

Priory of Our
Lady of Ephesus
GOWER, MO 64454

At Ephesus

SUMMER 2018

The corn is as high as an elephant's eye!

It is with great joy that we share our news with you! A distinguished Monsignor from the Pontifical Commission *Ecclesia Dei* announced last month that we "will no longer have a Mother Prioress... because we will have a Mother Abbess!!!" We were all overjoyed! So this will be last time you receive a newsletter from the Priory of Our Lady of Ephesus, because next time you

will hear from Mother Abbess Cecilia of Our Lady of Ephesus *Abbey*! Mother's consecration will take place the day after the dedication of the monastic church. We ask your prayers in a special way for Mother Cecilia, who spiritually prepares for her ceremony amidst much material preparation. She has courageously seen through the monumental task of construction of our church, made possible thanks to the generosity of all of you, our dear benefactors and friends! Now we hope to prepare also our souls for this tremendous grace awaiting all of us in this double blessing.



Sr. Wilhelmina "brought the house down" with her spirituals amidst an impromptu bluegrass concert following the first Masses of Fathers Adams and Cunningham.

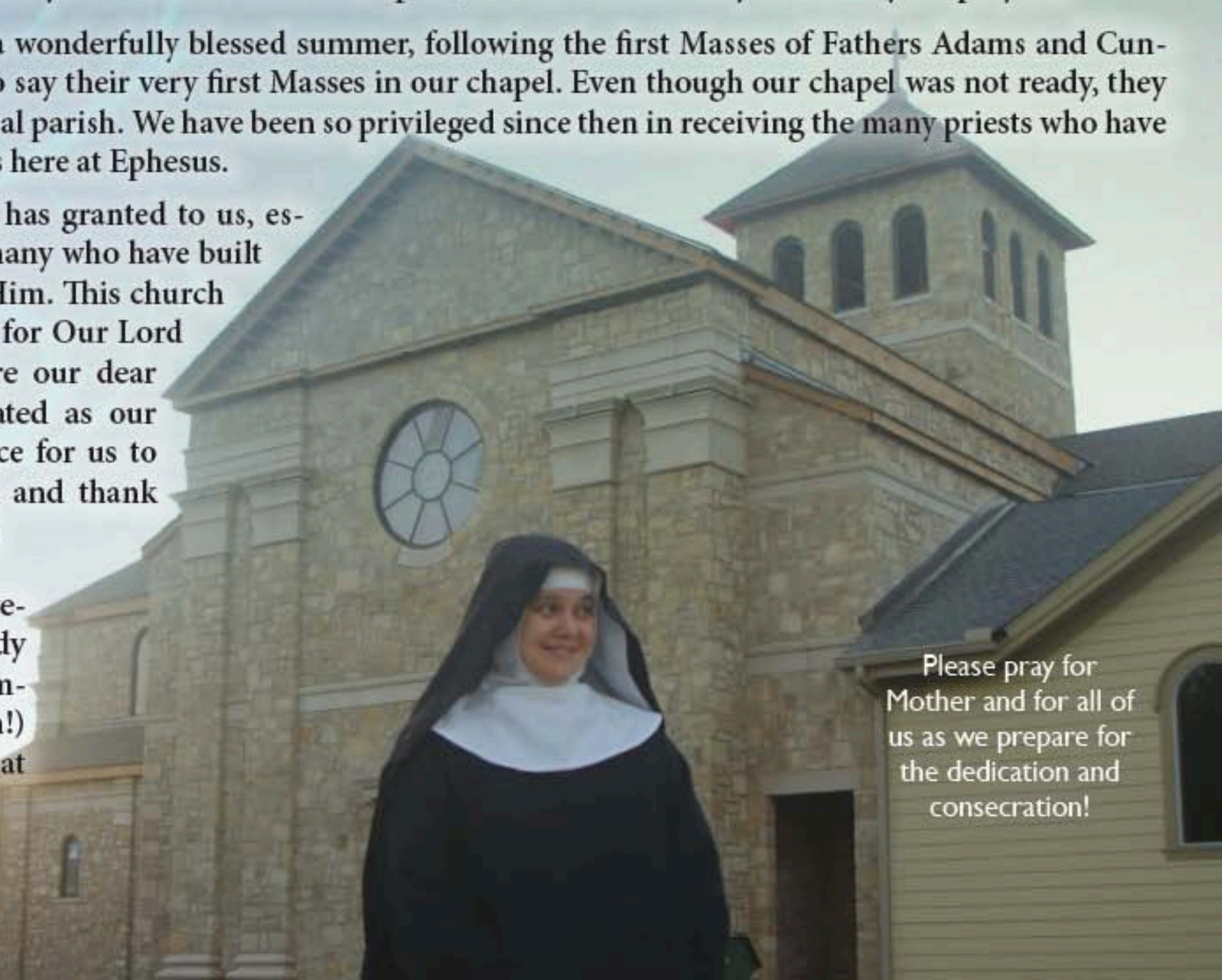
We believe this will be the very first consecration of a Benedictine Abbess in the old rite in American history. Since our space is quite limited, these ceremonies will be livestreamed through the graciousness of Conception Abbey. The web address is: www.conceptionabbey.org/live. The dedication of the abbatial church of Our Lady, Queen of Apostles will begin at 9:00 am CST on September 9. Mother's consecration with the First Profession of Sr. Anne Marie of Our Lady, Star of the Sea and Sr. M. Agatha of the Sacred Heart, and Investiture of Postulants Sr. Anna Margaret, Sr. Julia, Sr. Catherine and Sr. Maria will take place at 10:00 am CST on September 10. We know you will all be with us in spirit, and we will certainly count on your prayers!

