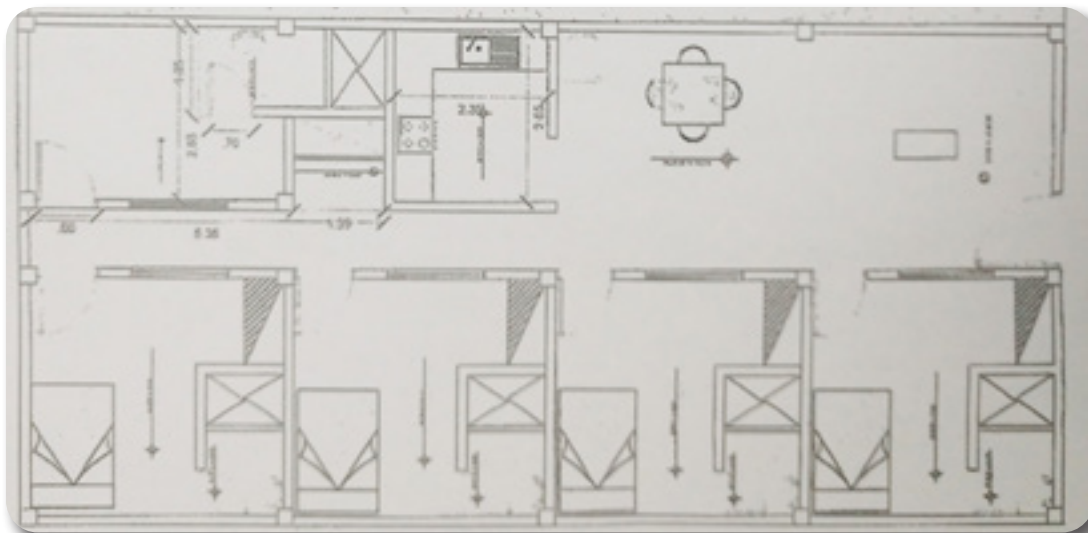
"I needed somebody I could talk to, to trust and share things with. I feel like I've become calmer. I don't get too excited over things I can't control anymore, because God is in control, really. Spiritual direction helps you to grow spiritually and become closer to Christ. It's been a good journey for me."

Cathy decided to become a Ferdinand Oblate to increase her knowledge about how a Benedictine lives. "I'm learning a lot about how to live as full as you can. The information you learn about the Oblate program can be used in everyday life. You learn about obedience, how to love your neighbor, and about God. There's a lot of information you can use as a Christian."

Plus, as her retirement nears, she wants to become more involved with the sisters' community and perform more volunteer work, with a goal of helping people through becoming an Oblate. ●

Cathy Meister and her husband, Herb, pose for a photo while visiting a Franciscan Monastery in Wales.





The preliminary layout for the complex looks a little like this. The Peruvian sisters are excited to make this 2D idea come to life on their campus.

## Seeking a Means by Tory Lanaghan

**Peruvian sisters celebrate upcoming 50th with new complex.**

Since the visit of our sisters from Monestario Paz de la Cruz, Madre Felícita Rentería and her sisters have been very busy creating a new plan to move their community and the people they serve forward.

The city of Morropon, in the province of Piura, Peru, has only one school, Santa Rita, located next to the monastery. This school must serve many miles of countryside and holds hundreds of students. Very few good teachers want to travel so far because there is no place to stay near the school. To fix this problem, the sisters came up with a plan. They needed to build a housing complex for experienced teachers and any young women looking to join the community, so that they might stay on the monastery campus and establish a rapport with the school and the sisters. To build this complex, they would need \$15,000 from the monastery in Ferdinand.

Unfortunately, Monastery Immaculate Conception did not have \$15,000 in their budget to give to their daughter monastery. They then turned to the Women of the Rule, a philanthropy circle dedicated to funding and supporting the sisters, to make a plea. During the philanthropy luncheon, Sister Teresa (T) Gunter, who had visited Monestario Paz de la Cruz just two years ago, represented the Peruvian sisters to convey their intentions.

Luckily for our Peruvian sisters, the Women of the Rule voted to give the daughter monastery the full amount asked. After the awards, Sister T excitedly messaged the sisters the good news. "They are very grateful," she said. "They were and are still praying for us."

