



The Benedictine Tide

Benedictine Sisters of Florida

Touching Lives through Prayer and Service

Spring 2015

A Code of Life for All

Sister Roberta Bailey, OSB, Prioress

For over 1500 years, **St. Benedict's** simple principles of living together under God's love have guided men and women in monasteries and beyond. His wisdom has guided Benedictine Oblates in their work places and in their homes. Persons who have never heard of St. Benedict, upon becoming acquainted with his code of life, discover his down-to-earth guidelines are the means to a balanced, peaceful life they have been seeking.

Benedict was a man of great wisdom, compassion and common sense. We know that after some time of living with his original **Rule**, he added advice based on his lived experience with a great variety of characters. Imagine having to warn his men not to sleep with knives, to wear clean underwear on a trip, for the learned to help those who could not read. His prudence shines through when, in so many words, he says: this is what works for us now – if the schedule of psalmody, the horarium (daily schedule) and other communal living details don't fit your need, change it.

It is that spirit which has survived because Benedict, even in his youth, had a deep understanding of human psychology. A study of his early years lets us know he spent much time with his grandparents who lived a few miles from his home. Along the trek to their summer home he passed the huts and caves of hermits. Before he was sent to Rome to pursue academics, he spent hours chit-chatting with these solitary men...maybe women, too.

He absorbed the wisdom and practical advice from the older generations. This is evident in the **Rule** - he tempered discipline with compassion and he saw the spiritual quest as a joyful pursuit of God

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Our Founders



Saint Benedict



Saint Scholastica

A Code of Life for All

within the structures of ordinary life. It is this joyous delight in everyday spirituality that makes the **Rule** come alive for so many.

The “softer” parts of the **Rule** were undoubtedly influenced by Benedict’s companionship with his twin sister **Scholastica**. You may know the famous story of the stormy night when Scholastica begged him to stay overnight for their annual visit. He did not cave in to her tears. But, he learned that God did – the rains lengthened their midnight “spiritual conversation” until dawn. Three days later he saw the soul of his dear sister Scholastica take flight heavenward in the form of a dove.

We can hear Scholastica prompting her sibling to charity when, in the **Rule**, Benedict advises the purchaser to be gentle with those who make unreasonable requests. And, he counsels the prioress to treat a wayward member like a sick child. He says in their confinement from the group mealtime make sure that they eat and send an older, wiser one to support them in their efforts at atonement. Perhaps it is also a throwback to the times as a youngster, Scholastica may have consoled him when he got in trouble at home?



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If we only heed the first word of the **Rule** “LISTEN,” what an impact it could make on our own happiness and concord between peoples. To truly listen requires perception, knowledge of human nature, biting the tongue before speaking and an open-hands approach in conversation. To listen requires an attentive spirit... not a scramble to respond with advice, a witty remark or a one-upmanship story. When we truly listen to another we can identify their feelings, let it resonant within and know that very often all the person wants is a signal that we care. People may not remember what

was said but they do remember how it made them feel.

Benedict’s down-to-earth advice works in community (the monastic’s intentional family) and for any living group be it

family, or dorm or apartment mates because of its inner dynamic. St. Benedict was not writing for an IB or Honors class of students. The **Rule** is not intended to



be a great and lofty treatise on prayer or spirituality. It is filled with practical guidance for ordinary people to live together in harmony. Benedict expected his followers to work hard, study hard and pray hard. Benedictine life, in or out of a monastery, is a graceful (and grace-filled) blend of prayer, work and living together – a simple, effective prayer life, open communication, mutual respect – not for mature saints but for those who choose to walk a path of life-long falling down and getting up in a community where each member is valued and loved unconditionally.

Notice how Benedict cultivates relationships.... At first, the new comer is expected to obey instantly and without question. Later, the relationship matures so that the instant obedience is tempered with proper questioning and a sense that the members should be just as obedient to each other. The relationship flowers into one of confidence and mutual love and respect to and between all members.

