



*Ar scáth a chéile a mhaireann na daoine* is an Irish proverb that translates to “It is in the shelter of each other that the people live.” It is a beautiful expression of solidarity. It occurs when the best in us comes out and reaches forth to comfort and strengthen those around us. You see examples of this expression when people gather for vigils to grieve together, when people walk arm in arm to protest injustice, and when people dance and celebrate the moments in life that are full of joy. This expression is about embracing our common humanity.

But Pádraig Ó Tuama, in his book, *In the Shelter*, writes that the word *scáth* in this proverb can mean both ‘shelter’ and ‘shadow.’ So, this phrase can also be translated as “It is in the shadow of each other that the people live.” He continues, “We can do beautiful things and terrible things to ourselves and to those we consider to be ‘our others.’ Neighbors have known – and sometimes caused – their neighbors’ terror and also their trouble, their sheltering and their shadowing, their radiances and their rages.”

We are all witnesses to the news - local, national, and global - of the shadows and rages enacted by people towards the “others” in their lives. This includes gun violence, acts of terror, and multiple ongoing wars. With technology, we can watch the news 24/7 and become trapped in a mindset of fear from the violence that surrounds us. We can, too easily, fall into despair from the darkness of the world.

Yet Advent is the season of waiting in the darkness. But we do not wait without hope. As we light the candles of the Advent wreath each week, we slowly enlighten the darkness, one flame at a time. We are reminded that

we are waiting the birth of the light of the world. We experience this season of expectation that the Word will, once again, become flesh to dwell within the shelter and shadow of this mortal life. He will come not to deliver us from the sufferings of the world, but to be present with us in them. One of the titles that the prophet Isaiah gives for this coming Messiah is Emmanuel, meaning “God with us.”



Since the 8th century, monastic communities have prayed the *O Antiphons*; a series of seven titles of the coming Messiah that originate from Isaiah. These antiphons are sung before and after Mary’s *Magnificat* at Evening Prayer. They begin on December 17th with *O Sapientia* (Wisdom) and continue each subsequent day with *O Adonai* (Lord), *O Radix Jesse* (Root of Jesse), *O Clavis David* (Key of David), *O Oriens* (Day Spring), *O Rex Gentium* (King of the Nations), and finally *O Emmanuel* on December 24th. If you take the first letter of these titles in a reverse order, you will form the acrostic: *Ero Cras*, which is translated *Tomorrow I will Be (Coming)*.

The titles from these antiphons describe the future Messiah’s wisdom, redeeming power, universality, majesty, and reign of peace. Throughout the centuries, these antiphons developed into the modern-day hymn we recognize today as “O Come, O Come Emmanuel.” Out of all of these titles for the Messiah, the one that seems most pertinent for

this year is “King of the Nations.” The description of this title from the modern-day hymn reads:

*O come, O King of Nations, bind  
in one the hearts of all mankind.  
Bid all our sad divisions cease  
and be yourself our King of Peace.*

How many people can identify with the yearning these words carry for the King of Peace to begin his reign? How many are waiting for an end to their sad divisions? How many hearts need to be bound, healed, and unified? The prayerful expectation for this Messiah is stronger now than ever before.

As we enter this season of Advent, we long for the one who will both enter our divided and broken world, and be broken with us in the process. We look for the one who will shelter us in our lament. We hope for the one who will cast away the shadows that loom over us. We, once more, wait for the one who will enter the shelter and shadow of our world and our lives. O come, O come Emmanuel!

- Sr. Hannah, CSM

### Inside this issue

- \* Advent Reflection, p. 1
- \* Associate News, p. 2
- \* Continuing Service, p. 2-3
- \* Reflections on the Organic Prayer Program Internship p. 3-4
- \* Two St. Mary’s on the Mountain, p. 4-5
- \* A Taste of Sabbatical, p. 5-6
- \* Sr. Hannah Shares News from CSM, p. 6-7
- \* St. Mary’s Chronicles, p. 8

## Associate News



*Sr. Elizabeth Grace, CSM* to each other, the sacredness of them, both corporately and individually..."

Dear Associates,

The Rev. Canon Carmen Guererro wrote, "I believe that the telling of our stories is what makes us real to each other, the sacredness of them, both corporately and individually..."

