



MARYMOUNT HERMITAGE NEWSLETTER

2150 Hermitage Lane Mesa, Idaho 83643-5005

Website: www.marymount-hermitage.org

Tel. (208) 256-4354

E-mail: marymount@ctcweb.net

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RETREATANTS WRITE...

By Sister Mary Beverly, HSM

It is important to me to let other “voices” speak to you from this newsletter. Usually once a year I publish some of the lovely notes left in the guest books of the five hermitages. I try to cover a whole year, so you get an overview of seasons and scenes. Once in awhile, I feel inspired to ask a few retreatants if they will write an article for the newsletter. This year, I feature the short piece written by our senior seminarian for the Diocese of Boise, Nelson Cintra. His reflection is the introduction to other past retreatants’ writings. Enjoy!

Looking to the Future

I first heard of Sister Beverly and Marymount Hermitage by way of a card and a brochure which she sent me in my first or second year of seminary. The fact that I had not yet heard of Marymount intrigued and attracted me. “A *hidden* hermitage and retreat center in the mountains of Idaho?” I thought, “What a blessing for us.” Since then I have been on her “holy ground” a couple of times and was both times blessed with God’s grace and peace. Should I be one day ordained a priest, I would like to regularly make retreats there, both in private and with small groups of parishioners.

Thank you sincerely, Sister Beverly, for all of your efforts in building and maintaining such a sacred place, one in which countless souls have deepened their union with the Lord.

Nelson Cintra

Seminarian for the Diocese of Boise

Mt. Angel Seminary, St. Benedict, Oregon

September 18-20, 2020

After the rain cleared out the smoke [from a range fire in the area], I sat outside and listened to the silence and it was good for my soul.

One of the things I love about the retreat is no

clock. I go to sleep when I’m tired and get up when I’m not. I eat when hungry. It’s so freeing to not be beholden to the clock. It was a wonderful retreat. Peaceful and so good for my soul.

Blessings upon you! Until next time,
In Christ,
David H.
Boise, ID

Oct. 4-10, 2020

DAY ONE OF RETREAT

I did not hear the bell.

Small, unseen creatures

fled from my rush.

I saw a small herd of deer.

I walked the Stations of the

Cross.

I only cried a little.

The sound at my footsteps followed me.



I came to Marymount seeking peace and quiet far from the noise and complicated life of family, work and community.

When I began my retreat, a week seemed an endless amount of time to be alone with myself. I worried about boredom—instead I found myself lost in every word spoken in chapel and read in my books. Every phrase leads to reflection and thought. Long walks become prayers.

A week passed and I feel I have only started my journey. I find a week at Marymount is not nearly enough. Would two weeks be enough? Would a life time?

I know I leave here a better person than when I arrived.

God bless, Sister Beverly and Marymount! I pray God’s Will will return me here again and again.

Sara O.

Pocatello, ID

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RETREATANTS WRITE...

(Continued from page one)

October 11-14, 2020

Thank, you, Sister Beverly, for making your home feel like a heavenly home to all who come here! The Lord's presence and peace are here for the taking and I plan to take His glorious gift of peace with me as I head home. I will be back!

April A.
Meridian, ID



Photo by Father Dominic Sternhagen

October 11-14, 2020

Peaceful, prayerful, placid and precious—that is Marymount. Sister Beverly's hospitality is heart-warming—I can feel the presence of our Lord when I'm here. She is certainly His hands and feet.

I love the beauty all around—what I love the most, what captures my soul is the stunning play of clouds and the sky. Clouds roll in and out, change colors and disappear as fast as they came. Next visit I will stay longer—more prayers, more sky watching.

Maryann S.
Meridian, ID

October 12-18, 2020

In so many ways, Marymount is an oasis! An oasis of peace, prayer & the presence of God. Especially in this strange year of 2020, the world needs prayer...and all the retreatants who come here help the world through prayerfulness, faithfulness and the love of God!

It's so good to be here again! I love Marymount, SMB and all the wonderful touches (and now the new Stations of the Cross path!) that lead one to God's dear presence here. Balm for the soul.

It's quiet especially in late fall. Winter is almost here. In every moment, God speaks in our hearts. Again, I'm so thankful for this blessed oasis.

"Be still and know that I am God..."

In all the uncertainty of 2020, He is still God. We need not fear. At Marymount this year, this message seems to be resounding—and it is just what the heart needs to hear.

Thank you, God! Thank you, Sister Mary

Beverly, for your faithfulness & prayers!
Nancy V.
Bozeman, MT

October 18-19, 2020

Sister Beverly,

My heart bursts out in song with the Psalmist as on your lovely kneeler provided, I look out "I will lift up my eyes onto the hills from which cometh my help. My help cometh from the Lord, who makes the Heavens & the earth!"

Prayers with you and receiving communion...extra blessings! Thank you for this beautiful rest!

Much gratitude & affection,

Stephanie P.

