



The Hawaiʻian Benedictine

Newsletter of the:
Benedictine Monastery of Hawaii

With the canonical title of:
Mary, Spouse of the Holy Spirit Monastery

Summer 2013

Issue #115

Pope Francis

My dad who died some years ago, was named Thomas Francis...so I, being the first child, was named Geraldine Francis! I hated being named for two men Gerald and Francis. So I insisted on being called Gerry. It worked except in Catholic school...always "Geraldine".

Some years ago, dear friends took me to Assisi in Italy and Francis took on a new admiration. I knelt by his tomb and asked him to help me be a better person of service, kindness and love. Now we have a new Pope who is commissioned to do just that.

Jorge Mario Bergoglio was born December 17, 1936 to an Italian father and a mother from Argentina who was of Italian ancestry. He is our 266th Pope who has expressed his love and care for our Benedict XVI who resigned. How beautiful to see Francis select the lower chair while visiting Benedict. Two truly humble Servants of God!

Jorge attended a technical secondary school as a chemical technician. At the age of 21 he decided to enter the Society of Jesus (Jesuits) in March of 1958. He was ordained in 1969. He was eventually promoted to serve as the provincial for the Jesuits of Argentina from 1973-1979. In time he was named the Auxiliary Bishop of Buenos Aires and eventually Bishop. In 2001, he was appointed Cardinal by John Paul II and appointed to five administrative positions in the Roman Curia.

This is our new Pope...a man who is open to communion and dialogue. Here is a man who became known for personal humility, doctrinal conservatism and a strong commitment to social justice. Here is a man who values simplicity, lived in a small apartment, cooked his own meals, and used public transportation. Here is a man of Christ Jesus.

In the last Conclave he was elected to take over the heavy duties of Benedict XVI. He is the first Pope from the Western Hemisphere. The morning he walked out to the balcony to meet his people, he asked first that the congregation bless him before he blessed them. He is a man

of others...of the poor...of the physically and mentally disabled, of those judged. Was not Christ the same?

Francis values life and marriage between a man and a woman. He is a man who respects all religions including the men and women of Judaism. He is a friend to the Islamic community and promotes dialogue. In 2010, he said to the wealthy of Buenos Aires, "You avoid taking into account the poor. We have no right to duck down to lower the arms of those who are in despair. We must reclaim the memory of our country who has a mother, recover the memory of our Mother."

Francis is our Pope. He has taken the name of the joyous Francis of Assisi who was asked by God to "rebuild my Church." How blest we are! Francis, the follower of Ignatius of Loyola and Francis Xavier. He is a man of higher education, yet who does not lord his position over others.

I have already sent for newly published books on the biography of Francis our Pope. Holy cards on order for our Monastery book store. Let us pray daily for him and his predecessor. Let us thank God for the power of the Holy Spirit in guiding Pope Francis. -Gerry Keirnan





ON MY MIND

Dear Friends,

Yesterday, July 11, was a grand celebration of the Solemnity of St. Benedict on which we inaugurated our new canonical status as a Catholic Public Association of the Faithful of Diocesan Right, in the Diocese of Honolulu, in the Benedictine tradition. Bishop Larry Silva presided at a solemn Mass that included the installation of myself as the "Prior" for a new 4 year term and the renewal of monastic profession of our six permanent members. We were blessed by the presence of over 175 of our Oblates and friends from BCC, home school families and many other connections.

Fr. Tim Ottman, who has recently settled into a care home in Waialua, just a couple of miles from the monastery, remains an Olivetan monk and has permission to remain with us. Fr. Tim was able to join us for the day and receive special recognition from Bishop Larry. Br. Greg Foret is settling into his new Olivetan community at Mother of the Redeemer Monastery in Louisiana.

We continue to adjust: Sr. GERALYN is doing the ordo, Sr. CC will be our representative to HCCRS, Daisy is covering the computer bookkeeping, Ted is helping with the newsletter layout, and Lucy and Lyn are doing updates to the mailing list and Mass cards. John is spending 3 days a week with us to help with lawn maintenance and we have volunteers coming in July and August for a few weeks each to help out wherever they can.

I would invite your comments and



Above: The Benedictine Community is gathered with Bishop Larry Silva as he presides over the installation of Fr. David for a new term as Prior and for the renewal of each members' vows.

Below: Some of the crowd of friends who gathered with us to celebrate the July 11 solemnity of St. Benedict and our "new beginnings."



reflections on the changes in our newsletter or things you would like to see. We hope to provide more info on our transition and life in general on our web site: www.hawaiibenedictines.org The name Benedictine Monastery of Hawaii remains the valid legal title for the monastery, while Mary, Spouse of the Holy Spirit Monastery will be an additional legal title once the application is

approved--very soon we hope-- and will be the canonical title we will use for the monastery. We hope you will share our excitement and hope for the future as we pray for new vocations and the grace to continue to promote the Lord's kingdom here in Hawaii by our Benedictine monastic life and our ministries.