All this has been icing on the cake of a wonderfully blessed summer, following the first Masses of Fathers Adams and Cunningham, FSSP, who years ago asked to say their very first Masses in our chapel. Even though our chapel was not ready, they came all the same to say Mass at our local parish. We have been so privileged since then in receiving the many priests who have come to offer first Masses and blessings here at Ephesus.

Please thank the good God for all He has granted to us, especially through the generosity of so many who have built this beautiful house for Him. This church will be a glorious temple for Our Lord to dwell, the place where our dear Mother will be consecrated as our first Abbess, and the place for us to sing His praises all days and thank the good God for all you!

P.S. Don't forget our Novena of Masses for Our Lady of Sorrows begins September 15 (in our new church!) Enroll family and friends at benedictinesofmary.org

Please pray for Mother and for all of us as we prepare for the dedication and consecration!

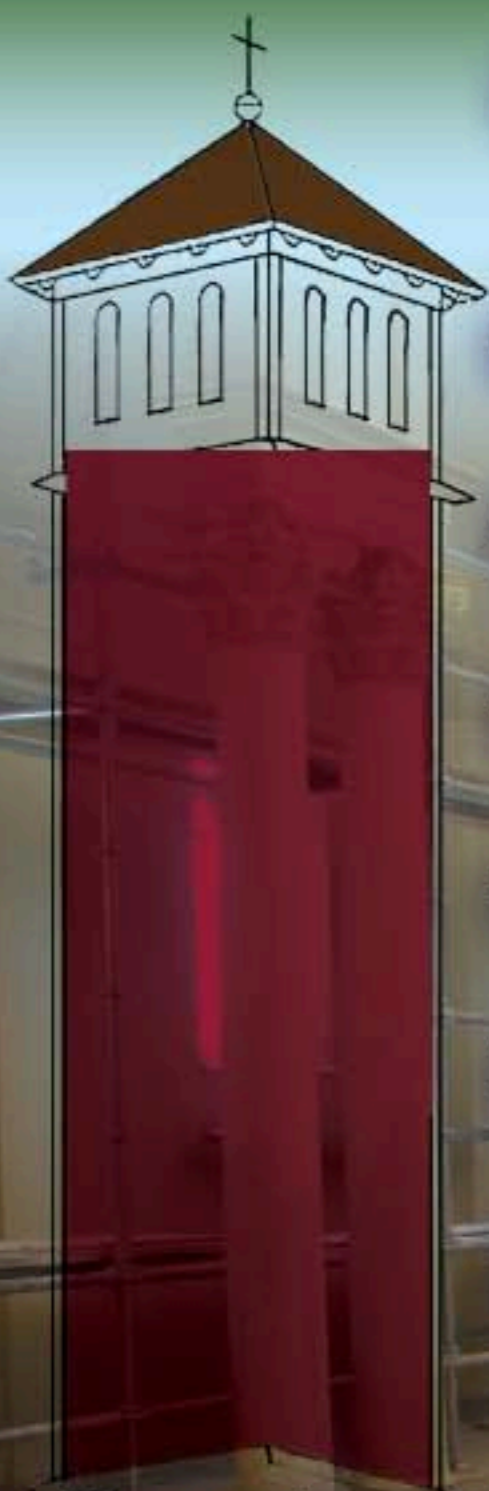




What we've been "up" to: stenciling the arcades and ceiling bosses, painting architraves and capitals before the scaffolding came down.



Final Church Preparations



6 Million

5 Million

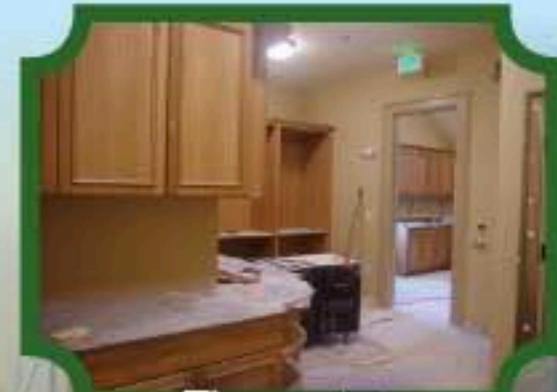
4 Million

3 Million

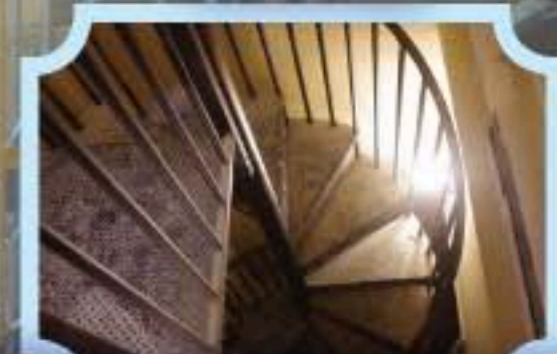
2 Million

1 Million

In order to cut down on costs, the Sisters have been going in to clean the church when the workers leave, in preparation for the next step. The clouds of dust that were swept up gave us an idea of what the church will look like when incense will billow from the thurible!