The **Rule** offers us a very high ideal, but it is a beautiful one, and one that we should never feel compelled to apologize for. When we breach the ideal, the monastic is expected to humbly ask forgiveness both from God and from his/her confreres. From that first word in his Rule LISTEN... to his advice to begin every good work with prayer ... to keeping a lamp burning at night ... to don’t loiter outside chapel if you are late ... it is evident

The Sisters’ Favorite Messages from the Rule

“Your way of acting should be different from the world’s way.” (RB 4:20)

This message tells us we are called to be radical Christians, counter-cultural (i.e. Live the Gospel). Although he lived over 1500 years ago, things have not changed dramatically. Benedict’s counter-cultural lifestyle in the **Rule** dictated against materialism, consumerism, individualism and greed. It still calls for values and virtues such as respect, humility, hospitality, patience and peace. I like that this quote calls for growth and change in me and challenges me to build Community. As a “How To” document, the **Rule** challenges all of us to become better persons and to make a better world.



Benedict’s counter-cultural lifestyle calls for service and care for others, simplicity, reverence of things and people, non-possessiveness and stewardship. Benedict explains our “different way of acting” by following with Verse 21—*“the love of Christ must come before all else.”* May it be so. Amen.
S. Mary David

“At the hour for the divine office, as soon as the bell has been heard, let them leave whatever they have in hand and hasten with all speed. Indeed nothing is to be preferred to the Opus-Dei.” RB Chapter 43

The Liturgy of the Hours holds an important place in my Benedictine monastic life. The purpose of the Liturgy of the Hours is the sanctification of time. It extends the Pascal Mystery in the Eucharist over the course of the hours of the day and is central to Benedictine spirituality. The **Rule** of St. Benedict names The Liturgy of the Hours, “Opus Dei,” literally, “The Work of God.” In his **Rule**, Benedict states that the Liturgy of the Hours within his preeminent admonition of loving Christ above all things, using the identical emphasis, “prefer nothing to the love of Christ.” That is why when it is time for the celebration of the Liturgy, we leave our work or whatever we may be doing at that moment. It reminds me that God is the center of my life. During the celebration of the liturgy I am praising God, thanking God, and I am asking God for his mercy and grace for me and all the world.
S. Elizabeth

“Listen with the ear of your heart” is the very first message in Benedict’s *Rule*. It speaks to me in particular because the focus is on the heart—you think about love and doing for others. Ultimately, you aren’t necessarily following the letter of the law, but rather connecting with your feelings. Its interesting to note that as a baker, there is great joy for me in making something special (i.e. bread, birthday cake, cookies) for others. I believe baking is a gift from God. One of the ways that I “listen” from my heart is this gift of baking for others.
S. Donna



“What can be sweeter to us, dear brethren, than this voice of the Lord inviting us? Behold, in His loving kindness the Lord shows us the way of life.” RB Prologue

We, as Christians and Roman Catholics, have already been brought into the circle of the faithful through the sacramental life of the church. In this quote from St. Benedict, I hear the voice of Christ calling me to live this sacramental life radically (from the root) as a Benedictine monastic.
S. Eileen



Prayer Fountain

With a concrete walk extension donated by Creative Contractors, **Professor Veronica Ospina-Kammerer and a group of her Social Services students** designed and painted the values Benedictines cherish in a circle at a point along the path. The students also arranged the stones donated by friends, families and supporters...a loving volunteer project on Valentines Day 2015. The visitor experience has been beautifully enhanced by these very special students.

Thank You!



RECALL *Celebrate* Embrace

RECALL THE PAST • CELEBRATE THE PRESENT • EMBRACE THE FUTURE

The Closing of the Benedictine Sisters of Florida's 125th Year was February 27, 2015 at Tampa Bay Golf & Country Club. The entire anniversary year was grounded in hope and change because you actively participated in our mission and *touched our lives through prayer and support*. You share our values and commitment to pursue a gentle spiritual journey through community, love, peace and compassion. Such thoughtful intentions, like Christ's, make us all part of something bigger than ourselves. *Such is transformation*.

The Sisters are deeply grateful to our friends, family, oblates and benefactors who have blessed us in so many ways. Our celebration is of YOU and our hope that your lives are strengthened by messages we share from our founders, Saint Benedict and his twin sister Saint Scholastica.

