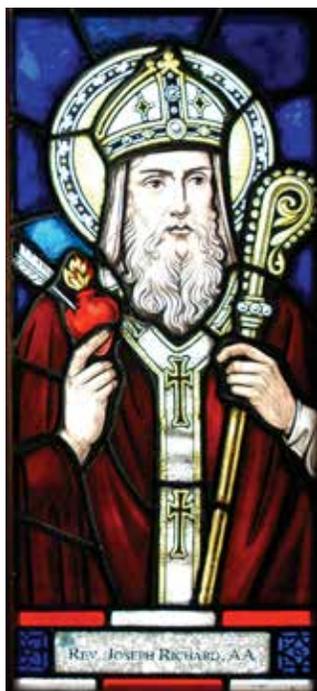




FROM THE CENTER

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

The Year of the Priest



Pope Benedict XVI dedicated this year as the “Year of the Priest,” encouraging the faithful to pray for priests while helping to restore dignity to the title of this sublime calling after its recent denigration by the world-wide media coverage of scandals.

In Gate of Heaven Chapel at St. Elizabeth’s Convent at St. Benedict Center, five stained-glass windows were installed in the sacristy and dedicated to the memory of the beloved chaplains who served the community by saying the Latin Tridentine Mass at the Center over the past 34 years. These windows, originally in a church in Boston that has been recently closed, were re-sized to fit the new location and the names of the priests’ were fired into the glass. The first window of Saint Therese is dedicated Father Albert Michaud. Father Michaud, of Canadian descent, faithfully celebrated Mass at Saint Benedict Center during his retirement the 70’s and early 80’s.

The second window is of Saint Aloysius and bears witness to our gratitude to our beloved



Beautiful windows have been installed in the sacristy of Gate of Heaven Chapel in memory of the priests who have serviced us throughout the years.

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Sr. Mary Elizabeth and Sr. Katherine Maria package Miraculous Medals and booklets for distribution during our missionary work.



Identify Yourself

Social groups identify themselves by tokens of symbolism, signaling like-minded adherents to camaraderie. Body piercing, tattoos, haircuts are all outward manifestations of a united behavior and moral structure.

Do you identify yourself with a symbol? Would anyone be able to tell that you are Catholic by some outward sign? Start wearing the Miraculous Medal today. Not only will it identify you with Our Lady but it is a symbolic safe-guard to your soul. The devil fears Our Lady more than anything, for she is prophesied triumph over evil by crushing his head with her heel.

These medals come gift-packaged with a little booklet explaining the symbolism on the medal, its history, and novena prayers. They are available in three sizes, Small; \$5.00, medium -\$6.00 and large-\$7.00 (shipping and handling 3.99 for all.)



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Father O' Flaherty of the Worcester Diocese, who lived with the Brothers for many years after his retirement. We will never forget his edifying sermons and love of the Blessed Mother.

A beautiful window of Saint Anne has the name of Father Cornelius Donahue, SJ, who helped while in retirement at Weston, after spending many years at his missionary post in St. Anne's Bay, Jamaica.

The Saint Augustine window is dedicated to Father Joseph Richard, AA, who recently passed away. Father belonged to the Augustinian Assumptionists, and retired with his community in Worcester. He spoke 5 languages and served behind the Iron Curtain as chaplain to the diplomatic corps during the cold war. Father was loved by all especially, the school children.

The largest and last window of Saint Michael the Archangel was reserved for Father John L. Donovan, who presently serves the community on weekends. Retired from the Archdiocese of Boston, Father has blessed the Center for many years now with his deep spirituality, enriching attendees with sermons equal to Fulton Sheen.

But testimony to the priests we love and who served us so well is not limited to window

dedications. As the sacristy continues to be completed we hope to place more memorials to other dedicated clergy, like Father Joseph Feeley, SMA, to mention one. Each of these men bears witness to the wonderful calling of the Priesthood in the unblemished sacrifice of themselves to the faithful. The example of their lives is a contradiction to the self-serving behavior of others that led to the negative impression so quickly broadcasted by the media. Through prayer, example, and the return of the Tridentine Mass may God increase the numbers of these essential agents of Grace.

“Pro-Lifers Never Say Die”

...This became the slogan of this year's pro-life campaign. The sisters had it printed on sturdy cinch-bags which were sold to raise money for a bus to take the students to the March for Life in Washington DC. The Sisters also sold them at their booth during the Convention preceding the March.

