



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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...THERE IS A SEASON

By Mary Chamberlin

Winter is behind us and with it the clearing of snow from rooftops, dealing with frozen pipes and shoveling walkways; not to mention splitting wood for my woodstove on an almost daily basis. The cataloging of new books in the library is another one of my winter jobs. What a beautiful winter we had!

My work at Marymount varies by season. With spring approaching I look forward to the sprouting of the early wildflowers which means we'll soon be harvesting them for flower cards. This brings a welcome change to the deep cleaning of hermitages. Windows will be washed and minor repairs will be made to the buildings as needed. It's lovely to see the grass turning green and the deer returning to have their young.

Once summer is here the irises will be in full bloom alongside the chapel. The mountain wildflowers will be harvested. Retreatants will come and go which means my housekeeping chores will be in full swing. There will be plenty of weeding, trail clearing, wasp's nests removed and monitored and the tall grass around the buildings cut to create a fire-break.

When autumn arrives it will again be time to split more wood, chimneys will need to be cleaned and the process of winterizing the buildings will begin. A bit of food canning may also happen, as will the gleaning of onions off the roads.

My work, varying by season, keeps me busy and I enjoy the different jobs. Being the Lay Associate at Marymount and self-sufficient in my living here is the endless sabbatical about which I used to only dream. Where else can one spend an entire day talking to God and be quiet enough to hear him when he speaks? Marymount is a bit of heaven on earth for me. May God bless you.



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COMMUNITY NEWS

By Sister M. Beverly, HSM

This item of community news needs a little background information. Since it represents a very important development, I beg your indulgence! Marymount Hermitage is a non-profit, tax exempt corporation in the State of Idaho. Marymount Hermitage, Inc. has a Board of Directors, membership of which has changed in the last 33 years of our existence. As Superior of the Hermit Sisters of Mary, I have served as President of the corporation. In the past, of course, Sister Rebecca Mary also served on the board, but now is not doing so. Currently, Michael Nourse (our Mesa neighbor), and Joanne Wood (who lives in McCall, Idaho) are board members.

Since a state requirement for corporations is that there be at least three members on the board, I have thought in the event a severe illness or death for me, the board should have at least four members. For about two or three years, I have been petitioning the Sisters of St. Mary of Oregon to accept a position on our board.

Last year, the new SSMO leadership team agreed to allow their Superior General to be an ex-officio member of the board of Marymount Hermitage, Inc. On February 22, Sister Charlene Herinckx, SSMO, flew to Boise in order to attend our annual Board of Directors meeting for the first time. As events at Marymount Hermitage unfold, I will keep you informed of important developments. At this time, I would simply like to introduce to you Sister Charlene as our newest board member. Besides being the community's highest elected leader, Sister also has served in the National Vocations Office and currently is a consultant to a national institute which serves religious communities of men and women in the United States. On a more personal note, Sister Charlene and I have been friends since high school and were in the SSMO novitiate together fifty years ago. Please pray for the work of our Board of Directors, for guidance of the Holy Spirit for the material concerns of Marymount Hermitage, Inc. Thank you!

Mary Chamberlin and I would like to wish you a grace-filled Holy Week and holy Easter during this Jubilee Year of Mercy. God bless you in his mercy.



Joanne Wood, to the left, and Mike Nourse to the right, at the reception after the 25th Jubilee Mass at Marymount Hermitage in September, 2009.



Sister Charlene Herinckx, SSMO, Superior General, and now new member of the Board of Directors for Marymount Hermitage, Inc. with Sister M. Beverly, HSM, at the 25th Jubilee celebration in 2009.

HERMITAGE RETREAT: schedule your private retreat now for 2016 at Marymount; call or email for available dates.
NAZARETH RETREAT CENTER: Silent Retreat April 8-10, 2016 on the theme *Jesus the Bridegroom* given by Father Brad Neely, from All Saints Parish, Lewiston, Idaho and Sister M. Beverly. Contact Nazareth in Boise for details and registration.

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!