



In ancient times people were afraid of the setting sun because they were unsure of what the darkness would bring; it was scary. Eventually, many traditions also developed ritual greetings of the rising sun because of the assurance of life's continuance. Over time, we people realized that there was a relationship between darkness and light. The setting sun allowed the darkness to begin, and the rising sun conquered the darkness, allowing light to dawn. The darkness and the light were in a relationship, each necessary to the other, revealing a cycle of endings and beginnings.

Advent, likewise, reminds us of endings and beginnings through its theme of the Second Coming, marking the end of the old world and the inauguration of God's new creation. It encourages us to examine our past and our need for repentance and leads us to the birth of Christ, the light of the world.

We human beings, likewise, have that same cycle of reflection, dying, and new birth in our lives. We go through many "dyings" to new births, but not before we also face denial or an interior wilderness, numbness, or desert that prods us into pondering the reality of our state of being.

That spiritual landscape provides a place of gestation, where we gradually face into the darkness and begin to see the light. We are becoming something new. We go through such transitions every day; we don't have just one climatic event that changes us forever, though our transitions will undoubtedly encompass such events. Over and over again, we reenact that cycle of birth, growth and failure, death, and new birth. We are a part of God's new creation already in formation.

As Americans, we often focus on our progress and we seldom think about our need for that gestational period. We want to fast forward through the darkness quickly to achieve hope and new life. Too often, we don't want to stay in Advent; we want to go straight to Christmas. And yet, it is in Advent that we have the promise of seeing the whole cycle of life in more depth and reality.



Psychologists encourage us to examine ourselves in order to learn from our experiences, our successes, and our failures. And ironically, we usually can learn more from our suffering than from our successes. Processing past hurts can help us become wiser, more self-aware, and more human. Unprocessed pain, however, can continue to keep us in misery and truncate our growth. The only way to become free and to flourish in life is, with God's help, to go through our own darkness into the light that lightens our darkness and births our new creation.

That is the path of sin to forgiveness. Unfortunately, some people will not accept forgiveness because they will not admit that they need it. Accepting the truth about ourselves is part of our journey toward spiritual maturation.

As we go through this Advent we

should remember the whole cycle of our lives, a cycle that beckons us to walk through the darkness into the light, that calls us to repentance and growth, and finally, along with Mary, invites our "yes" that births Christ's light and forgiveness into the world. Out of the darkness of Mary's womb, the Christ, our Savior, was born to us. What new creation will be born out of our darkness?

Such musings are particularly appropriate, I think, for our Community itself right now. We are on the verge of a transition in leadership. My tenure as Prioress will end and another Sister will be elected to that service. All of us will, in some ways, have to let go of the past. To do so well, we will need to process that past. The tenure of the new Prioress will not be like mine, and neither should it be. Anything that was not beneficial from the past must be abandoned for the new to be born; though, what was good should remain to support the new chapter in our ongoing history. New practices will, likewise, need to be scrutinized for their value. But the new creation will also call us beyond our comfort zone into unknown territory. Ultimately, we walk by faith, and we seek to hear and follow God's guidance in answering our call.

Inside this issue

- * Advent Reflection, p. 1-2
- * Associate News and Continuing Service, p.2
- * Reflections on St. Mary's p.3-5
- * Sr. Madeleine Mary Shares News from CSM, p.6-7
- * St. Mary's Chronicles, p.8

This transition will, undoubtedly, not all be easy either for the new Prioress, the other Sisters, or perhaps for you. We will make mistakes. I hope that everyone will process their own transition and not expect the Community to be "as it always has been." We are never called to stagnation, but rather to new challenges, new creation, and new adventures. As the Sisters often say, "There's never a dull moment here."

