



FROM THE CENTER

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

Christmas Benefit Concert

On November 27th the spirit of Christmas came alive with music when Tim Janis and his Ensemble came to Nashoba High to perform a benefit concert for IHM building fund. Tim Janis, an American composer is a well-known national figure, having over 10 Billboard charting CDs and over 1 million albums sold, not to mention many appearances on TV and international symphony halls. Tim generously donates his talent to benefit causes, including ours, calling his work, *Music With A Mission*.

IHM students and Third Order members worked hard to fill the 600 seat auditorium, selling tickets in their neighborhoods and various advertising methods, which included airing a commercial created by Mancipia Studios on local cable stations! And their efforts were blest!



The Ensemble was comprised of three violinists, a flutist, solo vocalist, choir and Tim, who performed on keyboard.



This event followed Thanksgiving, brought visiting families together, and filled the auditorium with an enthusiastic crowd that enjoyed every minute of the show. It seemed the Christmas Season had officially begun with the night of music, making it a memorable event that will not be forgotten.

Many thanks to Tim Janis for his generosity in this fundraiser, and to all the performers from that memorable evening.

IHM Gym and Auditorium is now one step closer to reality and with the help of God the next concert with Tim will be in our own auditorium, which he so generously helped build!



Above: Tim Janis' tremendous musical abilities, beautiful compositions and sense of humor, made the show completely enjoyable.

Left: Some of the Sisters posed for a shot with Tim after the fundraising benefit concert.



The Gym/Auditorium

A long time coming, the IHM Gym /Auditorium has been in the thoughts of the community since the addition was put on the school in the 1990. Having over-crowded and finally outgrown “St. Agnes Hall,” our basement meeting room, we have been renting auditoriums and gyms for functions for several years. The obvious need to build something had to be addressed. So...for over a year, the Brothers have been working with an architect, planning and designing the appropriate building to accommodate the needs of both the school and the religious.

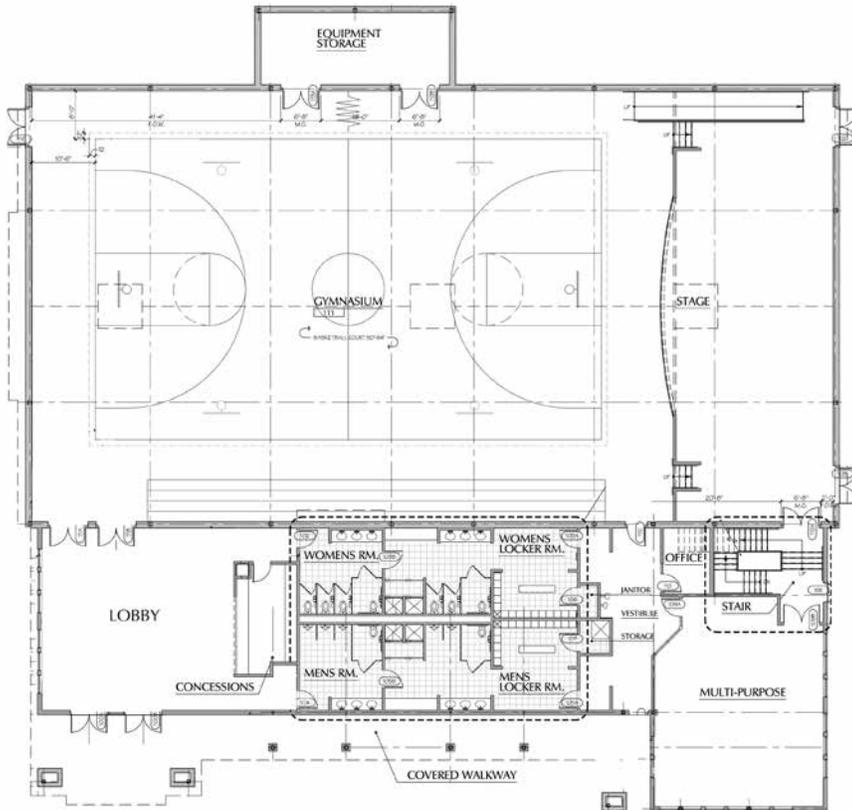
Finally, creating a beautiful design that works well into the landscape of the other buildings, the barn-like structure began. After a multitude of building codes had been complied with, ground-breaking took place on October 13, 2010. The preliminary site work was done by the Brothers and friends, who bulldozed the topsoil and prepared the way for the utilities and septic work, saving the cost of hiring help, which would have amounted to \$210,000.00. Two faithful equipment companies lent an earthmover and large backhoes to expedite the work.



