



In Touch

Pilgrims Celebrate 84th Annual Pilgrimage

Inside this issue:

Pilgrims Celebrate 84th Pilgrimage	1
A Message from Sr. Ruth	2
Basilian Sisters Celebrate Anniversaries of Religious Life	3
Photos of the 84th Annual Pilgrimage	6
A Special Thank You to Our Volunteers	8
Associate Retreat	8
Upcoming Programs at the House of Prayer	9
Christmas Cards and Enrollments	10

Temperatures in the 90's didn't stop the faithful pilgrims from celebrating the 84th Annual Pilgrimage at Mount St. Macrina on Sept. 1 & 2.

The weekend, with the theme of *Mary, Hope of All Generations*, included programs for children and teens, beautiful Divine Liturgies, inspiring candlelight processions, adult enrichment sessions and more.

Sr. Ruth Plante, OSBM, Provincial, was grateful for all the pilgrims and their expressions of faith.

"All who came played a significant part in making this pilgrimage a memorable and spiritual uplifting event. From the youngest baby pilgrim to the oldest, the children who make the Children's Procession such a touching sight, the numerous pilgrims patiently standing in line to receive the Mystery



of Reconciliation, our teenagers and young adults; all made the pilgrimage a mosaic of all generations," said Sr. Ruth.

Bishop Edward C. Malesic, J.C.L. of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Greensburg was this year's guest homilist.

The Sisters would like to thank all the pilgrims and volunteers who make this very special ministry an annual success.

"Prayer is the greatest gift that we can offer,

and you can be assured that our prayers will accompany you every day," added Sr. Ruth.

The 85th Annual Pilgrimage will be held on Aug. 31 and Sept. 1.

Please be sure to visit www.sistersofstbasil.org and follow us on Facebook for updates throughout the year.

We look forward to welcoming you and your family back to the Mount.



A Message from Sister Ruth

GLORY TO JESUS CHRIST!

Autumn, 2018



Sr. Ruth Plante, OSBM

My dear Friends,

The explosion of color that we highly anticipate with the coming of autumn seems to be taking its time in arriving this year. Just one more opportunity to practice patience and to realize that we are not in control!!

Life is filled with such anticipation and expectation as we strive to work out our lives according to our own plans. Many times, these plans end up being riddled with problems, difficulties, and disappointments. As we walk through these obstacles, it can be hard to find joy and satisfaction – things are just not going our way.

Other times we find ourselves living in the “what if”—what if I fail, what if I get sick, what if I lose my job, what if... And yet, so many of the real or imagined problems that clamor for our attention actually resolve themselves.

Yes, as we walk through our life’s journey, there are matters we must deal with, but Jesus has promised: “I will always be with you.” And, as St. Paul tells us, “We live by faith not by sight.”

Soon we will be entering another season of anticipation – the season of Advent. During this time, we are reminded of the many generations who had to wait in hope for the coming of the Messiah. May we also use this time to prepare our hearts for the coming of Jesus. Let us look to the Trinity rather than technology to renew and rebuild relationships, open hearts filled with love rather than a string of “likes” to reach out to others, enjoy face to face moments rather than screen to screen....

As we continue to discern God’s plan for us here at Mount St. Macrina, we respectfully ask for your prayers. You are certainly always remembered in ours – grateful for your hearts, hands, and help....

With my love, gratitude, and prayers,

Sister Ruth Plante, OSBM

Sister Ruth Plante, OSBM
Provincial

In Touch

A biannual publication of
the Sisters of St. Basil

Editor: Susan McCarthy

Contributors to this issue:

Sr. Barbara Jean Milhalchick

Sr. Margaret Kapusnak

Fall 2018

Volume 28, No. 2

BASILIAN SISTERS CELEBRATE ANNIVERSARIES OF RELIGIOUS LIFE



Sr. Gertrude (Irene) Martin, OSBM 75th Anniversary

Sr. Gertrude entered the Community from St. John the Cathedral Parish, Munhall, Pa. She spent 33 years molding young minds and morals as a teacher mostly in the primary grades in parish schools in New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Illinois, and Indiana. Her education apostolate included 12 years as principal. Sister holds a B.S. in Elementary Education from Misericordia College in Dallas, Pa.

