



Chaplain's Corner

THE CHRISTMAS FRIEND

Fr. Thomas A. Krosnicki, SVD

With the birth of Jesus, the world rejoiced in the Word Made Flesh, the Son of God made Man, the Prince of Peace, the Messiah and other time-honored titles. But in scripture one finds yet another title, albeit a much less used one, for Jesus born of Mary. He is our Friend.

In the Gospel of John (Chapter 15:14), Jesus told his disciples that they were not servants but his friends. Now if Jesus declares himself our Friend, then each one of his followers can call him/herself a friend of Jesus. You are a friend of Jesus! The 19th century hymn, What a Friend We Have in Jesus, says it all.

Blessed are you if you have good friends. Children need them and so do adults. The difference is that youthful friendship is often superficial and passing. Adult friendship is generally well tested and therefore more profound and enduring. In fact, two adult friends can enjoy one another's presence even if there is nothing raucous about it. Often adult friends are satisfied by simply being in the presence of one

another. You see, over the years such friends have come to know one another well, delight quietly in their shared experiences, and revel in memories of common joy and suffering. Adult friendship is quiet and simple. It does not need the frills or thrills of youth, nor a parade of words or useless chatter.

And so it is with Jesus your Friend. Over the years you have come to know Jesus— his birth, his ministry, even his suffering and death. He and you have become steadfast and faithful friends. So you can speak to him in the quietness of prayer. You can adore him present in the Eucharist. You can sit in his presence and say to him: "We are friends".

Mount Grace is a place where the Adoration Sisters and welcomed visitors to their chapel gather often to speak and listen to Jesus their Friend. I hope that you also have come to know the joy and peace that comes from simply sitting in the presence of Jesus, your lasting Friend!

Make time to be with your Friend!



*Merry
Christmas!*



Mount Grace Newsletter

December 2012



*You and your loved ones will
be gratefully remembered in our
Advent and Christmas Liturgies
December 16 to 24 and
December 26 to January 3
and in our Eucharistic
Celebrations on Christmas Day.*

Holy Spirit Adoration Sisters

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Convent Happenings

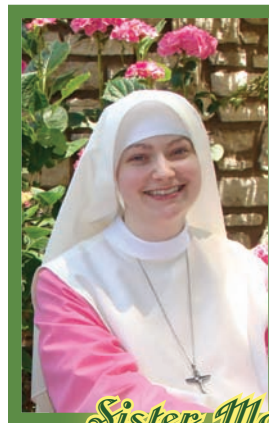
Sister Mary Christine



Sister Mary Gracelyn

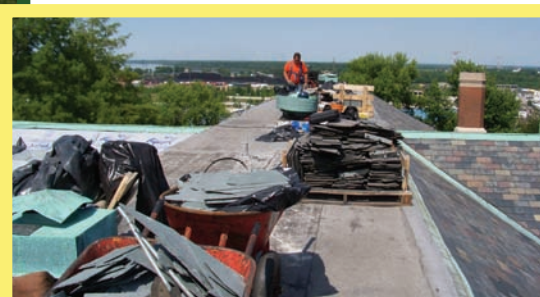


Sister Mary Sophia



The month of June was a time of “Good-bye” and “Welcome” as **Sister Mary Sophia** and **Sister Mary Christine** winged their way to our convent in Philadelphia. Our gratitude for all they had meant to our community and our prayers accompanied them. Then we had the glad event of welcoming **Sister Mary Gracelyn** into our midst from Blessed Sacrament Convent in Corpus Christi. Sister has made herself at home with her cheerful assistance in the kitchen. Comings and goings always renew the community and offer each Sister the chance to grow and experience our common life in a richer and deeper way.

A new roof! (below)



gone from our parking lot and a new slate roof was completed for our convent and chapel. We pray that this one will last over eighty years as did the first one which was the original placed on our buildings back in 1928! Thank you to all our friends and benefactors who made this new roof possible – God reward you!

Toward the end of July we rejoiced that all the trucks and huge waste bins were



(above)

The Mount Grace community plus our guests, Spring 2012



(right)

Sister Mary Renee and Mother Maria Elizabeth



In the midst of Easter joy on the Thursday after Easter, we welcomed **Mother Maria Elizabeth** and her councilor, **Sister Mary Renee**, for the Visitation of our community. These Visitations take place every four years, or when a Superior General is newly elected, as Mother was in June of 2011. It was a time for each Sister to meet privately with Mother to enable her to assess the needs of each one and of the community as a whole. We enjoyed hearing about our Sisters in the convents throughout the world and had many pleasant sessions of sharing stories. The two weeks sped by and we bade farewell with hearts full of encouragement and renewed fervor in living out our daily round as Holy Spirit Adoration Sisters.

