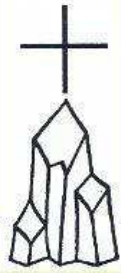





Mount Saviour
Monastery



Mount Saviour Monastery Chronicle

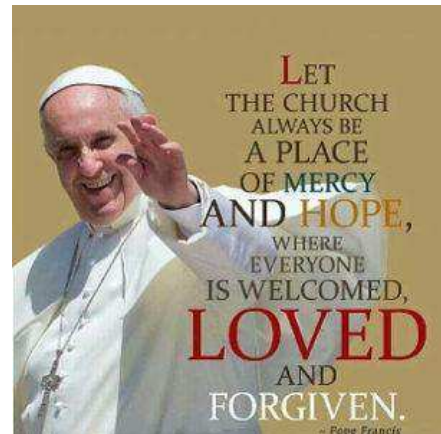
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On April 11, 2015, Pope Francis proclaimed an Extraordinary Year of Mercy with the Holy Year opening on 8 Dec. 2015. Then we will be in the season of Advent, awaiting the birth of our Lord, Jesus Christ, Himself the Incarnation of Mercy. Pope Francis desires that the year to come be steeped in the balm of mercy and that it reach everywhere as a sign that the Kingdom of God is already present in our midst. The mercy of God is his loving concern for each one of us. It is God's love reaching down to meet the needs and overcome the miseries of his creatures. God's mercy is the form that God's eternal love takes when He reaches out to us in the midst of our need and our brokenness. Our Holy Father wants us to live this Jubilee Year in the light of the Lord's words: Merciful Like the Father. Each of us is called to show mercy because mercy has first been showed to us. For us to be capable of mercy we must first dispose ourselves to listen to the Word of God. For that to happen we will need to rediscover the value of silence in order to meditate on His Word that comes to us, in many moments during every day, making it possible to contemplate God's mercy and adopting it as our lifestyle.

Pope Francis, speaking to priests, has told them: "Please, be great forgivers. It does me good to recall a friar of Buenos Aires who is a great forgiver. He is almost my age and sometimes he is gripped by scruples for having forgiven too much. And one day I asked him: 'And what do you do when you are gripped by scruples?' He replied, 'I go to the Chapel, I look at the Tabernacle, and I say: Lord, forgive me, today I forgave too much. but let it be clear that YOU gave me the bad example.'" Not only to priests but to all the ministers of His Church, Pope Francis has written "Let the Church, always be a place of mercy and hope, where everyone is welcomed. loved, and forgiven." Recall that the church is the People of God. The Church is us, the whole community of the baptized.



The Holy Year of Mercy is dedicated to living out in our daily lives the mercy which God constantly extends to us. We should all pray with increased gratitude for the unearned mercy we have received and asked for the grace to live out of that mercy as we extend it to others. "I think," says Francis, and I say it with humility, that this is the Lord's most powerful message: mercy". Heavenly Father, help us to hear our Lord's message of mercy and to live it in our lives. Amen

Please remember us in prayer and, if possible,
also in your estate planning and will.

Our legal title is —

*The Benedictine Foundation
of
New York State*

The following are some highlights of the past year. For updated and expanded news notes visit the Monthly News on our website www.msaviour.org

11/13/14 Official acceptance of Mount Saviour into the Subiaco-Cassinense Congregation, English Province

12/21/14 Sr. Mary Donald Corcoran OSB, Cam. Talk: Thomas Merton, The Spiritual Journey

1/16/15 12th Annual Knitters Retreat

1/27/15 Mount Saviour added to National Register of Historic Places

3/22/15 Professor Michael Higgins Talk on Merton: Making and Remaking the Diarist of Gethsemane

4/26/15 13th Annual Fr. Damasus Winzen Memorial Lecture with Dr. Dennis McNamara

4/27/15 Provincial Council Meeting of the English Province, Subiaco-Congregation at Mount Saviour

5/22 & 23 Annual Shearing of our sheep after the lambing season produced 207 lambs born

6/1-6/15 Yearly Community Retreat with Passionist Priest Fr. Richard Freschette

6/8/15 Departure of Fr. Joseph Gabriel Cusimano after Three Year Term as Prior Administrator

7/9/15 Br. Ignatio arrives from Vietnam for a two year stay with the community

8/1/15 Abbot Cuthbert Brogan Farnborough England, appointed Administrator Mount Saviour

8/15/15 Election of Br. John as Prior

8/16/15 Annual Dedication Day Celebration

8/19/15 Br. Pierre appointed Sub-Prior and Br. Gabriel appointed Jr. Master & Oblate Director

9/2/15 Br. Dominic Savio leaves to begin Theology I at Pope St. John Seminary outside Boston



9/19-26/15 Brs. John and Pierre to France for the Provincial Chapter of the English Province

9/30/15 Br. Paul begins the Novitiate and takes the name Br. Bernard



10/11/15 New handicap accessible walkway and new chapel steps



10/16-18/15 Oblates retreat: Msgr Richard Liddy, Reflection on the Psalms

10/25/15 Fr. Dan Horan Presentation: Thomas Merton and St. Francis of Assisi: The Influence of a Medieval Saint on a Modern Monk

Upcoming Events

1/15-17/16 Annual Knitters Retreat

5/1/16 Annual Damasus Winzen Memorial Lecture. Presenter: Fr. Joel Rippinger OSB

5/27-28/16 Annual Sheep Shearing Day

8/14/16 Annual Dedication Day

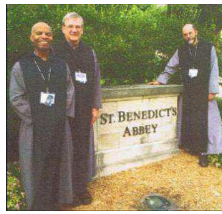
10/9-11/16 Annual Oblate Retreat Weekend, Facilitator: Fr. Donald Raila OSB

Junior and Novice Brothers

Brothers Justin, Luke and Michael attended the Benedictine Junior Institute for two weeks in

St Gertrude's Update

When I was asked to write about St. Gertrude's guesthouse, I had only recently accepted the job of caring for the house and guests. Until



June at St Benedict's Abbey in Atchison, Kansas.

then, I had enjoyed meals at the guesthouse, but had little experience of what it was like to stay there.

