



MARYMOUNT HERMITAGE NEWSLETTER

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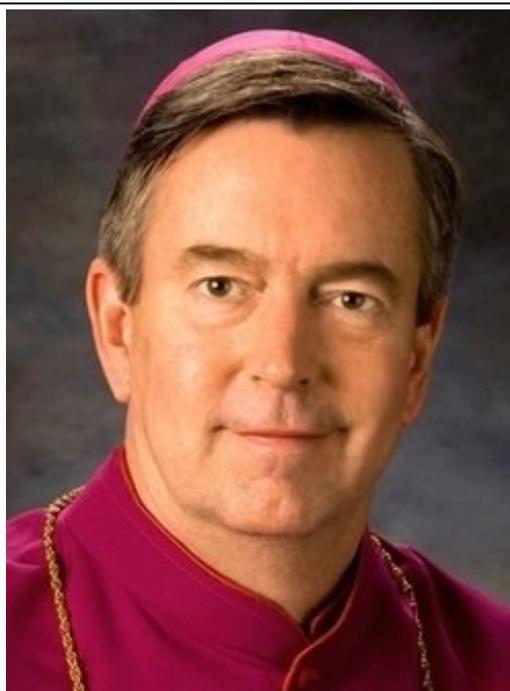
NEW BISHOP FOR BOISE

By Sister M. Beverly, HSM

In the digital age, even hermits in remote locations without a television or radio can learn the breaking news! Early yesterday morning, November 4, I received an e-mail from a friend in Boise who was forwarding to me the announcement sent to all the Idaho priests. The Holy Spirit and Pope Francis have named a new bishop for the Diocese of Boise. He is Bishop Peter F. Christensen, currently the Bishop of the Diocese of Superior, WI. He is an answer to our prayers for many reasons, first of which is that we only had to wait three months for this appointment. Other western dioceses have waited from one to two years for their new bishops. It seems like a miracle!

I was able to watch the live streaming press conference from the Boise Chancery Office at 9:30 AM on Tuesday which introduced Bishop Christensen to the people of Idaho. I was really touched by his gentle spirit of humility and prayer. It is obvious that it will be hard for him to leave his current flock. Yet he is able and willing to say "Yes" to Jesus and the Church again in this new pastoral assignment. I do ask prayers for our new chief Shepherd. He asked us, as King Solomon did, to pray that the Lord will give him an understanding heart. I think he already has it, but I am willing to pray for more of that grace for him. Our new bishop will be installed at St. John's Cathedral in Boise on Dec. 17, 2014. I hope, God willing, to be there. It will be an historic and happy day for all of us. Do please keep the Church in Idaho in your fervent prayers. Thank you!

I am a canonical hermit of Diocese of Boise. One aspect of my vocation is that the Bishop of Boise is my canonical superior. We even have the bishop's name in our vow formula. I will have to remember to



Bishop Peter Christensen, bishop-elect of the Diocese of Boise was named on Nov. 4, 2014 to succeed Bishop Michael P. Driscoll. Our new bishop will be installed on Dec. 17 at the Cathedral.

use Bishop Christensen's name after December 17. It is just a small but important reminder that as Hermit Sisters of Mary we are committed to praying for the needs of the Diocese of Boise, especially for priestly vocations, which was the primary intention of our founding bishop, Bishop Sylvester W. Treinen, now deceased.

I recommend to you the introductory video from the Diocese of Boise, ID at www.catholicidaho.org. You will also enjoy the video produced when Father Peter Christensen was named Bishop of Superior seven years ago. Under the section on the Bishop's biography, see "Man Behind the Mitre" at the website of the Diocese of Superior, WI. Bishop Christensen has such a rich humanity. God is so good to give us an extraordinary man of God.

Continued on page 2

Early Christmas Greetings

By Sister M. Beverly, HSM

With Christmas only about six weeks away, I thought I would mention that I am currently working on the post card which you will receive in the U.S. mail in early December. This is the last remnant of the printed newsletter. I like to send at least one small printed message for the few (or many) who do not have access to a computer or the Internet. At least you will know you are being thought of and prayed for by us at Marymount Hermitage. We appreciate your spiritual and financial support for this ministry of prayer and sacrifice for the Church and the world. Where would we be without friends like you?

You may have noticed that personal pronouns get a little confusing some times. Let me explain. I am the only Hermit Sister living here but Mary Chamberlin has joined me permanently. She is our first Lay Associate living full time at Marymount Hermitage. "We" is a reality at Mesa. Both Mary and I pray for you and appreciate your friendship, good will and support.

However, I also use "we" in the sense of the two Hermit Sisters of Mary. Sister Rebecca Mary is living in Beaverton, Oregon in the convent infirmary of St. Mary of the Valley. Sister is becoming increasingly more frail and I appreciate your prayers for her to sustain her in her sufferings. She has a great and deep faith and she prays almost continuously for the salvation of souls. It is what the saints did!

Sister Rebecca Mary turned 82 on Sept. 30 and I surprised her by arriving in Beaverton to celebrate her birthday with her. We both had the added joy of the company of our Mesa neighbor and friend, Mike Nourse. Sister loves hearing from her Idaho friends. If you would care to write to Sister Rebecca Mary for Christmas, her mailing address is

Sister Rebecca Mary Bonnell, HSM
4440 S.W. 148th Ave.
Beaverton, OR 97078

(Please note that the motherhouse of the Sisters of St. Mary of Oregon now has a new zip code imposed on them by the postal system. They have not moved!) Sister would be glad to hear from you at Christmas, but please do not expect her to answer your kind mes-



Sister Rebecca Mary and Sister M. Beverly visiting the Trappist Abbey of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Lafayette, Oregon in the summer of 2012. Icon of the Flight Into Egypt in the chapel foyer. Since this time, SRM has lost a lot of weight and is too ill to travel.

(Photo by Ron Moore)

sage. With Parkinson's, writing is a difficult task.

If you are considering purchasing Christmas gifts from our Gift Shop, please make your selections soon. I will close the Gift Shop on Dec. 16, 2014. Requests after that deadline will be filled after January 6, 2015.

Besides the really big news of Mary Chamberlin moving to Marymount and the announcement of our new bishop, the other graced news is that we will have a priest with us on retreat here from May-Dec. 2015. I mention this because if you have wanted to come on retreat but hesitated because we did not have daily Mass, next year is your time! Since Mary occupies Sister Rebecca Mary's old hermitage (called "Mary's House") and since Father will occupy my old hermitage (called "House of His Name"), I urge to make your retreat reservations early. I will only have three hermitages available for that time frame. One hermitage is able to accommodate a couple, but the other two can only house individuals.

The season of Thanksgiving is upon us, and I thank God with all my heart for the great graces He has given me and Marymount Hermitage this year. You are part of this grace. God bless you!

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. Any 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!
