



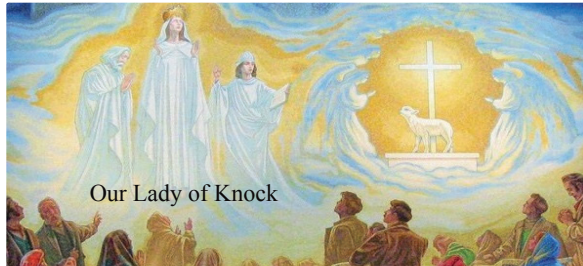
FATHER CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Fr. Kent Pollman

Our Lady of Knock and Mount Grace Convent

On August 21, 1879, in Knock, Ireland, a woman named Mary McLoughlin saw three figures outside the south wall of her local church surrounded by a globe of warm light. Although there was a light rain that evening, not a drop fell on them. Soon Mary gathered others of the poor town from old to young. When they approached the figures, they recognized the central and tallest figure as the Blessed Virgin Mary with hands held apart in the same gesture that priests have in offering prayers to God the Father during Mass. To the Blessed Virgin's right was St. Joseph. To Mary's left was St. John the Apostle. Further to the left was an altar and on it was a lamb and a cross. Surrounding the altar, lamb, and cross were angels in adoration.

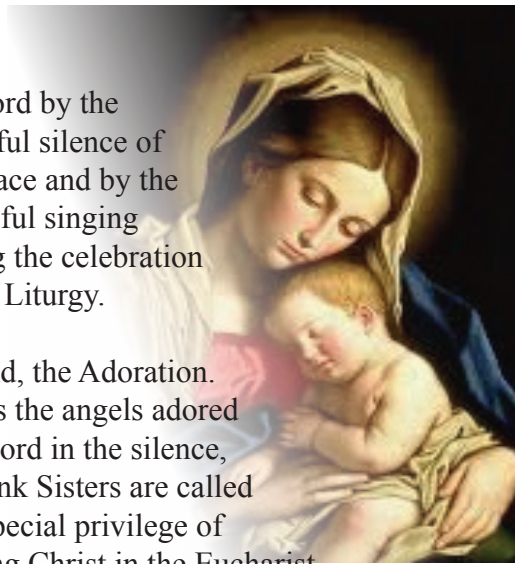
This Marian Apparition stands out to me as the new chaplain for the Holy Spirit Adoration Sisters for three striking qualities: first, the silence. This is the only Marian Apparition I know of in which no word was uttered. Here, at Mount Grace Convent, I have heard that many have been brought to



the Lord by the peaceful silence of the place and by the beautiful singing during the celebration of the Liturgy.

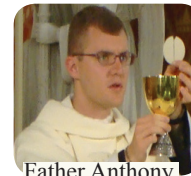
Second, the Adoration. Just as the angels adored Our Lord in the silence, the Pink Sisters are called to a special privilege of adoring Christ in the Eucharist night and day. The highest choir of angels, called the Seraphim, exist to adore Our Lord enthroned in Heaven. We are all called to join the angels in adoring Him who is Love, but a few are granted this privilege of living for the sole purpose of Adoration just like the Seraphim.

Finally, the healing. Two years after Our Lady of Knock appeared, Archbishop of Toronto John Joseph Lynch made a pilgrimage to Knock and was healed as many have been. Here at Mount Grace, many have found spiritual healing. Those who have told me their stories recall them with such joy and gratitude. I would like to invite you, dear reader, to meet Our Lord in the silence. Set all else aside for a time and come and adore Him. You can adore Our Lord in any tabernacle throughout the world, but I can tell you that any sacrifice made to journey to Mount Grace for Mass, Adoration, and prayer will not go unrewarded by our God who loves all equally. Come, let us adore Him!



Priestly Blessings

Three newly ordained priests of the Archdiocese of St. Louis, MO celebrated separately their Thanksgiving Mass at Mount Grace Chapel.



Father Anthony
Ritter



Father Mark
Madden



Father Stephen
Schumacher

Three congregations founded by St. Arnold Janssen: Society of the Divine Word (SVD), Holy Spirit Missionary Sisters (SSpS) and Sister Servants of the Holy Spirit of Perpetual Adoration (SSpSAP - Pink Sisters)



"We enjoyed our time with your community so much! We came home with renewed energy to carry on our work for the Kingdom!"