Monasterio Paz de la Cruz celebrates their 50th anniversary next year. Many sisters and members of the Women of the Rule are travelling down to Peru to celebrate with them and talk about their upcoming project. ●



Sisters Jean Marie Ballard (left center) and Lynn Marie Falcony (right) took this picture with Sister Maria (left) and Madre Felícita (right center) when they visited the Peruvian Sisters this summer.



Sister Maria (center, standing) celebrated field day with the children at Santa Rita. She poses here with a few of the teachers and parents who came to put on the grand day.



# Seeking a Room

## New Benedictine Hospitality Center Opens.

by Tory Lanaghan

On July 5, The sisters celebrated the grand opening of the Benedictine Hospitality Center and asked God to bless the new guest dwelling with peace and relaxation. Sisters and friends alike toured through the common areas and 11 new rooms, spreading their Benedictine spirits throughout.

The Benedictine Hospitality Center is a replacement for the Kordes Retreat Center which has closed. The move brings guests closer to the sisters, allowing them to experience true Benedictine hospitality from sisters and reorient themselves to God's presence.

Guest rooms now come with private bathrooms and access to the courtyard and grounds, as well as any shared space within the center like the full kitchen, located just off of the

Sister Mary Longtime and her family enjoyed the couches set up for the Benedictine Hospitality Center guests at the grand opening.



St. Scholastica Conference Room. Each room and hallway are decorated with the artwork of sisters present and past, lending a personal touch to an already peaceful space.

“On the hill we have an atmosphere that is conducive to relaxation and prayer,” says Sister Jane Breen, Director of Tourism. “It is a great place to just ‘be’ for a while.”

The renovations won't end there, according to Sister Jackie Kissel, the Director of the Benedictine Hospitality Center. She says that the monastery will continue to renovate into the Alumni Center, making space for alumni and guests to hold conferences and group gatherings, and opening more public bathrooms for visitors.

The Hospitality Center now hosts a number of gatherings and retreats on the weekends but is looking to fill its rooms with even more guests and visitors from Tuesday to Thursday every week. The center is open to both personal and corporate retreats during the day along with overnight visitors. As always, the sisters' doors are open and welcome to anyone. ●

## Benedictine Hospitality Center

*Renew yourself*

Enjoy the hospitality of the Sisters of St. Benedict and discover the peace you long for.

Sign up at [thedome.org](http://thedome.org), or e-mail [hospitality@thedome.org](mailto:hospitality@thedome.org) to reserve a room.

Visit any time. Availability may vary.  
[thedome.org](http://thedome.org) • 812-367-1411 ext. 7309





# Pray.

*“... in prayer we ask God that his will may be done in us.”*

*—The Rule of St. Benedict, Chapter VII*

There are many ways to pray: in silent reverence before the altar, spoken with family and friends before a meal, or whispered to an empty room in times of need. God hears every prayer we speak and knows every word we think. Through prayer we hold conversations with God who guides us on our journey.

Many times we forget to contemplate the glory of God’s presence in our lives, finding that it is difficult to dedicate time to converse with the God who seeks us so persistently. We become too tired, too overwhelmed, or simply too busy to pray. Truthfully, however, prayer eases the rush and anxiety of life. We need it more than anything.

The Rule of St. Benedict asks us to rise with God’s creation to give praise. In the middle of our busy, working lives, we must stop to enjoy the silence and meditation that comes with praying together. We ask for forgiveness, for help, and for peace, so that every word from our mouths may declare God’s worthiness. We do our best to keep prayer intertwined with our lives because our relationship with God allows us to do His will every day.

We ask that, as you turn these pages, you hear the prayers we speak through these stories. Each day we pray for our guests, for our neighbors, for ourselves, and for you, that God may speak his words.

Pray to God with us.







Deb Fleck, an Oblate and employee of the Sisters of St. Benedict, toured guests around a newly remodeled Monastery Gift Shop, showing off new product and truly giving a Benedictine welcome.

## A Prayer for Help

Sisters serve Latino community in time of need.

by Tory Lanaghan

With new immigration policies in place, the southern Indiana community has seen a rise in immigration interests as some families fear separation and deportation. Sister Michelle Sinkhorn and Sister Joan Scheller have teamed up to teach the community about immigration policies as well as serve the Latino community in southern Indiana.