The Closing event featured Keynote Speaker, **Sister Judith Ann Heble, OSB**, President of the Communio Internationalis Benedictinarum. Sister's presentation centered on what we can all learn from our 6th century founders. Sister Judith Ann took us on an intellectually compelling journey of Rome's fall and its similarities to this day and age. It was Rome's moral decay that motivated St. Benedict to write the **Rule**. This small booklet provides a map on how to live together not only as a monk or nun, but how we all can live a life centered on core values from Jesus. St. Benedict's wisdom is considered to have been instrumental in helping to bring Europe out of the Middle Ages.



Again, we thank most sincerely our leadership and supporters for a memorable 125th Anniversary Year, an exceptionally successful Special Gifts Campaign and wonderful Closing Dinner event!

Special Gifts Campaign Committee:

Co-Chairs—Janet Rodriguez Collura and Pat Thompson
Honorary Co-Chairs—Glen and Gail Greenfelder

Special Gifts Campaign Committee Members:

Tony Coleman, Bill Gregg, Dr. Arthur Kirk, Jean LeGrand,
Msgr. Frank Mouch, Dr. Yvonne Nelson, Jeanette Reilly,
Beverly Roy, Dr. Holly Sokolowski and Dr. Carol Stanton

To Our Donors, Sponsors and Volunteers

The Sisters most precious possession is our way of life in prayer and service. You have our deepest appreciation for making many things possible with your kindness of gifts, time and talents. May our Lord continue to bless us all as we partner to fulfill immediate and future needs...

That in All Things God May Be Glorified.

S. Mary David Hydro Named to AIM Board

The Benedictine Sisters of Florida announce the appointment of **S. Mary David Hydro** to the Board of Directors of the Alliance of International Monasticism (AIM USA). AIM supports over 450 mission monasteries throughout the world. The focus is to help the poor in third world countries which also strengthens the future of the Church in those areas. People in the United States, Canada, Africa, Asia and Latin America come together to support religious in formation.



The Benedictine Sisters Of Florida have been involved in AIM since the 1990's We have provided room and board for the past ten years for Sisters from Tanzania on scholarship at Saint Leo University. *"It is an honor to serve on the AIM board as the mission makes possible, in addition to education, many projects that help these poor countries become sustainable,"* says Sister Mary David. *"The cultural exchange that takes place through organizations like AIM is what builds understanding, love and peace in our world."*

Hunger Has a Cure



One of the Corporate Commitment activities of the Benedictine Sisters of Florida is our **Annual Lenten Soup Supper**. We host the event at the monastery to benefit DayStar Hope Food Pantry where the Sisters volunteer each week. This year the supper was held on March 10th. We had over 50 people in attendance for Vespers and then enjoyed three home-made soups by **Shawn Leach** and a variety of **Sister Donna's** breads.

S. Jean Abbott is DayStar's executive director and along with the clients who frequent the store, are grateful for the 106 food items donated and the \$1,936 raised!

New Member of Our Team!

Cheryl D. Chadick has joined the staff at Holy Name Monastery working in both the Advancement and Business Offices. A parishioner of Saint Mark the Evangelist Catholic Church, Cheryl is "delighted to be working in a faith based non-profit like the Benedictine Sisters of Florida." She has a background in business management and is well versed in accounting, project management and customer service. Cheryl looks forward to meeting our friends, family, oblates and supporters.



Upcoming Events Calendar

April 26th— Concert with St. Mark's Choir

May 1st— Annual Employee Appreciation Day

May 31st— 2 pm Concert "Hymn-a-Long"

June 11-16th— Community Retreat with
S. Mary McGhee, OSB

First Sundays— Day of Recollection with Holy Hour

First Wednesdays— Liturgy Committee Meetings

Second Wednesdays— Corporate Commitment or
Peace and Justice Meetings

Second Thursdays— Formation Team Meetings

Fourth Mondays— Community Meetings

Just to Say Thank You!

The Sisters and members of the Advancement Committee are thoroughly enjoying making calls to just say "thank you and blessings" for your kind support. With smiles of delight and her eyes twinkling, **S. Mary Romana** often relates after speaking with a donor for the very first time, *"We had such a nice conversation and he/she was so appreciative of my call."* Connecting in this more personal way has been uplifting for us and based on the response, it is the same for those who receive the calls. The office itself is doing more communications regarding monastery "Happenings" via email as well.

But we don't have phone numbers and/or email addresses for all of you! Please send either or both so that we may have the opportunity to speak with you personally. Prayer requests are welcome!

