

# Seek. Pray. Share.

Sisters of St. Benedict of Ferdinand, Indiana

VOLUME 5 NUMBER 2 SPRING 2014



## INSIDE

Wheelchair workhorse

Serving four hats

Helping bishops' president

'Fishes and loaves' ministry

## Our approach to serving others



This issue focuses on various ways that Benedictine sisters serve others. Since all of us strive to serve others daily, and have upon entering the community, it's tough to pick a few ministries to describe out of the many we're involved in.

But the stories here should show you the deep commitment and care our sisters have to assisting others in their life journey. Of course, prayer is our primary ministry, and our utmost goal is to seek God together in community. We do that knowing that our service to others flows from that devotion to prayer and God. And really, what better source of strength could one have when striving to serve others?

With prayer and togetherness as our base, we seek to respond to the needs of the Church and of society. Our view is that the sisters' ministries are excellent opportunities to use our God-given gifts to serve others. The Gospels repeatedly send the message of the value of such an approach, and the Benedictine Sisters are all about living the Gospel values. It's as simple, and as powerful, as that.

We believe that all work is holy, and that no one work is better than another. We also believe that work is for everyone, that everyone has a contribution to make.

We hope you'll enjoy the sisters' contributions portrayed in this issue. It may tug on your heartstrings to read how one partially-paralyzed sister devotes hours to deliver religious education to hundreds of children, or how another goes willingly out of her way to help kids in deep trouble. There's a sister who calmly steers non-English-speaking Hispanics through the American court system, a sister who's leading a local hospital in some groundbreaking work, and a sister who is helping the president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

It's a mighty wide range of duties, with one strong, common thread – serving others whenever and wherever you're at. That's our way of life, and we wouldn't want it any other way.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sr. Barbara Lynn Schmitz, OSB". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Sister Barbara Lynn Schmitz, OSB  
Prioress



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Cover: Sister Mary Emma Jochum hugs a student after a Wednesday night religion class.

Left: A spring view of the monastery.



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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.



Sister Mary Emma discusses a religion class topic with a student.

# “She’s the glue that holds our parish together”

by Greg Eckerle

Ask Sister Mary Emma Jochum about her biggest challenges as director of religious education at St. Paul’s Parish in Tell City, Indiana, and you won’t hear one word about her half-paralyzed body she’s patiently coped with since 1970.

She’s most concerned with keeping up with everybody and making sure everyone is served well. She wonders if she’s sufficiently trained the volunteer catechists. She ponders if she finds enough to attract the faith lives of young adults. According to her fellow parishioners, she needn’t worry.

Kathy Kleemann, a grade 8 catechist for Sister Mary Emma’s religious education program that serves 273 students from grades K-12, says, “She knows what the people’s needs are, and what’s bothering them. She knows how life is here. Even though she has given her life to God, she still is on the level of the people.”

Kleemann is amazed by how much Sister Mary Emma accomplishes. And by how she regularly attends students’ first communion and graduation parties, feeling the need to show up for St. Paul Parish.

“She could always use the excuse she can’t make it because of the handicap. But she never does. She’s wheelchair-bound, but it doesn’t stop her at all.

“Wow, the Benedictine sisters work HARD, don’t they? She gives everything. Her work ethic is SO strong. Her focus is definitely on helping the people.”

Kleemann’s voice shakes. “We all go to her for our needs, and we forget about her needs. We forget that she hasn’t been able to walk for years. We forget her suffering. She just doesn’t complain. Never have I heard her say ‘I can’t do that because I’m confined.’”



*“She’s wheelchair-bound, but it doesn’t stop her. We forget she hasn’t been able to walk for years.”*

Sister Mary Emma provided invaluable support for Kleemann when her son was killed in a car accident on his prom night in 1997, and when her husband died in 2010. “She moved me on my journey, and offered ways to get help,” says Kleemann. “We’ve been best friends since. She knows what to say to a person when they have sorrow. Any time I am unsure about something, I can go to her for counseling.”

Another of Kleemann’s sons, Derek, also teaches a religion class for Sister Mary Emma. “He named his two-year-old daughter Emma after her,” says Kleemann, her voice cracking. “That’s what she means to us. She has given us life.”

Sister Mary Emma has also pumped life into various activities since arriving at St. Paul’s in 1993. Besides planning and overseeing the religious education program for school children and the mentally challenged, she heads the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) program, the Ministry of Charity Committee, sacramental preparations, Liturgy of the Word program for children, summer mission trips for high school children, adult education, lines up nearly 20 service options for confirmation candidates to choose from, supervises Saint Meinrad seminarians observing parish practices, and is a field associate for the Archdiocesan Tribunal for Annulments.

“She’s a workhorse, she never stops moving,” says Father Dennis Duvelius, the parish pastor. “For anybody who comes off the street needing help, Sister Emma is the first to greet them and try to figure out what we can do for them. The Benedictine

trait of hospitality certainly characterizes her. She’s always willing to listen and has a shoulder to cry on. She’s a woman of amazing strength. How she does what she does with her condition is just amazing. I think just what she does to get going in the morning would deter most people from doing half of what she does.”

Sister Mary Emma resides at Oakwood Health Campus, an assisted living facility in Tell City. But she independently wheels tirelessly around the parish in a motorized scooter and a van specially equipped for her to drive. At age 73, she is as committed as ever to her ministry, and shrugs off routinely working extra evening and weekend hours.

“I just think Jesus didn’t have banking hours, so I shouldn’t, either,” she says, laughing. “But this is where my religious life comes in at. I want to be available wherever the needs are, be it day or night.

“My primary responsibility is faith formation, practically from the womb to the tomb. I don’t see my work as a career, but as a



Sister Mary Emma takes a photo of a student to put on the church classroom wall.

*“My prayer is what I really gain my strength from. That’s where I experience inspirations. Ideas come to me on how to do something that I never thought about doing before. Or I get inspired by listening to others.”*

ministry serving the needs of the people. It’s a special calling. It’s a call deep within me that has more a hold of me than I have of it.”

She responds to the call so well that she finds children hugging her in the hallway of the parish center and parents who simply cannot say no to her requests for help in serving the parish. Teenagers strive for her approval of their efforts.