Each week the sisters take on more than 10 DACA cases, aiding young adults in renewing their educational or work visas. Each client meets with the sisters personally to work through paperwork and any other issues they might run into.

At the end of July, the sisters also hosted a public presentation at Jasper Engines and Transmissions to teach about immigration policies and what the community can do to help. Several politicians, like Jasper mayor Terry Seitz, attended along-side local teachers and parents, all looking to learn about immigration and what they can do to help their fellow community members.

“Schools don’t receive enough of this information,” said Deb Stemle, a teacher at Southwest Dubois County School Corp. in Jasper. “The more we understand the truth, the more we can advocate for our kids.”

The sisters intend to continue their advocacy for the community’s growing Latino population and are serving as many applicants as possible at this time. ●

## A Prayer of Service

More than a monastery gift shop; it’s a ministry.

by Tonya Brothers-Bridge

For the employees, serving visitors to the monastery is more than a job; it’s a ministry. Upholding the Benedictine values of hospitality and service to others, Deb Fleck, an Oblate working in the gift shop, welcomes shoppers as if they are special guests in her home. Whether browsing, selecting a special gift for a friend, or searching for a keepsake to remember the trip to the monastery, Deb cheerfully helps shoppers find the perfect items.

Shoppers comment about Deb’s helpfulness as she points out the monthly specials or reveals some products as one-of-a-kind, handmade gifts from sisters on the hill. She says that one of the highlights of her time in the Monastery Gift Shop is when shoppers ask about the Monastery Collection Glow Diamonds, wondering if they truly glow in the dark. “Yes, they do! Let me show you!” she tells them, flipping off the lights to demonstrate how the gems glow even in the darkest room.

Deb explains, “The Monastery Gift Shop is an extension of the sisters’ ministry of hospitality and service to others. The ministry of the gift shop offers the opportunity for each of us to utilize our God-given talents to help build up the body of Christ by recognizing Christ’s presence in one another and in every guest that comes into our store. I believe that it is more than a religious gift shop. It includes the ministry of prayer and spiritually attending to the needs of others.”

Deb and her coworkers understand that in addition to helping customers select a wonderful gift or tasty treat, that the real ministry is extending the Benedictine welcome and spreading the spirit of St. Benedict as he taught us to do. ●

### Do you have a prayer request?

Submit your intentions online at  
[thedome.org/prayer-requests](http://thedome.org/prayer-requests)  
or call 812-367-1411.







Sisters hard at work making almerle cookies for the large influx of orders.

## A Prayer for the Future

Sisters hope expanding bakery will help make monastery viable

*By Hannah Fleace*

At first, Monastery Baked Goods appears to be like any other bustling bakery. Industrial ovens spin freshly cut batches of Hildegard cookies. Italian seasoning, cayenne, and dill waft through the air as the spicy pretzels finish baking, and stacks of boxes are ready to leave for the Indiana State Fair. But this small enterprise, tucked behind the main part of the monastery, is serving much more than baked goods.

As the population of sisters begins to age, the community is looking for ways to make the monastery more self-sufficient. The answer may come in the form of nutmeg and cinnamon. Headed up by Sister Jean Marie and Bakery Manager Kris Lasher, the bakery has really started to expand and grow in the last three years.

“Half of what we sell is normally created and sold during the months of October, November, and December,” Kris said. “But already that is starting to change, and we’re seeing more sales throughout the year.”

The sisters and staff have a multifaceted plan to grow the bakery even more in the next year. They hope to double their profit and reach more people by next summer.

Melanie Wilkey is the first part of that plan. She is the newest member to the staff and the first full-time sales representative. Last year the bakery staff was so swamped during the Christmas season, they stopped selling and just took orders. This year, they hope to continue serving and taking orders with Melanie’s help.

Melanie said they plan on expanding to digital advertising, and she’ll soon start corporate sales, a new tactic for bakery marketing. They’re also targeting commercial and local businesses with Christmas bundles. There are six different offerings with combinations of cookies, coffee, and gift shop goods. The coffee is part of a collaboration with Needmore Coffee Roasters, a female-owned company out of Bloomington who get their coffee from women in Mexico and Honduras.

“Some packages also include soaps, jams, and CD’s from the gift shop,” Melanie said. “We really hope they go over well as corporate gifts as well as just nice individual Christmas gifts.”