It was again used as the essay contest topic sponsored every year in memory of Arnold McCullough. The winner this year was Nathaniel Alexander who was awarded \$100 given by the McCullough family.

If you would like to purchase a “Pro-Lifers Never Say Die” bag they are still available for \$5.00 plus \$3.99 shipping and handling. Colors are maroon, baby pink or blue, forest green, orange and raspberry. Quantity is limited. Pro-life

work is an important dimension of the work of St. Benedict Center.



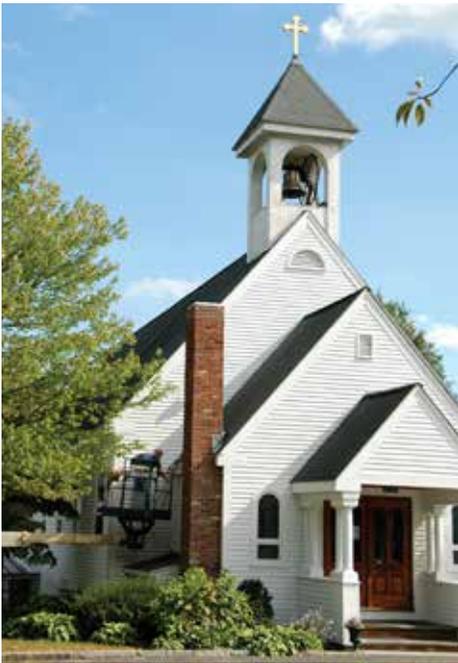
The Sisters stand behind their popular table at the March for Life Convention in Washington DC.



This photo and an interview with Brother Anthony Marie appeared in the Worcester Telegram & Gazette after the Protest in Fitchburg on January 29th.

The Protest

When Planned Parenthood announced that it would be opening a facility in Fitchburg, MA, several Brothers and Third Order Members rallied to the cause and protested at the site despite falling snow. Newspaper coverage proved the effectiveness of the 60 people present. By showing their disapproval of this anti-life organization the pro-lifers caused the owners of the building to reconsider renting to Planned Parenthood.



John Vail methodically paints his way around the Chapel on the aerial lift.

God Bless Them

The media offers a constant, depressing view of the shredding of our social fabric with stories of gangs, drugs, murders, painting a picture of hopelessness. But goodness and charity have not disappeared, and in fact will triumph over the present evils as promised by Our Lord. Examples of this happen everyday at St. Benedict Center; little miracles of generosity that do not go unnoticed and that are repaid by the prayers of the community who ask Our Lady to bless the volunteers.

This fall John Vail, the girl's basketball coach, painted four buildings, IHM Chapel, Don Bosco workshop, print shop, and the Brothers' residence. It took weeks, working around good weather, for John to do all this work, almost alone. Neighbor, Rene Roy, generously donated many hours, building a porch to the sacristy of the convent chapel.

Replacing a crude "gang-plank," this addition to the convent was very needed.

Luke Austin came all summer during a lay-off to make the window frames for the chapel. Each frame took hours of work.

Tom Oldfield built a new side entry to the convent, adding a roof over the door, and giving it a happy and welcoming appearance.

Pat Battis and Jim Rock spent quite a few weeks on their time off making a coop for the 19 residents that provide the community with eggs every morning. This unique abode is on skids and can be re-located at ease, giving the chickens fresh grass in a new run.

A few hockey enthusiasts, spearheaded a project to turn the tennis court into an ice-skating rink for the winter, and along with the Brothers, spent many long and cold hours preparing and maintaining this exciting addition to winter sports here at SBC.

These are just a few examples of the charity for which we are so grateful to God. We pray each day for all those who have helped us, whether for an hour or a day, splitting wood, planting trees, or helping in the library. Nothing goes unnoticed. May God reward you each abundantly and shower you with many graces.

Rene Roy, who has helped out with carpentry work, is pictured here with his wife Elizabeth, after an evening skate on our rink.

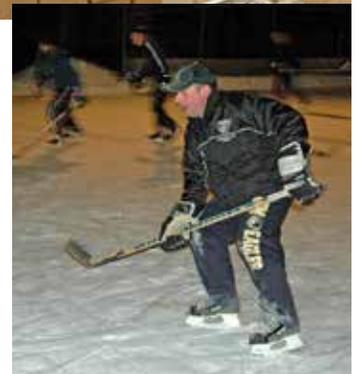


Above: They're helping Brother Peter Mary in the printshop today, but... (left to right) Mike DiVerdi also helps out with the boys' gym classes and the sports teams; Tony

Puccio has plastered most of our buildings, and Tom Oldfield has volunteered his carpentry expertise in numerous projects throughout the monastery.

