



# BENEDICTINE TOUCHSTONE



Spring 2013

Benedictine Nuns • St. Emma Monastery • 1001 Harvey Avenue • Greensburg, PA 15601

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*He bore our wounds,  
was afflicted for our sins.*

# Prioress' Reflection

By Mother Mary Anne Noll OSB



## Lent in the Year of Faith

For most of my monastic life, I have found St. Benedict's observation that a monk's life should always be a Lenten observance "off-putting and disconcerting." Perhaps it should be! But what did Benedict mean?

In Chapter 49 "On the Observance of Lent," St. Benedict says that since none of us seem capable of always living our best as Christians, at least during these 40 days we should strive to live as we ought. St. Benedict recommends reading, silence, prayer, and greater attentiveness to what we should do in order to re-calibrate our practice of Christianity. How have we sloughed off, side-stepped, and generally become casual and lazy in our Christian attitudes and behavior, in our good resolutions to be more prayerful and charitable?

What about this Lent that occurs during the Year of Faith? Will our hearts be different at the end of this Lent or at the end of this Year of Faith or will they just be older? What is Pope Benedict hoping to awaken in us, the Church?

Faith is our relationship with God. Faith, our spiritual insight, deals with meaning and purpose, our thoughts and our behavior. In our contemporary world, it is easy to become cynical as we look at governments, businesses, and sometimes, the human face of the church—whether in leadership or in the pew or in politicians.

Our Flea Market often receives toys that children outgrew, that are no longer age appropriate. Does this not sometimes happen to our faith? We grow up, assume the responsibilities and complexities of having our own families, of being employees or employers. We live in a world where success (even at any price) matters and traditional family and religious values are too often scorned.

And our faith understanding? Is it age appropriate to an adult or to that of an 11 year old when we last went to CCD? If our faith does not continue to grow and

deepen as we grow, one day it will be found on the same shelf as other toys that interested us as kids. We will be adrift, scattered as "sheep without a shepherd," chasing the whirlwind of approval from every sector and of satisfaction from materialism—and be befuddled why these promises prove to be hollow!

Obesity receives a lot of attention not only referring to what people eat but how little exercise they get. Many adult "Catholics" are undernourished and weak in their faith due to lack of nourishment for their faith and lack of wonderful faith "exercises."

Perhaps we should also ask if our faith suffers from obesity stemming from too many "spiritual junk foods" and lack of spiritual exercises? Have we eaten too much of "Everybody Does It" sugar-coated flakes or "the Church Really Needs to Get Up to Date" bars with large amounts of the bad cholesterol?

Is our heart healthy? Or does the spiritual plaque of complacent Catholicism block our veins? Do we experience spiritual angina from the angers and resentments that we nourish? Do our hearts and minds bend and open? Do we do a daily regimen to make our hearts more like Christ?

Are we the Catholic version of "Spiritual Couch Potatoes"? Do we absorb whatever the politically correct media has to say about our faith and spiritual leaders?

How can we exercise our beliefs? By "stretching" to get a good religious book off our shelf? By "walking" the Stations of the Cross? By "going" to Mass every day? By "pushing" the OFF button on the TV or I-Phone. By "training" the tongue to give up all vulgar and offensive remarks and "put-downs."

Now enter the popular "Curves" exercise clubs for women! The following quote caught my attention: 'Curves has helped millions of women get healthier... But we've always known that the best solution for weight loss requires a complete approach... That's why Curves has introduced Curves Complete - a complete

program with exercise, diet, and coaching - all in one program, and all at one place.' Perhaps we can learn from Curves. If we join two of these half circles together, they form a halo, the traditional sign indicating holiness, of living in the image and likeness of God, the result of following Jesus.

So I remind you of Living the Halo—our Faith Alive and Formative. Living a holy life—sounds just a bit too pious, doesn't it? Yet is this not one of the marks of the Church? Are we called just to be good humanitarian-types? Is this all Jesus called us to be?