Since our last newsletter I have had the opportunity to hear and to participate in some of the sacred stories of past and present Associates. I went to Memphis for the Martyrs of Memphis weekend September 8-10th with four of our Associates; we were warmly welcomed and housed by our group of Associates there. We remembered and celebrated the sacred story of St. Mary's Cathedral at its Celebration of Remembrance and Renewal service.



*Associates of our Community gathered for a reception before dinner in Memphis as part of the Martyrs of Memphis weekend*

The next weekend I went to visit an aspiring Associate in Knoxville; I was warmly welcomed and housed by him and his wife. We remembered and celebrated the sacred story of their parish, St. James. This is the parish where our Sr. Margaret had worshiped when she worked at the University of Tennessee. Margaret was a CSM Associate until she retired early, tested her vocation, and became a Sister of St. Mary from 1990 until her death in 2018.

*Ten Decades of Praise* is a book written by Sr. Mary Hilary; it tells the sacred and astonishing tale of the Community's first century (1865-1965). Our present tradition has been to give each Associate a copy of the book at her/his reception. If you did not receive a copy and want one, please let me know. (There will be a small fee for shipping).



*Sr. Hannah, Sr. Felicity, Sr. Elizabeth, the Rev. Richard Cogill, and Sr. Madeleine Mary surrounding our newest Associate, McKenzie Wortman, at our convent chapel after McKenzie was received as an Associate on August 15th, 2023*

CSM Associates continue to live out, corporately and individually, the good news. We are delighted to have an active group in Sagada, Mountain Province, Philippines. We were thrilled to connect with Associates from the Western Province in early November. (I will plan to share more of the sacred stories of these two groups in our next newsletter).

Sr. Madeleine Mary returned from her sabbatical in August; she went "around the world in six months." We are certainly glad to have her home. We have asked her to lead the June silent retreat. Her meditations will be on "Exploring the Earth and Encountering God". Mark your calendar for June 20-23, 2024.

May the Son of Peace bring peace to our world, to our streets, to our homes and to our hearts.

- Sister Elizabeth, CSM

## Continuing Service

Sister Ines has been busy with her ongoing ministries in the Church of St. Mary the Virgin in Sagada in the Philippines. She continues her outreach ministry of visiting the sick in the hospital and doing home visitations for the church members.



*Sr. Ines, CSM*

The Associates of our Community in Sagada continue to gather monthly for Eucharist and take part in making handcrafts. Friends also gather to be part of this regular time of fellowship and the senior citizens in the area have mentioned how much they enjoy this meeting. The church also has a Family Sunday on the last Sunday of each month. During the last Sunday of August, they had Harvest Offering Sunday. This was a time when people brought their produce to the church to have it blessed. Sr. Ines said that this tradition has been around in Sagada for a long time. Attendees left immediately after the service because of typhoon Goring which made landfall on August 24th and brought with it heavy rains to the area. This was the third typhoon the Philippines has had so far this year. Sr. Ines reported that, by August 31st, everyone in her village was safe from the typhoon and had gone back to work and the local children had returned to school. She reported that the week of typhoon winds caused an accumulation of dirt and dust in the local houses. Sr. Ines informed us that the relief cleaning was a time for everyone to come together in solidarity to support each other after this disaster.

On September 19th, Sr. Ines took part in the celebration of the 119th anniversary of the local hospital, St. Theodore of Tarsus. There was a



Mass followed by joyful music played by villagers. She said it was a very well attended and festive gathering.

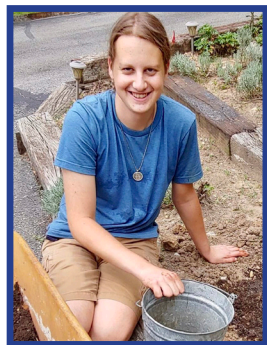
Then on Sunday, September 24th, at the Church of St. Mary the Virgin in Sagada, after the Prayers of the People, Sr. Ines and the other Lay Eucharistic Ministers were commissioned to their new ministries by their rector, the Rev. Daniel Longatan.



*The Commissioning Service for Lay Eucharistic Ministers at the Church of St. Mary the Virgin in Sagada, Philippines which took place on September 24th, 2023. Sr. Ines is standing near the center, wearing a dark blue vest.*

We are grateful for Sister Ines and the many ways she ministers in the Philippines.