Blessings,
Sr. Madeleine Mary, CSM

Associate News



Sr. Elizabeth Grace, CSM

Dear Associates throughout the world, 2022 has been a year when I was able to attend two "in-person" gatherings with Associates; we

had our silent

retreat in June at St. Mary's Sewanee and I gathered with Associates in Memphis for Martyrs' weekend during September. Sr. Ines and our Associates in the Philippines gather "in person" monthly for Eucharist and fellowship (unless there is a COVID lockdown); twice a year the group offers quiet days. Many of you have followed our ministries and been with us virtually for some of our programs in 2022. Snail mail, email, phone calls, "zooming" and Facebook have also been ways we have been able to keep in touch with you. The Sisters are very grateful for the many ways you support and encourage us. I have personally enjoyed, for the past 30 years, going through all the holiday correspondence; it means a lot to see and to hear about your families, your travels, your joys, and your sorrows. The Sisters' rule states "we offer up our prayer on behalf of the world"; please know that you are in our daily prayers and are lifted up by name on

your anniversary.

Save the dates; June 22-25, 2023 for our June silent retreat. Hopefully we will be adding eight new Associates during this coming year.

I wanted to close with a portion from an Advent poem entitled "Stay Awake" written by one of our Associates who died in 2020, Sr. Anna Kathleen, who was part of the New Benedictine Community:

"Stay awake
for brief glimpses of
something new
for long gazes on
the known/yet unknown

Stay awake
for connections
never noticed before
for revelations within
the body

Stay awake
for someone
that is you
wants to step through
that curtain
of who you think
you are

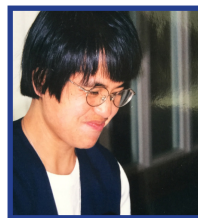
She needs
your full attention."

May the God of hope be with us as
"we walk in the light of the Lord"

- Sister Elizabeth, CSM

Continuing Service

Sr. Ines continues to be very active in her ministry in the Philippines. On the last Sunday of July, the Church of St. Mary the Virgin celebrated nutrition month by hosting a health fair at the church. Sr. Ines also participated in weekly Sunday



Sr. Ines, CSM

vacation church school in the summer.



Sr. Ines, CSM with some of our Associates for their monthly gathering in August

In October, she and the church celebrated the Indigenous people's month. The hymns for that day were sung in both Tagalog and Igorot - two languages spoken in the Philippines. The liturgy was spoken in her native dialect of Igorot.

In preparation for the All Saints' Day celebration, the church held a general cleaning of the path up to the graves at the cemetery. On November 1st the church had the Necrological service where candles and pitchwood were brought to the church to be blessed. The graves were also blessed after the service.

Sr. Ines continues to visit homebound parishoners and sick church members in addition to the activities at the church. She meets monthly with the Associates. We are grateful for her ongoing ministry!

**Ever considered a
planned-giving gift or
leaving a bequest
to the Sisters?**

*You can make a tax-deductible gift
by check or by an online donation
to "The Sisterhood of St. Mary"*

**“Reflection on St. Mary’s”
by the Rev. Becky McDaniel**

I moved to Sewanee in the summer of 2013 to attend seminary, and one of the first things that we did as a community was attend a pilgrimage to Alabama for a march in remembrance of the martyr Jonathan Daniels. It was a powerful and prayerful experience, and on the bus ride home to Sewanee I expressed to one of my new classmates that I felt like I had a lot to process after that day of learning, lamenting, and preparing for a ministry of reconciliation. My classmate suggested that I attend the Saturday Eucharist at the Community of St. Mary the following morning, the convent being a quiet and contemplative place to reflect and pray about all that had taken place in the last twelve hours.



The Rev. Becky McDaniel

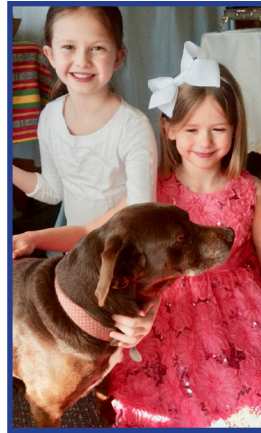
I took my friend’s advice, not only because of her wisdom about the place itself but also because I had been drawn to monasticism for many years through my study of Eastern religions, the writings of Thomas Merton and Bede Griffiths, and the work I had done in wisdom schools with my mentor, Cynthia Bourgeault.