“She’s the glue that holds our parish together,” says Louann Oberhausen of the Ministry of Charity Committee. “We really depend on her to get a lot of programs going. She’s very persuasive, you know she’s got her heart in it. She has the disability of being partially paralyzed, but she doesn’t let it get her down. She overcomes obstacles and shows what a strong person she is. She’s a good role model, she just keeps going and going, we call her the everready bunny sometimes. She doesn’t have a quitting time. She’s there on her days off, she’s there at 9 o’clock at night. She’s just a super sister.”

Truth be told, she revels in her long list of duties, simply because it means she’s of service to more and more people. “I’m more drawn by my ministry now than when I began. It’s the presence of God that I feel in people as I serve them. And the satisfaction they experience by what I do for them.” As she serves the parishioners, she often thinks of the Seven Corporal Works of Mercy, as based in the Bible. “I was thirsty, you gave me drink. I was sick, you visited me.” Through St. Paul’s Ministry of Charity, she helps feed and clothe many children. It’s a perfect tie-in to the Benedictine Sisters’ practice of using the Gospel as their guide. “The Gospel gives me direction on how to be present among the people in the parish.” With a lifetime of Gospel study, it’s become second nature for her. And it shows.

But all that work has its share of fulfillment for Sister Mary Emma. Touching the souls, hearts and lives of children and adults for a deeper faith life is a real joy for her. As is deeply connecting with many families through the faith formation program by sharing their celebrations and crises. And seeing a child grow up experiencing the sacraments, then seeing them married and witnessing the baptism of their children. She seriously follows Jesus’ instruction to teach all, and heeds the words of Pope Francis “to go out of your way to spread the Gospel of good news.”

St. Paul parishioner Guy Neil Ramsey had six grandchildren taught by Sister Mary Emma and said “she made better people out of every one of them.” He particularly liked her focus on discipline. She expects children to behave in the classroom and in Church, which is part of education, too.

Sister Mary Emma offers a suggestion for a Wednesday night religion class to a Grade 6 catechist.



Sister Mary Emma explains a religion class lesson plan with Brother Luke Waugh, OSB, a seminarian from the Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology.



"I think she's one of the finest educators I've ever seen," says Ramsey. "My grandchildren think very highly of her, and she didn't let kids get by with anything. They all love her. She's made them more Christian people and given them good grounding on the right ways to live. Sister Mary Emma is a real leader, and one of the main people in our church to keep it going. I just think we need a lot more people like her. She's a saint."

Sister Mary Emma's life changed forever after her car accident in 1970. Age 30, she was a grade school principal in Fort Branch, Indiana. While delivering some student IQ tests, she and another car approached a one-lane bridge at the same time. As she applied her brakes on the rain-slicked road, her vehicle skidded and flipped over into a 20-foot ditch. The impact crushed three of her neck vertebrae, damaged some spinal cord nerves, and left her paralyzed from the neck down. In a hospital for four months, she later learned doctors thought she wouldn't live.

Two weeks after the accident, she began to move her left foot. She gradually regained movement on her left side. Doctors termed it a "pure miracle." She remains paralyzed on her right side.

"Faith played a major role in my recovery," says Sister Mary Emma. "I still remember the words that came to me right away, 'The Lord is my light and salvation, whom shall I fear.'"

"I had to go through the stages of anger, depression and frustration. I thought I would be a worthless person the rest of my life. But one day I had an inspiration, during prayer, that it's not what is lost, but what is left that counts. Instead of dwelling on what I couldn't do, I concentrated on what I could do. I had no head injuries, I could move my left side. I just decided I was

going to live each day with the fact there are many things I can do.

"My prayer is what I really gain my strength from. That's where I experience inspirations. Ideas come to me on how to do something that I never thought about doing before. Or I get inspired by listening to others.

"Since the accident, I pray with greater gratitude for the blessings I do have that I didn't expect during this struggle. I'm convinced to live each day to the fullest, to not allow my condition to overwhelm me, but to accept it as it is."

She changed careers in 1971 from a school administrator to Vatican II's new role in the Church called director of religious education. She served as DRE for parishes in Vanderburgh and Warrick counties, became DRE for the Diocese of Evansville for five years, then moved to St. Paul's in 1993.

Sister Mary Emma received her greatest honor in 1998, winning the national Distinguished Service Award from the 1,600-member Conference of Catechetical Leadership. The plaque was presented to her at a national conference in Milwaukee. It read, "In grateful acknowledgement of her loving and dedicated service to catechesis and her powerful witness to proclaiming the Good news of Jesus."

One testimonial supporting her nomination aptly summed up her impact: "She turned a handicap into God's handiwork."

Sixteen years later, she's still scooting around, serving as many as possible. ■





# Sister Kate's many lives: nurse, teacher, student, innovator

by Greg Eckerle

It's uncanny how Sister Kate Willegal's co-workers and students are so quick to describe her the same way -- as being "so calm."

Likely because they realize anybody else attempting to wear as many hats as she does, and as well, would be perpetually frazzled and near hysterical trying to keep it all under control.

Sister Kate is a Sister of St. Benedict, a full time associate professor of nursing at Vincennes University Jasper Center, a part time nurse at Memorial Hospital in Jasper, Indiana, and is working to complete her doctor of nursing practice degree.

She admits her biggest challenge is balancing all those demands. But a daily morning and evening prayer routine with fellow sisters, and personal prayer, keeps her grounded and is the support to carry her through all her activities. It keeps her on an even keel when potential chaos lurks around every corner the rest of her day. Others readily notice her composed demeanor, and say it helps keep them in check, too.

Suzanne Burgess, Memorial Hospital's director of post surgical, pediatric, clinical education, and support services, says, "Sister Kate is truly a calming force to both patients and the staff. She is highly intelligent, but has this peaceful way of caring for her patients. Regarding my staff, the whole department can be in disarray sometimes because of all the patients coming in and going out. Sister literally is able to calm the nurses with her voice, and formulate a plan. She is beautiful as a nurse-in-charge, because of this calming presence. She has brought peace to the floor. It's an extremely unique gift."

It's a gift that others can sense in her, too, and Sister Kate is well aware of it.

Sister Kate explains the contents of an emergency room cart to her nursing students, along with what to expect, how to help a patient, and how to "keep a cool head."



*“As a nurse, I just feel that the spirit of healing is within me, and I thank God for it, it’s a gift.”*

“Sometimes, when patients know I’m a sister, they kind of understand the way I treat people,” she says. “Some patients can tell, even before I’ve said I’m a nun, they’ll say, ‘I knew there was something different about you,’ or ‘there’s something peaceful about you.’”