## Reflections on the Organic Prayer Program Internship



*David Paddon, one of our long-term Organic Prayer Program interns for the 2023-2024 year*

By: David Paddon

It is hard to believe that I have already been at this internship for three months. I keep thinking about how quickly the weeks are going by. This time has given

me the sense of purpose that I had been looking for over the past few years and it is a testament to God's providence that I found out about this opportunity. I heard about it from my aunt and uncle who had found out about it through the diocese. They happened to mention it in passing while I was around. In the past, I have not been someone to see God working in my life, but I really think that God did lead me to discover this internship. It has been exactly what I needed at this time in my life. Before coming here, I was aimlessly searching for a new direction, but had no plans as yet. I only knew that I wanted a greater connection with God and wanted to be more committed to prayer. I had recently begun attending an Episcopal church, due to my desire to be surrounded by liturgy and the sacraments. When I heard about this opportunity it stuck with me. I thought it was a crazy idea at first but I kept imagining how it could transform my spiritual life. And now that I have been here for a few months I can say that this place and these nuns have been such a blessing to me.

This internship has helped me to discover ways that I can best relate to God. It has helped me set times for prayer so I do not have to rely on my own motivation to pray, which often leads me to neglect prayer. Learning about and practicing *Lectio Divina*, a Benedictine prayer practice which uses scripture, has been very impactful to me and has allowed me to experience the presence of God in a fuller way. It is still hard for me to silence my mind and commit myself to prayer, but this internship has taught me to keep at it. Though I mostly came for the prayer, the work that we do to maintain the grounds has been fulfilling and has kept me interested. Learning about the process of composting has been my favorite part.

I am excited to learn and do new things in the next months of the internship, but above all I am so glad

to continue living in this beautiful and prayerful place.



*David posing with one of the goats at Salem Lexie Farms as part of the Field Trip Friday farm visits*

By: Stephanie Peramas

I came to the Community of St. Mary from an Episcopalian, Benedictine-style, intentional community in North Carolina seeking a deeper prayer life, a community to love and grow into, the opportunity to rest in God's presence for discernment, and greater intentionality with all aspects of life (including the seemingly mundane ones). The Organic Prayer Program (OPP) provides a wonderful breadth and depth of prayer, community, and intentionality. Our days are centered around the Rule of St. Benedict and the flow of daily prayer and work (*Ora et Labora*).



*Stephanie Peramas, our other long-term Organic Prayer Program intern for the 2023-2024 year*

Most of our days are spent working in the convent's vast acres of organic gardens, with corporate prayer breaking up the day's work. During worship, we are trusted with several service tasks ranging from Scripture

reading to bell ringing. As we begin each service praising the glory of God, I'm reminded that our manual labor and our worship (*Opus Dei*) glorifies God and that our work serves the Community and the Earth. Morning Prayer, Eucharist, Noon Office, and Evening Prayer worship services call me back to God amidst the labor of the day. Through recurring daily work and individual and communal prayer, this long-term internship helps to teach me the steadfastness, stability, and faithfulness that St. Benedict describes in his Rule.



*Stephanie working out in our organic garden*

This time has also been filled with much curiosity, awe, and excitement! David and I have had the unique opportunity to meet many diverse and interesting guests and groups of people who have visited the convent. Some are regular worshipers or celebrants, whereas some visit for a weekend retreat or a short visit perhaps after visiting the seminary. Each guest is warmly invited into the convent in true Benedictine hospitality, and every visitor brings their own plethora of perspectives, stories, and wisdom. The Sisters' and visitors' presence is a gift unto itself.

In true Benedictine fashion, there is an emphasis on balance. One of my favorite examples of Benedictine balance at the convent is experienced through its liveliness and silence. Originally, I thought the Community would be a secluded, muted place.

However, the convent hospitably receives frequent guests who come at almost any time of day. Together, we also rest in silence every Friday morning and around scheduled worship services. I especially cherish the special moments of silence during our worship, offering space in the day to quietly rest in God.

I didn't know what to expect nuns to be like but what I've found is that the Sisters and David, the other OPP intern, are a delightful bunch and a joy to be around. Each offers their own unique gifts to the Community and I'm grateful to know them and to learn from each of them.

