



# FROM THE CENTER

A Newsletter for Friends and Benefactors of Saint Benedict Center across the Country

## Restoring the Glorious Mysteries

The rose window in Immaculate Heart of Mary Chapel has been the crowning point above the altar since its installation in 1980. The center of the window features an image of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, surrounded by the Glorious Mysteries of the Rosary. The Joyful and Sorrowful mysteries are depicted in the windows on the side aisles.



Over the years severe weather damage threatened the stability of the 40 year-old window frame. After analyzing the project, Luke Austin and Tom Oldfield volunteered to help, and removed the stained glass out of the window in October, 2020.

With lumber donated by a local yard, Luke Austin made a mahogany frame, 8 feet in diameter, to replace the old one. Mahogany resists moisture and holds up to weather better than most woods. While that was being done, Oliver McMahon cleaned the stained glass and re-leaded the panes.

In March, 2021, Luke and Tom teamed up again to remove the old frame, re-placed any rotten wood

in the wall and affixed an 8-foot circular plate glass covering over the exterior of the window. The rose window stained glass was finally reinstalled on March 29! On Easter Sunday, the sun appropriately glowed through the Glorious Mysteries in IHM Chapel once again!

May God reward all those who sacrificed their precious time and talents for His glory!



## Prayer for the Year of Saint Joseph



O my beloved Saint Joseph, adopt me as thy child, take care of my salvation, watch over me day and night, preserve me from the occasion of sin, obtain for me purity of soul and body! Through thy intercession with Jesus grant me a spirit of sacrifice, of humility and self-denial, a burning love for Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament, and a sweet tender love for Mary, my Mother. Saint Joseph, be with me living, be with me dying and obtain for me a favorable judgment from Jesus, my merciful Savior. Amen

*Statue of Saint Joseph in the Sisters' Gate of Heaven Chapel at the convent.*

# Moving Right Along...

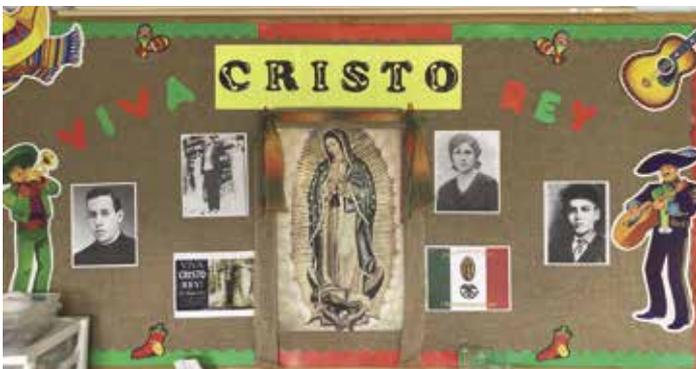
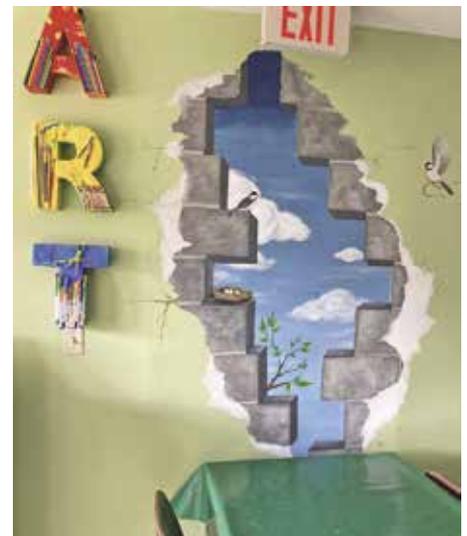


The school addition is progressing at a steady pace that is visible from the road. Thanks to generous donors, the roofers came in early April and shingled the new addition in two days! Now that the roof is on, the next step is the plumbing, windows, and inside work. The Brothers work steadily everyday of the week and on Saturdays, a team of volunteers come to help. We must, however, hire the most expensive workers, such as licensed plumbers, to follow code. So your donations are more than appreciated and counted on!



The present school is, through the grace of God, in session and enthusiastically attended. As the addition grows, it seems as if space in the present building shrinks daily! No place goes unused – and many rooms are multi-tasking! On Mondays our little elementary library, for example, is a great place for reading activities with our Sister Librarian, but come Wednesday it is quickly transformed into a “make shift food pantry!” Close quarters are nothing new to SBC!

A quick walk through the halls of the present school building for grades 1–8 attests to a very happy...very Catholic, learning environment! Every year different events are featured in the elementary grades, like “The secret Garden” in Grade 4 and “Mexican Day” in Grade 3. Spring brings lessons in plant growing and the art room is always busy with fun projects. A mural covers the old exit until the addition on the other side re-opens the wall. A nest full of birds has been added recently to celebrate Spring.



As the weather gets warmer and the flowers re-appear, work will increase on the school addition with high hopes for a finish line in the near future. With your continued help and prayers we will be able to grow here at IHM very soon! Please consider making a donation to help speed along the progress!

See more about the project on [www.saintbenedict.com](http://www.saintbenedict.com)!