I use the word "remind" rather than "form" because we as church are already such a community baptized into Christ and called to a new life, a life of holiness. The Church always offers us "a complete course" and Lent is a refresher course of letting Christ form us after His own heart. Lent invites us to a spiritual diet, spiritual exercises to help us grow nearer to Christ within the community of the Church.

Combining place, food (spiritual nurture), spiritual exercises and coaching all in one place happens within a parish and, in a special way when one makes a retreat! Our church is rich and wise.

The centerfold of this *Touchstone* shares reflections from retreatants who have participated in our various retreats. The schedule of our regular retreats includes Mass, conferences, the Sacrament of Reconciliation, Holy Hour, and personal, reflective time. The silent retreat offers the same elements mentioned above but within the ambiance of the beautiful, pregnant, sacred silence that so enhances encounter with God and prayer. All retreats contain the complete program that Curves recommend and are special experiences of Living the Halo.

May this Lent in this Year of Faith bring us to a deeper understanding of God's love for us in Jesus. May our Lenten experience prepare us to renew our Baptismal Vows during the Easter Vigil or the Easter Sunday Mass in a more practical, meaningful way. Holy Lent!

Mother Mary Anne Noll, OSB

## From the Crib to the Cross—and Ultimately, to the Resurrection!

By Rev. Steve Grunow

Based on *Word on Fire, Catholic Ministries*

*“The fact is that the connection between Christ’s birth and his death is an inescapable consequence of the Incarnation... the wood of the stable foreshadows the wood of the cross and the swaddling clothes represent his burial shroud.”*

As I write this reflection, the feast of Epiphany lies before us, the monastery, B&B, and retreat dining room are all still decorated for Christmas and the St. Benedict Conference Room features over 130 Creches. God has provided a “winter wonderland” and Jack Frost is nipping at our nose with the thermometer at 12 degrees this morning. When you read this, Lent will just be upon us and Christmas will seem long past.

### Regis Cherry: A Good and Faithful Servant

In our Fall issue of the *Touchstone*, we featured our volunteers and asked prayers for Regis Cherry, Wall, PA, age 64, who had volunteered at St. Emma’s every Saturday for 41 years. Since his retirement, he came two days a week—unless he was needed extra!

After his devastating heart attack in February, we all rejoiced that he was the recipient of the first totally artificial heart in Western Pennsylvania. When he received a human heart only two weeks later, it seemed so providential – and so hopeful. But complications kept occurring. Except for two times in hospital rehabs, Regis was in the hospital in Cardiac Intensive Care until God finally called him home December 9, 2012.

Quiet and unassuming, Regis would have been amazed at the impact that he had on so many people’s lives. Our many volunteers speak so warmly of their interactions with Regis, how kind and considerate he always was. Each had a story that was “personal.”

His only sibling, Rev. Athanasius Cherry, OSB, St. Vincent Archabbey, Latrobe, PA observed that Regis evangelized by how he lived. The verse, “Well

So how do we share the beauty of our Christmas decorations with those of you unable to experience them personally? We include one picture here with the promise that the Winter Edition of *The Benedictine Touchstone* will feature photos of the decorations that transformed St. Emma’s into a spiritual wonderland of delight with the crèches the center of the decorations.

In the meantime, welcome to our spiritual exercise club that will help move us towards Christ and, ultimately, our Resurrection.

The fact is that the connection between Christ’s birth and his death is an inescapable consequence of the Incarnation