### Two St. Mary's on the Mountain

We wanted to take some time in this newsletter to provide some clarification on the reality of the two different "St. Mary's" that exist in Sewanee. Over the years, and sometimes on a weekly basis, we hear from both local visitors as well as guests that they aren't sure which "St. Mary's" is the convent, and which is the retreat center across the street from us.

Although St. Mary's Convent and St. Mary's Sewanee both have "St. Mary's" in their name, we are two separate organizations! We often hear from people who have mistaken one of us for the other. It's easy to do, and we want to help everyone know the difference.

Our Community of St. Mary (which originated in New York) began a Southern Province in Sewanee back in 1888. Our ministries included opening a school for mountain children, for whom the county school was too distant and the road too difficult. As transportation improved, it became a boarding school for girls until 1968, then later a retreat center sponsored by our Community using the former school buildings.

In the late 1980s, we sold our former retreat center and its buildings to Robert (Bob) Ayres, an Associate of our Community. We then moved across the street to build a new convent and chapel. Bob Ayres and the Board began expanding the ministry of the retreat center to become a center for spiritual development. Their full name is "St. Mary's Sewanee: The Ayres Center for Spiritual Development." They host retreats for churches, vestries, meditation, quilting and other groups. There is a staff of 11 who work there, providing a place of rest, renewal and reconnection for guests.



*Some of the St. Mary's Sewanee Staff holding a sign that reads, "We are not nuns"*

We are neighbors and friends of St. Mary's Sewanee, but a special friendship has developed with the staff there and our 'convent pup' Ellie. On any given day we will go over with Ellie to visit the staff and catch up with each other.

Each of our organizations relies on donations to operate, and sometimes the donations end up going to the wrong place by accident. We encourage those making donations to confirm where they intend their contribution to go. Please note this somewhere on the check.

When donations are intended to go to the Sisters and our ministries, checks must be made out to "Sisters of St. Mary", "Sisterhood of St. Mary", or "Community of St. Mary." When donations are intended to go towards



the retreat center, checks must be made out to "St. Mary's Sewanee." We appreciate your help in clearing up the confusion about our separate organizations!

**Have you considered a planned gift or leaving a bequest to the Community of St. Mary?**

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

**A Taste of Sabbatical by Sr. Madeleine Mary, CSM**

Transitions, endings, new adventures, and new beginnings: we all go through these phases of life, often more than once. A sabbatical is intended to help



*Sr. Madeleine Mary, CSM*

us process the past and give us a chance to probe the question of what might be next, while we intentionally do something that was not part of our routine job. I envisioned my 6-month sabbatical as a time when I could make my own pilgrimage to new environments, learn about new cultures, and develop new skills that I could use in Community when I returned. I learned far more than I bargained for. Just planning the trip and making the arrangements, while also organizing a smooth transition within the Community, were my first challenges. Climate disasters, dictatorships, diseases, sickness, and COVID all forced me to change plans throughout my preparations before my sabbatical and during my journey. I learned more than I anticipated

about how far-reaching climate change and the war in Ukraine effected travel safety, resources, food and gas expenses, and the displacement of people. Dealing with different currencies, coping with credit card problems, GPS and telephone service challenges, and managing different weather patterns, local customs and cultural norms all became part of my sabbatical curriculum. Life was not always restful or smooth, but if given the chance, I would do it all again-with modifications. This sabbatical was the second one that I have taken in my life; the attacks of 9-11 occurred during the first one. So, you see, life changes so rapidly these days, that we really can't know or plan for a stable six-month trip, involving multiple countries.



*Camino on fire*



*Maui*

I gave up my original plans to walk part of the Camino de Santiago, visit temples in Thailand, and travel through some of the Baltic countries even before I left the States. Instead, I traveled to Maui -before Lahaina caught on fire, journeyed the North and South parts of New Zealand- after Cyclone Gabrielle devastated various parts of the country, flew to Greece -before it had wildfires and flooding, then to Norway-before Storm Hans-

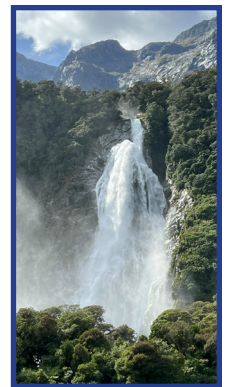


*Borgund State Church in Oslo, Norway*

and then spent some time in Germany and Switzerland revisiting friends and places that I had previously known -before summer heat peaks and extreme rainfall- hit them both. (Anyone who doubts the reality of climate change should just take a long trip abroad.)