From 1975 through 1980, while continuing to teach, Sister was a member of the Provincial Council.

During the latter half of this term, she moved from teaching to serve as assistant house director at the monastery. Sr. Gertrude was then assigned as administrator of St.

(Continued on page 4)

This summer, Sr. Monica Husovich, Sr. Christopher Malcovsky and Sr. Agnes Herbenick celebrated their Jubilees.

This summer four Sisters joyfully marked significant milestones in their lives as Sisters of St. Basil. As the second oldest member of the community, Sr. Gertrude Martin celebrated the Diamond Anniversary of her religious life.

Since Sr. Gertrude resides at the Manor, the Sisters met to join her in a celebration there. After singing two odes of the Akathist to

Our Lady of Perpetual Help, a social was held in the Oaks Dining Room of the Manor where Sr. Gertrude received the congratulations, gifts and well-wishes of the Sisters.

The next afternoon found all the Sisters gathered in the Chapel for a Divine Liturgy of Thanksgiving offered by the Monastery Chaplain for all the Jubilarians. Besides Sr. Gertrude,

Sr. Christopher Malcovsky observed her 70th Anniversary, and Sr. Monica Husovich and Sr. Agnes Herbenick their 60th Anniversary. From the processional hymn to the final singing of "God grant you many years" the Divine Liturgy was an inspiration as all raised their voices in thanksgiving for the gift of each Sister Jubilarians' vocation.

Brief biographies of the Jubilarians follow.

Basilian Sisters Celebrate (Continued from page 3)



Sr. Barbara Jean leads the procession into Divine Liturgy.

Basil's Home from 1980 through 1986. A brief return to teaching took her to St. Mary Assumption Church in Trenton, N.J. where she

spent three years. Sr. Gertrude was a familiar face as the manager of the Religious Gift Shop at Mount St. Macrina for many years. Presently,

she resides at Mount Macrina Manor.

70th Anniversary

Sr. Christopher Malcovsky entered the community from St. Mary's, Nesquehoning, Pa.

Initially, she was a teacher and principal. She then served as Motherhouse Superior following which she was elected as Provincial Superior for two terms. After a sabbatical year, Sr. Christopher served in various capacities, assisting with the organizational work in Eparchy of Van Nuys, and helping at Mt. Macrina Manor and the House of Prayer. In 1983, Sister was elected as General Superior, serving in Rome for six years.

From 1991 until 2008, Sr. Christopher served in the Eparchy of Van Nuys as Pastoral Associate, first at the Cathedral of St. Mary's, Van Nuys, Calif., and

then at St. Stephen's Pro-Cathedral, Phoenix, Ariz. Additionally, she also managed the apartment complex at St. Stephen's. Presently Sr. Christopher resides at the Monastery; she assists part time in the Religious Gift Shop and generously offers her services wherever needed.

60th Anniversary

Sr. Monica Husovich entered from St. Mary's, Freeland, Pa. She served as both teacher and principal in parish schools mostly in Pennsylvania, but also in Indiana and Ohio. Sr. Monica also taught at Byzantine Catholic High School, Parma, Ohio. While teaching in northeastern Pennsylvania, she served as a member of the Catechetical Board for the Eparchy of Passaic. Sr. Monica then served on the staff of Mt. Macrina Manor, first in the business office, and later as Admissions and Resident Coordinator. Following her retirement from the Manor, Sr.

Basilian Sisters Celebrate (Continued from page 4)

Monica kept busy taking the Monastery Sisters for their appointments as needed; she also faithfully takes care of posting the prayer requests sent to the community.

Sr. Agnes Herbenick came to the community from St. John's, Lyndora, Pa. Her principal ministry has been in the educational field, serving as a teacher in parish schools in Pennsylvania, Connecticut, New

Jersey and Ohio. For 25 years, she guided eighth graders at St. Mary's School in Cleveland, Ohio. Sr. Agnes's other assignments were catechetical ministry in Binghamton, N.Y.; postulant directress for the community, and a member of the Mt. Macrina Manor Board of Directors. After retiring from the teaching ministry, Sr. Agnes returned to the Monastery, where today, she serves as sacristan.

