

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER



FR. KENT POLLMAN

Heart of Jesus, Burning Furnace of Charity

The Litany of the Sacred Heart places on the lips of the faithful, "burning furnace of charity, have mercy on us". At this time of year you are probably more concerned with finding good air conditioning rather than a burning furnace, yet our holy mother the Church has more processions indoors or out to celebrate this burning furnace that we call the Sacred Heart of Jesus. The most well known is the Corpus Christi procession where the Sacred Heart is truly present in the monstrance as the priest carries It through the streets and perhaps even to neighboring Catholic Churches to warm the cities and towns with the warmth of divine love also known as charity.

This warmth of charity is always desired. No one ever says or even thinks, "This love of God is too much. Where's my divine air conditioning? I need to cool off and become



tepid." Every virtue has a vice opposed to it that is an excess, such as the virtue of studiousness (a.k.a. disciplined learning) has a vice of seeking knowledge that may not be helpful or even harmful known as

curiosity. Excessive courage is foolhardiness. Intemperate or excessive eating is gluttony. The only virtue that does not have a vice to excess is charity. We can never love God more than He deserves, and the divine love that He pours into our hearts will never spur us to love our neighbor too much. Sometimes that love may hurt as the crown of thorns and the wound from the lance reminds us, but this is in the sense of sacrificing for those we love or telling them something difficult that they need to hear because we want them to go to heaven. Perhaps this is why we process out during the heat of late Spring and early Summer. Christ is worth the sacrifice.

The Holy Spirit Adoration Sisters are deeply devoted to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. It is part of the spirit that their founder St. Arnold Janssen imbued in their life of prayer and adoration. When I reflect on the state of our world, our country, our neighborhoods, I see that the devotion to the Sacred Heart is needed now as much as it ever has been. In a world that has grown cold and isolated by worldly fears, the Sacred Heart still burns as a furnace of charity. It is only this Furnace that can warm man's heart and draw brothers and sisters together as we set our sights on Heaven. This burning furnace of charity, the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, burns for love of us deep within at the Chapel of Mount Grace where the Pink Sisters are a continual consolation by their adoration. This same Heart desires to be consoled also by you in a world grown cold, and Christ promises the graces necessary for your state in life and especially at the hour of your death for the homage given to Him during your life. The Sacred Heart, infinite love Itself, awaits you.

PRIESTLY BLESSING

The community had the privilege to receive the priestly blessing of Fr. Dane Westhoff after his first Holy Mass at Mount Grace Chapel on November 11. He was ordained a priest of the Archdiocese of St. Louis in 2020.



THE YEAR OF SAINT JOSEPH

In his apostolic letter "*Partis Cordae*" (With a Father's Heart), Pope Francis proclaimed the Year 2021 as the "Year of St. Joseph", recalling the 150th Anniversary of the Declaration of our powerful protector as Patron of the Universal Church. To mark the occasion, our community offered the thirty-one-day prayer to honor him for the entire month of March. Also, to foster devotion to Saint Joseph, we take the Votive Mass in his honor on Wednesdays, outside the Proper of Saints or Seasons. Over and above, each Sister offers personal prayers each day to the Just Spouse of our Blessed Virgin Mary.



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MOUNT GRACE NEWSLETTER

HOLY SPIRIT ADORATION SISTERS
(PINK SISTERS)
JUNE 2021



*"Take my yoke upon you,
says the Lord; and learn
from me, for I am meek
and humble of heart."*

Matthew 11: 29



THE WELL-APPRECIATED SHEPHERD'S VISIT

The Year 2020 was like a roller coaster, making it a challenging time for all nations and for peoples from all walks of life. Despite the tumultuous period, there are still so many reasons to be grateful. Our Mount Grace community cherishes one event among many other significant ones that transpired during this pandemic, and that is the first ever visit of the newly installed 10th archbishop of the Archdiocese of St. Louis, Missouri, the Most Reverend Mitchell Thomas Rozanski. The Sisters were delighted and warmly welcomed Archbishop Rozanski to Mount Grace Convent early in his new role. He celebrated the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass on October 20, 2020 with Fr. Kent Pollman as his concelebrant. The two priests joined the community breakfast in the Sisters' dining room. It was a memorable and joyful gathering, filled with lively conversation and sharing of thoughts and ideas.

WELCOME, SISTER!



Sister Maria Incarnita had the joy to celebrate Christmas at Mount Grace Convent. She arrived in the afternoon of December 22. After the mandatory quarantine days, she finally joined every community activity. She has adjusted to her new home and has become well acquainted with her work assignments in the infirmary, kitchen, flower room and sacristy. Sister Maria Incarnita is a boost to our choir with her soprano voice.

As we waited for our Lord's coming during Advent 2020, we likewise excitedly anticipated the arrival of our Sister from Baguio, Philippines.

2021 brings so much blessings to Mount Grace Convent. The community is privileged to have three dedicated Sisters celebrating the 25th, 50th and 75th anniversaries of their Religious Professions in May and in August. They fully gave their lives to the Lord when they answered the call, and they continue to offer their gifts of self to the Most Holy Triune God, adoring Him day and night in the Most Blessed Sacrament. Our beloved Sisters allow God to make them His instruments of Divine Love to their fellow Sisters, to their families and to everyone needing spiritual assistance. May there be more brave and dedicated youth to follow in the footsteps of our dear Sister Jubilarians.

Our Golden Jubilarian

Our Sister **Ancilla Maria** is as of this writing gratefully looking forward to the celebration of her Golden Jubilee of Religious Profession scheduled for May 16. She invited Fr. Paul Aquino, SVD to be the main celebrant for the Jubilee Mass.



Despite the threat of the pandemic, two of her siblings are intent on attending the simple festivity to give her their full support. Following strict health protocols, limited friends are invited to the gathering after the Eucharistic celebration. Sister wishes to return love for love for the blessings she has received through the years from her Divine Spouse. Her fellow religious sisters, family, friends and those who support our apostolate of prayer are on her list of people she wishes to thank.



Our Silver Jubilarian

Each year we joyfully celebrate August 15 as the Solemnity of the Assumption of our Blessed Virgin Mary.

But this year, August 15 will be twice an important date to remember. The reason? Our dear Sister Mary Gracelyn will celebrate her 25 years of faith, hope, life and love as a *bona fide* Holy Spirit Adoration Sister. To mark her Silver Jubilee of Religious Profession milestone, a Jubilee Mass will be celebrated to solemnize the occasion. With gratitude in her heart, she sings praise and honor to the Most Holy Trinity and spiritually unites herself more than ever to her family and to those entrusted to our life of prayer.

Our Diamond Jubilarian

Sister **Mary Bertha**, the eldest member of the community, is celebrating her 75th Jubilee of Religious Profession. She has chosen May 8 as the big day. The Most Reverend Bishop Edward Rice will officiate at the Jubilee Mass, to the joy of our Sister Jubilarian. Sister Mary Bertha is still very much mentally alert and still beaming with delight when talking with the Sisters. She may be physically challenged and is now confined to her bed, but she is still a bookworm and an intent "pray-er" and a true adorer of the Lord. When she was younger and able, she gave glory to God through music as an organist in our convents in the United States of America and in Germany.