I continued to visit some friends and family upon my return to the States, while I also experienced some of the wonders of in the USA for my last two months.

Given all the challenges, it is amazing to remember how wonderful my sabbatical really was. The earth is amazingly beautiful despite our sometimes poor care. So many times, I was in awe of the magnificent beauty right in front of me.



*Waterfall along the Milford Sound in New Zealand*



*Haleakala Crater in Hawaii*

The Moonscapes of Haleakala Crater were otherworldly and reminded me, by my shortness of breath, of their majestic attitude 10,000 feet up. New Zealand's winds, their dramatic, glacier-carved fiords, their roads under constant reconstruction, and their friendly locals, always ready to help a lost tourist,



*Sr. Madeleine Mary at the Milford Sound in New Zealand*

reminded me of our partnership with the earth and with each other.

The magnificent mosaics and icons, plus the ancient ruins being restored in Greece, impressed me with how human efforts can help us learn from our past and root us in faith that has endured centuries of struggle.



*The Acropolis in Greece*

It is impossible for me to condense my sabbatical into a small article, so I'm not even going to try. As Bonnie Thurston told me, "I will be processing the events of my journey for years to come." However, if you would like to hear more, you might consider attending our next June retreat when I will be sharing reflections from this context. At this point, I'm considering the title: "Exploring the Earth and Encountering God." Maybe I'll see you there.

### Sr. Hannah Shares News from CSM

As I've reflected on all that has happened since our last newsletter, the recurring theme is one of remembrance. Anglican



*Sr. Hannah, CSM*

Benedictine Oblate Esther de Waal once wrote: "We are living stones carrying the past into the future." Those words could not be more true when it comes to the life, work, and ministry of our Community. I'd like to share with you the ways that we have spent time looking back and reconnecting with our history; the ways we have embraced it and carried it with us into our present and future.

First, in the not so far back history of the end of July, we ended our summer with a celebration of remembrance of all of the hard work of our three summer interns: Annalise Eiffert, Ryan Clinton, and Charlie Bond.

A few days after that, we welcomed home Sr. Madeleine Mary after being away for six months on sabbatical. We enjoyed seeing the items she had brought home from her travels and getting to see some of the photos from her experiences. It was the beginning of her recalling her stories of her travel remembrances. As she mentioned, she will continue to process the memories of her sabbatical for quite some time.

We reached back to a tradition from our past when we invited the new Vice-Chancellor of the University of the South, Dr. Rob Pearigen, for a visit and tour of our convent and grounds near the end of August. If you are not familiar with our history, the very first Vice-Chancellor of Sewanee, the Rt. Rev. Charles Todd Quintard, was a childhood friend of our foundress, Mother Harriet Starr Cannon. It was at the invitation of Bishop Quintard



*Sr. Hannah, Dr. Rob Pearigen, Sr. Elizabeth, and Sr. Madeleine Mary*

in 1871 that Mother Harriet first sent Sisters to Tennessee to work. This meeting continues the longstanding tradition we have of friendship and mutual support between our Community and the Vice-Chancellor. We also extended the invitation to meet the relatively new Chancellor of the University of the South, the Rt. Rev. Jake Owensby, and his wife Joy for a tour and visit. They enjoyed learning about our Community and want to support us as much as they can.

Bishop Quintard was also the second bishop of the Diocese of Tennessee.

We continue our history of working in the diocese in many ways. In July, I preached at Trinity Episcopal Church in Winchester, one of the STEM (Southeastern TN Episcopal Ministries) churches within the diocese. It was my third invitation to preach there. In August, Sr. Elizabeth preached at another institution within the diocese, St. Andrew's Sewanee School. Their head chaplain, Mother Molly Short, has invited us all to preach there multiple times over the years.

We also continued the history of working in the diocese by starting to host the monthly Deacon School for the Diocese of Tennessee led by our Oblate, the Venerable Roger Saterstrom, and the Rev. Betty Carpenter. This allows deacons in training to worship with us, have meals with us, and use our convent library for classes. This forms the next generation of deacons to know about the value of Episcopal monasticism, especially our Community's work and ministry. During the October monthly Deacon School meeting, the Rt. Rev. John Bauerschmidt came for his annual visitation. He has been our bishop visitor for the past 17 years. He was able to stay for lunch with the Sisters, Deacon School participants, and our long-term interns David Paddon and Stephanie Peramas. It was a time for connection making conversations.