In addition, she works part-time in pastoral ministry at Mt. Macrina Manor.

As one can see from reading just these capsule pieces of information, each of the Jubilarians has actively served the Church in a variety of ways, each Sister giving witness to the priority God has in her life. Not able to be enumerated or even noted are, surely, the countless lives which

have been touched by personal contact with these Sister Jubilarians. For all of these Sisters, and for the giftedness with which the community has been enriched and blessed, it was with heartfelt gratitude, that "God grant them many years" was sung as we joined together for a celebratory meal following the Divine Liturgy.



The Sisters of St. Basil hosted another successful Young Adult Retreat, June 22-24. Here is a photo of the group complete with big, bright smiles. The 2019 retreat is scheduled for June 21-23. Visit www.sistersofstbasil.org for further information.



84th Annual Pilgrimage in hono



Our Lady of Perpetual Help



A Very Special Thank You to Our Pilgrimage Volunteers



Our Associates had a retreat in May at the House of Prayer. The group is pictured on the left with Sr. Barbara Jean Mihalchick (left, second row) and Sr. Sylvia Burnett (right, second row). The photo on the right shows some Associates pictured with Sr. Carol Petrasovch (left, center) and Sr. Sylvia Burnett (right, center).

Upcoming Programs at the House of Prayer



Morning Retreat

Helenanne Hochendoner
Prophetesses of Scripture
Sat., Nov. 10

10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Offering: \$35, incl. lunch
Registration Due: Nov. 6

Iconography Retreat

Marylyn Barone
Nov. 16-18

6:00 p.m. Fri. -

4:00 p.m. Sun.

Offering: \$225.

Commuters: \$200.

Supplies Included

Registration Due: Nov. 9

This retreat will be for adults and requires no previous icon-writing experience. Participants will write an icon of the Archangel Uriel, known as the angel of wisdom, on an 8 x 10 gesso-covered board. Using a pre-prepared prototype, they

will learn techniques for faces, garments, background and gilding with 23 karat gold leaf.

Christmas Prep Retreat

Fr. Cyprian Constantine
The Time of Salvation is Near: Prepare by Prayer, Fasting, Repentance and Almsgiving

Sun., Dec. 16,

1:15 - 5:30 p.m.

Offering: \$35, incl. dinner
Registration Due: Dec. 12

The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be offered along with a conference and a prayer service.

Open House

Jan. 13, 1:30 - 3:30 p.m.

Come and spend some time with the Sisters in the warmth of the House of Prayer!

Winter Respite

Sr. Carol Petrasovich
Sat., Feb. 2, 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Offering: \$35, incl. lunch
Registration Due: Jan. 30
The stillness and unhurried days of Winter are an ideal time to experience "Rest in the Lord."

Bread Baking Retreat

Sr. Carol Petrasovich
Sat., Feb. 16, 2019

(Registration due: Feb. 11)

Sat., March 16, 2019

(Registration due: Mar. 11)

10:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

Offering: \$20, incl. lunch
It's back, Sr. Carol's much requested Bread Baking Retreat! Enjoy making a loaf of Lenten bread in a creative, relaxing and prayerful atmosphere. Limited to 8 participants.

Spring Spiritual Reading Series

Sr. Barbara Jean

Mihalchick, OSBM

"Sacred Threshold: Crossing The Inner Barrier To A Deeper Love"

(By Paula D'Arcy)

Mar. 18, 25, Apr. 1, 8, 2019

Mondays, 10:00 - 11:30 a.m.

Free Will Offering

Registration Due: Mar. 11

Lenten Prayer Morning

Rev. Don Bolls

"The Passion as Told by John the Beloved"

Sat., Mar. 23, 2019

9:15 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Offering: \$35, incl. lunch
Registration Due: Mar. 19

The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be offered along with a conference and prayer service.

Weekend Retreat

Fr. Bill Kiel

"Jesus: Passion: Source of Healing and Forgiveness"
March 29-31, 2019

7:00 p.m. Fri. -

11:00 a.m. Sun.

Offering: \$150

Registration Due: Mar. 25

Join Fr. Bill for the weekend with conferences, quiet prayer, free time, The Sacrament of Reconciliation, Healing Mass and blessings.