You can buy baked goods bundles like this with Pretzels, Lemon Cookies, Shortbread Cookies, and Almerle cookies. They are perfect for gifts!







Melanie Wilkey, the new Monastery Bakery Sales Representative

The building the sisters use – the former laundry room for the monastery – is also seeing some changes. The front room formerly housed all the baking equipment as well as packing supplies, but now, the baking enterprise is taking over the room next door. It'll soon be the packaging area, filling the near-constant influx of orders.

The front room is adding an industrial cookie dropper to the already busy space. The machine will speed up the cookie-making process and can hold up to 200 recipes, allowing for more variety. Currently the bakery goods are sold in the gift shop and wholesale online from New York to California; they also cater and make breads and specific cookies to order. For the third year in a row, the sisters sent goods to the Indiana State Fair. They participate in area farmer's markets and festivals.

The most popular cookie year-round is the Hildegard cookie, a crisp spicy cookie whose recipe dates back eight centuries. During the Christmas season, the Springerles and Almerles are the most popular. Almerles are similar to Springerles but have an almond base instead of the traditional ground anise seed. Kris said she hopes that they'll add new favorites to the menu in the coming months.

While the bakery is growing, it is important to the staff that the purpose and mission aren't forgotten.

"We always say they are prayerfully prepared by the Sisters of St. Benedict and they really are," said Angi Seffernick, the Director of Monastery Goods and Services. "I'm always so taken by how important it is to them. I know it's cookies, but it's to help the sisters in their mission and ministry."

Even as the business grows, Sister Jean Marie is sure their ministry of prayer will continue.

"Food touches everyone," she says, "And it's a way for people to approach us. They might not approach us if we were standing outside of church – and we do that as well – but it's a way to tell people about the Benedictine charism."

It's also a deep-seeded part of monastic tradition, Sister Jean Marie says.

"The work in the bakery is an extension of who we are and our values," she said. "Quality of work, care of the tools and how we treat each other is something we impress on all who come to the bakery."

Kris agrees that one of the most fulfilling parts of working at the bakery is the camaraderie, prayerfulness, and positive atmosphere. During the busy Christmas season, it's common to see 25 people in the kitchen – sisters, oblates, community volunteers, and staff. The atmosphere is positive because of the sense of community built, and the belief in the sisters' mission.

"As we grow the business, it is my hope that we can continue to touch people with our cookies, our story, and sharing the Benedictine charisms of hospitality, community, stewardship, and prayer," Sister Jean Marie says. "It's not just about the cookies."

In the coming months, the smells inside the bakery will change with new ingredients and experiments. But it will always be a place with rich history and a promising future of ancient sweets and fresh prayers. ●

**SISTERS OF ST. BENEDICT MONASTERY BAKED GOODS**

**Want to try our products?**

Taste the love and try all of our newest products when you buy baked good bundles at our online store!

**Looking for snacks at your corporation?**

Contact our new sales representative, Melanie Wilkey, to find out how the Sisters of St. Benedict can fill your tins.

**Go to [monasterygiftshop.org](http://monasterygiftshop.org) and shop for your next delicious gift.**



# Share.

*“... and let them at once join in prayer together and so let them associate together in peace.”*

*—The Rule of St. Benedict, Chapter LIII*

We learn to share things from the very start of our lives. We share toys when we are toddlers, secrets when we are teenagers, and successes when we are adults. One thing that we share throughout our whole lives is experiences. We recount our craziest stories with the ones who were there. We smile at the passing stranger who meets our eye. We hold hands with our loved ones when we are in need.

In these experiences, we find that the point of sharing is to bring people together. A shared memory is priceless. This is why, at the end of our lives, we are told we will only regret the things we didn't do and the chances we never took. No one remembers the clothes you had in second grade, but they do remember that disastrous family vacation or when they first held their child.

Like Adam and Eve, we were created to share our lives with each other. The Sisters of St. Benedict share thoughts, prayers, and words with each other every day, within our community and with those who come in contact with us. We think it is important to recognize when shared moments become shared memories, victories, and lives.

We would be so much less without those who share time, talents, and treasures with us. As you read these pages, know that we cherish every moment and experience with you.





