



FROM THE CENTER

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

Day of Consecration

The feast of the Annunciation, March 25, 2022, was a day punctuated by memorable events here at Saint Benedict Center. At noon the students and faculty of Immaculate Heart of Mary School gathered in IHM Chapel to join their prayers to those of Holy Mother the Church as the Pope consecrated Russia and Ukraine to the Immaculate Heart and to personally consecrate themselves to Our Lady. The Holy Rosary followed. We trust that Our Lady will hear our prayers for our afflicted world.

Earlier the same day, the 5th grade, under the direction of Sister Magdalene Marie, MICM, achieved the climax of their four weeks of preparation by making their

total consecration to Our Lady according to an age-appropriate version of "True Devotion" by Saint Louis de Montfort. This 5th grade tradition has been running for eight years, building up an army of young souls devoted to Mary.



Above: Students pray the Rosary in front of the wood carved statue purchased in Fatima on the 100th Anniversary.



Left: The newly consecrated Fifth Grade class and their teacher Sister Magdalene Marie, MICM.



IHM Choir sings a Solemn High Mass at Saint John's Church.

In the afternoon, the IHM Choir sang a Solemn High Mass at Saint John the Evangelist Church in Clinton, MA., under the direction of Mr. Michael Olbash. It was well attended and very inspiring on the day of the Fatima consecration!

The significant events of the day reflected the greatness of the feast! To Jesus through Mary! May many souls seek to bind themselves to Our Blessed Mother in chains of Total Consecration, and hear the plea she spoke to the children of Fatima: "Pray the Rosary every day!" Here is the solution to the seemingly insurmountable problems of our day.

Saint Joseph & Saint Patrick Festivities

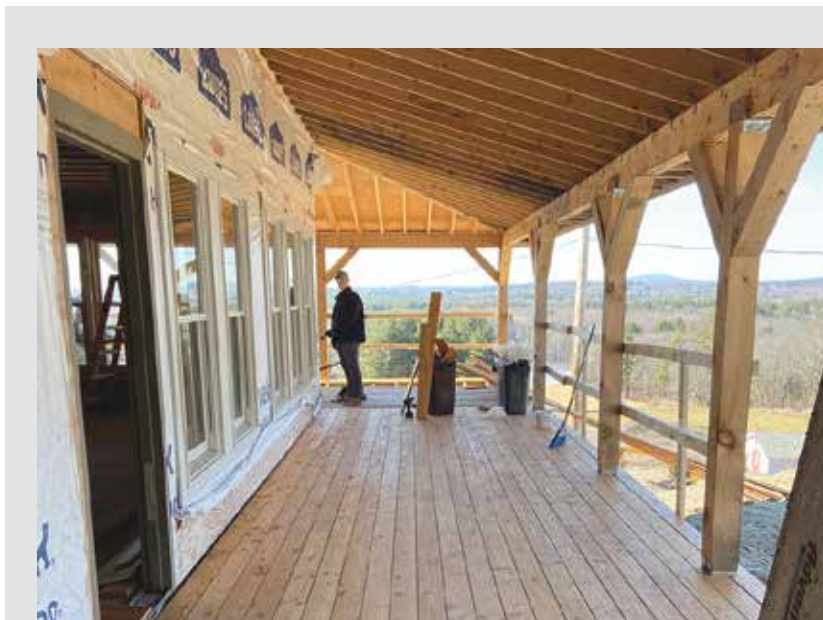
What happens when you mix the feasts of two great Saints, bread and music? Well, you get a memorable weekend of festive food and celebration! That's what happened on March 19, 2022, when our annual Saint Patrick's Talent Night took place on the feast of Saint Joseph!

Our first Saint Joseph's Blest Bread ceremony took place in the front foyer of MacIsaac Hall. This Catholic Sicilian tradition from the Middle Ages showcased an elaborate display of artistic loaves of bread, flowers, and fruits on the table where Saint Joseph's statue was enshrined. Father gave the traditional blessing before everyone enjoyed a meal of bread and Italian soups. Thanks to the Camardo and Napoli families, who did all the baking and provided the soup! The community enjoyed its first Saint Joseph's Table! We will be adding this event to our list of annual events!