Nampa, ID

P.S. I will stay longer next time! (If you'll have me.)

October 18-19, 2020

What a blessing of silence this short stay has been. My soul has been quieted and stirred. Thank you, Marymount, for a place to be with Our Lady and listen to God's still small voice.

Barbie B.

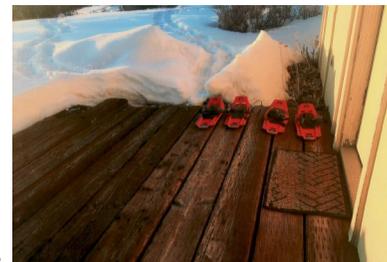
Nampa, ID

October 31-November 2, 2020

What a blessing and gift to have been able to carve out a couple days of retreat here in my home away from home. Thank you, Lord, for the beautiful weather, fellowship with Sister, and the ability to be still and hear your voice in all of these precious gifts. I am so very grateful!

Suzanne S.

Boise, ID



March 1-4, 2021

God parted the seas (cleared the roads so we could drive over several mountain passes), so we

could arrive here to the beautiful sparkling, snow-covered hills & mountains. Snow shoes enabled us to take in more of God's grandeur.

Thanks to Fr. Ed White [pastor in Renton, WA] for pointing us towards Marymount. We were blessed to be here with Fr. Julio, Deacon Jaime, and seminarian Monico.

Sister Beverly, we are now & forever friends in Christ!

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The MARYMOUNT HERMITAGE NEWSLETTER is published by Marymount Hermitage, Inc., a non-profit, tax-exempt corporation in the State of Idaho. The Hermit Sisters of Mary are a canonically approved, Catholic community of women hermits, following the Rule of St. Benedict. The newsletter is published each month by the 15th on our website only. The purpose of the newsletter is to share the spirituality and material progress of Marymount Hermitage. Please pray that we may be faithful to our way of life in prayer and penance, solitude and silence for the sake of the Church and the world. Donations are sincerely appreciated and are tax-deductible. Thank you in advance to those who have remembered Marymount Hermitage in their wills. God bless you!

RETREATANTS WRITE...

(Continued from page two)

Thank you & God bless the Hermitage.
Marymountaineers Jim & Susan P.
Seattle, WA

March 1-4, 2021

Dear Sister Beverly,

Thank you so much for the blessing of spending time here at Marymount Hermitage. Deacon Jaime, Monico and I enjoyed it very much. Your kindness and hospitality are very much appreciated. May the light and love of the Holy Spirit fill your heart and soul always. Our prayers are for you, asking our Blessed Mother Mary to be near you and lead you closer to her Son Jesus.

In Christ,

Father Julio Vincente

[Pastor of St. Edward the Confessor parish,
Twin Falls, ID]



*Father Julio Vincente
processes in for Mass with
seminarian Monico
Heredia as cross bearer.
Above 2 photos by Susan Purcell*

March 21-24, 2021

So grateful for this time of retreat and for the closeness of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. Mary, sweet Mother of God, help me to daily join with you in the proclaiming the greatness of God and rejoicing in God, my Savior. Dear Joseph, please guide me into a hidden, humble and holy life devoted to complete adoration of my Eucharistic Lord. Jesus, my sweet Savior, all glory and honor is yours, now and forever.

“Jesus, Mary, Joseph, I give you my heart, my mind and my life.

Jesus, Mary, Joseph, assist me in my last agony.

Jesus, Mary, Joseph, may I die in your sweet company.”

Suzanne S.

Boise, ID

April 6-9, 2021

Once again, this awesomely beautiful, spiritual space of peace was exactly what my heart was telling me I needed. God knew and gently nudged me to accept the invitation. And so I say, “Thank you, Lord, for Sr. Beverly and Marymount.”

With much love and many prayers,

Marge D.

Boise, ID

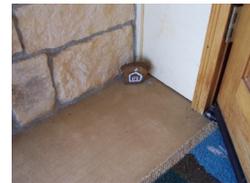
April 6-9, 2021

I am full of gratitude for a beautiful few days here. It's been too long and I must come again soon. Thank you,

Sister Beverly, for your wonderful hospitality! May God keep you strong and well to continue in the work you do so well in His Name. I couldn't get enough of the gorgeous view from my hilltop. It called me to prayer, praise, and art. God is so good! Alleluia!

Catherine W.

Meridian, ID



April 25-27, 2021

Always a true blessing to come to this sanctuary in the desert in order to be more free to listen to God.

Thank you, Sr. Beverly, for providing such a blessed space! (And brownies!!)

Father Mark Uhlenkott

[All Saints parish]

Lewiston, ID

April 14-16, 2021

Sister,

Thank you so much for hosting my retreat! I am still soaking in all the graces from that still, silent time. It was also so lovely to see you again and visit with you!

I hope to come back soon and bring Riley (my fiancé) as well!

Bobby S.

Boise, ID

May 11-22, 2021

“Those who have the courage to go forward into the desert end up finding an oasis.”