You are in our prayers,
Fr. David

LITURGICAL TIME!

It seems that yesterday we were ending Lent...at least to me! Then we celebrated the Triduum with our RCIA candidates and the Easter weeks began rolling by...

April 6th: Sr. Mary Jo's Jubilee of Religious Life at the Co-Cathedral of St. Therese in Honolulu. A multitude of Basic Christian Community members and Benedictines let out a big cheer when her name was called. *"The good person out of the treasure of the heart produces good..."*

St. Luke

April 11th: Father Michael celebrates his 88th birthday with Mass, an afternoon of Cribbage and a great meal at Cafe Olive. *"This is my beloved son in whom I am well pleased..."*

St. Luke

May 5th: Sixth Sunday of Easter...Oblate Sunday...a sizable group to listen to a talk on Our Lady. *"My past, O Lord, to your mercy; my present, to your love; my future, to your providence!"*

St. Padre Pio

May 9th: The Ascension of the Lord...perhaps a bitter-sweet moment for all, as He leaves us standing with our mouths open and the promise that He will always be with us. *"Then He led them out as far as Bethany, and lifting up His hands, He blessed them...and withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven..."*

St. Luke

May 10th: Memorial of St. Damien Joseph De Veuster of Molokai. We spent an evening at the cathedral of Our Lady of

Peace, where St. Damien was ordained a priest. We now celebrate two saints...Fr. Damien and St. Marianne Cope...both cared for those on Molokai. *"My greatest pleasure is to serve the Lord in his poor children rejected*

by other people. I make myself a leper with the lepers to gain all to Jesus Christ."

St. Damien

May 13th: Feast of Our Lady of Fatima...

Pope John Paul II was devoted to Our Lady who saved his life after being shot in the Vatican courtyard. He placed the bullet inside her crown. *"If you knew how much I loved you, you would cry of joy."*

Our Lady of Medugorje

May 19th: Pentecost Sunday: Beautiful Mass, much delight in the Spouse of Mary. Last day of the BCC retreat and the Spirit came in joy upon the recipients. Current News Headlines: Twenty-two little ones shot to death in Newtown, CT, ex-

plosion in West, TX fertilizer plant, bombing at Boston marathon, Oklahoma suffers severe tornados in evening. *"Christ has no body now on earth but yours, no feet but yours; yours are the eyes through which Christ's compassion looks out on the world, yours are the feet which he is to go about doing good and yours are the hands with which He is to bless us now."*

St. Teresa of Avila

May 26th: Trinity Sunday...Do you remember a priest showing you a shamrock with three leaves or lighting three candles from one to give you a vision of the Trinity? I do. *"O Trinity, eternal Trinity! Fire, abyss of love...Was it necessary that you should give even the Holy Trinity as food for souls?...You gave us not only your Word through the redemption and in the Eucharist, but you also gave yourself in the fullness of love for your creatures."*

St. Catherine of Siena

May 31st: Feast of the Visitation: Women need other women to talk to...either mothers or grannies or older sisters...they know how you feel. Mary was pregnant with the child of God. Who could she turn to? Elizabeth...of course. *"Lord, help me to imitate Mary's deep humility, lively faith, blind obedience, unceasing prayer, constant self denial, surpassing purity, ardent love, heroic patience, angelic kindness and heavenly wisdom. Amen."*

St. Louis De Montfort

June 2nd: Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ: I loved this feast as a child...

I got to wear my First Communion dress and veil. I got to process around the church dropping flower pedals in front of Jesus! It seems another little girl felt the same... *"How I loved the feasts! I especially loved the processions in honor of the Blessed Sacrament.*

What a joy it was for me to throw

flowers beneath the feet of God! I was never so happy as when I saw my roses touch the most sacred Monstrance."

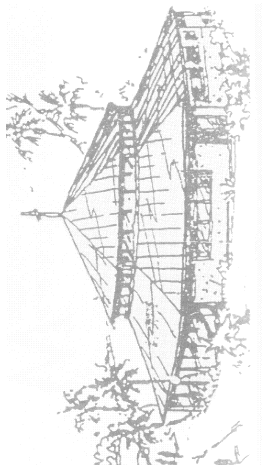
St. Therese of Lisieux

June 9th: 10th Sunday of Ordinary Time:

Back to ordinary time? Guess ordinary is not always ordinary. Sr. Geralyn is now visiting her family. Her favorite Saint will be waiting for her with this beautiful message - *"Prayer is powerful beyond limits when we turn to the Immaculata who is Queen of Heaven."* St. Maximillian Kolbe, Priest and Martyr of the Holocaust. Also, Birthday of Fr. David, our Beloved Superior and man of Compassion and Prayer!