The best of the Christmas carols, which express not only the mystery of Christ’s holy birth, but also the total



event of the Incarnation, are remarkably devoid of the sentimentality that has become synonymous with so many songs associated with the Christmas season. In respect to their theology, these carols are often extensions of the kinds of insights that one comes across in the Fathers of the Church who were able to correlate the events of Christ’s nativity to the Paschal Mystery; the wood of the stable foreshadows the wood of the cross and the swaddling clothes represent his burial shroud. We do not arrive at the scene of Christ’s birth and discover an event that can be abstracted from the rest of his revelation – what is presented to us in Bethlehem mysteriously contains within itself the events of Golgotha. This kind of connection between the manner in which Christ comes into the world and the manner in which he leaves it can be seen in some representations of the birth of Christ in which his Mother has placed the Holy Child in a manger that looks very much like a tomb. Such imagery is likely off-putting to a culture that will brook no opposition to either its insistence on “holiday” cheerfulness or its preference for a religion that must prompt nothing in the faithful other than positive feelings. The fact is that the connection between Christ’s birth and his death is an inescapable consequence of the Incarnation and that so many of the contemporary songs of Christmas are not willing to admit or appreciate this truth is not to their credit.

Without the Cross and Christ’s death, there would be no Resurrection, no promise of eternal life.

done, good and faithful servant” kept resounding in his heart—and in ours.

In his funeral homily, Rev. Philip Kanfush OSB listed how Regis lived the Gospel:

- For 40 years Regis volunteered at St. Emma’s doing whatever was needed
- For 20 years he served in various ways in his parish of St. Michael’s, Pitcairn, and took Communion to over 20 people on Sundays
- Loved gardening, working with God, sharing the “fruits” of his labor (actually vegetables!) generously, and capturing the beauty of God in nature through his photography

Fr. Philip summed up Regis’ life, “This other-directedness is the hallmark of a true disciple; and we know that today, Regis is enjoying the reward of his discipleship, for he never shirked the yoke that Christ offered him. He lived his life simply, but with joy, for others.”

Regis, may you rest in peace! Thank you!



## The Year of Faith and Spiritual Growth

In announcing this Year of Faith, Pope Benedict XVI wrote in his Apostolic Letter *Porta Fidei*, *we want this Year to arouse in every believer the aspiration to profess the faith in fullness and with renewed conviction, with confidence and hope. It will also be a good opportunity to intensify the celebration of the faith in the liturgy, especially in the Eucharist, which is “the summit towards which the activity of the Church is directed; ... and also the source from which all its power flows.” At the same time, we make it our prayer that believers’ witness of life may grow in credibility. To rediscover the content of the faith that is professed, celebrated, lived and prayed, and to reflect on the act of faith, is a task that every believer must make his own, especially in the course of this Year.*

One wonderful way to grow in and deepen one’s faith is to take time apart on retreat. A retreat, sometimes referred to as a vacation with God, provides an opportunity to step aside from the busy-ness of everyday life, allowing space and time for one to re-focus on what is truly important and to have one’s faith re-energized by God.

Here at St. Emma we offer several different retreat opportunities:

- the traditional **preached retreats** (a priest offers conferences to the group, daily celebration of Mass, Eucharistic adoration, and opportunity for the Sacrament of Reconciliation),
- **silent preached retreats** (same as the preached retreat but in the hotbed of spiritual growth known as silence),
- **Encounter with Silence retreat** (four conferences a day welcomed in a shared pervasive silence lead Dorothy Day to describe it as hearing the Gospel for the first time),
- as well as **private (or personal) retreats** – where the time is yours to utilize as the Spirit leads you with the invitation to join us for any/some/all of *The Liturgy of the Hours* and daily Mass.

Hopefully these quotes will give you an idea of others’ experiences of retreats here at St. Emma.

You will find our retreat listing on page 8 of this newsletter. If you would like to talk to someone about retreat opportunities, we invite you to call or email your questions to [retreats@stemma.org](mailto:retreats@stemma.org). We look forward to “welcoming you home” to St. Emma for retreat.



Thank you so much for your gracious hospitality and a beautiful weekend of much needed quiet time with the Lord. It was such a pleasure to stay at your beautiful monastery. I especially appreciate the invitation for our families to

join us at the end of our retreat. I was so happy to have my children meet you, and see sisters in habits living out their vocation so joyfully! We will certainly add you to our list of prayer intentions. – **Busy Moms’ Retreatant**

My stay at St. Emma, last Wednesday through Friday morning, may have been the most blessed hours of my life. I wanted to thank you for the hospitality that was extended to me on my short and personal retreat. This includes the wonderful volunteers that I met during my short stay. In addition, the ease at which I was welcomed on such short notice to stay at the monastery was inspiring.