- Sister Mary Miller, SSpS

After their parish mission appeals in the Archdiocese of St. Louis, and before going back to their community in Techny, US Province Leader, Sister Dorota Maria Peichaczek, SSpS and Sister Mary Miller, SSpS joined us for a joyful gathering.



On his way back to Washington DC for his studies, Father Paul Aquino, SVD visited our community and gave us a short singing lesson.



December 2019
Holy Spirit
Adoration Sisters
(Pink Sisters)

Mount Grace Newsletter

"Glory to God in the
highest and on earth
peace to those on
whom his favor rests"
Luke 2: 14

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f Mount Grace Convent

Mount Grace Happenings



Sister Margaret Mary with the Most Rev. Bishop Edward Rice (2nd from the right), Fr. Joseph Jiang, Fr. Lawrence Herzog and Fr. Zachary Povis. Not in the picture: Fr. Andrew O'Connor and Fr. Martin Mannion

Our Silver Jubilarian: Sister Margaret Mary

Sister Margaret Mary's Silver Jubilee of Religious Profession was held on June 1, 2019. Her Spiritual Director, the Most Reverend Bishop Edward Rice, officiated the Mass with five priest concelebrants. Sister was surrounded by her family, friends and fellow Sisters during that memorable day. It was indeed a day of joy and thanksgiving!

Our Diamond Jubilarian: Sister Mary Gemma

Sister Mary Gemma, chose to have a simple but meaningful celebration of her 65th Anniversary of Religious Profession. It coincided with her name day, May 14. Sister's ever joyful countenance reflects her deep gratitude for God's love, her fidelity to our contemplative way of life, and her prayer for the Church and for the world.



The 12th General Chapter of our Congregation



The General Council (from left to right): Sister Lusía Maria, Sister Mary Renee (Secretary General), Mother Maria Magdalena (Superior General), Sister Mary Catherine (Assistant General), and Sister Maria Raquel

2019 marked another important milestone in the existence of the Congregation of the Sister Servants of the Holy Spirit of Perpetual Adoration. In June and July, all our Sister delegates converged at our Generalate in Bad Driburg, Germany for the 12th General Chapter. One of the aims of the chapter, among other urgent deliberations, was the election of the General Officials, the highest governing body of the congregation. To Mother Maria Magdalena and her Council, prayerful congratulations!

A Special Benediction

It was a privileged moment to have had our very own Archbishop Robert Carlson with Father Zachary Povis as presiders of our Evening Prayer on June 3. After the Benediction, they joined the Sisters for supper and had a lively conversation following the meal. Before leaving, His Excellency imparted his send-off blessing to

Sister Mary Catherine, who was getting ready to leave for Germany as a capitular for our 12th General Chapter. The blessing must have been very effective as Sister was elected the Assistant General. Our community's loss is the whole congregation's gain!



From left to right: Sister Mary Catherine, Archbishop Robert Carlson and Father Zachary Povis

Mission Mandates



Sister Mary Catherine



Sister Louise Mary

In the sunny month of August, Mount Grace experienced many comings and goings. The pain of goodbyes and the joy of hellos commenced with the arrival of Sister Louise Mary as our new Superior for the remaining two years of Sister Mary Catherine's term of office. Sister Louise Mary, prior to her appointment in St. Louis, was the Superior of our Convent in Lincoln, Nebraska. Coming with her from Lincoln was our 89-year-old missionary, Sister Mary Lucia. After thirty three years, Sister is back as a member of our community.

Our good Shepherdess, Sister Mary Catherine, said farewell to the community on August 16 to assume her mandate as the second highest official of our congregation.

Saying goodbye to her was not easy since she was our Superior for ten memorable years. To Sister, our profound gratitude!

We thank Sister Maria Eliani for her 17 years of selfless service in our community. She was our librarian, and the Sister-in-charge of the sewing room and other duties. Her new home is our convent in Chile.

On August 19, Mount Grace once again opened its doors to Sister Mary Rebecca after her two-year mission exposure in our convents in the Philippines and Germany. Welcome back, Sister!

On August 24, another exodus experience occurred when Sister Regina Marie left for our convent in Philadelphia, her new community. We thank Sister for her dedication as our former sacristan.



Sister Regina Marie



Sister Mary Lucia



Sister Maria Eliani



Sister Mary Rebecca

Meet our Chaplain

Our good Shepherd, Archbishop Robert Carlson, assigned a new chaplain to Mount Grace. Beginning July 2, Father Kent Pollman assumed the chaplaincy. Our former chaplain, Father Zachary Povis, still renders his priestly ministry to the community on Mondays.

