

"Try to learn what is pleasing to the Lord."

Ephesians 5:10

The new St. Joseph's Hall was filled to capacity during our International Superior's Assembly held in October. Twenty-two superiors and those responsible for the formation of new candidates came from our convents around the world for a month-long workshop given by the Religious Sisters of Mercy (RSM) from Alma, Michigan. Mother Mary Quentin, Superior General of the RSM, and her fellow Sisters are intent on helping our Congregation to grow and prosper in Gospel values. Our superiors can take the valuable tools they learned in the workshop back home to their respective communities, thus enabling our entire Congregation to deepen our spirituality and benefit from the insights of the RSM Sisters.

We enjoyed having Pink Sisters from South America, Europe, Africa, India, Indonesia, the Philippines, and our other US houses among us. The international character of our Congregation is a great gift!



Thanks be to God for all the thoughtful benefactors who helped us feed our guests and provided for all of our needs. We are remembering your generosity in our prayers.



An overflowing choir meant that we could praise the Lord with full voice!



Not everything was work and seriousness—we had fun with a puppet show about the family of St. Bernard.



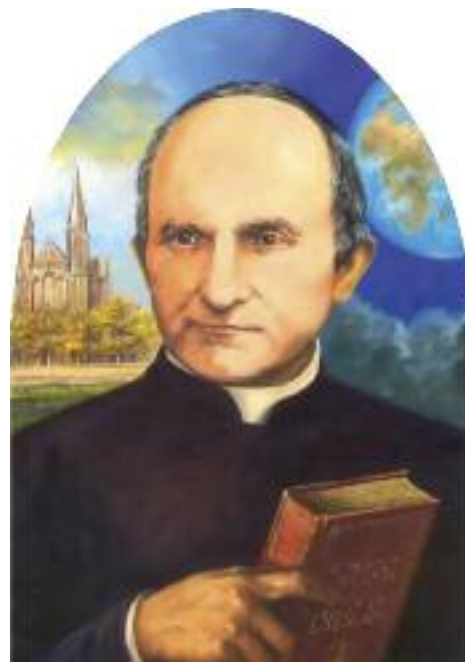
Due to a sore ankle, our Superior General Sister Mary Cecilia learned to get around using a motorized scooter. She was soon driving like a pro!



The classes were conducted by the Religious Sisters of Mercy who gave interesting lectures on human development.



Commemorating the 100th Anniversary of the death of



St. Arnold Janssen Our Father Founder

January 15, 2009

"True self-donation demands that we say to God: Lord, You can do with me whatever you wish; I want nothing but what you want."

— St. Arnold Janssen, SVD

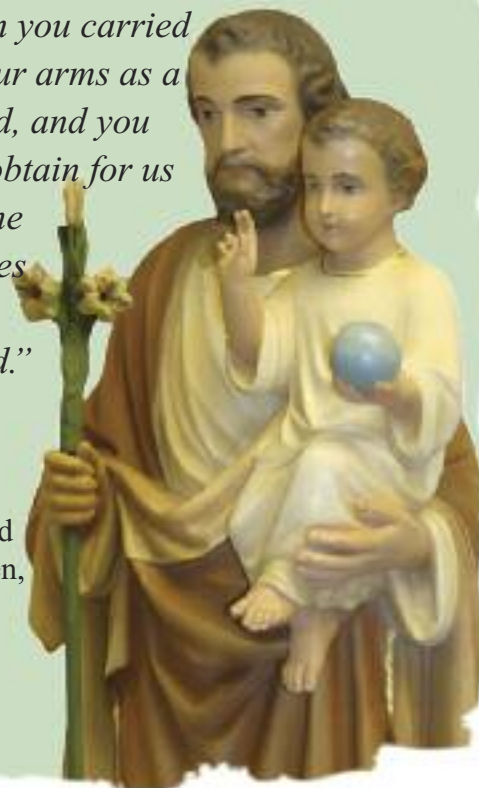
Mount Grace Newsletter

May to October 2008

Holy Spirit Adoration Sisters
1438 East Warne Ave.
St. Louis, Missouri 63107
www.mountgraceconvent.org

"Glorious Patriarch, St. Joseph, say only a word to our Savior, whom you carried in your arms as a child, and you will obtain for us all the graces we need."

—
St. Arnold Janssen, SVD



You and your loved ones will be gratefully remembered in our Advent and Christmas Liturgies December 16 to 24 and December 26 to January 3 and in our Eucharistic Celebrations on Christmas Day.