I came there for a spiritual “tune-up” and received a major “overhaul!” Waking for 5:30 a.m. vigil on Friday was not difficult. It was if the Holy Spirit energized me to participate in your prayers throughout my short stay. Also, I couldn’t wait to read the books that I purchased about St. Benedict, from your bookstore. I try to read and study St. Thomas of Aquinas Summa Theologica as much as possible. After my stay, St. Benedict has moved up on my reading charts as well!

There is no doubt, I will visit again. Be it a short visit for prayers, Mass or more retreat days. It re-energized me spiritually, mentally and physically. For that, I am deeply appreciative. I have placed into my daily routine, the Hours of Lauds and Compline. I will pray that the Sisters of the monastery will be safe and be able to continue to do God’s work in such divine fashion.

– **A Private Retreatant**

This is...to tell you about my experience of your wonderful household, St. Emma’s, and its lasting impression upon me. I have meant to write this letter for some time and your household quote seemed the perfect opportunity to let you and the Sisters at St. Emma’s know what a special time I had at my one and only visit to your household. I was at St. Emma’s for an 8 day intensive Centering Prayer Retreat 10+ years ago when I was living in Pittsburgh and attending the Centering Prayer Group at East Liberty Presbyterian Church. I am not Catholic, but through Centering Prayer I have had the opportunity to visit, worship with, and make retreats at various Catholic communities. I felt very welcome at St. Emma. Silent walks, times of reflection, and sitting in the Saint Walbuga Shrine were especially meaningful to me. The silence, the underlying peace (there was certainly a great deal of surface activity including one sister on a riding lawn mower!), the prayers – it all became part of me in a way that I really can’t explain and has forged a bond with your household.

I am sure that you and the sisters at St. Emma trust that visitors to your monastery receive the gifts God has for them as they are open to receive them. I just wanted to tell you what a blessing my visit was and continues to be in my life. – **A Protestant Retreatant**



Thank you so much for the peaceful place! For so long I have been looking for a spot for prayer and a bit of solitude and I've found it at St. Emma's. Hopefully my overnight stay will be the first of many. Thank you and God bless! **A Private Retreatant**

For me, retreat is a stepping out of the chaos that my life can be. It is a time to become silent and allow Jesus to encircle me with His love and rekindle my fire. For as much as I pray at home, (and I do) I so desire the stillness of knowing God and God alone. No calendars, no

phone calls, no laundry, no work to distract. Time to breathe and in breathing in a monastery – we breathe in God! There is nothing more to want. Peace, and quiet and love surrounding me.

Please take a chance and come and see. Our Lord only needs a small opening in our hearts. He loves us all! Step out of your regular life for an encounter with Jesus. You will never regret it. – **One of our Silent Retreatants**

A Silent Retreat is a precious gift that I give to myself as often as possible. As a veteran retreatant of 25 years, I realized very early how special the experience is. Without the distractions of my busy life and the “need to” socialize, I am free to “just be.” The interior quiet allows me to immerse myself completely in the awesome presence of God. Whether I am participating at Mass, the Liturgy of the Hours, receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation, receiving spiritual direction from the retreat master, or enjoying the beautiful monastery grounds, I am able to fill my heart and soul with His blessing and peace. I have been renewed and re-energized to face the challenges of my life.

– **Another of Our Silent Retreatants**

When preparing for a retreat, I often think of my soul as a garden that needs to be tended.

As in a real garden, weeds are few in the springtime. But as the summer progresses, many weeds find root and sometimes grow to be bigger than the plants! In passing my garden, I notice those unsightly weeds more than the beautiful plants. Though bothered by them, I'm sometimes not able to find the time to pull them out due to the busy-ness of my daily responsibilities. I find

that the more I wait to tend my garden, the more my frustration grows.