*Sr. Felicity, Sr. Madeleine Mary, David Paddon, Stephanie Peramas, Sr. Elizabeth, Sr. Hannah, and the Rt. Rev. John Bauerschmidt at his annual visitation*

We continued to carry the past into the future as we participated in the Martyrs of Memphis weekend. The



Friday night dinner for Associates and friends enabled us to reconnect with people we had not seen for over three years. On Saturday, I participated as a reader in the Celebration of Remembrance and Renewal service at St. Mary's Cathedral in Memphis. Over 400 people were present as the cathedral recalled its long and detailed history of work and service. It culminated with the rededication of their chapel roof which had been worn down and damaged over the years. My role was to represent the Community in the cathedral's history and read the parts of the service that brought forth the voices of our Sisters who served there in the 1870s. It was a beautiful way to retell the past to make the present more meaningful.



*Sr. Hannah speaking to the Lower School Girls before the Founders Day service at St. Mary's Episcopal School for Girls in Memphis*

I was invited by Head of School, Albert Throckmorton, to be the speaker for Founders' Day at St. Mary's Episcopal School for Girls in Memphis which was held on September 12th. Founders' Day honors those who brought St. Mary's into being and gives recognition to those who played a key role in fostering its growth over time. The person being honored by the school this year was Sr. Hughetta Snowden, the only Sister of our Community to survive the yellow fever epidemic of 1878. Sr. Hughetta assisted in the running of the school from 1873-1902. Some of the Snowden family members were present for the event, including our Associate Carol Snowden Morris. The Rev. Miranda Cully, Head Chaplain of the school, is also an Associate of our Community, and was the point of contact for this speaking idea to come to fruition. I

also had the opportunity to speak to the Lower School girls earlier in the day about our Community and ministries. Now all 700 school girls at St. Mary's in Memphis know about our Community's past and current ministries.

In October, we participated in two different remembrances of Indigenous peoples. Sr. Madeleine Mary and I participated in the Indigenous Peoples' Day observance on campus at Sewanee on October 9th. We both walked the native labyrinths that were on display. Later on in the month, on October 28th, Sr. Felicity and I - along with our long-term interns Stephanie and David - participated in the annual Trail of Tears Commemorative Walk in Winchester, Tennessee. The event began with sacred singing and prayers in Cherokee before we started the 0.8 mile walk of the Bell Detachment. In October of 1838, 700 Cherokee were marched through this trail. It was a time for remembrance of the indigenous people who had gone before us in this place. Another part of the Trail of Tears goes alongside our convent grounds in Sewanee, so as we see the trail markers every time we drive down St. Mary's Lane. We are very aware of the stories of the Cherokee ancestors and seek out ways to honor their stories and culture.

On All Saints' Day, not only did we remember the saints who have gone before us, but we remembered the life and witness of Sr. May Grace, the last remaining Sister of our Western Province. She died on October 19th at Saint John's On The Lake senior living community in Milwaukee, Wisconsin at the age of 103. Her funeral was held on November 1st at All Saints' Cathedral in Milwaukee. I attended the service with Sr. Madeleine Mary and our Oblate, Karen DeBruler. It was a time for us to connect with our Western Associates and hear their memories of Sr. Mary Grace. She entered the Western Province of the Community of St. Mary in 1950. She made her life profession on October 2, 1952. In her early years in the convent,

she taught junior high school science and home economics. Sr. Mary Grace was elected Mother Superior of the Western Province of the Community of St. Mary in 1966 and served in that capacity until 1971. In 1971 the General Chapter of the Community of St. Mary elected Mother Mary Grace as their seventh Reverend Mother Superior General.