The sacristy



Circular stairs to the basement from the choir

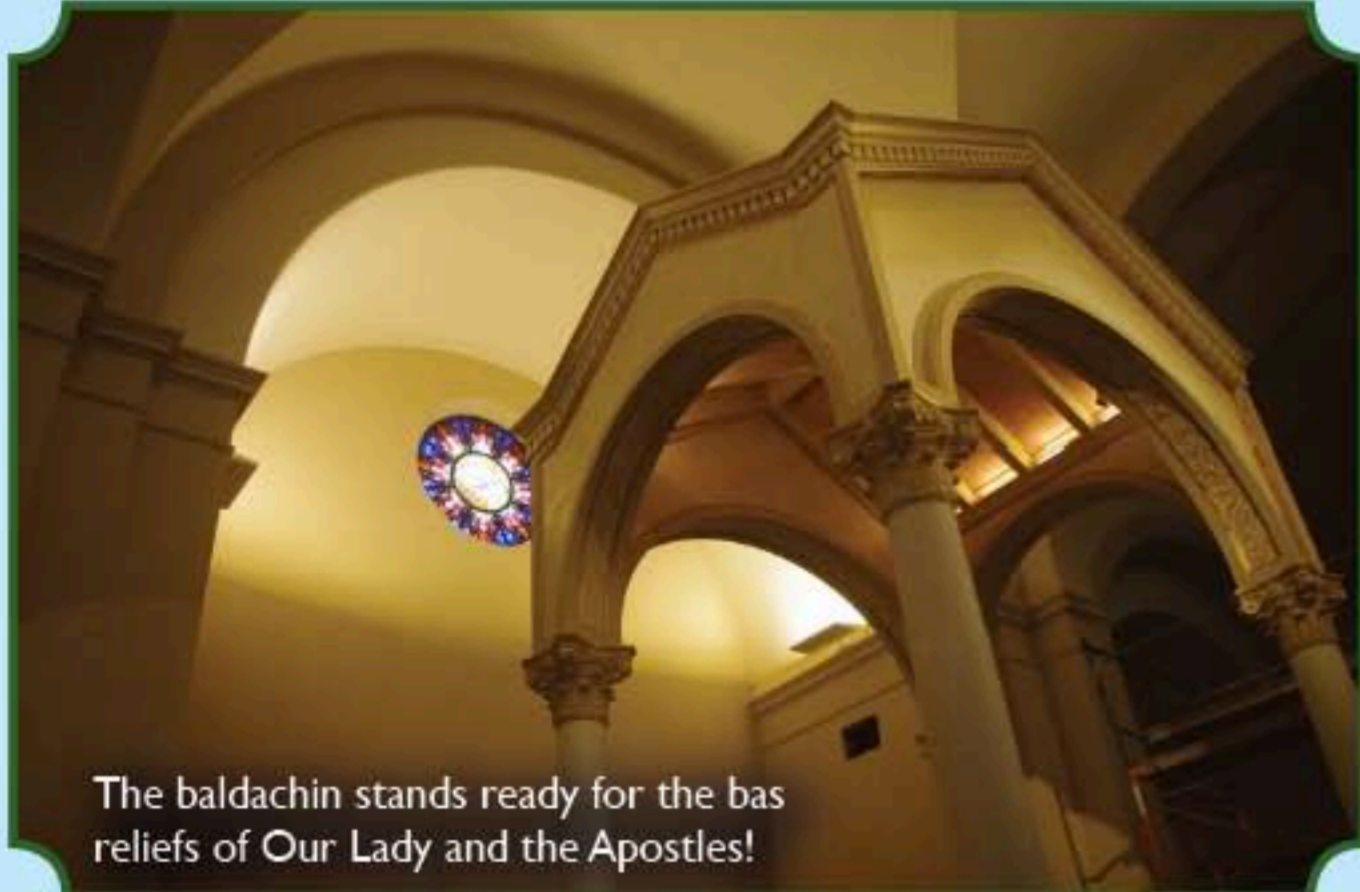


The nearly completed cloister

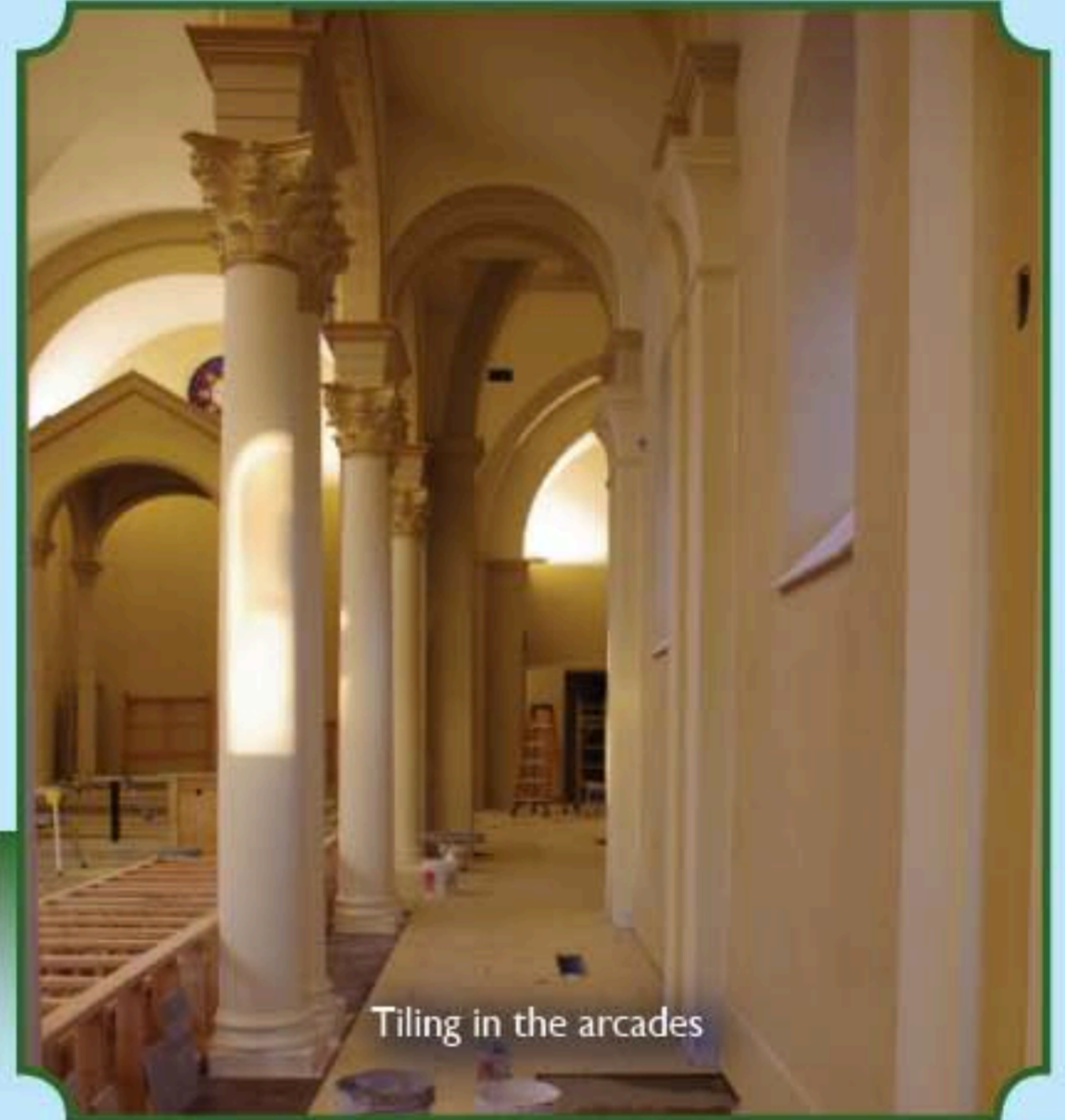
We are nearing our goal! Any donations given between now and our dedication will be listed on St. Joseph's plaque or Book of Benefactors.



On July 22, everyone joined the painting Sisters to chant the Office of Compline for the first time in our new church - scaffolding and all!



The baldachin stands ready for the bas reliefs of Our Lady and the Apostles!



Tiling in the arcades

Thank you all!



Installation of choir stalls begins!

BENEDICTINES OF MARY, QUEEN OF APOSTLES
Priory of Our Lady of Ephesus
8005 NW 316th Street
Gower, MO 64454

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*Prayer is
powerful
beyond
limits
when we
turn to
the*



*Immaculata,
who is queen
even of
God's
heart.
~Saint
Maximilian
Kolbe*