Above, overlay: Matt Bohane races to score a goal on the ice rink that he, Mike DiVerdi, Joe Maney and other volunteers helped the Brothers to build. The rink has provided great winter fun and exercise for students and friends, both during and after school hours.

Right: The latest addition to the Monastery is "Coop-ertino" the chicken coop at the convent. Thanks to Pat Battis and Jim Rock, who made the beautiful little building, there are now 19 hens...and fresh eggs every morning!



Basketball and a Gym

IHM girls basketball team this year, in its fourth season, has proved that dedication and practice pay off. Coming up from two years of almost no wins followed by a fairly good year last year, a cohesive team spirit this year has triumphed with 8 wins and 5 losses.

Looming on the horizon now is the plan to build a gym/auditorium to use for both athletic functions and stage productions. Up to now all practice and games have been held in rented facilities.

What a wonderful blessing this new all-purpose site will be to the Center.

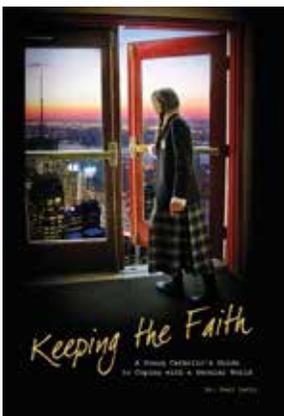
IHM boys just started a basketball team last year and are

looking better every game. As their experience and practice continue, they aspire to produce some star players and record breaking scores in the future.



“Keeping the Faith”

Scripture calls life upon earth “a warfare” and indeed it is, as the battle rages today more than ever for the souls of children. Teenagers are especially assaulted with immorality in movies, books, and music.



This handbook was created as a means to inform student who are leaving protective school environments and plunging into a social structure that they have been sheltered from until now. It is a guide to help them see through the allurements and tricks referred to as the “pimps of the devil.” These snares appear good but will lead to the loss of their virtue and eventually their soul if they surrender to them. Thought-provoking and reflective, psychologist Paul Lavin, devoted to

the Tridentine Mass, has compiled this book for the students themselves. It is an aid to decision-making and strengthening their commitment to the values they have been taught. It is a survival manual for those who cherish their Faith and go to battle for their eternal salvation. Printed and published exclusively by Mancipia Press. ORDER ONE TODAY for only \$10.00 plus shipping.

Order it online! www.saintbenedict.com

Mr. Kenneth Golden, RIP



Kenneth Golden, the beloved father of Sister Marie-Therese, passed away on February 9, three days after his 50th wedding anniversary. Mr. and Mrs. Golden, both originally from the Bronx, raised their family of nine in New Jersey. Dr. Jean Tevald, who faithfully volunteers at Morning Star Camp, is their eldest daughter. Several of his granddaughters have attended IHM: Elizabeth, Nadia and Irina Tevald. Mr. Golden, a convert to the Faith, was an edifying example of patience during many years of suffering. Long before he retired, he battled glaucoma, but finally lost the sight in one of his eyes. A few years later he was diagnosed with leukemia and underwent extensive “chemo” treatments. Not long after the treatments were finished, while he was taking a walk to the store he was hit by a car. He patiently suffered broken bones, and a long convalescence. During the following years, his cancer constantly haunted him but did not get him down, even though he required transfusions every other week. Recently he broke his hip and was hospitalized and recovered so well that this Fall he was able to fly with family members to visit relatives in Ireland. Twelve days before Christmas, he and his wife were in a very bad car accident en-route to Mass. Mrs. Golden only received minor injuries, while her husband suffered a broken hip again and a fractured ankle. Complications during surgery set back his recovery but finally he was sent to a rehab in expectations of returning home. Unexpectedly he went into a coma two days before his fiftieth wedding anniversary. All his children were able to be at his bedside, some traveling from as far as Hawaii and Florida, to bid him farewell. Having received the Last Rites, Kenneth passed away while his parish priest recited the prayers for the dying. A model of long-suffering and patience in time, may he rest in peace in eternity.