The Rev. Nicholas Phares, the Rev. Ben Thomas, Cynthia Bourgeault, and the Rev. Becky McDaniel

At times I had wondered if my calling to the priesthood was in fact a calling to the religious life. Even if it had been, I was a wife and mother, so entering a convent was not exactly an option!

As soon as I arrived at the end of the long gravel driveway and stepped into the intimate space of the convent chapel on that gentle August morning, I was overwhelmed by the sense that I had come home, that this was a place of distant familiarity and that this would not be the last time that I crossed the threshold into the Sisters’ beautiful place of prayer. I knew in my soul that I had been invited by God to walk alongside the Sisters and the community that they served.



The Rev. Becky McDaniel’s daughters: Laura and Lily with our former convent dog Penny. Photo taken in 2015.

Throughout my first year of seminary I visited several local parishes as we were instructed to do in expectation of our field education placements. It was good to experience a variety of liturgies and different approaches to ministry across middle Tennessee, but something kept drawing me back to the convent, the Sisters, and the intimacy of their worship and their sacramental rhythm of life. When it came time to choose a placement for field education, I decided to draft a special request to serve alongside the Sisters at the convent. The Community of St. Mary had never been an option for field education, but I argued that their way of life is a gift to a troubled world and that any ministry modeled after the Sisters would benefit the Episcopal church and its parishes. Thankfully, my request was granted, and I spent the remainder of my seminary time serving with and learning from the Sisters of the

Community of St. Mary. As far as I know, only one other seminarian has chosen to pursue field work at the convent, but I hope that this option will remain for those who feel called to the contemplative life within the Church.

During my final year of seminary I also committed to year one of the Oblate program designed by Sister Madeleine Mary. It was a fruitful period of my spiritual life, but after much discernment and discussions with Sister Elizabeth and Sister Hannah, I decided that the more responsible commitment would be to become an Associate of the order. As a busy priest and mother of two young girls, the gentler commitment to become an Associate made sense, and on June 19th, 2022, I finally took my vows and received my medal. My daughters, who had spent most Sunday mornings of their elementary school days at the convent, joined me to show their support, and as they grow into young adult women, I trust that the model of the Sisters’ religious life will guide them in their decisions and in their spiritual commitments. I give thanks for all that God has done for our family, and for the family of the Community of St. Mary, to whom I belong as well.



The Rev. Becky McDaniel being received as an Associate on June 19th, 2022 in our convent chapel

"Benedictine S.O.I.L." by Pat Pickett

I'm not sure what I expected on my first visit to St. Mary's Convent. I was there on assignment to learn the story of St. Mary's intern program for ABA (*American Benedictine Academy*) because of its unique approach. From the moment I got out of my car until I waved goodbye, it was an incredibly positive and joyful experience.



Pat Pickett

After several months of reflection, I found it turned out to be more than an assignment. It has become part of my story because my mind often travels to St. Mary's and I find myself praying with and for the Sisters. This tiny jewel of a convent, perched high in the Sewanee mountains has become a lighthouse here in Tennessee. No matter what is going on in my life, I can look to the east and know there are women, Benedictine women, blessing our state through their presence.

Driving by, you wouldn't know there is such a powerhouse behind those walls. For me the whole place becomes a living metaphor. You must go inside, breathe their air and experience their humanity.

In my own reflection I recognized that this seemingly simple convent is one of God's anchors here in TN. The metaphor can be seen by the simplicity of the buildings. Nothing on the outside sets it apart from hundreds of other convents in the United States. Step inside and the sweeping panorama of the mountains is breathtaking. The panorama of the untouched mountains takes one's breath away. Stunned by God's original creativity, I began to put the metaphor together.

The simple dress of the Sisters said nothing of service and prayer, love and compassion, and delightful laughter mixed with unbridled joy which became a colorful kaleidoscope of annunciation. St. Mary's shimmers with life. I knew, just by breathing their air, being greeted by their dog and cat, I was told everything here was very different. Having animals says something about a human being that words cannot.