## Brother Louis Marie, Novice

On the feast of Our Lady of Lourdes, February 11, 2021, Matthew Bacon finished his six months of postulancy as a Slave of the Immaculate Heart Brother and began the two year step of the novitiate. During an evening Mass, he received the cassock of a Novice Brother and the new religious name of Brother Louis Marie, taking for his patron the intrepid apostle of True Devotion to Mary.

Matthew, age 22, is the eldest of Matthew and Adrea (†2020) Bacon's four children and a former IHM student.

With the beginning of novitiate, Brother Louis Marie now enters a two-year period of prayer and formation in preparation for First Vows.

Please keep Brother in your prayers. May Our Lady of Lourdes guide and bless him!

*The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into His harvest. ~Matt 9:37-38*



## Organ Donor

On March 18, 2021, our 30 year-old organ at Immaculate Heart of Mary Chapel was replaced with a new Rodgers organ that was given in memory of Rita Rose. The improved sound of the new organ resonates magnificently in the chapel and brings added beauty to the liturgies sung by the community.

Sister Mary Clair, our organist, has enjoyed playing the organ for the past seven years. She is an experienced pianist and studied Music Theory under Dr. Russell Stinson at Lyon College. Through the continued help of Michael Olbash, and hours of practice, she has been able to expand her repertoire with new music to accompany our choir.

The new organ made its debut on the feast of Saint Joseph. On Easter Sunday the *Regina Coeli* echoed all the glory of the Feast in full capacity with the new organ!

We are forever grateful to the generosity of Rita Rose (†2020) who will be remembered with every song played in the choir loft.

Legacy gifts are a wonderful way to be remembered in prayer through the graces of your support to our monastery. You can find out more about the Saint Benedict Legacy Society on our website, [www.saintbenedict.com](http://www.saintbenedict.com) or contact us for more information.



Above: The new organ arrives in IHM Chapel. Right: Sister Mary Clair, our organist accompanies the choir.

## “To Jesus through Mary” at Work!

### Sisters in Louisiana

In February, the Sisters went to Louisiana for our third Morning Star at an over night camp.

The camp was held from February 11–14 and over 80 girls, ages 10–17, attended. Attendance has grown steadily each year, along with the enthusiasm that accompanies the Morning Star Tradition. The little spiritual spark of Morning Star has become a blaze of love, faith, friends and fun in the deep south!

Morning Star Camp’s success, no matter where it is held, is the simplicity of the program.

Daily Mass, Rosary and catechism are the glue that make all the crafts, music, activities, games and competitions of the program the exceptional experience that it is!

As we approach the 40th anniversary of MSC, it’s so refreshing to know that Louisiana has been added as a location where the ranks of thousands of happy campers grow every year! As we say in our brochure... *Love the Experience ~ Live the Spirit!* Louisiana seems to be doing just that!



### Brothers in Florida

Three Brothers took Montfort Camp spirit down to the town of Ave Maria in Florida from February 13–19, 2021. The warm, 90-degree weather was only surpassed by the warm reception of the families, who were extremely hospitable in helping the Brothers make their week a wonderful experience!

A blend of daily Mass, catechism, sports, spiritual talks, rosaries, singing, and much more filled the week and brought an opportunity for not only enjoyment, but, with the help of God, the support of grace for everyone involved.

Each of the three days was spent with a different age group from Donahue Academy in a mini-retreat atmosphere, helping the students become more focused for the beginning of the lenten season.

In April during Easter break, two Brothers returned to Ave Maria– this time with nine members of our boys’ baseball team! The college coaches gave a clinic to the players while families graciously hosted the group for meals. It was a first for IHM and a great experience for everyone involved.

## A Virtual Visit to the Convent!

The Sisters, Slaves of the Immaculate Heart of Mary of Saint Benedict Center, are excited to announce their new website: *SistersMICM.com!* The new site, designed and executed by Sr. Marie-Bernard, MICM, was launched on March 25th!

The monastery site, [www.saintbenedict.com](http://www.saintbenedict.com), will continue to feature the various apostolates of Saint Benedict Center. However, the new Sisters’ site (as with their facebook page) will be a lovely spot to highlight many different facets of the life of the Sisters. They look forward to updating it often and keeping contact with friends, family and benefactors from across the country and beyond! So, make a virtual visit to the convent by visiting the *SistersMICM.com* today! We hope you enjoy your visit! ...and stay tuned for the Brothers’ Site!

## Requiescant in Pace



**Albert D. Huntz** – 82, of Tonawanda NY, entered into eternity on March 26, 2021. Beloved husband of Bonita “Bonnie” and a dear friend of Saint Benedict Center, “Al” was the man responsible for bringing the Latin Mass to the diocese of Buffalo and making

sure it stayed there! A long-time chapter leader of Una Voce, Buffalo, Al and Bonnie also owned a Catholic Gift/Book Store for many years in the Buffalo area. Al will be greatly missed by his three children and his host of grandchildren and by everyone here at SBC. Rest in peace Al! We will meet again!