GK

Benedictine Monastery of Hawaii
Under the patronage of
Mary, Spouse of the Holy Spirit
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CALENDAR

July

- 16 St. Joseph's parish and school staff retreat.
- 18 Catholic home school program with children, students and parents.
- 20 World Youth Day Sr. C.C. departs with Bishop Larry and group of 25 youth for Rio De Janeiro, Brazil.
- 20 BCC workday.

August

- 1 World Youth Day group returns.
- 3 Blessing of new bell tower & picnic with first Saturday volunteers and their families.
- 4 Oblate Day at monastery 2-6pm. Pot-luck supper. Novice class begins at 1 PM. Sr. C.C. shares about World Youth Day.
- 17 BCC team here for pre-retreat. 8:30AM Mass
- 23-25 BCC Young Adult/Adult retreat at Saint Anthony's. For information call Sr. Mary Jo 285-0254.
- 24 Our Lady of Sorrows Catechists retreat day
- 26-Sep 13 Sr. Ann on vacation
- 28 BCC Thanksgiving Mass 6:30pm St. Anthony's
- 31 St John's Mililani Catechists retreat.

September

- 1 Oblate Day at monastery 2-6pm. Pot-luck supper. Novice class begins at 1pm. Spkr: B. Zimbira.
- 16-Oct 14 Fr. Michael on vacation
- 17 BCC Board Meeting 7:30pm St. Anthony Ret Ctr

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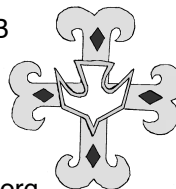
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FROM THE DAILY LOG:

MS- Fr. Michael Sawyer

TO- Fr. Tim Ottman

DB- Fr. David Barfknecht

MJ- Sr. Mary Jo McEnany

AC- Sr. Ann Cic

GS- Sr. Geralyn Spaulding

CC- Sr. Celeste Cabral

Feb 18: CC and GS participate in Diocesan Run for Vocations, part of the President's Day Great Aloha Run.

Feb 22: MJ begins Youth BCC Retreat.

March 2: DB and ROTL work crew raise the bell onto the new bell tower. CC on Kauai for Diocesan Leadership Conf. for Youth and Young Adult Ministry (YYAM).

March 8: DB, MS, MJ, AC, GS attend Lenten Reconciliation Service at St. John's in Mililani, Bishop Larry presides. CC speaks on Maui at Our Lady Queen of Angels in Kula for YYAM Leadership Retreat.

March 9: GS coordinates witnesses speaking on post abortion healing to St. Michael's Youth Retreat at Camp Mokuleia. CC speaks at the YYAM Leadership Retreat at Mountain View, on the Big Island.

March 10: MS and MJ conduct Retreat for Hickam AFB – RCIA group. CC speaks at St. Theresa's on Maui.

March 14: CC gives Catholic Homeschool Families Retreat Day at monastery.

March 16: CC welcomes to the monastery the 1st Leadership Retreat for YYAM on Oahu. 70 attend.

April 6: MJ, MS, DB, AC, CC, Marie Barfknecht attend Sr. MJ's 60th Anniversary of religious vows at Diocesan Jubilarian celebration At St. Theresa's Co-Cathedral. GF and GS lead the Eucharistic Ministers from St. John's Mililani on Retreat at monastery.

April 26: GS begins Rachels Vineyard Retreat.

May 5: DB receives 4 new Oblate novices into Final Oblation on Oblate Sunday.

May 10: MS, MJ, DB, CC, AC – attend St. Damien Feast Day Mass with Bishop Larry at the Cathedral of Our Lady of Peace.

May 25: GS shares music and her calling to religious life at Bayboro House (Bruderhof) in St. Petersburg, FL while on home visit.

June 10: Fr. Bill Petrie, SSCC gives community 3-day retreat to prepare for election of superior and July 11th.

June 13: DB elected Prior of the community for 4 year term. Fr. Gary Secor officiates for Bishop Larry.

June 15: MS speaks on "Fraternity" to St. John's Knights of Columbus here. CC, MJ, AC, GS attend Home School graduation Mass & dance at O.L. Mt. Carmel.

July 6: CC in "dunking booth" for YYAM - Exodus Games - at Sacred Hearts Academy. AC & GA attend.

July 9: CC speaks to 40 youth at Kamiano Center, Our Lady of Peace Cathedral.