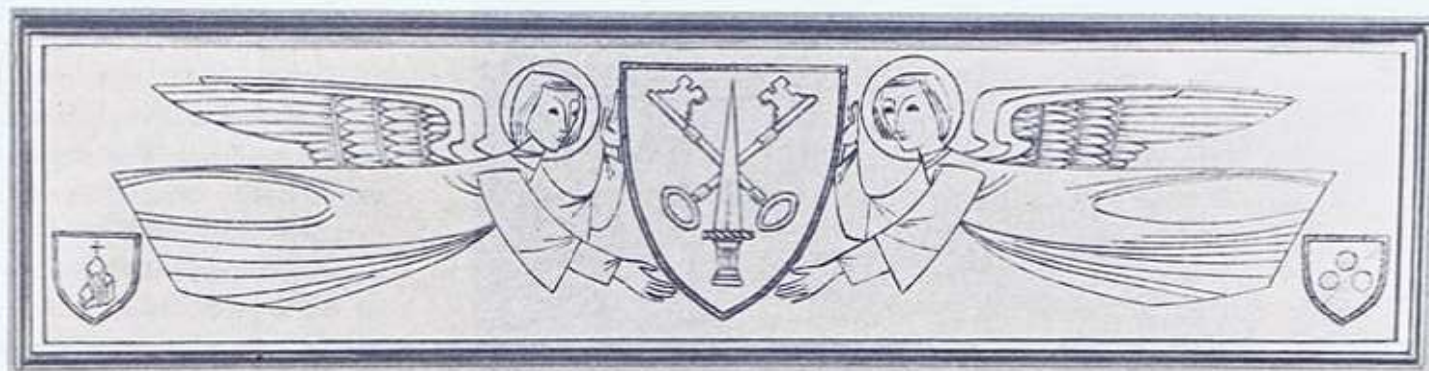


Greetings for Christmastide 1973



Designed by Fr. Nicholas.

Mount Saviour Pine City, N.Y. 14871

Chronicle



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Dear Friends of Mount Saviour,

Every new beginning is a celebration and a festival--not merely a cause or excuse for one. Then it soon becomes more excuse than celebration. The new beginning expressing itself is celebration and festival.

Christmas is such a festival and a celebration for us because it gives our life an entirely new beginning. The Incarnation of God in the person of Jesus, the Christ, embodies a new beginning not only for God and man, but also for man and his neighbor, and for man and the cosmos. Christmas celebrates the context for an entirely new life--the life of God in an individual man, the new Adam, father and brother of us all. Everything is new again as it was in the beginning when there was light and that light was the life of the world.

Now, there is a new way of making the Christmas festival a warm and comfortable memorial of the cultural consequences of our historic origins. But the consequences of the Incarnation are cosmic and not merely cultural. Furthermore, the Incarnation of God in Jesus is an event unique in the annals of both God and man. And therefore we are Christians only if we allow it to have its unique consequences in our lives. Otherwise, we have not Christians but Christianity, an ideal, which grows old and may become more excuse for living than being life itself.

There is something old about Christmas and about Christians which like old wine makes them better with age. That is the old attitude of becoming quiet and still like the holy night, in order to receive the Word of God. It is to listen. It is to welcome again the life-giving word into the depths of our being. For we live and move and have our being in God's great depth. Thanks be to him who renews our youth like the eagle's and who then gives joy to that youth.

We would like to share with you the 'new beginnings' this season always brings. We found a word of Reverend Father Damasus in one of his old conferences, and several members of the community have added words of their own.

Father Gregory celebrated the 40th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood in 1973. He has taken up again the arduous duties of Prior. But those who have seen him at the Monastery of Christ-in-the-Desert agree he has never looked younger. Father Placid, our other surviving founding father, has never looked old--and he still doesn't. But it has been 40 years since he first made profession in monastic life at Fort Augustus in Scotland. The lives of service and commitment of these two monks, one in the desert, and the other in our vineyard, are celebrations each in their own way of what the Incarnation is and does. If life begins at 40, we rejoice in their new beginnings.

It was also a new beginning for Abbot Rembert Weakland who was re-elected Abbot Primate on the first ballot at the Benedictine congress in Rome last Fall. For us at Mount Saviour it was an especially glad celebration that he accepted this word of trust from God and his brothers. He takes up again the hopes and joys of Benedictines for the Church and the World.

The Congress of the Benedictine Confederation was a rather happy event in its own right. In spite of all the problems and sorrows there is a new evidence of faith and joy that the Messiah is among us, in the midst of his imperfect people, forming and recreating us in his Body. It is somehow expressive of the Incarnation that the theme for the next Congress is Finding God in One's Neighbor.