# Share the light *by Tory Lanaghan*

## Camp Marian lights a path in the storm.

Through a near constant deluge of rain, a light shined from Camp Marian girls' camp in early June. With nearly 70 campers and over 15 counselors, it was a simple task to bring the light of Christ to the community, and, as this year's theme directed, "Go Light Your World."

On the first day, children piled into the event center to check in and get their shirts, excited to simply be together – returners and newbies alike. Sister Teresa (T) Gunter and Sister Jill Marie Reuber, who have run Camp Marian for nearly 20 years, were buzzing in anticipation at the thought of sharing the sisters' ministry with their campers.

The very first activity was nothing less than shouts of joy echoing up the hill. Campers and counselors ran around with squirt guns and water balloons full of bright dye, attacking each other and drenching their white shirts with splashes of color. By the time the afternoon came, the girls were ready for their favorite activity: jumping into the pool, catching rays of sun, and splashing into their week of spiritual fun.

Unfortunately, for the first time in nearly 20 years, the campers and counselors of Camp Marian were confined to the indoors almost every hour of every day. Though cabin fever took hold starting on day two, sisters up on

the hill and volunteer counselors all worked together to create an atmosphere of learning and fun for their campers that included as many usual activities as a normal week of Camp Marian. They even held a campfire of flashlights and tissue paper and handed out oven-baked s'mores in the evening. Twice a day, everyone prayed Liturgy of the Hours, and, on the last day, they enjoyed Mass with Fr. Gary Kaiser.

"My favorite part of Camp is being able to pray with the campers in Liturgy of the Hours and Mass," said Sister Jill. "I like to share who we are with them, especially with the campers who come back year after year."

Of course, Sister T said, with a full Camp Marian, nothing could have been done without the help of their sisters on the Hill. "The more kids there are, the more the sisters step up," she said. "It is really appreciated."

Sisters Becky, Roxanne, and Corda, along with many other volunteers, chipped in for breakout sessions and cooking, supporting the campers and counselors with their words and actions of love.

Next year, Camp Marian will be split into two separate weeks to accommodate the large influx of campers. ●



Sister T teaches the campers a song around the makeshift campfire.



Returning campers know how to have the most fun. Here they show the younger campers why dancing is joy personified.



Sister Doris Scheppers, one of the sisters who volunteered throughout the week, grilled out for the young ladies on the first day of camp.





# Sharing the Love

Sister wins award for her loving ministry efforts in Louisville.

Sister Jeanne Ellen works with one of her clients at St. John's Center. It is evident in her demeanor that her love for these men shines through any darkness they might encounter.



On June 8, just three days after her Golden Jubilee, Sister Jeanne Ellen Niehaus was honored in front of colleagues and friends by receiving the Bridgehaven Mental Health Services' Bridge to Light Award. One of twenty people nominated, Sister Jeanne Ellen was recognized for her outstanding work in the field of behavioral health and making a difference in the lives of the people she serves at St. John's Center for Homeless Men.

"I was embarrassed to stand up when they called my name as a nominee," Sister Jeanne Ellen recounts. "Then they called my name as the recipient. I could not believe it."

Since 2000, Sister Jeanne Ellen has worked at the St. John's Center for Homeless Men, first as a drug and alcohol counselor, and more recently as the social services coordinator. The St. John's Center for Homeless Men opens its doors to approximately 185 men per day, ranging in age from 18-70. While some use the center to get out of the heat on a hot summer day, others use the center as an address for mail, make and receive phone calls, apply for jobs, fill out paperwork, or counseling and legal services.

Each day Sister Jeanne Ellen tirelessly meets face-to-face with more than 20 men and helps them with a multitude of services including applying for a state ID, filling out job applications, and connecting them with other resource agencies.

When asked how she can do such a mentally challenging and emotionally exhausting job, Sister Jeanne Ellen replied, "It's all God's gift. I just show up."

It is this humbling attitude along with her compassionate demeanor that caught the attention of Maria Price,

Executive Director of St. John's Center for Homeless Men, and the person who nominated Sister Jeanne Ellen for the award. Price wrote of her, "As a Benedictine Sister, Sister Jeanne Ellen exemplifies what it means to serve others. The men of St. John's Center turn to Sister Jeanne Ellen for comfort, guidance, and a helping hand. They know they can approach her without receiving any judgment."