I know that the only way to remove a weed is to attack its root. The only way to enjoy my garden's beauty is to take the time to tend it. Retreats provide the freedom from daily commitments so that I find that necessary time to tend my 'garden' so that it becomes more beautiful and healthy.

St. Emma's offers the solitude and tender care to allow me to comfortably 'tend my garden.' Specially chosen retreat directors provide sensitive insight centered on The Divine Liturgy. In this holy and peace-filled environment, I am able to rest and to pray. Most importantly, I find myself able to open my heart a bit more. I am able to listen better, to hear and to know the Lord's love for me.

While on retreat, it is as if the 'soil of my soul' loosens. Prior to the retreat, I may have only been able to look at the weeds in my garden. While on retreat, I realize that I no longer need to just look at the weeds. Instead, I am given loving support to realize that even the most unsightly weeds may be gently lifted out of my garden through the retreat's grace-filled experiences. I hope that many will take advantage of retreat opportunities as our preparation for the Lord's Harvest! May our 'gardens' be ones that produce abundantly! – **Retreatant**



## Spring Break Experience

*Still wondering what to do over spring break? Looking for something that can impact the rest of your life?*

Come and experience the classical, monastic rhythm of prayer and work (*ora et labora*) that has helped shape and form the hungers of the human heart towards God for over 1500 years through the Benedictine tradition. You pick the dates and the length of time. We provide the framework for the day and help you learn how to sanctify the daily.

Spring breakers join our monastic community for *The Liturgy of the Hours* and daily Mass, share in our work (which is love made manifest), learn about/experience *lectio divina* and monasticism, and share recreation time with the nuns.

Call Mother Mary Anne or Sr. Mary Clare or email [retreats@stemma.org](mailto:retreats@stemma.org) for additional information or to sign-up.



By Mary Kay Swenson

# Transformation

While Lent is a time of preparation, it is also very much a time of transformation. Much like the caterpillar surrounds itself with a cocoon in order to become a beautiful butterfly; we must die to ourselves so that we may fully become the beautiful creatures God intends us to be.

Lent is this time set aside by the Church to remind us to step away from the distractions of our busy lives and truly consider the “bigger picture”. We can use this time to “give something up” or, even better, to do something positive that we may not have done otherwise. But, the Church leads us to go to our inner self – into the desert - to take a deeper look at what awaits. We must set our hearts on the Kingdom of Heaven and the fruits of our lives will show because our hearts will lead us.

Lent is a time to change our lives; a time to repent and to really “hear” the Good News; a time to realize how very precious each of us is to God. Only then are we able to become the butterfly – to soar to new heights – and to make the kingdom alive to those who still dwell in darkness.

## St. Emma Monastery Charitable Gift Annuity



### Did you know?

A Charitable Gift Annuity from St. Emma Monastery is a GUARANTEED income for you and a second person for life. Charitable Gift Annuities are among the oldest and most simplistic ways of making a gift to a charitable organization while providing an income for life.

**It's a gift that keeps giving back!**

For a personal analysis, mail this coupon to:

**St. Emma Monastery, 1001 Harvey Avenue, Greensburg, PA 15601-1494**

Your name (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

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Phone \_\_\_\_\_  \$10,000  or \_\_\_\_\_

Birthday \_\_\_\_\_ Birthday of the 2nd person \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

“To set our hearts on the kingdom therefore means to make the life of the Spirit within and among us the center of all we think, say or do.” – Making All Things New (1981), 43.



Do the words from this psalm resonate in your heart or in the heart of someone you know?

Are you seeking to find that place where you can best love and seek God and sing his praises?

If so, participate in our Monastic Immersion Experience. Are you a single woman between 16-38? Come and live our monastic life of prayer and work as an aid in your discernment process.

Please call or email (vocations@stemma.org) to learn more about our life, our immersion experiences or to discuss other opportunities to visit.

We pray daily for all those discerning a call to the consecrated life or the priesthood and invite others to join us. May God bless you!