I am a Roman Catholic Benedictine Oblate of St. Benedict's Monastery in St. Joseph, Minnesota. An Oblate is a lay person hoping to live the Benedictine charisms in his/her secular life. I really don't like to separate the sacred and profane. That is Greek dualism. As Christians we come out of a Hebrew/Jewish tradition that did not split body and soul. Jesus was whole and I have the feeling that truth was what Benedict might have been trying to get us back to – that integration of body/spirit with work and prayer integrated. *Ora et Labora*.

What I discovered at St. Mary's is the aim for healthy integration you might not experience so quickly in a larger convent, or monastery. Everyone was their wonderful human self with me. I wasn't a stranger. I was accepted, embraced and Benedictine hospitality warmed my heart.



Our three summer interns Caralynn Hampson, Lou Bullock, and Dixon Cline being interviewed by Pat Pickett

One of the ways St. Mary's lives out its life is through their intern program. I was fortunate to meet three interns while there. No pretense on their part.

They were open, honest, embracing me as the Sisters did. Yes, our first conversation was halting but before too long, there was a gush of talk and laughter and seriousness and giggles. I learned from them and learned about them. I'd like to share part of my article with you:

For each of the interns, coming to S.O.I.L. (Sacramental, Organic, Intentional Living) represented a drastic change in the way they lived. The slowing down and seeing more of everything, being intentional about their day, the rhythm of work and prayer all affected each person. Lou spoke of their awareness of "Being Here Now." Was it painful? Definitely. The silence was most profound and most different. It was beautiful how Lou was able to share some of the difficulties one might encounter when changing how one lives. Lou's prayer experience was from a church where silence was not primary, liturgical worship was foreign. Lou spoke of dealing with anger. The silence gave them space and time to deal with issues not dealt with before. Lou had been a volunteer during the year and became acquainted with the Sisters, but living with them was totally different.

Caralynn had another whole set of issues. She considered herself as coming from a normal, everyday family. BUT! She is a cancer survivor so her world was filled with people who related to that huge part of who she is and really weren't seeing much more since her illness. Being an intern was almost like starting over and she was able to be Caralynn because Lou and Dixon had not known her when she had cancer and she was able to focus on discernment and not always be "the one who had cancer." She was able to laugh and not worry about someone treating her like a fragile person who was about to die.

Dixon gave us the quote of the day, "Grow the Garden – Grow the SOUL!" A thoughtful young man, Dixon talked of learning from the outdoors. For him working in the garden was spiritually nourishing. "It is intentional." It was like he woke up and his day was going to be one of discovery. He said, "the Order of the Day became poetry. I became grounded

emotionally.”

Perhaps, the work the Sisters and interns do in the mountains is like dandelion seed scattered on the wind. Who knows how many lives are touched through the simple work of their hands - the growing and tending lavender? This does not even begin to describe their individual and communal prayer life which is also like seeds carried on the wind which gusts, whispers, and dances around the mountain top.



Dixon Cline using the leaf blower

I started out by talking about St. Mary’s being a metaphor, the simplicity of the physical building seen by all who pass by and the unseen million-dollar view hiding beyond their back porch.

No amount of money can buy the communal life these Sisters have birthed. They live simply, glued together with prayer and love for one another. The magnificence of creation greets them each day as they begin with prayer. That view, hidden from the public reminds them of their own million-dollar interior life. This, then, is the gift they pass silently forward to anyone who can see and who listens with the ear of their heart.

“Connection to St. Mary’s” by the Rev. Dr. Melissa Hartley



In October, I had the honor of presiding and preaching at the First Profession of Sister Felicity. Sister Felicity went to college at Sewanee, and I’ve known her since her

The Rev. Dr. Melissa Hartley

first year when I was her sponsor for Catechumenate. I had not been at the Convent since before COVID, so it was wonderful to be back with the Sisters to celebrate this day. The Biblical story of the call of Samuel provided material so appropriate to the occasion.

