



Chaplain's Corner Father Kent Matthew Pollman

The Best Part

"Mary hath chosen the best part, which shall not be taken away from her" (Luke 10:42 Douay-Rheims) Our Lord spoke these immortal words to St. Martha when she was waiting on Him and her sister, St. Mary, was sitting at His feet, listening to Him. There is no doubt that we can all relate to the pressing concerns of Martha. How will I get all of this finished? Why won't she help me? Why is she just sitting there when there is work to do?

This scene from the life of Christ depicts the reality of the daily demands of work, and Our Lord's defense of the life of contemplation. Work is good when it gives man dignity, but it works against God's will when we become slaves to work. In other words, there will always be more work; but if I do not deliberately sacrifice some of that time for God alone, then at the end of my life what will the work have accomplished? I can take pride in my accomplishments as a cooperator in continuing God's work of creation, but work does not love me. Things will not remember me when I die. Creation, as good as it is, cannot grant me life everlasting.

For this reason, it becomes clear that as good as creation is, contemplating God and His wondrous works is the best part. Mary would not be denied it, and neither should you be

denied your Christian right to rest in Our Lord's presence.

The Holy Spirit Adoration Sisters have the privilege of being called to a life of contemplation in the Eucharistic Presence. Most of us 'Martha's in the active life erroneously believe that this is an easy life. The thought goes something like, "Mary did not help Martha; therefore, contemplative life is a life of avoiding work." Wrong! A glance at the Pink Sisters' day reveals a life of diligent labor, but one that is protected from the spirit of slavery in the world. The life of renouncing the world for love of Christ, the Bridegroom, involves much work, but it is work that is mutually supported by their fellow Sisters. Their time for prayer, recreation, and rest are all protected by an order to their day since God is a God of Order and governs all things according to His wisdom.

Their life in community also means that they are never alone. A consecrated virgin will experience loneliness and misunderstanding since the servant is not greater than the Master who experienced these same things. However, Christ has a special love for these chosen souls because they have sacrificed all else to follow Him. They also have each other. In a world where people are steeped in a profound isolation despite being able to send a text or call at any given moment, Mount Grace Convent is a light on the hill, quietly shining out mutual affection for our brothers and sisters, and this first comes from sitting at His feet. Do you know a young woman who is being denied this "best part"? Perhaps you can be Christ, defending her right to greater happiness and holiness. If anyone comes to mind, invite her to visit Mount Grace.

"May the darkness of sin
and the night of unbelief
vanish before the Word
of God and the Spirit
of Grace. And may the
Heart of Jesus live
in every heart!"

St. Arnold Janssen
(Founder of the Society of the
Divine Word (SVD);
Sisters Servants of the Holy Spirit (SSpS)
and of the Sisters Servants of the
Holy Spirit of Perpetual Adoration
(SSpSAP, Pink Sisters)



Chapel opens daily at
5:30 A.M. to 6:15 P.M.
Daily Mass : 7:00 A.M.
Vespers & Benediction:
Weekdays 5:00 P.M./
Sundays 4:00 P.M.



June 2020
Holy Spirit Adoration Sisters
(Pink Sisters)

Mount Grace Newsletter



"The grace of the Lord Jesus
Christ and the love of God and
the fellowship of the Holy Spirit
be with all of you."

2 Cor. 13:13

www.mountgraceconvent.org
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Mount Grace Convent



Mount Grace Happenings

Our 65th Jubilarian



On May 21, we joyfully celebrated in a simple manner our **Sister Mary Cordula's** 65th jubilee year of total dedication to the life of contemplation and adoration. At 91, Sister continues to be of service to the community, helping in the dining room and taking her daily adoration in the chapel. Nothing can stop her from rendering her love to God, to her fellow Sisters and to everyone in need of her spiritual support.

Our 2019 Annual Retreat

For our 2019 annual retreat, the Sisters were privileged to have the Most Reverend **Bishop Terry Steib, SVD**. The theme of his conferences was: "The Autumn Season and the Autumn of our Lives." Each of his inspiring and well-prepared spiritual talks will always be meaningful for our Sisters who are now in the Autumn of their lives, beneficial for those who are in the threshold of their Autumn Years and valuable for those who are still in the summer or spring time of their lives. This topic will see us through as we endeavor to live our lives meaningfully and gratefully.



With His Excellency, The Most Reverend **James Terry Steib, SVD** (Bishop Emeritus of Memphis)



His excellency, the Most Reverend **Bishop Edward Rice** celebrated his 33rd Sacerdotal Anniversary with his Thanksgiving Mass at Mount Grace Chapel, January 19. Fr. Kent Pollman, our chaplain, concelebrated. It was also the 95th Birthday of our dear Sister Mary Bertha.



Fr. Kent Pollman and Fr. Paul Aquino, SVD after their concelebrated Mass at Mount Grace Convent.



Following the celebration of his last Holy Mass in our chapel on December 19, 2019, the Sisters gratefully met with **Father Joseph**

Jiang in the community's reception room. Father Joseph left the United States in January 2020 for his studies in Rome. He selflessly rendered his priestly ministry to Mount Grace Convent, as a confessor, a spiritual director to Sisters, and is very supportive of our Eucharistic apostolate.



We had the privilege to receive the priestly blessing of **Fr. George Staley** after his first Holy Mass at Mount Grace Convent on November 13, 2019.

On January 2, **Fr. Staley and Fr. Kent Pollman** accompanied five interested young ladies to meet with the Sisters and learn about the contemplative life.



Fr. Kent Pollman, Fr. George Staley with our young visitors.



For the first time, **Stanley and Marcella Pollman**, the parents of our chaplain, Fr. Kent Pollman, came for a visit. Soon thereafter, they sent a card with this message: "A note to thank you for your warm hospitality on our first visit to Mount Grace. It was a delight to worship with you and to meet you in person. It is easy to see why Kent (Fr. Pollman) enjoys being your chaplain - your faith, your joy, your prayer for the world. Thank you for your many kindnesses to him."



SVD Novices from Techny, USA, Thong Tran, Ryan Agbim, Huy Hoai Nguyen, Marc Declama and Kodjo David Emon. visited Mount Grace before their thirty-day retreat.