**Call (352) 588-8443 or email at
hnmdevelopment@saintleo.edu**

Oblate Program

S. Mary David Hydro, OSB, Director

The Benedictine Sisters of Florida pass on Benedictine values to our Oblates. It is a blessing for us to see how they take these values to heart and put them into practice in their lives. They are able to do so because the values are practical so are applicable to all Christians. The following is from **Barbara Molloy**, one of our Oblates and a resident volunteer who also finds great guidance in Saint Benedict's *Rule* -

When I first came to Holy Name Monastery as a resident volunteer 12 years ago, it was shortly after I was widowed. Being an Oblate and a resident at the monastery has presented me with more time to pray and to focus on the things that truly matter in this world and to welcome the Silence in our days. The Rule has also guided me. My favorite quote is Prologue VS 42-44: *"If we wish to reach eternal life, even as we avoid the torments of hell, then—while there is still time, while we are in this body and have time to accomplish all these things by the light of life—we must run and do now what will profit us forever."*



This message has spoken to me from the time I came here. For some it may seem to be a bit morbid, but at the time, I was very aware of how quickly life can change with the death of a loved one. Being here has brought a deep appreciation for the Psalms and other scripture which I never had previously. I have gained a heightened realization that death will come to everyone, should be nothing to dread and that "we must run and do now what will profit us forever."

Barbara Molloy

We are delighted to announce that **Jane Martinson** became an Oblate candidate after Mass on November 23, 2015.

May 24th—Our Next Oblate Sunday will conclude this year's study of *The Radical Christian Life* by S. Joan Chittister. Our recent meeting on March 22nd was eloquently expressed by Anne Kenny who said, *"The hospitality and love—The Benedictine Way—rooted in the way of the Lord emanates from the Community. I am indeed blessed to be welcomed into the Community and am grateful daily for the blessings/grace received from the Benedictine Insight on life."*

JOIN US! Men and women are welcome to attend and discover what the Oblate Program may bring to your life. RSVP to **S. Mary David Hydro, OSB** at (352) 588-8320 or email: mary.david.hydro@saintleo.edu

From the Vocations Office

Come & See Weekend was January 9-10th with three attendees in the process of discerning a vocation. One of the three, **Leah Waller**, decided on March 6th that it was time to make her seeking official. For her, Benedict's "Listen my child" message is meaningful because she *"has had to be patient and learn to listen to God to discern my calling. It is also important for us to listen to each other."*

Leah is our fourth affiliate! Please continue to pray for vocations and encourage other eligible



A Nice Surprise

Mark and Kelly O'Neill visited recently with their little ones—**Alice, Ambrose, Augustine and Clement**. The Sisters were delighted to learn from Mark that our own **Sister Immaculate** is his cousin. A trip to the Community's cemetery was made to see her final resting place and her mother's, **Elizabeth O'Neill Walters**, who is Mark's great-great aunt. Stories were

shared during lunch about how S. Immaculate *"labored heroically in God's vineyard."* Following their visit, a note

of thanks was received, and we quote, *"for the legendary Benedictine hospitality."*

We look forward to a book Mark ordered for us, *Selfless*, which he says is an inspiring story of a Holy Spirit Missionary Sister who worked in missions during WWII.

In Memorium

+**Rachael Gheen Hebert, HNA '59**, November 18, 2014

+**Eva Jo Osborne Lent, HNA '57**, December 25, 2014

Angels in the Wings

November 14th - The 2014 *Angels in the Wings* luncheon was held in the monastery dining room with 32 attendees. The luncheon gives us the opportunity to express gratitude for those who through their Life Planning, remember the Sisters.

Audrey Cate, Don Tapia and Anne Louise Smith were inducted into the *Angels in the Wings Legacy Society* as new angels having named the Benedictine Sisters as a beneficiary in their wills. Each are dear and long time friends of the Community. The future of the Sisters and their ministries are assured through such foresight. A legacy is made of such.

Msgr. Frank Mouch

(pictured to the right of **S. Roberta** with attendees **Ginger Judge and Fr. Bob Fuchek**) blessed Angel Tokens which along with a special Angel poem were gifts from the Sisters to Audrey, Don and Anne Louise.