Candlelight Dinner for Married Couples

Fri., May 3, 2019

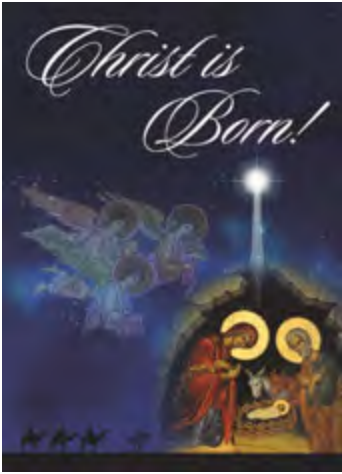
6:30 - 9:00 p.m.

Offering: \$70 per couple
Registration due: April 26

Experience a lovely evening of music, dining, a Chinese auction and a heartwarming presentation in the atmosphere of a former 1903 Coal Baron's home.

For further information and a complete listing of programs, visit www.sistersofstbasil.org.

Order Your Christmas Cards Now!



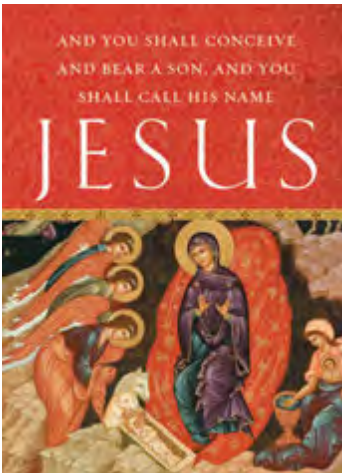
A. Star of Bethlehem
10 cards - \$12.95



D. Nativity Detail
10 cards - \$14.00



F. Star of Bethlehem
10 cards - \$14.00



B. You Shall Call His
Name Jesus
10 cards - \$12.95



E. She Will Bring
Forth A Son
10 cards - \$12.95



G. Peace on Earth
18 cards - \$14.00



C. Christ is Born
10 cards - \$12.95
(Left)



H. One Special
Child
18 cards - \$14.00
(Right)

Enrollments & Ordering

We have a lovely Christmas Enrollment Card that you may wish to send to your family or friends as a special gift. The Divine Liturgies and prayers of the Sisters from Christmas through New Year's Day will be offered for them and their intentions.

Please list the names of whom you wish to enroll: (You may also list additional names on a separate sheet of paper.)

Please send me _____ Christmas Enrollment Cards @ \$2.00 each.

Ordering Instructions:

Complete the Christmas card order form below and the enrollment form (on the left).

Enclose these two forms in an envelope with the amount due. Please note that CHECKS AND MONEY ORDERS in U.S. funds will only be accepted for payment.



For a complete listing of available Christmas cards and all occasion cards, please visit www.sistersofstbasil.org. Click on Ministries and select Card Department.



Quantity	Title or Description	Cost per Item	Total Cost

Questions?

Please call
724.438.8644

SHIPPING & HANDLING—UNITED STATES

\$6 for orders of \$15.00 or less

\$7.50 for orders \$15.01-\$35.00

\$8.50 for orders \$35.01-\$49.99

\$10.50 for orders \$50.00-\$99.99

Orders of \$100 or more, add 9%. Additional postage may apply.

CHECKS/MONEY ORDERS IN US FUNDS ONLY.

PA Residents add 6%

Subtotal

Shipping/Handling

Total Amount Due

Please mail your completed form & check to:

Sisters of St. Basil the Great

Card Shop

500 W. Main St., P.O. Box 878

Uniontown, PA 15401

In Touch
Sisters of St. Basil the Great
500 West Main Street
P.O. Box 878
Uniontown, PA 15401
(724) 438-8644
www.sistersofstbasil.org

Live Nativity

Sponsored by Mount Macrina Manor

Sun., Dec. 2, 5-7 p.m.

Mount St. Macrina, Uniontown



**Carols • Live Animals • Over 500
Luminaries • Angels**

Mark Your Calendar!



Christmas Open House

Religious Gift Shop at Mount St. Macrina

Sat., Dec. 1 & Tues., Dec. 4

10:00 a.m. -4:30 p.m.

10% DISCOUNT

PRIZES - FREE WRAPPING

724-439-6180