In her book, *The Preaching Life*, Barbara Brown Taylor has this to say in a chapter on Call: “If my own experience can be trusted, then God does not call us once but many times. There are calls... into and out of relationships as well as calls to seek God wherever God may be found. Sometimes those calls ring clear as bells and sometimes they are barely audible, but in any case, we are not meant to hear them all by ourselves. It was part of God’s genius to incorporate us as one body, so that our ears have other ears, other eyes, minds, hearts, and voices to help us interpret what we have heard. Together we can hear our calls, and together we can answer them, if only we will listen for the still, small voice that continues to speak to us in the language of our lives.” We are not meant to hear our calls by ourselves. It takes others to interpret what we have heard. We need to look no further than this morning’s reading from the Hebrew Scriptures to see this confirmed in one of the greatest call stories of all time – the call of Samuel.

The Lord comes and calls, “Samuel, Samuel”; and he replies, “Speak, for your servant is listening.” “Speak, for your servant is listening.” I wonder how intentional most of us are in listening for God’s call. In that time, are we focused more on our talking to God or are we really listening for what God is asking us to do? Are we paying attention or just keeping ourselves busy in the temple? Or maybe we would rather not hear God’s call. Calls can be scary and are almost always disruptive.

Today, we come to celebrate another call. In the fall of 2015, a young woman named Madeline Parks came to Sewanee to begin her first year in college. “The word of the Lord was rare in those days; visions were not widespread.” And yet, a vision was granted – granted to you. We could probably say visions are even

less widespread now than they were in Samuel’s day. But you had a vision your first year in college of a nun in a habit – the very portrait of Sister Constance. What a gift. But, like Samuel, you did not quite know what to do with this call. You thought the monastic life was only for Roman Catholics. And while you were prepared to go that route to follow your call, what a blessing to discover these Sisters. A convent – right here in Sewanee – what a gift.



The Rev. Dr. Melissa Hartley with Sr. Felicity, CSM

You pondered this call all through college – you reaffirmed your baptismal vows after a year of Catechumenate (with the best sponsor ever). You broke up with your boyfriend because, well... After graduation, you entered the Organic Prayer Project here for a year and then began your postulancy. You sold your car, you endured all sorts of “why would you want to do that” questions, and perhaps most importantly, you have had your call confirmed. Your Sisters here have been your Eli – they have heard your call and today invite you to take the next step on your path deeper into this community with your First Profession. You have become Sister Felicity. I’m told that you got to choose your name – Felicity. According to the dictionary, this means “intense happiness.” Not just “happiness,” but “intense happiness.” Perhaps the kind of happiness one discovers when a call is confirmed and a vision is seen clearly, and there is a thunderous response when we open our hearts and say, “speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.”

Sister Felicity, may this day be one of

intense happiness for you and for your Sisters as we rejoice with you and pray for you in this next step in your vocation.

Sr. Madeleine Mary Shares News from CSM

As I said earlier, our lives have the same cycle of reflection, dying and new birth that we experience in nature and in the season of Advent.

At least from my perspective, that cycle has framed the period since our last newsletter; though I doubt that we recognized that fact as we were going through it.



Sr. Madeleine Mary, CSM



Sr. Madeleine Mary, CSM and Sr. Felicity, CSM with some of the Advanced Degree Program and Alternative Clergy Training Program students



SUMMA students touring our grounds

In many ways life seemed to go on as usual- except for our indoor mask requirement. We welcomed new guests and some of our usual

summer groups at the convent, and we did some programs in churches both in Tennessee and in other states. Life was flourishing in many ways. We welcomed guests to our services from the Advanced Degree Program and the Alternative Clergy Training Program. Students from the Sewanee Summer Music Festival and the SUMMA Program came to learn about the Community and did some volunteer work. And, we received a new Associate, the Rev. Becky McDaniel, who has known us since her seminary days. That same day, we enjoyed having her celebrate at our altar for the first time and having our own Casey Perkins- newly graduated from the seminary- as our preacher. Later, we also had a new seminary friend, A.J. Boots, as a guest preacher. And of course, throughout all these events, we were blessed by the presence of our three summer interns who experienced the Organic Prayer Program much like other interns had pre-COVID- except for the indoor mask requirement.