### Immersion Experiences

Palm Sunday I, March 22-24, 2013

Triduum, March 27-31, 2013 or

March 30-31, 2013

Corpus Christi, May 31-June 2, 2013

Thanksgiving Weekend, November 29-December 1, 2013

## Robertshaw Bed and Breakfast

Coming to the Greensburg area for a graduation, wedding, special event or to get away? Planning your next year's Christmas trip?



**Make the Robertshaw Country House Bed and Breakfast your home away from home.**

[www.robertshawbedandbreakfast.com](http://www.robertshawbedandbreakfast.com)

## *The Greatest Love Story* • By Robert J. Allen

We cannot measure God's love, nor fully understand how our life is important unless we first realize that we are loved and our life is necessary to carry out God's will. Armed with the love of the cross and assured that there is plentiful redemption, we should begin each task with the sign of the cross, confident that we have God in our midst in all we say and do.

May I suggest whenever we begin a meeting, start a project or any time we are gathered together, we begin in the Name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit?

When we look at the cross, we are reminded of Christ's death, when really it is His love for each of us. "No greater love does man have than to give his life for another." This

cross is our salvation, the love God has "equally" for every being ever conceived.

Have you ever considered the cross as a sign of love? Perhaps that thought will help us better understand the Trinity – although we will never fully comprehend that though it brings us closer to the greater presence of God in our life and the life of every other human being. As Pope Benedict XVI said so eloquently in his Inaugural Homily, "...each of us is loved, each of us is necessary."

How will you carry out God's plan for you today? Maybe if you begin that plan with the sign of the cross, it will help remind and prepare you for your task and in a group bring the focus of the gathering to the highest and most important task – doing God's will.

### Triduum - Easter Schedule

#### Holy Thursday

6:00 a.m. Tenebrae  
(Vigils and Lauds together)  
9:00 a.m. Terce  
11:45 a.m. Sext/None  
(Midday Prayer)  
4:00 p.m. Vespers  
7:00 p.m. Mass of the  
Lord's Supper

Adoration of the Blessed  
Sacrament (until 10:30 p.m.)

#### Good Friday

6:00 a.m. Tenebrae  
(Vigils and Lauds together)  
9:00 a.m. Terce  
11:45 a.m. Sext/None  
(Midday Prayer)  
3:00 p.m. Celebration of the Lord's Passion  
7:00 p.m. Compline

#### Holy Saturday

6:00 a.m. Tenebrae (Vigils and Lauds together)  
8:30 a.m. Terce  
11:45 a.m. Sext/None (Midday Prayer)  
4:00 p.m. Vespers  
8:30 p.m. Easter Vigil

#### Easter Sunday

6:25 a.m. Lauds  
7:45 a.m. Terce  
8:00 a.m. Eucharist  
11:45 a.m. Sext/None (Midday Prayer)  
5:00 p.m. Vespers  
7:15 p.m. Vigils and Compline



### + *Rest in Peace* +

We thank the families of these deceased loved ones who suggested in their obituaries that donations in their memory be sent to St. Emma's. We pray for you who know their physical loss so keenly.

- + Arlene Moran, Murrysville, PA (formerly of Monroeville), September 30
- + Jernigan Hall, (he and his wife were live-in volunteers here at St. Emma for a year), McMurray, PA, October 2
- + Yvonne Piper, Latrobe, PA, October 11
- + Gail Forbes, Greensburg, PA, November 2
- + Robert "Pap" Gaia, Pasadena, MD, November 24

May the Lord let His face shine upon you and His love fully embrace you.