In 1973 she was elected to serve on the Executive Council of The Episcopal Church. She was also elected to serve as the presiding officer for the



*Sr. Mary Grace*

Conference on the Religious Life. She was the first woman to serve in either position. Later in life, she belonged to St. Matthias Episcopal Church in Waukesha, Wisconsin for many years. Our Sisters here have the following



*Sr. Mary Grace at her 102nd birthday celebration*

memories to share: "She was an embodiment of her name; she gave her "yes" to God without reserve and she was a bearer of grace to all whom she met. Vivacious,

with a mischievous twinkle in her eye, and adventurous toward life until her new beginning. Her joy and infectious smile were seen when she did jigsaw puzzles and as she traveled throughout the world. She was an effective, wise leader among her Sisters and reflected a deep love for God and for the natural world." I am grateful that Sr. Elizabeth and Sr. Felicity went and visited her in May of this year. May Sr. Mary Grace rest in peace, and rise in glory. May we also continue to allow all of these sacred remembrances to impact and inspire our present and future.

## St. Mary's Chronicles

**July 16:** Sr. Hannah preached at Trinity Episcopal Church in Winchester, Tennessee.

**July 27:** We had a celebratory farewell party for our three summer interns: Annalise Eiffert, Ryan Clinton, and Charlie Bond.

**July 31:** Sr. Madeleine Mary returned from sabbatical.

**August 4:** We began hosting the monthly Deacon School for the Diocese of Tennessee which is led by the Venerable Roger Saterstrom and the Rev. Betty Carpenter.

**August 8:** Sr. Elizabeth led a Zoom class about Rule of Life for the Wyoming Service Corps.

**August 15:** McKenzie Wortman was received as an Associate at our convent chapel.

**August 24:** Dr. Rob Pearigen, new Vice-Chancellor of the University of the South, came by for a visit and a tour of our convent and grounds.

**August 28:** Sr. Hannah was invited by the Very Rev. Jim Turrell, Dean of the School of Theology at Sewanee, to lead the seminary quiet day at St. Mary's Sewanee retreat center.

**August 29:** We had the commissioning service of our two long-term Organic Prayer Program

interns: David Paddon and Stephanie Peramas.

**August 30:** Sr. Elizabeth preached at St. Andrew's Sewanee school.

**September 8-10:** Sr. Elizabeth and Sr. Hannah attended and participated in the Martyrs of Memphis weekend. Sr. Hannah preached on Sunday at St. Mary's Episcopal Cathedral in Memphis.

**September 12:** Sr. Hannah preached at St. Mary's Episcopal School for Girls in Memphis, with 700 students in attendance.

**September 14-16:** Sr. Hannah participated in the "Learning to Lead from the Land" three-day event at St. Mary's Sewanee retreat center. The thirty environmental leaders in attendance joined us for a tour on Friday morning and for Compline on Friday evening. Sr. Hannah preached on Saturday at their closing Eucharist at St. Mary's Sewanee retreat center.

**October 9:** Sr. Madeleine Mary and Sr. Hannah participated in the Indigenous Peoples' Day observance on campus at Sewanee.

**October 14:** Our bishop visitor, the Rt. Rev. John Bauerschmidt, came for his official visitation.

**October 17:** The Rt. Rev. Jake Owensby, Chancellor of the University of the South, and

his wife Joy came to the convent for a visit and tour.

**October 19:** Sr. Mary Grace, the last remaining Sister of our Western Province, died peacefully at the age of 103 years old at Saint John's On The Lake senior living community in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

**October 28:** Sr. Hannah, Sr. Felicity, and our long-term interns Stephanie Peramas and David Paddon participated in the annual Trail of Tears Commemorative Walk in Winchester, Tennessee.

**October 30-November 3:** Sr. Madeleine Mary, Sr. Hannah, and Oblate Karen DeBruiler traveled to the funeral of Sr. Mary Grace which was held at All Saints' Cathedral in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. The Rt. Rev. Douglas Sparks, Bishop of Northern Indiana, presided and preached. He also presided over her burial service which was held later in the day at Green Ridge Cemetery in Kenosha, Wisconsin.

**November 10:** Br. Lucas Hall and Br. Lain Wilson of SSJE joined us for Evening Prayer, dinner, and Compline at the convent. They were in town for the week-long schedule of events at the University of the South.

**November 19:** Sr. Hannah preached and lead the rector's forum at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Chattanooga, Tennessee.



The Community of St. Mary  
Southern Province  
1100 St. Mary's Lane  
Sewanee, TN 37375  
Ph. 931-598-0046; Fax. 931-598-9519  
Website: [communityofstmarysouth.org](http://communityofstmarysouth.org)  
Facebook: Community of St. Mary, Southern Province  
Instagram: StMarysConvent