Nancy E.

St. Stephen the Martyr parish, Renton, WA

May 20-24, 2021

Thank you, Holy Spirit, for making me aware of Marymount Hermitage! Bless Sister Beverly for all the good work she does; may she be able to serve you for many more years. Give me the grace to bring back into the ‘world’ what I have learned here. (And God bless future visitors here!)

In Christ,

Mike W.

Warsaw, IN

May 20-24, 2021

What a gift it has been, my time here. All the beauty, prayers, and love. I will always be thanking the Lord for Marymount and Sister Beverly. My heart will always be here.

Blessings,

Denise W.

Warsaw, IN



*Denise & Mike
Wack from IN on
May 23, 2021.*

RETREATANTS WRITE...

(Continued from page three)

May 27-29, 2021

What a grace-filled time! Although only two days, it was filled with many blessings...praying the Divine Office, Mass in Council with Father Tom, holy conversation with Sister Beverly, and most important of all, time spent with the love of my life ...my wife of 28 years...Michelle! Thank you, Sister Beverly, for this retreat and for this oasis.

May God continue to bless your faithful work here! We'll be back...

Keith and Michelle P.

Boise, ID (Note: One day here was their wedding anniversary.)

COMMUNITY NEWS

By Sister Mary Beverly

PRIEST AT MARYMOUNT: If all goes as planned, a priest will be arriving this summer to reside semi-permanently at Marymount Hermitage. It is happy and historic news since it has been 11 years since we had a priest residing here. Father Bill McCann is a priest of the Diocese of Las Cruces, NM and is currently rector of the Cathedral in Las Cruces. His retirement from active ministry is effective July 1. Living at Marymount will give Fr. Bill the opportunity to live a more contemplative life and, as he says, "Let my prayer be my contribution to the Church." He will be offering daily Mass and the opportunity for other sacraments for the hermit community and guests. Father Bill has assured his bishop that he will be available on an "as needed basis" to substitute for the priests of his home diocese, when they need to be gone from their parishes. I will introduce Father Bill McCann to you more completely when he has moved into his hermitage.

INFRASTRUCTURE: I would like to publically thank those who support me actively in maintaining Marymount Hermitage. The Board of Directors includes Joanne Wood of McCall, ID, Bill Bader of Riggins, ID and Sister Michael Francine Duncan, SSMO from Beaverton, OR. We will have a board meeting on June 9.

For years, Ceara and Mike Nourse have been processing new books for the library. They are retiring from this work now. I ask prayers of blessings on them, and that a new volunteer will be forthcoming. Thank you!

Lastly, I obviously cannot do all the maintenance work for buildings without paid workman and volunteers. Retreatants often ask what work they can do while here for a balance between prayer and work. Mike Wack found Station #12 on the ground after a severe wind storm. He remounted it, but he and Denise have promised to refurbish all the Stations when they

come on retreat next year.

Lastly, please pray for the repose of the soul of Chuck Uhlenkott, a past benefactor, who died in May. Chuck and Tim Uhlenkott drilled our well and installed the pressure tank for the pump and water system. Chuck is the father of Fr. Mark Uhlenkott.

Prayers also for David Spencer of Uhlenkott Pump Service, who had recently bought Chuck's business. Dave worked on this well and pump in February. He died tragically in a boating accident on May 22. He leaves a wife and seven young children, the oldest of whom is nine. Please pray for this grieving family. May Chuck and Dave rest in peace.

DAY OF PILGRIMAGE: The first group retreat at Marymount will be held on Saturday, August 28 from 9 AM to 4 PM. Father Dominique Faure, VS will give two talks on the Scriptural theme "Show Us the Father" and "Jesus, Revealer of the Father". There will be time for adoration, private prayer, confession and/or spiritual direction from the two priests present. We will have Mass at midday followed by a catered lunch. Attendance will be limited to 30 people, so sign up early! The event is free and open to the public, however a registration fee of \$15 is requested and is pre-payment for lunch. Registration will be open until Monday, August 23. Call or email to register. More information is on the website under the **Calendar of Events**.

ROADWORK: Hermitage Lane will have major reconstruction work done during Oct. or Nov. I am still waiting for the bid from the contractor, Nick Seubert of Cottonwood, ID. I sincerely appreciate the generous donations which have been received towards this fund. The total to date is \$10,267.

FAMILY NEWS: We will have the funeral and burial for my father, Robert Greger, and my brother, Thomas Greger, at the parish of St. Clare in Portland, OR on Saturday, August 7. Thank you for praying for me and my family for safe travels and peaceful closure after this long wait. I sincerely appreciate the priests who have offered to say Mass for Dad and Tom and for those people who have sent lovely condolence cards and generous gifts as memorials. God bless you!

IN MEMORIAM THOMAS G. GREGER

by Michael and Denise Wack,
Warsaw, IN
David and Diane Myklegard,
Boise, ID