As visitors left Little Italy in the front hall, they entered Little Ireland in the gym proper! There a long table of goodies awaited them to celebrate this favorite Saint. Shamrocks and green and gold decorated the stage for the annual Saint Patrick's Day Talent Night, an annual event for over 40 years at SBC! Tom Clasby, acting as MC, introduced a variety of talents from singing to dancing, fiddling, and even a magic show. This Irish tradition is a delightful event where families join together to share their joy in an old-world fashion.

With Saint Joseph and Saint Patrick together, blessings abounded and everyone left with a smile! Enjoy the video of highlights from the evening on our website!



Expansion Update

Recently the Brothers finished putting down the flooring on the porch that wraps around the back side of the new expansion addition. It's a beautiful porch with a breathtaking view!

Now work is focusing on the retaining walls that are needed for the hillside as plumbers and electricians still work on the interior. Please consider making a contribution to help speed along the progress!

2022 Camps Begin!

The registrations for Morning Star Girls' Camp and Montfort Boys' Camp are filled up already! These camp programs at our New Hampshire camp facility are now celebrating their 41st year and going strong. Catholic in all their activities, the programs center around our mission of "To Jesus through Mary." Due to their popularity, we have also been hosted by other parishes at facilities across the country:



This February, a two-day mini Morning Star Camp was held in El Paso, Texas, for girls from Immaculate Conception Parish. Sister Martina Marie, an El Paso native, and Sister Agnes Mary directed the day camp for thirty-five happy campers! Although it was short, it was full of enthusiasm and created many happy and faith-filled memories for the attendees.

In February, Brother Peter Mary, Brother Anthony Marie, and Brother Gerard directed their first camp in the deep south of Louisiana! Twenty-five young men attended the 4-day overnight camp/retreat. It was a whole new experience and a new chapter for the Montfort Boys' Camp programs! Replicating the Montfort Program, tried and true, everyone who attended left a better Catholic.



Members make a 7-mile Lenten Pilgrimage of prayer and reparation.

Saint Michael's Group

In 2021 a group of men at the Saint Benedict Center started the Saint Michael's Crusaders Men's Group to offset the disintegrating effects of modern society upon Catholic life and community.

The group's purpose is to strengthen the bonds of Catholic brotherhood amongst the men and their sons and be resources for each other in spiritual, temporal & business matters as times grow more challenging. The group recognizes the ever-increasing threats to men's ability to carry out their duties and the systemic, economic and societal threats that will likely create significant hardships soon. The ultimate goal is to staunchly defend the Kingship of Our Lord Jesus Christ against the modern liberalism in society and the Church, under the patronage of the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

The Crusaders group has reached 90 members within its first two months and held several events and meetings. Recently 48 participants made a 7-mile Lenten Pilgrimage to Saint John's in Clinton, MA., in reparation and prayer. May God bless the courageous efforts of these faithful men.



Sticky Business

The Sisters' Sugaring Shack was in business again this year! Thanks to lots of maple trees, the expertise and patience of Sister Brigid Mary, MICM, and a new stove, the process for our monastery maple syrup was better than ever!

With 100 trees tapped, Sisters helped collect the sap, and Sister Brigid Mary stoked the wood stove to boil every 40 gallons down to one delicious gallon of syrup! The total for the season was 9 gallons! That's a record for our sticky business! We may even be selling some small jars in our gift shop soon!

Eagles Coaches

Basketball was introduced to IHM School in 2007 by John Vail, whose daughter Bridie was an IHM 6th grader at the time. He has since coached the IHM Lady Eagles for the better part of 16 years and has brought them up to the league level. A professional coach and referee, John's mentorship and enthusiasm for the sport helped to keep the athletic program growing and, in a big way, led to the building of MacIsaac Hall & Gym. For the past few years he has also been coaching with life-long friend, Aurthur Ferris.

Now, with the Eagles teams soaring, bringing school spirit and good sportsmanship to IHM, the John and Aurthur team is retiring. We thank our coaches and especially the Vail Family for their loyalty to IHM and the IHM Eagles for over a decade.



Evangelizing in Fashion...

We are excited to announce our latest design for our "Credo" scarves. This is a replica of Saint Joan of Arc's banner. It measures 67"x 27" and is made of Nano silk-like fabric in two optional thicknesses, 50 or 30 for lighter wear. Our scarves are "evangelizables"...beautiful to wear and easy to share the faith with others by explaining them. The Saint Joan of Arc scarf sells for \$50.00 plus shipping on TrueDevotionals.com.