The *Benedictine Touchstone* is published by the Sisters of St. Benedict of Westmoreland County for our friends and benefactors:

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### *Prayer Requests & Intentions*

*Please use the  
enclosed envelope  
to send us  
your prayer  
requests and  
intentions.*



*Wanting to do "Something special for Lent"  
but have only have limited time?*

**Lenten Evening of Recollection:**

March 11 (Monday) 3:45 – 8:30 PM, \$22

Rev. Leon Hont OSB "Faith.com"

Reservations: [Retreats@stemma.com](mailto:Retreats@stemma.com)

**Schedule a Pilgrimage  
During this Year of Faith**



- Meet the Benedictine Nuns living a classical expression of monasticism and learn how it applies to your life
  - Sit opposite Jesus at the Last Supper Shrine
  - Walk the outdoor Stations of the Cross and/or the Rosary Path
  - Visit the Fatima Chapel and the Blessed Sacrament Chapel
  - Pray *The Liturgy of the Hours* with the Benedictine Nuns in *Cor Jesu* Monastic Chapel
  - Learn about St. Walburga in her beautiful stained-glass window shrine
  - Enjoy a delicious, home-cooked meal
  - Browse our [huge](#) selection of religious gifts and books
- Contact Mother Mary Anne OSB 724-834-3060 for dates and additional information.**

**Attention Golfers!**

Mark your calendars! 3rd Annual **Tee Time for a Nun**, Monday, August 26. Watch our Summer edition of the *Touchstone* or our website [www.stemma.org](http://www.stemma.org) for additional information. Check under "Upcoming Events" on the Home Page.



Do you have a gift item that a golfer might really enjoy: tickets to the Steelers or Penguins or Pirates? Golf memorabilia? Stuffers for their "goodie bags"? Both we and they would appreciate it!

*Please remember us when revising  
or making your will.*

Our legal name is:  
The Sisters of Saint Benedict  
of Westmoreland County

Our Federal ID-# is:  
25-1017575



**2013 Calendar of Retreats**

- Feb. 22-24** **Silent** Lenten Retreat (men/women)  
Rev. William Kiel, \$155
- March 8-10** Lenten Retreat (men/women)  
Rev. Thomas Acklin, OSB, \$155
- March 15-17** **Silent** Lenten Retreat (men/women)  
Rev. Boniface Hicks, OSB, \$155
- April 5-7** **Silent**, Third Order Carmelites,  
Rev. James Hess, OCarm, \$155
- May 22** Evening of Recollection (men/women), \$22
- July 19-25** Six-Day **Silent**, Rev. Thomas Acklin, OSB
- July 19-26** **Encounter with Silence**, Rev. John Mary  
Tompkins, OSB (accommodations at Monastic  
Guest House and Retreat House)
- August 2-3** Busy Moms Retreat, \$80
- Sept. 20-22** **Silent** (men/women), \$155
- Sept. 27-29** Women, \$155
- Oct. 4-6** Married Couples (Monastic Guest House), \$310
- Oct. 18-20** Legion of Mary and others, \$155
- Oct. 25-27** Married Couples (Retreat House)  
Rev. Angelus Shaughnessy OFMCap, \$300

**Priests Directed Silent Retreat**

**March 3-8, 2013**

*Retreat Master: Rev. Thomas Acklin, OSB*

The daily format for this silent retreat includes celebrated Mass with homily, opportunity to meet with retreat master, and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. Space limited to 8 participants, accommodations at the Monastic Guest House (\$365).

**Flea Market**

***We're ready for donations!***

Attention Spring Cleaners! Are you "redding up" as we do in Western Pennsylvania? Wondering what to do with those items you no longer need or use? Drop them off now for our Annual Giant Indoor/Outdoor Flea Market. We have volunteers ready (and waiting) to pre-sort the treasures you bring. Many thanks for your consideration.



**Mark your calendars now!**

**This year's Flea Market is June 13, 14 & 15!**

- June 13 Thursday 4:00 – 7:00 pm (Early Flea Special: \$5 Admission). Pizza and pop available
- June 14 Friday 10 am – 7 pm Halupki, Haluski, Fish sandwiches, pizza
- June 15 Saturday 10 am – 3 pm, as above

Air conditioned; items displayed beautifully, tents of furniture. Treasure those special finds that Flea Markets yield, enjoy delicious food and be embraced with Benedictine Hospitality.