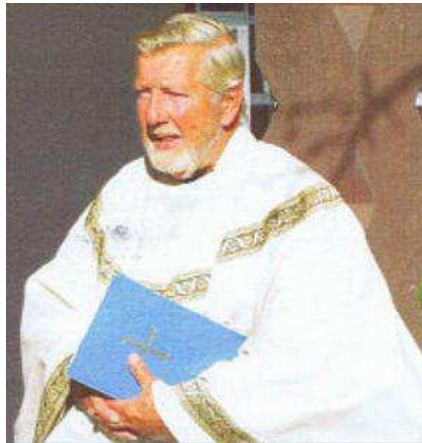


Novice Br. Francis Michael and Br. Bernard



Sunrise from St. Gertrude's Guesthouse

Since then I have experienced sunrises that take my breath away, starry nights just as beautiful, stillness, peacefulness and simple comfort.



Fr. Don Curtiss

In the last few weeks I've asked guest why they keep coming to stay at St. Gertrude's guesthouse. They say they come to pray with the community, to retreat, relax, renew. Some of their answers mirrored my experiences. They love the sunrises, sunsets, starry nights, opportunity to be still and more. Women enjoy gathering with other women in an intimate setting. One answer all agrees with... hospitality. They feel welcomed. They feel like they've come home. St Benedict in his Rule for monks encourages his followers to be hospitable in the strongest terms: "All guest who present themselves are to be welcomed as Christ, for he himself will say: I was a stranger and you welcomed me".

Mount Saviour is searching for a second Chaplain and is offering hospitality (free room and board) to a priest who would share pastoral duties with Fr. Don Curtiss, our current Chaplain. His main duty would be to celebrate Mass and to be available for the sacrament of reconciliation for the monks and guest and possibly answer the phone for two hours during the day at the main desk of the monastery. The accommodation we offer would be a "studio" apartment with a kitchen and a bathroom equipped for the elderly, private entrance, and porch that overlooks our orchard. He would be able to cook his own meals or is welcome to take meals with the monastic community in the refectory. He would of course also be welcome to join the monks and guest praying the Divine Office. He would have time to offer his services for other ministries in our area if he wishes and could be absent for vacation or other commitments after coordinating with Fr. Don. If interested, please contact the Prior.

In the tradition of monastic hospitality, my aim for the guesthouse is to offer simple space, comfort, and nourishment to guest seeking spiritual refreshment and renewal while visiting Mount Saviour Monastery. St. Gertrude's guesthouse allows for guest to use the beautiful surroundings and the rhythms of monastic life for private or group retreats.



While some of my work will be obvious, what I see as the most important part of my job may not be obvious. It is the manner in which I present the guesthouse to others and how I offer hospitality that will determine whether guest will leave feeling refreshed because of their brief stay. For by doing a job well, I know I have a chance to do God's work.

Eve Davila

[Sign up for the Mount Saviour Chronicle](#)



With Voices Raised

By Lindy T. Redmond, Oblate

*The lord gazed down on his earth one morn
He was shocked at what He saw,
For Man was lost and ruthless now
Not following God's law.*

*A mother harshly scolded her young
She showed no love or care,
Our Lord was close to tears by now
It was more than He could bear.*

*What happened to my chosen ones?
They lost their love it seems,
They have no focus on My Light
Where are their hopes and dreams?*

*"Is no one there to lead them now?
From on this path so wrong?"
Just at that moment He did pause
For He heard a haunting song.*

*He listened with His knowing ear,
Pure voices sang in praise,
A gentle smile caressed His lips
A thankful prayer He raised.*

*For on the meadow atop a hill
His monks were deep in prayer,*

*"Ah," God said, "All is not lost...
Mount Saviour is still there!"*

*The Lord was filled with gratitude
"My world is not so stark,
For my monks have raised their voices
To pierce this night so dark.*

*There still is hope for all mankind
The earth is not so bleak,
Their voices will touch others
It is holiness they seek."*

*He then saw pilgrims bow in prayer
Their heart - lights seemed to glow,
They felt the presence of their Lord
Yes, now their faith would grow.*

*The people, filled with silent awe,
Their hearts now drenched with mirth,
For grace was showering down on them
Blanketing God's own earth.*

*The monks continued on in song
Each head in reverence bowed,
All voices rose to praise their King
Their lives to Him, they vowed.*

*For seven times throughout the day
Each voice was raised in prayer,
Their faith, a beacon to the world,
Exemplified God's care.*

*Praise Father, Son and Holy Spirit
They praise and pray again,
For all the world is prayed for
When they utter each "AMEN."*