A.J. Boots, current seminarian, preaching at our chapel with the Rev. Dr. Linda St. Clair as celebrant

The mask: it was a constant reminder that life had not “gotten back to normal.” Behind the scenes, I was constantly monitoring the impact of new variants of COVID and measuring how we could modify our practices and still keep everyone safe. Tennessee is still in the red zone. People are still dying, but the good news is that a significant decline in fatalities has indeed occurred. We are, hopefully, inching toward a time when we can go freely inside without masks, but this winter’s flu season will better

inform our journey through life’s cycle.

The problem with the “cycle” image is that each person moves through reflection, dying, and new birth at different speeds. As a result, we as a community often experience an overlap or mixture of those stages. While life is flourishing at the convent, I am pondering internally my mother’s decline and the Community’s leadership transition. Simultaneously, new possibilities are being birthed on personal, community, and national and international levels. We are extending our ministry by preaching in churches and presenting programs, participating in the Saturday Farmer’s Market and the South Cumberland Farmer’s Market, speaking at the Rotary Club, and hosting programs at the convent and on Zoom.



Sr. Hannah, CSM, speaking at the Montegale-Sewanee Rotary Club

But within the same period, new tragedies abound internationally as we are saying our good-byes to our summer interns or to those who have ended their struggle here and now enjoy new life eternally, people like the Rev. Gene Moritz and the Sisters’ friends and family members who now bask in God’s presence forever.



The Commendation and Committal service for our Associate, the Rev. Gene Moritz, held outside of the Sisters’ cemetery

You can read through the Community Chronicles to get all the details of this period. However, the crowning moment of the Community's experience during this time was undoubtedly Sr. Felicity's Profession.



Sr. Felicity, CSM, with her parents on the day of her First Profession



Sr. Felicity, CSM, at her First Profession Service

Over the last year, a number of things have signaled new life in the Community and a deep hope for its expanding future. We've increased our in-person work in churches both in Sewanee and in six other states, and continued Zoom programming across a number of states as well. With the Sisters' gifts, Casey's brilliance, and the hard work of our employees, interns, and many volunteers, our gardens have been very productive, our social media vibrant, and gift shop crafts have blossomed with new creativity. We have developed more networks of relationship. Sr. Felicity presented her first workshop. A Roman Catholic Benedictine Oblate, Pat Pickett, came to interview the Sisters and our summer interns about

our Organic Prayer Internship and published a glowing article about it in the American Benedictine Academy's Monastic Newsletter. We learned more about Thistle Farms, the Sumpter Family's journey along the Great Loop, 50 Years of Women In Sports at Sewanee- and had a dive into Sr. Elizabeth's past, and heard about life in Malawi when the Rev. John Ng'Oma celebrated one Sunday.



Julia, Alyssa, and Madeleine Sumpter talking to attendees after their 'Journey of a Lifetime' Presentation in front of our convent chapel



Sr. Hannah, CSM, the Rev. Will Madi, the Rev. John Ng'Oma, and Sr. Felicity, CSM

You, too, have been a wonderful supporting partner by your prayers, your messages, your generous gifts of time, grants and contributions, especially those that have helped us build an endowment that will continue to support the Community's life and ministry.

All of these gifts and experiences

have signaled new life and a generous self-offering. But as we all know, the greatest gift one can give is one's whole life. Sr. Felicity, at her First Profession, offered that gift - at least for the next three years- and with the intention of making those vows perpetual, after discerning her own journey through life's cycle of reflection, dying and new birth. I'm sure she knew some of the risks and challenges of such a commitment and hopefully, she already knows some of the joys.