“My hospital co-workers have said when I’m on the floor things are very calm, and that it spreads. A student told me I’m very patient, very open with them, and fun to learn from.”

One student from her Medical-Surgical Nursing class, Tara Holt, thinks the way Sister Kate lives her life as a religious contributes to her calmness. “It’s got to be stressful for her to have all of us asking a hundred questions. But she’s very calm, you can tell it’s the Lord, it’s the Spirit. That keeps her calm with us. And she puts us all at ease, knowing you can say, hey, pray for me, I need help this week. There’s a confidence there that you feel like you can go to her with anything.”

Another student, Bev McCormick, says, “She’s a wonderful instructor, extremely patient. She doesn’t make people nervous. We all say if we could make up our own families, we would put her in our family.”

Sister Kate has been a Memorial Hospital post-surgical staff nurse for six years and has taught nursing courses for four years.

She became a nurse because she “always liked to care for people.” She received her nursing degree from the University of Southern Indiana, followed by her Masters degree in nursing in 2011.

Noticing Sister Kate’s people skills, a fellow nurse and one of her professors suggested she might make a good teacher. “They said I was very patient, flexible, very calm, and I don’t get too crazy,” she said, smiling. “It turned out I really enjoyed being with the students, seeing them progress, and helping them become nurses. I just get energized by it.”

She had 32 students in her Medical-Surgical Nursing class last semester, and has 32 students in a Mental Health Nursing course this semester. A lot of her nursing work at the hospital occurs on weekends.

“As a nurse, I just feel that the spirit of healing is within me, and I thank God for it, it’s a gift. Every patient I care for I see as someone needing healing. Often it’s not just physical healing, sometimes it’s just the presence of being with someone. I really do get energized by that part. It’s the instinct of wanting to care for one another. Saint Benedict said the care of the sick is foremost of all, and I keep going back to that.

“As a teacher, hopefully I model for my students what a good, caring, compassionate nurse is, and I help the students become who they want to be.”

Ironically, what many students want to become is a nurse as competent as Sister Kate.

Like a badge of honor, student Jennifer Kellems remembers Sister Kate telling her that she “admired me.” “Coming from her, that really means a lot,” said Kellems. “Because she’s a nurse I’d want to build up my skills to be like. So for her to say that, it almost made me cry. Because I’d like to be more like her. I admire her, the way she is. Nursing takes a lot out of you. You’ve got to have that gentle spirit when you’re dealing with people who aren’t so gentle all the time. And she knows her stuff. She will explain it in a way we understand it.”

Fellow student Margaret Spooner feels it’s often Sister Kate’s actions that speak louder than her words. “That’s why you know that’s who she is.” Spooner has asked Sister Kate to pray for her on occasion. Another student is already looking forward to going back to Sister Kate even when she’s not in her class anymore, “if I need prayer, or just somebody to talk to.”

Sister Kate outlines the condition of a patient/ mannequin to her nursing students in the virtual hospital at Vincennes University Jasper Center. “We’re trying to save a life here.”



Sister Kate discusses a patient care plan with Lori Luebbehusen, a Memorial Hospital registered nurse.

As giving as Sister Kate is as a teacher and a nurse, a capstone project she is working on as part of earning her doctorate of nursing degree may become her biggest contribution yet to improving the quality and delivery of local healthcare.

Her project is to develop an infrastructure at Memorial Hospital in Jasper that creates interprofessional education among various departments, with the goal of enhancing patient care. The hope is to change and upgrade how myriad hospital personnel and areas work together, and to be able to recreate the process in other hospital systems.

"It's a need for the hospital," says Sister Kate. "And the interprofessional research we're doing now is a very unique initiative for a hospital." The research phase is part of the first year of the three-year project. It's targeted to lead to a new interprofessional infrastructure at the hospital by July 1, 2015.

As a department director within the hospital, Burgess owns the initiative, but makes it clear Sister Kate is leading the team. "Our chief nursing officer looked at what Sister Kate could bring to the organization, and our administration is fully supporting her project," says Burgess. "It's in our strategic plan, under innovation. It's just the respect that we as an organization have for her."



"Sister Kate is a huge blessing to me personally, as well as the hospital. With her doctorate she's working on, the hospital has completely embraced a partnership with her. We have formulated a team around who she feels will be instrumental in the interprofessional education and research. She is bringing something completely new to Memorial Hospital. We're breaking down silos, and she's leading the hospital in that. It's going beautifully so far. The goal is to recognize each other's strengths, to benefit the patient."

Burgess notes that many patient satisfaction surveys are returned with positive comments about Sister Kate. "It's her attentiveness to their needs. It's not just passing medications and doing dressing changes, it's focusing on the patient and giving 100 percent dedication."

Burgess also cites how being a Benedictine sister helps Sister Kate in her nursing work. "I believe it enters in because of her training, because of her being centered personally. She's healthy mentally and emotionally, and I believe that comes from her being such a strong member of the Sisters of Saint Benedict. She brings that here, without a doubt. She is truly an angel on earth." ■



Sister Kate (right) shows Tara Holt, one of her nursing students, the operation of a heart monitor at Memorial Hospital in Jasper, Indiana.





# U.S. bishops' president: Sister Paula 'a great presence'

By Greg Eckerle

Roman Catholic Archbishop of Louisville Joseph Kurtz "found it to be an extreme plus, especially positive" two years ago that his new executive secretary, Sister Paula Wolff, was a woman religious.

"There's a certain level of leadership that the executive secretary for the archbishop has," he said, "and I think that's especially good that she's coming with her own religious commitment and vows. She also comes with formation and training. I think it's good for people within the archdiocese to see there's a woman religious who's in a role of leadership."

And Archbishop Kurtz certainly knows about leadership, having recently been selected by American bishops for a three-year term as president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. As president, he is the public face and voice of 445 bishops who represent the largest religious group in the U.S., with 67 million

members. He's now the representative of American bishops to the Vatican and Pope Francis. He also continues as the leader of more than 200,000 Catholics in the 24 counties of the Louisville Archdiocese.

Although the added position increased the duties and responsibilities of Archbishop Kurtz and thus, Sister Paula, she has wholeheartedly embraced her enhanced role.

"I look at it as a way to serve the larger Church, the whole world community of Catholics, not just our community here," she says. "There's been a lot of media attention since his election as

Above: Archbishop of Louisville Joseph Kurtz, also currently the president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, in his office with his executive secretary, Sister Paula Wolff.