For more information about the *Angels in the Wings*, contact Faith Pridmore at (352) 588-8443 or by email at hnmdevelopment@saintleo.edu.

Thanksgiving Day Ministry

This past Thanksgiving Day, November 27, 2014 was our 19th year serving and delivering meals. We cherish our many volunteers who come together to help make it a truly blest day of giving thanks. And it is always a day of hustle and bustle for them.

Approximately 246 meals were served (including 40 that went to Sunrise Spouse Abuse Shelter) and 35 dinners were boxed for delivery. **S. Donna** made the meal, **S. Mary David** and affiliate **Marietta Dinopol** made the stuffing and the **Saint Anthony Women's Club** provided the desserts. Along with the **Benedictine Sisters** and "kitchen maven" **Ellen Mejias**, other volunteers included: **Patricia Clower, Ken Cranford, Patrick Daly, Jennifer de Cory, Steve Deloresco, John Dunbar, Fr. Edwin Palka, Marcia Mailia, Jane Martinson, Lourdes Milan, Veronica**



Ospina-Kammerer, Kelly Quinn, John, Lynn and David Roth, Don and Bev Roy, Stan Stanford and the families of the Mejias, Bowers, Conlins, Lawsons, Lewis family, the Newlons and the Petersons. The



students at Saint Anthony School are especially commended for the colorful Thanksgiving decorations they create which make our event even more festive! Many of them also volunteer to serve beverages and desserts and clear the tables.

Sincere thanks as well to **Betty Burke and San Antonio Rotary, Geri Hall of Classic Party Catering, Golden Coral, Premier Supply, and Publix.**

Bless you all for we could not do it without you!

Have You Attended a Concert?

Music lifts the spirit, softens the heart and deepens the soul. The Benedictine Sisters have valued music as one of God's great gifts since their arrival here in 1889. It was always a required course in the school. Today, because the new monastery chapel has such exceptional acoustics, we have launched a monthly Concert Series featuring a guest choir.

The sounds of Christmas were joyfully presented to our first audience by the **St. Anthony Children's Choir** in tune with the **Franciscan Sisters!**

The Men's Choir of Piney Grove Missionary Baptist Church sang a concert in January and really rocked the chapel!

Voices of Christ, a student choir from Saint Leo



gave a contemporary religious concert in February.

Then in March **St. Mary's Episcopal Church Choir** brought 25 choir members and instrumentalists.



If you haven't attended and want

to do so, check our web-site for future Concerts:

www.benedictinesistersoffl.org

News Briefs

(There has been a lot going on!)

November 15th - Six members of the **Board of the Florida Association for the Education of Young Children**, of which **S. Roberta** is a member, joined the Sisters for supper and were given a tour of the monastery.

November 20th - The Sisters attended the Thanksgiving dinner for family and friends at Heritage Park to be with **S. Helen** who had the largest delegation of any of the residents!



December 5th - The **Saint Anthony School**



Student Council President and Vice President and their faculty advisor joined us for lunch and received a donation from the Sisters for their Student Activities.

December 6th - **Sister Mary Clare** and Volunteer **Barbara Molloy** attended the Banquet for Life and Silent Auction at Saint Leo University. Speakers were Dade City **Mayor Camille Hernandez** and SLU faculty members **Dr. Randall Woodard** and **Dr. Tommy Humphries**.

December 6th—A group of eleven Sisters joined the St. Mary's Choir to carol at Hospice House, Royal Oak Nursing Home, and Heritage Park Nursing Home.

December 7th - **S. Mary David** and **S. Petra** attended the lighting of the Christmas Cards at the San Antonio Park.

December 12th - **Srs. Mary Romana, Mary Benedict, and Justina** attended the celebration of the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe at St. Rita's Parish in Dade City.

December 13th - **Tony and Ethel Lapitan** brought a group of eight from their parish, St. Vincent de Paul in New Port Richey, for a tour, noon prayer and lunch.

S. Dianne (pianist), **S. Roberta**, **S. Eileen** and **S. Mary Clare** (singers) provided the music for the Christmas Vigil Mass at Saddlebrook Resort on Christmas Eve. This is always a lovely celebration of our Savior's birth.

Christmas decorating in the new monastery was a joy!

December 27th – Appreciation goes to Don Pharr, a member of the SLU faculty, for supper from the On Q Restaurant.