I am not as sure that she realizes how significant her Profession is for the *world* and, perhaps, you don't fully grasp it either. So, let me close with this final good news to ponder: Sr. Felicity's commitment deeply underscores the value and need for religious orders in today's world. She has vowed to live out a radical dedication to God and God's people, focusing her energies and her passions like a laser beam in love of God, her Sisters, all of God's people, and indeed, all of God's creation. Such a gift should never be underestimated. By our baptismal vows we all are called to a radical gift of self, but she has vowed to live out that gift in this vocation.

In the midst of our present culture, where much of life seems obsessed with self-destruction, conspiracy theories, false information, racism, brutal oppression, and the absolute destruction of our environment, such a commitment is a *profound* assertion of life and God's grace and presence among us. May you take strength from that reality as you journey through this Advent and welcome the Christ.



St. Mary's Chronicles

June 19: The Rev. Becky McDaniel was received as an Associate.

July 2: We had the Commendation and Committal service for the Rev. Gene Moritz at the Sisters' cemetery. The Rev. Joe Porter was the celebrant, the Rev. Jim Pappas was the cantor and Sr. Elizabeth was the preacher.

July 9: A group of Sewanee Summer Music Festival students came out to learn about our Community, received a tour of the grounds, and volunteered their time to help us process our lavender.

July 10: Sr. Hannah was invited by the Rev. Warren Swenson to be the guest preacher at Trinity Episcopal Church in Winchester, TN.

July 20: Through partnering with our friend, the Rev. Gina Jenkins, we had some of the SUMMA students come out for a tour of our grounds and they helped us with some volunteer work.

July 28: Roman Catholic Benedictine Oblate Pat Pickett, of St. Benedict's Monastery at St. Joseph's in Minnesota, came for an afternoon visit to interview the Sisters and our summer interns about the Organic Prayer Program Internship.

July 30: Our three summer interns went with Sr. Felicity to Thistle Farms to meet Dorris Walker-Taylor, Senior Ambassador at Thistle Farms, and

received a tour of the facility and learned about her own story from trauma to healing.

August 5: We had a farewell party for our summer interns.

August 14: The Rev. Michael Canon invited Sr. Hannah to be the guest preacher at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Shreveport, Louisiana. She also led the adult forum and gave the children's sermon.

August 18: Nancy Wood, formerly Sister Mary Martha, passed away.

August 25: Sr. Hannah was the guest speaker for the Monteagle-Sewanee Rotary Club meeting. She talked about the history of the Community and our current ministries.

August 27: The Sumpter Family gave a presentation at the convent chapel entitled, "Journey of a Lifetime" which involved sharing their stories of boat traveling along the Great Loop.

September 11: Sr. Elizabeth was the guest preacher at St. Mary's Episcopal Cathedral in Memphis, TN as they commemorated the Martyrs of Memphis.

September 18: Sr. Hannah was invited by her former seminary classmate, the Rev. Claire Brown, to be the guest preacher at St. Paul's

Episcopal Church in Athens, TN. She also taught in their Sunday School "Series on the Saints" and gave a presentation on Hildegard von Bingen. Our Associate, Pat Martin, is a longtime member of St. Paul's and helped promote the Associates program of the Community.

September 24: Sr. Felicity led a Rosary workshop at the convent which involved educating participants about the history of the rosary as well as teaching them how to make their own rosaries.

September 30: Doris Hodges, mother of Sr. Madeleine Mary, passed away.

October 16: Sr. Madeleine Mary was the guest speaker at St. Mark's and St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Sewanee as part of its Sunday Forum. She gave a presentation on Religious Life within the Episcopal Church.

October 22: Sr. Felicity made her First Profession as part of a joyous Eucharist service with the Rev. Dr. Melissa Hartley as celebrant and Dr. Geoffrey Ward as organist. Her parents participated by being the readers in the service. We had a festive reception afterwards. Sr. Elizabeth, later in the day, preached at the funeral of Jack Lynch, friend of the Community.

October 23: Sr. Elizabeth was the guest preacher at St. James Episcopal Church in Midway.



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