*“It’s good for people... to see a woman religious in a role of leadership.”*

—Louisville Archbishop Kurtz

president. But anything that gets the word out about the Catholic Church, about what our values are, what we’re trying to do for people, I think is a good thing. It’s helping the broader Church for people that have fallen away as Catholics, that they can see what we’re trying to do, and maybe will want to come back to the Catholic Church.

“I’m helping in a supportive way. I think that’s important to have the Benedictine values even in that role.”

Archbishop Kurtz sees the value in that, too.

“(Sister Paula) is a good listener, and she’s smart,” he says. “This goes a long way. She has a very easy way of dealing with others. There’s not an abrasive bone in her body. She’s very kind and gentle with others.

“In many ways, she is the voice of the archbishop so often, in not only receiving letters and requests, but speaking on the phone. So that’s a very important ministry. In the new evangelization, we know that the first contact with people is so essential, and often sets the pace for either a very positive outcome, or something other than that. She has been very good.

“I have tremendous admiration for her. She brings all the virtues that should be in every religious and every baptized Catholic. She has a way of getting things done. She’s very unassuming, yet very competent. And has really been very easy for me to work with.”

Archbishop Kurtz notes Sister Paula’s obvious patience, as she deftly handles his ever-changing and demanding schedule, pores through an average of over 30 letters a day addressed to him, and fields an average of over 20 phone calls a day for him. And some can be challenging.

Sister Paula shares a lighter moment with Father Anthony Chandler before a meeting of the Priests’ Council, an advisory body to Archbishop Kurtz. She is secretary for the council.

For some of the calls, Sister Paula heeds St. Benedict’s advice to listen with the ear of her heart. “Some people have very big concerns to them, so they feel they have to call the archbishop,” she says. She smiles. “He can’t solve all the world’s problems, but I can at least listen, and he tries to do what he can. Trying to keep up with everything is a big challenge, because he’s very energetic, and wants to do everything he can. It’s inspiring to see how he tries to serve people.”

The archbishop’s emphasis on serving people strikes a real chord with Sister Paula, because that’s what she’s all about as well, and a key reason the two work so well together.

“What’s rewarding to me is seeing how people are served,” she says. “That makes me feel good. Just seeing all the good that people do for other people in the whole archdiocese is inspiring to me. That’s the best part.

“In the Benedictine way of life, you look at what gifts God has given you, and however you can use those gifts to help other people or to serve God, that’s what we try to do. Right now, this is how I can help the broader Church. As a Benedictine, I do my job by trying to use the values we have, such as hospitality, for meetings, in greeting people, or listening on the phone. It all goes back to serving God and serving people. I’m calling on God all the time to help me see where I can help this person the best way. I just do that automatically.”







Sister Paula reads in the chapel at a Mass for the staff of the Chancery for the Archdiocese of Louisville.

Kurtz became the archbishop of Louisville in 2007. At the time, Sister Paula was working in social services at the Hildegard Health Center in the Ferdinand monastery. Previously, she was employed by the Archdiocese of Louisville for nine years as secretary for the archdiocese's chief education officer. So her skills were well known within the archdiocese. When Kurtz's secretary announced in late 2011 her plans to retire, the archdiocese's chancellor, Brian Reynolds, recommended to Kurtz that Sister Paula might be a good candidate if she was available and interested.

"Brian said to me that the Benedictine sisters of Ferdinand have been very good," says Archbishop Kurtz, "and they have. I knew a number of them who served (in the archdiocese), and I had a favorable opinion and admiration for the great work that they're doing."

So he contacted the monastery about the possibility, and Sister Paula came on board in February, 2012.

"People are very positive about Sister Paula," says Archbishop Kurtz. "They're very grateful for what she does. I think her being a woman religious prepares her well. People hold women religious in high regard. Her being a Ferdinand Benedictine sister has a number of benefits. The first, I think, is her own formation. She comes as a person called by Christ, formed in service to others. She can do that in a very unique way. Secondly, I think there's a great avenue of people who have an immediate positive aspect in speaking to a sister. And I think it's good for our own chancery life to have an active woman religious in a leadership role within the chancery staff. Currently Sister is the only one here."

The archbishop also points out the Ferdinand Benedictines' commitment to living in community, something he doesn't see often.

"I think that support with community life, in prayer and in shared living, is a great support for her. We all need that kind of help, because she's in a stressful position as the executive secretary for the archbishop. She certainly has been a great presence for us."

Sister Paula sees her role within the chancery office as being a "connector" to the archbishop. Her office is next to his, so she often makes the connections for others needing an appointment. And there are a lot of requests she has to juggle. The office houses seven different departments, all working to help the archbishop help the archdiocese to serve the people. Sister Paula is right in the middle of it, "trying to keep it going," she says, smiling.

She felt "wonderful" when the director of evangelization, before starting a morning prayer at the chancery office, asked her to provide a Ferdinand Benedictine prayer book to see how the Liturgy of the Hours was laid out. Sister Paula sometimes helps lead the prayers.

"For me, it doesn't matter what kind of task I'm working on, as long as it's helping somehow, even indirectly. It's important that it's furthering God's work. I'm amazed at how much Archbishop Kurtz can get into his schedule, by what he tries to do, and I'm surprised he's able to do as much as he is."

Part of it might be that he has such a good scheduler in Sister Paula, though she'd never say it. Indeed, Jen Steinmacher, a fellow office secretary, says, "She's humble, she doesn't expect praise. She is very dedicated, has a lot of patience, and is just a kind, compassionate, gentle person." ■

*"In many ways, she is the voice of the archbishop so often..."*

—Archbishop Kurtz

# NEWS from the Dome

## Spirituality Ministry new leadership announced

Our Spirituality Ministry – Programs and Spirituality Ministry – Hospitality departments have been reorganized into one entity and new leaders announced.

Goals are to develop markets for our Spirituality Ministry, reach out to parishes and organizations with programming, expand our web-media-based presentations and to set the path for building a solid Spirituality Ministry program.

Sister Traci Stutz is the new director of spirituality ministry. Sister Betty Drewes is now the coordinator of hospitality, including responsibility for Kordes Center. She also does spiritual direction at the monastery and in outreach locations. Sister Jane Will has been appointed coordinator of programming for Spirituality Ministry, and is also director of strategic planning for the Ferdinand Benedictines. Sister Jane also does presentations, spiritual direction, and will continue her counseling practice.