Another new beginning and sits with our brothers at Weston a beginning association with the way of joining together mo tic

We intend to take seriously One's Neighbor, and the Jubilee Year was in the Jubilee Year 1950 th cognize this call for a new begin comet something of a sign. We a of this phenomenon, but it also the wise men, a sign to begin an It will involve an inward journe in us as our hope of glory. And journey because God has become c

~~We ask you to join us and~~
Support us by the example of you and friends may form one brother neighbors some dimension of that because it comes from the heart know so well, peace must be enfc the gift which is himself. We a are truly wise men, we know the is a star worth following. We k day and today, that there s same reception awaits the for a also there is the same God offer being formed in the flesh as he and joyous news. Let us make it

Reverend Father Damasus
Speaks About Christmas.

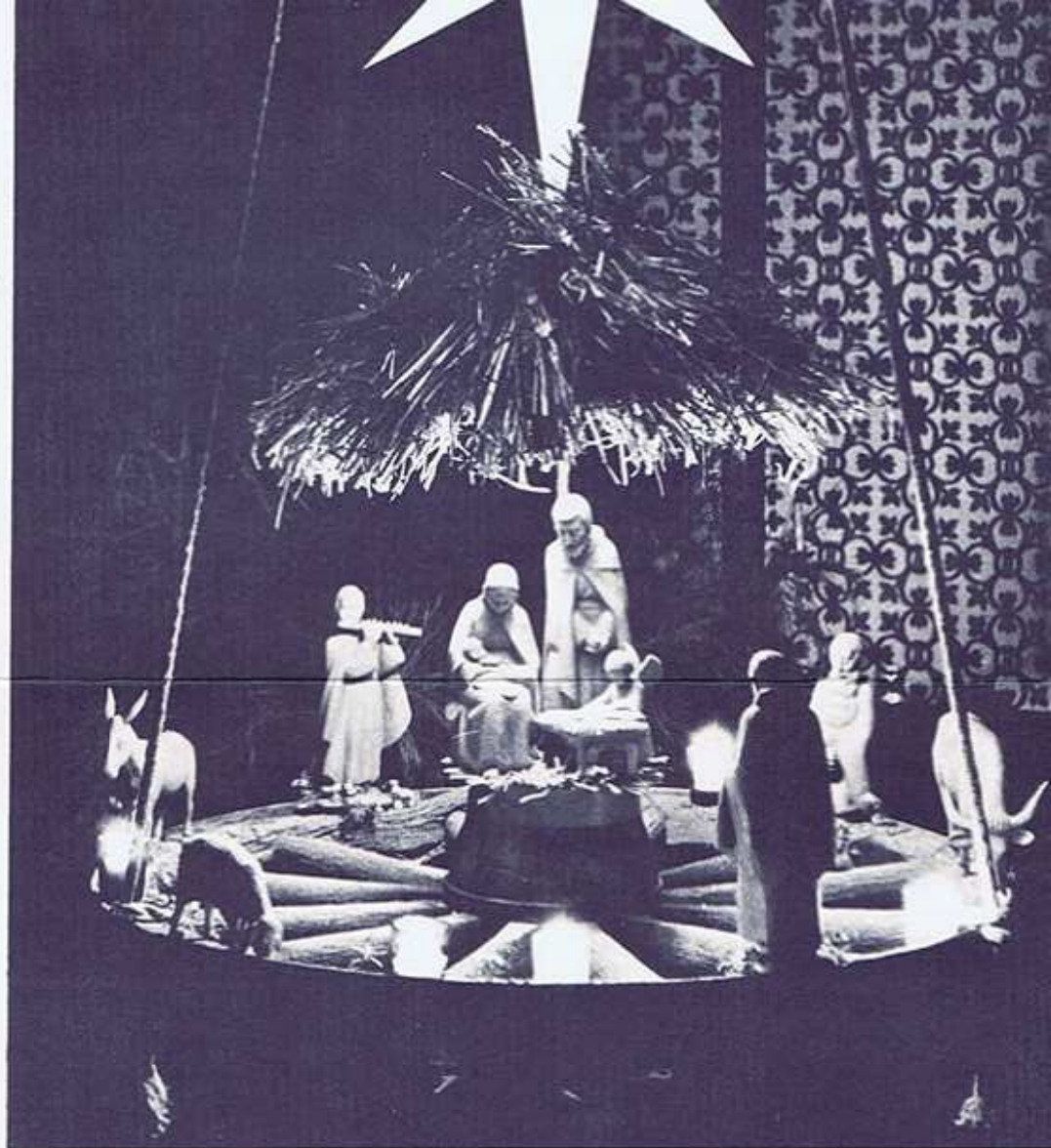
Winter invites us to turn the spirit, to listen to the Word throne at this time of year. We through which the Beginning ente look forward to a new year, so i "Now I begin" is a phrase full c