In the Love of the Infant Christ, Sister Mary Gemma and all the Sisters



"Go Unto Joseph" Genesis 41:55



“Could we find another like Joseph, a man so endowed with the spirit of God?” (Genesis 41:38) These words about the Old Testament Joseph, who saved his people from famine, apply to the New Testament Joseph as well! From the beginning we placed our building project under the patronage of the foster father of Jesus, and we are sure we have him to thank for its successful completion. To show our gratitude, we have built a meditation area on the east side of the chapel for the use of all who come to Mount Grace. The statue faces away from the street so that those wishing to pray can contemplate Joseph and the Child Jesus while sitting in the shade of two large bald cypress trees. (This arrangement also makes it possible for the Sisters to see St. Joseph from our convent windows!) Our beloved Archbishop Raymond Burke came on June 7th, the final day of our annual Sacred Heart Novena and the actual 80th anniversary of the founding of Mount Grace, to bless the new meditation area after the evening Mass. Little did we know that it would be Archbishop Burke’s last visit to us. At the end of June, his appointment to head the Vatican’s highest law court was announced. We are sorry to lose our Archbishop, but rejoice over the high honor the Church has bestowed on him. Certainly we can count on St. Joseph to watch over Archbishop Burke in his new duties, and to send the Archdiocese of St. Louis a new shepherd to watch over us. It is our hope that all those who come to pray before the Eucharistic Lord in our chapel will be able to take comfort in St. Joseph’s loving solicitude. We can all learn to pray with confidence by imitating his focused gazing on the Christ Child. Great St. Joseph, pray for us and care for us!

Congratulations to Msgr. Edward Rice, spiritual moderator for our Legion of 1000 Adorers and newly appointed Director of Vocations for the Archdiocese of St. Louis! Msgr. Rice has started a **First Friday Holy Hour** at Holy Redeemer Parish in Webster Groves to pray for holy vocations for our Archdiocese. When we heard about it, we wanted to participate too! Since we cannot leave our cloister, we decided to have our own holy hour in solidarity with the Archdiocese. We invite you to join us on the First Friday of every month from **4:30 to 5:30 pm** as we pray for an increase in holy vocations. Our holy hour includes Vespers and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. Even if you are unable to attend either holy hour, this is a worthy intention to keep in your prayers.



We welcomed a new member into our community at the beginning of August. Sister Regina Marie entered the Congregation in Baguio, the Philippines. She came to the US in 1999 when she was missioned to our convent in Corpus Christi, Texas, and has also served in Lincoln, Nebraska. Sister has been blessed with many talents and can do just about any job! Upon her arrival, she was assigned to assist in the kitchen and with the floral arrangements for the chapel. We have been enjoying Sister Regina Marie’s culinary skills, especially when she cooks the vegetables from our garden. She made herself at home right away, and with her enthusiasm and cheerful smile is a joy to be around. We pray that the Lord will continue to bless her as she serves him at Mount Grace!



"I Will Praise You, Lord, With All My Heart" Psalm 9:1

May 31, the feast of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, was the day chosen by Sister Mary Joy to celebrate her Silver Jubilee of Religious Profession. Sister is the oldest of eight siblings, and her mother, five of her sisters, and her brother were able to come from Germany and Australia to be with her on her special day. It was a joyous family reunion since some of them had not seen her since she left the Philippines to come to St. Louis in 1986. Sister Mary Joy’s 25 years of vowed life were fittingly celebrated at a beautiful Mass which Bishop Robert Hermann concelebrated with nine other priests. Sister Mary Joy solemnly renewed her vows after the homily, witnessed by her family, friends, and the community. After the Eucharistic celebration, Sister greeted all her well-wishers in the Marian Hall. During our evening meal together, Sister Mary Joy thanked the community for all the love and care shown her through the years and for all we had done to share her day of rejoicing with her. At the end of the day, her rose corsage was lovingly placed at the feet of our Sacred Heart statue. The Lord generously rewards those who selflessly serve him, and Sister’s

Psalm 9:1

Jubilee day was certainly a sign of his loving solicitude for her!

Sister Mary Joy was born in Manila and entered our convent there in 1980. She made her first vows in 1983. She received her appointment to come to the US in 1986, and after a short stay with our Sisters in Philadelphia journeyed to St. Louis. It was here in 1988 that she made her perpetual commitment to serve the Lord as a Holy Spirit Adoration Sister. Sister Mary Joy worked in the infirmary with the elderly and sick, and in the laundry. She had charge of the kitchen for nearly a decade. Most recently, she served as a portress and worked in the correspondence room, greeting those who came to the door and acknowledging the requests we receive by mail or phone for various prayer intentions. Like all our Sisters, her greatest honor is to be able to participate in our perpetual adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. A new phase of Sister Mary Joy’s life began after her Jubilee, when she received an appointment to our house in Lincoln. She left for her new home at the end of July, a bittersweet parting as she followed the Lord’s call. We are still united in the one Body of Christ!