Sisters Kathryn Huber, Karen Joseph, and Maria Tasto will continue spiritual direction and presenting programs and retreats offered by Spirituality Ministry.

Sister Traci was recently director of the Flaget Center for the Archdiocese of Louisville. Previously, she was the archdiocese's associate director for youth ministry, and a pastoral associate, director of religious education, and a youth minister for parishes in Evansville.

Sister Betty was recently monastery coordinator and director of ongoing formation. Among her prior ministries were director of spirituality for the Benedict Inn Retreat Center in Beech Grove, Indiana, dean of students and director of admissions at Marian Heights Academy, director of Oblates for the Ferdinand Benedictines, director of Kordes, and several teaching positions.

Sister Jane was recently subprioress for the monastery. Prior ministries were as a clinical psychologist in Jasper and at St. Mary's Medical Center in Evansville, Indiana, director of initial formation for the Ferdinand Benedictines, and several teaching positions.



Sister Traci



Sister Betty



Sister Jane

## Sisters of St. Benedict Spirituality Ministry

*Please join us for Benedictine spirituality!*

April 5, 2014	<b>Monastic Lectio Divina</b>	Sister Maria Tasto, OSB
April 26–30, 2014	<b>Welcome Centering Prayer Retreat</b>	Cherry Haisten
May 3, 2014	<b>A Day Apart: Rest and Reflection</b>	
June 1–8, 2014	<b>Intensive and Post-Intensive Centering Prayer Retreats</b>	Sister Kathy Bilske, OSB, and Sister Maria Tasto, OSB
June 14–21, 2014	<b>Guided Retreat: Making Life Happen For You</b>	Sister Joan Marie Sasse, OSB
June 21–28, 2014	<b>Abide with Me</b>	Sister Macrina Wiederkehr, OSB
July 12–19, 2014	<b>Directed Retreat</b>	A team of spiritual directors
September 5–12, 2014	<b>Directed Retreat</b>	A team of spiritual directors

Personal retreats, lodging for group retreats, and spiritual direction are available by contacting Kordes Center.

The Sisters of St. Benedict Spirituality Ministry holds retreats at Kordes Center, on the spacious, relaxing monastery grounds. It's an ideal place to pray, think, and reflect. Come experience a sincere hospitality and religious environment that's difficult to find elsewhere.

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## Sister Maria Montalbán Chávez new superior at Perú monastery

Sister Maria Montalbán Chávez has been elected the new superior of Paz de la Cruz Monastery, in Morropón, Perú. In January, Sister Barbara Lynn Schmitz, prioress of the Ferdinand monastery, traveled to Morropón to lead the discernment-election process and officiated the installation blessing of the new superior on January 17, 2014. Sister Joan Scheller assisted with the discernment process and translating.

Paz de la Cruz Monastery is home to nine Sisters of St. Benedict and is a dependent monastery of Ferdinand. The Ferdinand Benedictines opened the Peru mission in 1968. The newly elected superior, Sister Maria, who made her religious profession in 1990, also serves as the director of Santa Rita, a primary and secondary school in Morropón of over 900 students.

In addition to their ministry at Santa Rita, the Peruvian sisters minister as teachers, parish pastoral ministers and catechists. They touch the lives of many local Peruvians in the parishes, schools, a health clinic, and a local homeless senior center.

During her four year term, Sister Maria will lead the community as they continue their outreach ministries and the faithful witness of their lives as Sisters of St Benedict in Perú.



Sister Maria Montalbán Chávez (at left) during the ceremony installing her as the new superior of Paz de la Cruz Monastery in Perú. Presiding at right is Sister Barbara Lynn Schmitz, prioress of the Sisters of St. Benedict of Ferdinand.

## Sisters celebrate jubilees

Seven Benedictine sisters celebrated special anniversaries of their religious profession on Sunday, October 27. Sisters Assunta Highbaugh and Dolorosa Hasenour observed the 80th anniversary of their profession of monastic vows. Sisters Adele Weyer and Mary Esther Steckler marked their 75th anniversary. Sister Marilyn Market celebrated her 70th anniversary, and Sisters Mary Karen Hill and Geneva Stumler their 60th.



Sister Assunta



Sister Dolorosa



Sister Adele



Sister Mary Esther



Sister Marilyn



Sister Mary Karen



Sister Geneva

## Thank you, donors!

Due to the generosity of numerous donors, new boilers were recently installed in the powerhouse to heat the St. Benedict Hall building of the monastery. The old boilers were worn out and originally rated, in 1994, at only 88% efficiency. The new boilers are 94% efficient, which will save on future utility costs.





Sister Mary Judith translates for an offender appearing before William Wells, program director for Dubois Superior Court Substance Abuse Services.

# Translating trust in U.S. courts through Sister Mary Judith

by Greg Eckerle

“Everybody should be so fortunate as to have a Sister Mary Judith Fleig in their lives,” says Dubois County Circuit Court Judge William Weikert.

As the English/Spanish translator for the court system in Jasper, Indiana, the past 13 years, Sister Mary Judith has endeared herself to Judge Weikert, Superior Court Judge Mark McConnell, a variety of legal personnel, and countless Hispanics who cannot speak English and suddenly find themselves arrested and embroiled in a legal system they know nothing about.

The Hispanics thrown into the American arena of law are scared, confused and full of questions. And most, knowing only of the often untrustworthy legal system in their native country, are wary of a U.S. court. But then, they are fortunate to have Sister Mary Judith come into their lives. They are entitled to understand their rights, and she makes that happen.

Many area Hispanics already know her from her receptionist duties at the Huntingburg, Indiana, Guadalupe Center, the home base for the Hispanic Ministry for the Diocese of Evansville. So she provides a familiar face, a trusting presence and an accurate translation service when it's needed most. Both for the Hispanics and the American professionals trying to ensure the accused receive all of their rights.

Judge Weikert describes Sister Mary Judith as a kind, compassionate lady, and feels her Benedictine life contributes to that. “It’s to the court’s benefit that she’s compassionate,” he says, “as 99% are criminal cases she’s working with. Sister does a really good job helping these people understand the court system here is different than what they’ve ever experienced. When someone doesn’t speak the language talked in the courtroom, and doesn’t trust any court system they’ve ever known, I think if you didn’t have



Sister Mary Judith Fleig is a long-time English/Spanish translator for the court system in Jasper, Indiana.



someone like Sister Mary Judith translating to them, it wouldn't be very effective, because they still wouldn't trust it. They still wouldn't trust me up there in that robe, wouldn't trust the system, and would think it's going to be against them. When you have somebody like Sister, it makes the system work better, it makes the defendants understand we have a justice system that tries to enforce the rights of defendants. If we didn't have someone who was as competent as Sister in translating and communicating with the defendants, we'd be in trouble."