January 3, 2015 - The Feast of the Holy Name of **Jesus** (our titular feast) was celebrated with supper cooked by **Janet Collura** and **Linda Gant**. These ladies also spoiled us with delicious fare during the holidays.

January 4th - The Mass processional on the Feast of the Epiphany began with **Srs. Mary Romana** (Belize), **Justina** (Tanzania), and **Elizabeth** (India) processing as the three Magi, each dressed in clothing from their country of origin. This was also the first time the Epiphany house blessing for the new monastery took place.

January 11th - was designated **Day of Prayer to End Human Trafficking** and a Special Prayer Service was held in the monastery chapel.

February 3 and 17th—The Sisters or “*Food Angels*” as they are known provided lunch to **Habitat volunteers**. The home-made bread is always a treat.

February 6th—We sadly said good-bye to **S. Mary Benedict** who ended her sabbatical at Holy Name and returned to her Community in Nassau, the Bahamas.

February 9th – There was a whirl-wind of excitement as a hot air balloon touched down in the monastery backyard in the early a.m. **S. Miriam** greeted the unexpected visitors who were delighted to know “the new building they spotted from the sky was a monastery.” Sister's hospitality was thanked with a free ride to be scheduled soon!



February 10th—The Sisters celebrated the Solemnity of their foundress, **Saint Scholastica**. The **Monks of Saint Leo Abbey** were guests for Evening Praise and supper.

February 11th - **S. Mary David** and Volunteer **Barbara** were a part of Focus 11 which is a Vocation information day for 450 eleven-year old girls in schools in the Diocese of Saint Petersburg. The event was at St. Lawrence Parish in Tampa.

February 14th - **Archbishop Terrence Prendergast**, Archbishop of the Archdiocese of Ottawa, Canada, said Mass for the Sister when he and his sister visited here.

February 16-21st - S. Dianne attended an icon workshop to continue honing her art. The workshop was taught at Saint Leo Abbey by **Phil Zimmerman**, a well-respected iconographer from Pennsylvania.

February 22nd - The Sisters discussed Pope Francis' pastoral letter "To All Consecrated People on the Occasion of the Year of Consecrated Life." Discussions on the apostolic letter occurred on for all of the Sunday evenings in Lent.

February 25th - Women from **Handmaids of Mary of Holy Redeemer Parish** came for a reflection day.

February 28th - Thank you to friend **Susan Gilmore** of St. Mark's parish who prepared supper for us.

News Briefs for March will have to wait.

We will report on our March activities in the August Tide. Even with many "cuts," there was too much to share from November 2014 through February 2015 in this Spring Tide.

Women on the Move indeed!

Student Scholarships

Education has been a central part of our mission from the day following our founders arrival here in 1889. The benefits of a values-based education cannot be overestimated. That is true now more than ever.

That is why we provide scholarships to students at Saint Leo University. The education students receive is imbued with Benedictine philosophy. It is not just a course taught for new students or once a year. Rather it is part of the curriculum in every class. As you walk the university campus, Benedictine values are posted everywhere.

We hear from our past awardees, learn about their lives and know such scholarships are gifts that truly keep on giving. Our communities and world are made better because these individuals received such an education!

The scholarships we provide specifically honor past and in a few cases current Sisters of Holy Name Monastery. There are very specific criteria in our recipient decision making.

Salaries the Sisters bring home make this ministry possible. YOUR gifts to the Annual Fund help sustain us so we can help these deserving students.

Aquaponics Ministry Update

The very first produce, romaine lettuce, was served at lunch in February! And on March 31st one of the Tilapia fish gave birth to some 50 eggs.. **S. Miriam** is so proud!



Aquaponics at Holy Name Monastery has spawned interest from the media and readers in a big way. In the last three months, S. Miriam has been interviewed by newspapers and magazines too numerous to list. She was even interviewed on television by Fox News Tampa which did a story for their 10 pm News Hour! What a joy to have the positive feedback from people from all walks of life. There have been inquiries from individuals and from organizations about the vegetables and fish harvested. While Sister Miriam prays to get beyond just feeding the Sisters at Holy Name, it will take some time and financial assistance.

Please consider a gift(s) to this ministry so that more can be done. A part-time assistant is a necessary expense.

