



MARYMOUNT HERMITAGE NEWSLETTER

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Volume 41, No. 5

MARYMOUNT HERMITAGE 40TH JUBILEE YEAR

May, 2024

WORK ON TWO TRACKS

By Sister M. Beverly, HSM

There are no train tracks on the mesa, so what do I mean by “two tracks”? Work with two different focuses. There is the work for beginning new construction of the Jubilee Guest House. There is the maintenance work for the older buildings of Marymount Hermitage, which, during the summer months, is a more major effort than normal upkeep. All the work is determined by weather. The ground needs to be dry; the days need to be sunny, the temperatures need to be warm enough for painting, all aspects of nature, for which we have to wait to receive from the Lord. My job is to pray for all of these needs, and for the safety, success and blessings for the workers.



Ray Groves (below) levels the space across from Hermitage Lane, so that a parking lot can be made for Jubilee Guest House.

This base rock for the parking place was brought in from the nearby Nourse rock pit and is a donation by Ceara M. Nourse in memory of Mike.



Lastly, after work with the road grader, roller and some hand-raking, the new parking lot is ready to service the future Jubilee House guests. For this year, it will also



serve as the staging area for construction materials.



Hermitage #2, named *Leslie Shannon* after Sister Rebecca Mary's father, needed a new French drain to channel ground water away from the building.



John Balderson, Jr. (L) and his crew worked for three days to accomplish this extensive work. The men had to reshape the back yard of the building to foster drainage to the pipe below the back of the building and to enable heavy equipment to get around and do the job. I grieve over every bush and large flowering plant that is taken out, so Brian said gently, “Sister, you better go away, so you do not see what we are doing.”



The drain pipe crosses the driveway and empties into the draw below the hermitage on the one side and crosses the front yard to drain on the other side. With rock left over from bedding the pipes, the driveway now has rock where it is most needed to help in the muddy seasons of spring and fall. In time, the bushes, flowers and native grasses will re-establish themselves. The desert is not dull and dead. It is alive and fruitful in its own hearty, beautiful way.

JUBILEE GUEST HOUSE

(Continued from page one)

On May 30, I will have a 40 ft. storage unit temporarily installed at the back of the new parking lot. This will hold the furniture and household items, which have been purchased or donated for Jubilee Guest House.

The general contractor, Jack Roberts, and I had a good and productive meeting with the architectural designer on April 30. She will give us a “walk-through” in mid-May and when we three are satisfied with the design features, we will have the blue prints soon after that. The next step is to get a building permit from Adams County. For that we need the blue prints and clearance from the health inspector. We have already had a successful “perc” test for the South West Health District and have received from them the specifications for the septic system. We are aiming for the work of clearing the building site, pouring concrete for the footings and stem walls and installation of the septic system in June. For this, I depend on your prayers and thank you for the donations totaling \$65,000 so far early in May. When I get a sketch of the exterior of Jubilee House, I intend to set up a separate section of this website for noting progress in work and in fund-raising.

By Sister Mary Beverly, HSM

COMMUNITY NEWS

BUILDING SITE BLESSING: On April 30, in anticipation of the feast day of St. Joseph the Worker on May 1, Father Bill McCann blessed the building site for Jubilee Guest House after Mass. In attendance were Sharon Childers from Council, Sr. Josephine Pelster, SSMO



(a Sister on retreat for three weeks and from the community we originally came from in Beaverton, Oregon), and Jesse Bonzelet from Cambridge. The Church's liturgical prayers: for the site, for the house



being built, for the safety of workers, and all for the glory of God were really beautiful. Jesse, who is our usual server at daily Mass held the bucket of holy water and Father Bill liberally sprinkled the entire area. The view below



gives you a good picture of what the scenery will be from the living room windows. The snow-covered high mountain is Council Mt. Sister Beverly (L) holds the Book of Blessing. [Photos including me are by Sister Josephine.]

We did the blessing on April 30 because Sister Josephine was leaving that morning to return to her convent. May 1 is her feast day (name's day), so we wanted her to be able to celebrate this blessing with us. Jubilee House will be dedicated to St. Joseph and she was happy we included her in this celebration before she left.

SALT & LIGHT RADIO: On May 1, I drove to Boise, as I do each month, to record a teaching for Salt & Light Radio. The four segments will be on Pope Saint John Paul II's encyclical “Dies Domini/Day of the Lord: On Keeping the Lord's Day Holy”. The Pope's letter gives an in-depth teaching on why we, as Catholics, should attend Mass faithfully on Sunday. It is a Scriptural, multi-dimensional, poetical and even mystical, presentation. Join me, if you can, each week for a 15 minute lesson on Fridays, May 17, 24, 31 and June 7. I love the text and I hope you will too.

TWO “TRACKS” FOR MONEY: I depend on regular donations to hire workers for maintenance chores. Donations for the Jubilee House are “designated funds” and are used only for the new construction. God bless our friends and benefactors for your prayers and generous support!

IN MEMORIAM
Michael E. Nourse
by Ceara M. Nourse, Mesa, ID

The MARYMOUNT HERMITAGE NEWSLETTER is published by Marymount Hermitage, Inc., a non-profit, tax-exempt corporation in the State of Idaho. The Hermit Sisters of Mary are a canonically approved, Catholic community of women hermits, following the Rule of St. Benedict. The newsletter is published each month by the 15th on our website only. The purpose of the newsletter is to share the spirituality and material progress of Marymount Hermitage. Please pray that we may be faithful to our way of life in prayer and penance, solitude and silence for the sake of the Church and the world. Donations are sincerely appreciated and are tax-deductible. Thank you in advance to those who have remembered Marymount Hermitage in their wills. God bless you!