Our Heavenly Father has es it is full of beginnings: the Sp cle of the month, the Sunday, th is full of birth and new life. the power of new beginnings! Th Advent begins the Church's ew y O my Lord." Wonderful words for

celebration for us were the victory in Vermont. We now have what in time may become a new neighborhood.

the theme of Finding God in proclaimed by Paul VI. It we were founded, and we re- ing. We even find the new know the scientific aspects n be for us, as it was for to seek the new born king. in the Spirit, for Christ is t involves another sort of neighbor.

ake it a common endeavor. lives, so that our Oblates od with us. Let us give our peace the world cannot give, Christ. In the world we ed. Christ bestows it as you to join us, for, if we arch is not endless; there w Herod is the same yester- l s' in innocents, and the th pregnant. But we know g anew his Word which is s in Mary ... this is great ur festival.



Designed by Br. David.

A Martin

thin to the inner things of Who leaped from the heavenly ave celebrated the new birth d into human history, and we is a time of beginnings. meaning for us. ublished our nature so that ng of the year, the new cir- dawn of a new day. Nature w much more the Church carries ntroit of the first Sunday of r: thee I lift up my life, new beginning.

Consider the New Beginning as He appears to Our Lady, to the shepherds, the Magi. The Church carries the One Who said: "I, the Beginning, speak to you." She carries the Word of God in her womb; He constantly works new beginnings by the power of the love of the Father. "Deus caritas est." He is this charity and wishes to share it with us. That is why we can always celebrate a new beginning.

Think--a human being thrown back on his own resources may begin again, but it is new effort only as long as it remains captive to fallen nature. As goethe said, like the grasshopper it may jump up but after a while it is down in the grass singing the same song.

But if the sinner bathes in the spirit of compunction in the heavenly Father's love, this is really a new beginning. The burden of guilt may have made him old, but the love of the Father is so immediate that at the first turning of the heart there is a new beginning, before guilt is weighed or the sources of depression analysed. No matter what the depth, God's love is there the first moment it is invoked.

May our spirit, mind and soul
be "recycled" by the coming
of the Lord.

L. Pierre

Christmas is
the fulfillment of
a long awaited
New Hope
Br. George

God became child
That man might cry
Father.

St Nicholas

"Such is the simplicity
of man to hearken
after the flesh."
Shakespeare

As I reflect with joy upon the words of King David:
"Rejoice, happy man, rise, holy man,
Draw forth the cheerful day from me,
O Father, touch the chert, and light
The light that shone when Hope was born,"
The prayer arises: May all our hearts,
this Christmas morn, radiate the happy,
holy, cheerful light of Christ!
- Br Sebastian

Father Dominus once said -
"To love and be loved in return"
is to be completely reborn.
What a joy life could be when
we are able to discover new life
in God through the love of each
other in Christ.
Br. Andrew

My wish is that Christmas may make you so
at home in His love, that you can venture
forth into a truly new beginning. Peace

John David

Compassion: in your heart
Christ born in your brother
Your life for yours to God
Love forever with God

* The Christ is present everywhere.
He must be born in each of us to make us brave to make us true.
The Christ is present everywhere.

+ Christ the Lord began the work of our Redemption
in humility & simplicity. + May we have the
courage to begin again with the help of
His grace.

Br. James ...

A New Day
Or so we pray; anointed we are to preach Good
News... But! Liberty evades captives, Freedom
is not yet to these imprisoned. Comfort for
mourners remains a pious phrase.
When will the ancient ruins of afflicted humanity
be truly restored? When men WILL it with
all their heart. Then will happiness be
attained, a new day fashioned. Br. Anthony

A Blessed &
Joyful Christmas
Br. Mark

When you're so alone the world is darkness,
When light is gone, and pain rules instead;
Let me dry your flowing tears
and cool your burning head,
Then look to the world around you,
to life both tame and wild;
For I give you my universe as a playmate,
And make you her beautiful child.
Br. Tom Farrell

See the link
Learn how the
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When Britain rejoiced together
the joy of each one is the greater
[see page 2]
Br. Andrew