



FROM THE CENTER

A Newsletter For Friends and Benefactors of Saint Benedict Center Across The Country



Brother Anthony Marie and Patrick Mooney install pipes into the septic system on the front lawn of the Chapel.

Holey Land, Still River

The yawning holes on the lawn of IHM Chapel have finally been closed, much to the delight of travelers on Route 110. Speculation as to what was going on for the past year has ranged from treasure hunting, archeological discoveries to the building of the gym. Actually it was just the septic system for the gym across the street. However, it is not that simple...it was an engineering feat that required the augering of a pipe line beneath the road, along with pipes for electricity and a new water line for the well. Several grades of rock were required before the pipes were even laid. A three phase operation required the intricate system of cement, rocks and pipes, the electrical, then the covering with top soil and last of all planting the grass! By Spring 2012 we should have a new playing field for the school and the passers-by will only have memories of the once holey hill.



Brick by Brick

The memory bricks keep coming in for the new Gym! Each brick is engraved with a dedication or prayer from anyone who donates \$500. These testimonies will bear witness to the generosity of the givers as they will be worked into the landscape of the finished walk way. They are guaranteed not to diminish with age.

The Gym, whose structure all summer has been at ground level, now rises up for all to see as the steel beams are erected and the building begins to take shape. It should be enclosed by winter and the work will continue...Thank you for helping! May God bless you all!



Morning Star 2011

Morning Star Camp for Catholic Girls had three weeks of sessions again this year. The first week of “Leadership Training” and was attended by 20 girls from 12 states. The cool weather of June contributed to the impeccable week of activities. Several guest speakers and workshops brought leadership skills to a higher level discussing “standing up for Christ” by Tom Taylor, “Rules of the Sea” a course in navigation skills and water rules for boats by Bob Cappobianco, “Wilderness survival techniques” by Tom Kapp, special forces, and a “Catholic Girls behavior” by Grace Abuku from Kenya, Africa. Sister Marie-Therese provided an America Red Cross First Aid course, assisted by Susan Long, Nurse Practitioner on staff.

There were also daily catechetical instructions, training the girls to teach catechism and leading a group in prayer and song along with sailing, canoeing, hiking and arts and crafts among the many other unforgettable activities.

Morning Star Regular camp session hosted 90 participants in a program of “To Jesus through Mary”, centering each day around a spiritual schedule of Tridentine Mass provided by Fr. Vander Putten of the Fraternity of St. Peter, catechism, rosary, Benediction and compline.

Each day was filled with hours of fun and activities such as arts and crafts, baton twirling, drama, poi sticks, recorder or chimes. Hiking, sailing and basketball, volleyball and a game of “eagles and mice” kept the adrenaline going while the waters of Lake Ashuelot provided the refreshing moments that made these two weeks a memory that will last forever.



- Montfort Wishlist:**
- Small lifeguard boat motor
 - Archery equipment
 - Swim lines
 - All-in-one projector
 - Weed wackers
 - Nurse’s Station

Saint Anthony Guide!

After years of petitioning Saint Anthony to find the three remaining windows for over the altar of Gate of Heaven Chapel at the convent... the Sisters finally located the perfect fit! It's no coincidence that the main window of the Immaculate Heart and the two side angel windows were originally from Saint Anthony's Church in Allentown, PA!

The sun rises through the windows of Gate of Heaven Chapel during the Sisters' morning meditation.



Montfort Retreat

Two weeks, one in July and one in August, divided the younger boys from an older group for the Montfort Youth program this year. The first week of "camp" for younger boys began each day with religion and Mass and ended with a gamut of activities both on the lake and on land. Of course the favorite was the "army day" where they had to capture the flag from opposing "companies" using water guns for ammunition! Boxing and fishing take a close second in a wonderful week with the Brothers which is centered around "To Jesus through Mary."

The second session "retreat" was geared for more mature attendees. Along with very solid religious instructions and prayer life, the boys participated in some extreme adventures such as hiking a mountain to see the sunset and descending home in the dark using flashlights... or a 5 mile canoe hike across the lake and down the river. A demonstration by the local police K-9 squad, among other activities added to the agenda, made this camp more exciting than last year and a lasting memory for all who attended.



Vocation Weekend Tennessee

In March, as spring belabored its arrival in Massachusetts, Sister Katherine Maria, Sister Marie-Bernard, Sister Marie-Therese and Sister Magdalene Marie flew to Memphis Tennessee and warmer weather for a homeschooling vocation weekend.

Events began on Friday at the local parish where Father Pendergraft from the Fraternity of Saint Peter addressed the group with some Lenten thoughts, setting the atmosphere. The Sisters followed with their program, first by explaining the spirit and mission of our order, then supervising an



enthusiastic game of kickball in the spring air.

Saturday, was a full day session, packed with activities beginning with the Latin Tridentine Mass after which 40 girls attended several talks by the Sisters and participated in learning songs and “rounds”, group dancing and art projects. One of the talks given by Sister Marie-Bernard stressed the necessity of being a saint NOW. She made some dramatic comparisons to 4 young saints the girls could relate to.

On Sunday another vocation talk was given by Sister Marie-Therese to the older girls after the High Tridentine Mass. Then the all too short weekend was over, leaving behind many memories and much gratitude to our host families. May Our Lady bring much fruit from our missionary endeavors down south.

• On June 3rd, the Sisters gave a talk at a homeschooling vocation weekend at St. John’s seminary in Brighton, Mass. The delightful group was very receptive. Sister Marie-Bernard’s address on the importance of becoming a saint now made a great impact on them.

• July 10th, Sister Katherine Maria addressed the ProLifers on the “importance of not just saving lives...but giving them a reason to live” at a fundraising dinner for Mother of Life Center in Providence Rhode Island at the Newport Yacht Club.

Eucharist Procession

On April 15th IHM students, parents and Brothers and Sisters joined a Eucharistic Procession through the streets of Worcester, MA that encircled the Planned Parenthood building on Pleasant Street.

What more powerful message can there be to the once Catholic city of Worcester than that of Christ’s Kingship, signified by the ceremonial procession and His desire to reclaim His subjects? What more powerful prayer can there be than the Lord’s own Real Presence to drive away the evil entrenching the neighborhood of Planned Parenthood? There could be no better reparation offered to the Sacred Heart for the sin of abortion.

This procession marked the closing of a pro-life prayer campaign known as “Forty-Days for Life” which began on Ash Wednesday. Prior to the procession, a Mass was offered at Blessed Sacrament Church down the street. Police stopped the traffic as the priest, holding the monstrance, and 100 proliferers exited the church, and walked past the busy Friday night traffic. After encircling the Planned Parenthood facility in prayer, the final decades of the rosary were prayed at the chapel in the Problem Pregnancy Crisis Center, ending with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

IHM’s Pro-Life League, dedicated to St. John the Baptist played an intrinsic part, as students played their instruments and carried their banner in the procession. Brother Peter Mary led the rosary and hymns on a loud speaker through out. Before dispersing, the band members entertained the crowds with a few musical selections.