Sister Mary Judith often sees her role as being an advocate, as being of service to someone who has nowhere else to turn. Yet she fully realizes the seriousness of the court cases. That's as clear as the pained expression on her face when she recalls arrest details.

"I can't condone actions that are wrong," she says, "but I can be kind to that person. Sometimes, that's all they've got, is someone to be kind to them."

She never forgets her Benedictine value of seeing Christ in every person. As a Christian, she can't see it any other way. And she won't let the accused know her thoughts on their guilt or innocence. Regardless, that person is another human being and she needs to have a relationship with them. Many people appreciate that Benedictines are not judgmental; it's yet another value they live by.

Sister Mary Judith takes comfort in simply being there for Hispanics going to court. She knows she is someone they can trust, and how important that is. And that trust level in her goes beyond the Hispanics – it extends to the judges, lawyers, court reporters and probation officers.

Besides Judge Weikert, she translates for Superior Court Judge Mark McConnell, attorneys and their clients, offenders and their probation officers, at depositions, in trials, at sentencings, at meetings with Alcohol and Drug Program administrators, at traffic court, and in civil court proceedings.

"Without her assistance, the delivery of justice in Dubois County would be incomplete," says Judge McConnell. "She is an invaluable asset to the courts. Sister is very flexible in making herself available when needed and is always cheerful and conscientious in fulfilling her oath to accurately interpret for the court.

"Without Sister's help we would not be able to fulfill constitutional requirements. Sister is making a significant contribution to assure the Hispanic population of the area has access to the justice system. Her work allows them to understand the proceedings and make informed decisions."

Judge Weikert points to Sister Mary Judith's unique translation skill, noting that a lot of Spanish-speakers can't do her job. He tried to recruit a former high school Spanish teacher for some translation, but she said she couldn't because she didn't speak the same Spanish of most of the area defendants. He tried other academics, too, but they didn't feel comfortable they'd do the job well.

Sister Mary Judith's advantage is having spoken Spanish continuously when she served at the Ferdinand Benedictines' monastery in Guatemala from 1971 to 1998. She was immersed in the language daily, and learned it well. After returning to Ferdinand, she was asked in 2001 by a high school classmate who was a

*“Without Sister’s help we would not be able to fulfill constitutional requirements. Sister is making a significant contribution to assure the Hispanic population of the area has access to the justice system.”*

lawyer, Joe Verkamp, if she’d like to be a court translator. She’s been the interpreter for the county’s justice system ever since. The workload varies; a typical week can have several appointments. Otherwise, she’s working at the Guadalupe Center, where she can be reached easily for a translation need. Sometimes she’s called to a police station, or the Southern Hills counseling center, or the Department of Child Services. Those are normally difficult situations for the Hispanics involved, and Sister Mary Judith is a welcome sight.

She often does more than translate. She’s been around the judicial system long enough to be able to explain confusing legal terms, and the reasoning behind the various steps of an often lengthy justice process.

Occasionally she’ll translate for a happier event. Like a couple’s wedding vows before a judge. Or the legal adoption of a child. Or for a case that ends in a not guilty verdict.

But more likely the situations have clients frustrated, disappointed, or emotional. And Sister Mary Judith is the one right in the middle, trying her best to calm and soothe a tense atmosphere.

“The fulfillment comes from helping someone in need,” she says.

“Because they need someone. That’s why I do it. A lot of times, they ask me to pray for them. And not just for legal problems, but for family problems, too. I will ask fellow sisters to please

pray for a case. Because it’s difficult for me, and it’s difficult for them.” As she agrees to pray for the Hispanics, she can sense the calm her answer delivers, and detects their expressions of relief and thanks knowing that the sisters will be there for them.

“She knows the Hispanic community real well, by them going to the Guadalupe Center,” says Judge Weikert. “That probably instills some trust in her, for the defendants who need her translation. They know she’s trying to help them.

“Sometimes it’s painful to judges and lawyers about what we have to discuss in court. I can tell by her face at times (it) hurts her. But she does it, and does it well. Because she has the relationship with these people, I think she lends credibility to the whole criminal justice system, just by being who she is.

“She’ll be around, I hope, forever. We would absolutely be lost without her. Because I don’t think we’d ever find anybody to replace her who has the compassion and the care that she does.” ■

Sister Mary Judith translates questions and answers during a meeting at the Dubois County Drug Court’s Alcohol and Drug Program.







Sister T prepares to “high five” a Habitat for Humanity volunteer.

# Sister T transforms youth like no other

by Greg Eckerle

It's hard telling who Sister Teresa Gunter could be helping at this moment. But you can bet it's somebody, somewhere.

She could be picking up a homeless youth from a jail cell.

Or serving a meal at a soup kitchen.

Or taking somebody from a broken home to buy some clothes.

Or finding money to feed someone who hasn't eaten in a couple days.

Or loading up backpacks with essentials to distribute at a women's shelter.

Or answering a call from a local school to come speak to a troubled youth.

Or convincing a youth to attend a “Teens Encounter Christ” retreat that he ended up loving, “learning about God, and how He works in mysterious ways.”

Better known as Sister T, she has been the life teen coordinator for St. Anthony of Padua Church in Evansville, Indiana, for five years. But her serving spirit extends far beyond youth or one inner-city parish.

Jonna O'Bryan, a fellow youth minister from Good Shepherd Parish in Evansville, has been a big fan of Sister T for 15 years. Especially when she leads by example. She's seen her walk up to a man in service gear, say a quick ‘thank you’ with a heartfelt handshake and keep on walking. She's seen Sister T nonchalantly bend over to help an elderly gentleman tie his shoe at the airport. There's a brief ‘hello’ and off she goes, eyes ever searching for others to assist.

“She leads by example in ways she doesn't even know she's doing,” says Jonna. “And kids see that. To watch her is kind of unbelievable. It inspires pretty much everybody around her because it's so contagious. You think, ‘Gosh, I can do that, too.’ She tries to get the kids to open their eyes. Others think she's totally awesome. They love her energy.”