Thanks to the humble work of Sister Jeanne Ellen, thousands of men have received a place to stay and a way to better themselves. ●

Sister Jeanne Ellen Niehaus depicted with her award. She was so honored, she could barely stop smiling.







Featured: Brent  
and his wife  
Michelle

## Brent Sternberg

### Donor Partner Profile

by Tonya Brothers-Bridge

Brent Sternberg is passionate about supporting the Sisters of St. Benedict. And for good reason. For over 40 years, Brent has personally experienced and witnessed the good works of the sisters and the value they bring to the communities they serve.

Many of the sisters were Brent's teachers at Holy Family, Jasper from kindergarten through the 8th grade. As a result of being taught by the sisters and even living nearby as neighbors, Brent saw the sisters put their Benedictine values into action every day – not just in the classroom but in every day life. Brent saw the compassion, the commitment to being of service to others, and the desire to do more than was expected.

Brent remembers fondly how the sisters seemingly always went the extra mile to ensure the students had the best learning experience. One such occasion was when Sr. Geneva Stumler raised baby chicks at the house where she lived and brought those baby chicks to school for the students to see.

The sisters continue to make their positive impact on the communities in which they live and work; consistently looking for ways to be of service and having the greatest impact. For those reasons and many more, Brent and his wife Michelle decided many years ago to include the sisters with annual gifts. By partnering with the sisters, Brent, Michelle, and their family are enabling the sisters to continue their many ministries feeding the hungry, sheltering the homeless, caring for

the sick, comforting the grieving, and continuing to teach the children.

"We've been very blessed in our lives. Michelle and I feel that sharing our blessings with others – whether it's our time, talents, or treasures – is important to do. The sisters help take care of our community; so we want to help take care of the sisters." Brent went on to explain his specific concern about the sisters' retirement years, "As a financial services professional, I understand the importance of planning for and funding retirement accounts. Because many of the sisters did not have conventional retirement accounts, Michelle and I are especially interested in supporting the senior sisters and their needs as they move out of the day-to-day work life into other ministries."



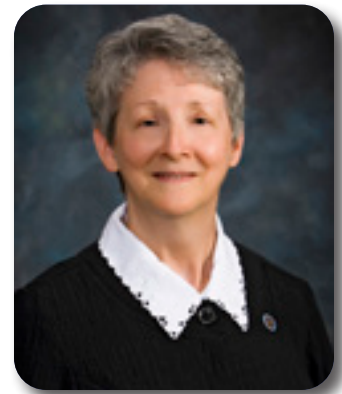
## Sister Christine Kempf

### April 24, 1933 – May 17, 2018

by Maggie Blakeslee

Sister Christine Kempf exemplified Benedictine hospitality with a gentle soul and listening ears, sharing her wisdom beautifully and humbly. An avid fisher, being outside and reading a good book brought her joy and peace. Many times you could find her sitting on the swing at Camp Marian reconnecting with nature.

Sister Christine had a passion for her community and sharing it with others. As Director of Tourism, she used her ministry to see Christ in every person who entered the monastery living the Benedictine charism effortlessly alongside her sisters. More than anything, Sister Christine loved her family and looked forward to their reunion every June at Camp Marian. ●



## Sister Rosemary Dauby

### December 4, 1951 – June 10, 2018

by Maggie Blakeslee

Sister Rosemary, or Rosie, as she was affectionately called by her family and community, was a talented person. She was an accomplished artist and dancer, taking part in liturgical dance at the monastery and sharing many pieces of art with the community. Her beautiful voice echoed within our schola and she used it lovingly to take part in two different CDs. She also had an eye for decoration, taking time out of her day to create floral arrangements for the church.

As a Physician Assistant for more than 30 years, she devoted her time and talents to gently coax healing into the body and soul of every person. She took time to listen to the people who came for care and the people she served recognized it; they loved her dearly. ●

## St. Hildegard Society

### Looking to leave a lasting legacy?



Join Elaine Baumgart, a long time volunteer, in the St. Hildegard Society of planned givers.

Leave the Sisters of St. Benedict in your estate plan, make a planned gift, or fund a charitable gift annuity.

For more information please contact  
Sister Barbara Lynn Schmitz at  
888-649-1121, ext. 2631.



SISTERS  
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*Seek. Pray. Share.*