Your donation will help us do more!

In-Kind Gifts

Your In-Kind Gifts are a tremendous help in so many ways. Blessings for your kindness and thoughtfulness.

A Healthy Convenience Organic Market

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Annual Fund 2014-2015

Note: The following represent those who have made an Annual Fund gift(s) from July, 1, 2014 through March 31, 2015. The Annual Fund runs through June 30, 2015. All Annual Fund donors will be listed in our August Tide with Tribute Gifts.

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Kathleen Ryan-Melendez	Paul and Shana Speciale	Robert J. Vigeant	
		Jack and Jeanie Vogel	

*Philanthropy is a Greek word
that means
Love of Humanity*

Prep and Academy Reunion 2014

The weekend of November 14th through 16th, the Classes of 1949, 1954, 1959 and 1964 gathered for their 65th, 60th, 55th and 50th Holy Name Academy and Saint Leo Preparatory School class reunions. Some travelled respectable distances—New Mexico and Alaska! **Joyce and Dolores Croy, Gay Bush, S. Helen and Katie Calvert**, like so many others, enjoyed “catching-up.”

Each year a Florida Benedictine Spirit Award is given, but this year three winners were named as part of the commemoration of the 125th Anniversary of the three organizations.

Marvin Mulligan '54 Prep School grad and SLU grads **Tim '67 and Maria (Mora) '63 Crosby** were deserving recipients from their respective institutions. One of our past community members, **Dr. Carol Stanton** (pictured below with **Dr. Arthur Kirk**), a 1963 Holy Name grad was our chosen recipient. Carol (S. Marmion)



joined the community and spent eight years with us. Then her call to ministry led her to the Orlando Diocese in early childhood and family religious education as well as lay ministry formation. She holds an MA in Religious Education from St. Louis University and a Ph.D. in Theology from Trinity College, Dublin. *“Those early years as a Benedictine Sister were my spiritual formation for life,”* says Carol. *“I continue to find grace in my religious name, ‘of the Holy Spirit.’ It is in that Spirit I see myself as a very real part of the legacy of the Benedictine Sisters of Florida.”* Carol is married to **John Parrell** and they share a large and loving family.



The Florida Benedictine Spirit Award honors individuals with longstanding connections to one or more of Florida’s Benedictine communities. The three exceptionally “spirited” individuals, like those named in the past seven years share:

- An exemplary commitment to the values that were first set down more than 1500 years ago by Saint Benedict and his twin sister Saint Scholastica.
- A great devotion to one, or more, of the three Benedictine communities.

Congratulations and Thank You for Furthering the Tradition!



Holy Name Monastery

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St. Leo, FL 33574-2450

CORPORATE COMMITMENT

In an effort to address contemporary local needs, we, the Benedictine Sisters of Florida, commit ourselves and our resources to respond with the compassion of Christ to the physical, spiritual and emotional hungers of the People of God.

Editorial Team

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Faith Pridmore, CFRE,

Director of Mission Advancement

Writers: Benedictine Sisters

Design and Layout: Faith Pridmore

Give Day is May 5th, 2015 *Midnight to Midnight!*

Many Community Foundations in cities across the country hold an annual Give Day to encourage support and build awareness of the good works of charities. In this area it is slated for May 5th and hosted by the Community Foundation of Tampa Bay and Florida Next Foundation.

During the **24-hour giving challenge**, the Benedictine Sisters of Florida organization will have the opportunity to raise much needed unrestricted dollars, and with your participation, we can **win bonus prize money!**



Last year was the first year and we won \$9,500 in bonus prize cash. And because of one very generous donor, we also placed 2nd over the other 400 charities who received donations. Just imagine!!!

Can we count on you to help make it happen again this year?

On this day **ONLY**, you can log onto www.givetampabay.org and make a donation. We will have our own special page on that site. You'll love (as did we and last year's donors) watching the Leader Board to see how we are doing.

We need you to help us with these three things:

1. Mark May 5th on your calendar.
2. Follow on Facebook & Twitter: www.facebook.com/BenedictineSistersofFlorida & www.twitter.com/Bendsisoffl
3. SPREAD THE WORD! Tell all your family and friends why you believe in our work and why they should give on May 5th.



Learn more by following at facebook.com/GiveDayTampaBay