Sister T leads two ministry programs for St. Anthony Church: Life Teen, a group comprised of high school students and young adults from throughout Evansville that meets weekly for a religion class after the Sunday 5:00 p.m. Mass, and EDGE, a group of middle school students who meet every other Sunday morning. Both ministries build a community spirit through fellowship, study of the catechism, service opportunities, and social activities.



Sister T finishes a prayer at a Habitat for Humanity building project before a lunch break.

Father John Davidson, St. Anthony's pastor, appreciates the critical role Sister T plays. "The youth of the Church are underserved. They are extremely important. We need people who know how to administer to them, and she certainly knows how to do that. Her ministry has increased. She's keeping kids involved in the Church, or getting them interested, and that's very important. She's always praying with them, it's a continuous spirituality infusion. We're really taken by her energy and the work she does in her outreach. A lot of her energy goes toward the poor, towards justice. She will go out of her way to help people who are having trouble. She helps everybody."

Paula Lattner, St. Anthony's director of ministries, has seen many young adults "get all excited" when learning of the varied events Sister T coordinates to help area people. "All these activities are new, and they're all her ideas," says Paula. "And she has a strong prayer life, and that's included in all her activities. She's been such a good example to the kids."

Sister T has been a youth minister for over 25 years, and loving every minute of it. She got into helping others at an early age, as her brother was a volunteer youth minister when she was growing up in West Memphis, Arkansas. Her zeal for being hospitable to those in need rose to another level when she became a sister.

"I want a venue where I can help serve people," says Sister T. "If a lady needs her house painted, I can't do that by myself, but I can get some kids to help me do it. With my ministry, I'm able to do a lot of things people would love to be able to do, like go on a mission trip to New York or Oklahoma. I am blessed to have that opportunity for myself and others."

"The biggest challenge in serving people? Finances are always a concern. You have to buy house paint. You have to buy the wood to build somebody a handicapped ramp."

But with Sister T, it seems she somehow finds a way. Her favorite explanation is "fishes and loaves," referring to the miracle in the Gospels where Jesus took five loaves and two fish and multiplied them into enough to feed 5,000.

"Whether it's feeding somebody, or needing paint, or money, I always believe in the 'fishes and loaves,'" she says. "It happens all the time. Say I have a pan of spaghetti but there's 30 people and I'm thinking there's not enough food. I'll say 'fishes and loaves' and somehow there's enough. Or we run out of paint at somebody's house, and I go to the van and there's another gallon. And I know I didn't buy that gallon. So I know God does miracles with me all the time. Our parish is poor, and we're trying to help everybody that comes to our door. Maybe they're looking for diapers, or food, or help in filling a prescription. I think we as a parish rely on the 'fishes and loaves.' I don't know how it's going to happen, but it does." It also helps that Sister T has the courage to ask others for assistance to help those in need.

She also has the type of personality that convinces kids on the brink of having an abortion or committing suicide to "realize there's something greater," and to change their minds. "I know I'm not the sharpest person, but I know that God has given me the gift to tell kids, 'look, you are worth millions of dollars, do not listen to that person saying you are worthless, I know you're not, and I'm going to help you get a job so you can go to college, we're going to do this.'" And then she contacts the right people to get it done.



Sister T is well known for her boundless stamina. She relies on prayer a lot to keep her fortified. And the power of 'fishes and loaves,' of course, to summon more energy from somewhere. She refuses to waste time, because she wants to constantly be ready for whatever God is going to throw her way.

"I think that being a Benedictine Sister is the reason I can do my ministry. I think youth are looking to serve and are craving prayer. I can provide both. I think they respect me being a religious, but often forget I am. Because many times they act like I'm their mother, or a friend, or a guidance counselor."

Her weekly Sunday Life Teen gathering at the parish is a perfect example of the wonders she can work with youth. It's a melting pot from throughout the city – there can be 30 kids awaiting her lead, from all seven high schools, rich kids, home-schooled kids, dropouts, or ones taking leftover food home because that's all their family will get to eat tonight. She brings them together, there are no cliques, no boundaries, everybody loves everybody. The kids are comfortable enough to say anything in front of the group. A girl fighting with her mom can talk about it. Or the boy whose dad is getting out of prison. And the kid with the stuttering challenge of three years ago who overcame it and now cantors before a church congregation. These young lives change for the better, all because of the acceptance, support and encouragement of the Life Teen group.

Sister T says she has the blessing to witness the youth grow. And the youth know that growth is rooted in the blessing of Sister T's leadership.

She tried to take some Sundays off through the year – like Mother's Day or Christmas week -- to give everybody a break, but the meeting was too popular. Some said their moms were in jail, so they'd have nobody to be with. The same with Spring Break. Many of the kids don't have the money to go anywhere, so they started



Sister Teresa Gunter begins prayer at a Life Teen meeting at St. Anthony Parish in Evansville, Indiana.

a "staycation." Each year activities are planned for that week – maybe a party for homeless women, or they clean up local parks, or they volunteer time at St. Vincent de Paul.

Emily Earhart, one of the youth, says, "We did a lot of work in our group, but she makes it fun."

It all goes back to serving others. Sister T marvels at how the youth routinely invite homeless people into their Life Teen meetings to get a bite to eat, to keep warm, or to watch and discuss a movie. "What a gift," she says, "that God has transformed those kids' vision to see everyone as equal, and everyone as an image of God."

Stephanye Smith, an adult recruited by Sister T to help with the youth group, says, "She is the most amazing woman I have ever met. She puts ideas into kids' heads, that they can do something better with their lives, and they can help serve people, even though the church doesn't have a lot of money. She always says 'fishes and loaves,' which is great, like things are going to come, no matter what, with God's help. She knows the kids are the future of the church. These kids have opportunities they would never have had without her.

"She makes you feel like you can do anything you want when you put your mind to it and you have God in your heart. I've never seen anybody interact with kids the way she does. She makes you feel like you're worth something. That's huge for the kids. Seeing her put her life for these kids is so inspiring." ■



Sister T shows a boy how to wash dishes.



Sister Diane Fischer crochets one of her dolls, which are a popular item in the gift shop.