Next the Brothers, master surveyors checked the site and the footings and foundation walls were poured. Over 40 cement truck deliveries were needed to fill the 15,000 square foot base, where only one side has a full basement topped with a concrete floor on steel beams. The gym itself will not have a basement. The whole building will consist of four sections: (1) A Front Entrance with Concession area and locker room facilities with bathroom/shower, (2) Gym proper, (3) Stage and finally (4) an Educational wing.

Above: The artistic rendering of the future gym/auditorium shows what the finished product will look like. The Gym will nestle between Mancipia Press (on the left) and the Convent driveway and Band Barn (on the right).

Left: The Brothers stand with Father after the official blessing and ground breaking of the Gym/Auditorium on October 13, 2010, the 93rd anniversary of the Miracle of the Sun at Fatima.



As winter sets in our little New England village, construction will be put on hold until Spring. In the meantime funds will be raised materials donated and more preliminary work will be finished. We hope you can help in some way. With the help of God we hope to finish for the September 2011 school year. Below are the itemized cost needed to complete the job. Because we do a lot of the work ourselves, the labor cost will minimal, so these are estimated.

Main Entrance:

Structure-\$40,000
 BREAK DOWN:
 Floor-\$5,000
 Doors & windows-\$20,000
 Concession area-\$5,000
 Beam work-\$5,000
 Plumbing, electrical & Lights-\$5,000

Gym Proper:

\$650,000
 BREAK DOWN:
 Floor-\$40,000
 Windows-\$50,000
 Seating-\$15,000.
 Lights-\$30,000

Stage:

\$90,000
 BREAK DOWN:
 Floor-\$40,000
 Doors-\$5,000
 Curtains & lighting-\$20,000
 Control room & wiring-\$20,000
 Stage prep room-\$5,000

Educational Wing:

\$40,000
 BREAK DOWN:
 Floor-\$10,000
 Windows & doors-\$20,000
 Electric & light-\$5,000

We will remember all those who contribute \$500.00 or more with their names engraved in a memorial walkway brick to testify to their generosity for the future generations who will benefit from the use of the facility.



A panorama of (left to right) Saint John Bosco Workshops, Mancipia Press, the Band Barn and the location between them where the Gym will soon stand! With your help we hope to have it completed by the opening of the new school year in September, 2011.

Sister Ann Mary, MICM

On November 1, Sister Anne Mary Cobb celebrated her 90th birthday. Customarily in community only the feastday of the patronal Saint is celebrated for each religious, but at ninety it seemed appropriate to mark the day with a celebration. At lunch, the Sisters from St. Elizabeth's House and Saint Ann's House joined for a party in Sister Anne Mary's honor.



Sister is one of the founding members of the Slaves of the Immaculate Heart of Mary and the first member to attend Father Feeney's lectures at the Center in Cambridge. A native of Clinton, Mass, sister had an illustrious career before she entered religious life, traveled throughout Europe before the war. Sister joined the Center in 1949 and has been a faithful member of the Community for sixty-one years.

A woman still to be admired, Sister impressed everyone with her wit and Irish elegance which has not diminished. Reciting one of her many poems at the celebration, the event ended with song and laughter and gratitude to God for such a beautiful example of perseverance.



The Holy Face

Bring the majesty of the Man of Sorrows into your home by displaying this beautiful woven wall-hanging tapestry taken from an artist's conception of the Holy Face of Jesus as imprinted on the Shroud of Turin. The vivid image, accented by an elegant border, comes on a cord ready to hang. This unique tapestry, measuring 13"x18" is available for \$12 – exclusively from Saint Benedict Center! To order call 978-456-8296 or visit our website: www.saintbenedict.com

Shroud of Turin

An authentic replica of the Shroud of Turin was generously donated to the convent chapel this Fall.

This rare and inspiring work was reproduced on cloth in a laboratory in Turin, connected to the church that houses the original winding sheet that Our Lord was buried in. On display by order of the Pope, the Holy Shroud was venerated by thousands of pilgrims from all over the world this year. Each replica is made specifically to order. They are not mass produced as the piece is printed on cloth, measuring 43 inches by 14 feet.

A frame is being planned to respectfully display both sides for veneration all year round in the convent and with the help of God to the public during Holy Week.



Sister Brigid Mary and Sister Christopher Margaret hold the replica which will be displayed in "Gate of Heaven Chapel" at the Convent.