



Office of the Bishop

July 11, 2007
St. Benedict

My dear friends,

Just over one year ago I invited the Benedictines of Mary, Queen of Apostles to the Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph. Their mission, to pray and offer sacrifices for the holiness of priests, stirred my heart. I found a place for their growing community to live, knowing that they would want to eventually establish their home in a proper monastic setting.

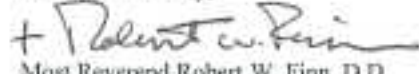
Already the holiness and joy of these nuns have caused them to become beloved of many of the faithful, here and throughout the country. Their zeal and dedication is a hope-filled sign of the New Springtime of the Church!

I am writing on their behalf as they undertake a challenging work of building a house of prayer, and a permanent home where God's mercy and grace will be constantly implored. I bless their efforts to appeal to you to help them accomplish this worthy and necessary project.

The Priory they are proposing to build will not only be a place for them to live and work. They plan to welcome priests, the apostles of today, as Our Lady did at Ephesus, providing a house for personal retreats in a serene and prayerful setting.

I am convinced that the work of the Benedictines of Mary Queen of Apostles will enrich the Church and nurture many vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life. I hope you will be able to demonstrate your esteem for this work by generously supporting their campaign.

In Christ and Mary,


Most Reverend Robert W. Finn, D.D.
Bishop of Kansas City-St. Joseph

Diocese of Kansas City - St. Joseph

300 East 36th Street • Kansas City, Missouri 64111 • M/F: 756-1850 • Bishops Fax: 316-759-2125 • info@office@dkcmissouri.org

Do you want to know the house of Ephesus, *The house of Mary*, Or are you wary?

Do you want to know the house of Ephesus, *The house of Mary*? Go there, tarry.

Then, when you come away from the house of Ephesus, *The house of Mary*, You will know that silence speaks. Though, oh, so softly speaks. Of holy tales taller Than golden mountains, And more precious, Tales which, if taken To heart, Will, *gratia Dei*, Bring You Back To Your Truest Self.

—D. Q. McNerny, Ph.D. 6-14-07 (Our philosophy professor, upon the completion of summer course).



Our property in Gower, MO, where we long to live

Priory of
Our Lady of Ephesus
1400 NE 42ND TERRACE
KANSAS CITY, MO
64116

At  Ephesus
THE BENEDICTINES OF MARY, QUEEN OF APOSTLES

SUMMER 2007

Dear Family, Friends, and Benefactors,

How could we ever adequately recount for you the tremendous graces and blessings of the last few months? Our hearts are still swelling with joy over the Clothing and Professions on the feast of Mary, Queen of Apostles. There were nineteen clerics in the sanctuary for the ceremony alone—including two bishops and an abbot—and that doesn't count the very many visiting priests and seminarians. During the Novena for Pentecost, with Our Lady, we were surrounded by many apostles awaiting the coming of the Holy Ghost.

After the many preparations for the celebrations, squeezed in between a multitude of courses, diligent studies, exams, and retreat, family and friends, we were able to have a respite in the form of a "honeymoon" at the Abbey of Ste. Marie in Quebec, with our Benedictine mothers and sisters. Our week with them culminated with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament and a joint "Suscipe" offered in the presence of our very own bishop and seminarians who had traveled to the abbey for us to join them in pilgrimage the next day to St. Joseph's Oratory, to pray for vocations to the diocese.

But still we longed to be home at our own Priory where, in silence with Mary, we might "ponder all these things in our hearts". But in between trips to O'Fallon, MO to learn embroidery for vestments by the Sisters of the Most Precious Blood, we had to tackle our very first feasibility study for the future fund-raising campaign of the monastery building project. Phone calls, blogging, visits to potential donors, envelope-stuffing parties... We are certainly begging our dear Lord to build His house of prayer quickly and securely so we can restore our monastic horarium.

Listen to the words of Fr. Lanzoni, a name familiar to our readers, who expressed so perfectly the reason why we need to get the monastery built soon:

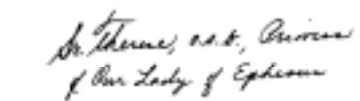
"It has been said that silence is the language of angels, who communicate with one another without sound of words. Perhaps it is even better said that silence is the language of meditative souls that continually hold converse with God. God treats us, His creatures, with great reverence (Wisdom 12:18). Therefore while we speak, He is silent. When we are still, He speaks and raises us to those supernatural thoughts and affections and heavenly colloquies, which are granted only in solitude and silence (Lam. 3:28). Now she who had clothed with human nature the Substantial Word of God—Verbum Patris—



assuredly did not care to divert herself with the talk of men, but loved to be silent, that she might converse in her heart with that Word, who, when He no longer tarried in her womb, remained in her soul... 'I will hearken to what the Lord God will say in me, for He will speak of peace' (Psalm 84:9)".

Thank you for supporting this, by generously helping to build our permanent Priory in the country, where we can pray, where we can receive in our midst the souls aspiring to join our little band gathered around Our Blessed Mother at the foot of the Cross, where we can receive the world-weary priests. May God bless you for allowing Him to make use of you for His greater honor and glory, through the strengthening and restoration of the Church in the heart of America! Remember, our First Saturday of the month Masses are always offered for our benefactors, living and deceased.

In Corde Mariae,



Sr. Therese, o.s.b.,
Prioress of Our Lady of Ephesus
and Sisters





Rev. Phil Wolfe
Rev. Fr. Christopher Henderson



Our Juridical Founders
Most Revs. James C. Timlin & Robert W. Finn



Signing the Vows on the Altar



Come, Spouse of Christ



The new novice, Sr. Grace, and her family. Missing is her older brother, serving in Iraq.



*Suscipe me, Domine . . .
Receive me, O Lord . . .*

The Ancient Benedictine Rite of
Self-offering to God



May 19th, 2007
Conception Abbey



Reception of
New Postulant



Abbot
Gregory
and Assistants



Reverend
Michel Berger,
Diocese of
Avignon, France



Showing the Signed Profession
Chart to the Prelates



See more at
www.benedictinesofmary.org



Public Profession of Vows of
Mother Prioress

May 18th, 2007 - Diocesan Shrine of Divine Mercy