# Creating for the gift shop

by Laura Reckelhoff

When asked, Sister Charlene Ann Wheelless, gift shop manager, and Sister Shirley Ann Schultheis, gift shop staff member, can list about 27 sisters that contribute items to For Heaven's Sake, the gift shop of the Sisters of St. Benedict of Ferdinand. Give them a few minutes and they will add additional names they forgot to include. There are a lot of sisters who are very talented and utilize their talents by making wonderful items to sell at the gift shop.

Sister Corita Hoffman is one of those very talented sisters. Her specialty is needlework and she loves doing it. "I can't let a day pass without working on something," she admits. Sister Corita's work includes adding intricate floral patterns to a tablecloth, large wall hangings of stitched floral arrangements or pictures, or adding decorative stitches to a baby quilt, just to name a few things. Her favorite items to work on are religious things and anything with flowers since they offer so many options to be creative with the colors and the stitches. She says, "I never follow a pattern. I always change something. The challenge is to pick colors that work together."

"Sewing is natural for me," explains Sister Corita. "Mother instilled it in me at a young age."

Now that Sister Corita has retired from teaching, she can do more of what she loves, needlework. "I feel really good about being able to sell items in the gift shop," she says. "We (sisters) all have a job to do and this is my job. St. Benedict said 'Ora et labora' which means 'pray and work.' That inspires me. Work is very important and I pray while I do that work. Sometimes I listen to music or inspirational tapes while sewing."

Sister Corita also makes crosses for the gift shop. What started as a small project ten years ago has mushroomed into making about 700 a year. These inspirational crosses come with a card that explains the symbolism of the pattern the yarn forms. While many are sold in the gift shop, she also gives many away to those she feels needs them.

Sister Corita smiles and says, "Life has been good to me and every day gets better. I always strive to live a full life."



Sister Corita Hoffman displays one of her floral needlework pieces, which is an example of some of the exquisite work she gives to the gift shop to sell.

Many young girls, and those young at heart, are drawn to the crocheted dolls in the gift shop made by Sister Diane Fischer. Each doll is unique since Sister Diane follows a basic pattern, but modifies each one, which she feels is a great creative outlet.

It started out as making a few for her great nieces and nephews a couple of years ago. She now makes about 150 a year. She estimates each doll takes her about three hours to complete. "I'm just happy to share them with others. I love making them so I am glad they are saleable."

Her mother taught her to crochet and Sister Diane shared the skill with the home economics class she taught in St. Anthony in the 1970s. Quite a few years later, she was visiting someone's home in St. Anthony and saw beautiful crochet work hanging in the home. Sister Diane asked where the artist learned to crochet. The skill was first learned from Sister Diane back in that home economics class so many years ago. Just another way she has shared her talents.

One of Sister Mary Beth Maier's talents is showcased in the beautifully decorated gift boxes she creates. Each box is hand folded and intricately decorated using various media such as wrapping paper, cards, earrings, window clings, wallpaper, and ribbon.

"Decorating is the part I like the most, so I like to spend time on that," says Sister Mary Beth. She is very particular about coordinating the decorations and has a large inventory of items from which to choose.



Sister Mary Beth Maier shows some of the decorative boxes she has made which are sold in For Heaven's Sake gift shop.



The boxes were first made for Christmas for the other sisters and has since grown into approximately 100 a year. Each box is signed and dated by Sister Mary Beth.

She finds the process very prayerful. When making a religious-themed box, Sister Mary Beth says she is also thinking about her life as a sister, about living at the monastery, and about young women discerning and possibly choosing to join the community of sisters, or even associating themselves with the sisters in Ferdinand in some way, such as volunteering or becoming an Oblate.

When making various themed boxes she is thinking of the person that will buy it.

She says other times her prayers come out of frustration, saying, "Jesus, help me get this to turn out!"

Sister Corita, Sister Diane, and Sister Mary Beth all agree that, even after spending so much time making their craft, they have no problem giving it to the gift shop to sell. They all see it as another opportunity they have to contribute to their community of sisters. ■



# New from Simply Divine Bakery

Simply Divine, the bakery of the Sisters of St. Benedict of Ferdinand, is excited to be introducing new products at the Indiana Artisan Marketplace March 29-30 at the Indiana State Fairgrounds in Indianapolis.

In addition to the assortment boxes that were sold quickly last year and offer a variety of five cookies, a smaller assortment box will be unveiled. We don't want to give away the entire surprise, but to give a hint, these will be perfect as a "thinking of you" gift, or other special occasions.

Also new to the marketplace will be the Angel cookies, which were just juried in as an Indiana Artisan product.

The sisters in the bakery invite everyone to visit them, and all the other booths showcasing Indiana's exceptional art and food, at the Indiana Artisan Marketplace.

Simply Divine also has a new and improved website, making it easier to find your favorite cookie, or maybe find a new favorite. Go to [simplydivinebakery.org](http://simplydivinebakery.org) to see the bakery's various cookies and order online.

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## Calendar of Events

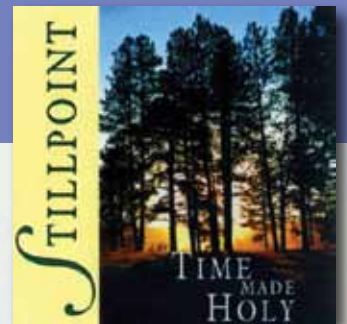
April 20	Easter
April 26	Oblate Meeting
May 4	Spring Recital
May 17	Volunteer Appreciation Day
May 18	Oblate Meeting
June 16-18	Camp Marian (5-8th Grade Girls)
June 27-July 3	Come and See Week
June 28-29	Academy Alumnae Reunion
August 23	Golden Jubilee Celebration
September 6	Women of the Rule Banquet
September 20-21	Ferdinand Folk Fest Fondo
October 11	Hope @ the Dome Youth Rally
October 17-19	Come and See Weekend
October 18	Benedictine Hills Pilgrimage (tentative)
October 26	Sacred Music Concert

## Download Time Made Holy!

Stillpoint's popular album, Time Made Holy, is now available online. You can download through your favorite online reseller, including iTunes and Amazon Music. Just type "Time Made Holy" in the search box.

The album has 18 original compositions from Stillpoint members, Sisters Brenda Engleman, Anita Louise Lowe, Mary Louise Uebelhor, and Rose Wildeman. Enjoy music that praises God and touches the human spirit.

You can also download the album or individual songs here:  
<http://cdbaby.com/cd/stillpoint22>.



For more stories about the sisters, visit [thedome.org/news](http://thedome.org/news).