



# MARYMOUNT HERMITAGE NEWSLETTER

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MARYMOUNT HERMITAGE 40TH JUBILEE YEAR

July, 2024

## RETREATANTS WRITE...

By Sister M. Beverly, HSM

*From June to June each year, I transcribe some notes which retreatants leave in the guest book in each hermitage. The notes I select, among many, are to give you an idea of what it is like to be on retreat here and, hopefully, to be an inspiration for you to consider making a retreat, especially if it is for the first time. Try it. You might like it! At least prayerfully consider it. Listen. The Lord may be calling you.*

June 4-7, 2023

Sister Beverly, thank you for the opportunity to see the beauty of this place, to be calmed by its peace, and to let the Holy Spirit guide my experience.

Sister Alison G., SSMO from Beaverton, OR

June 11-14, 2023

Contented sigh...Ahhh...Thank you, Lord, for another blessed & restorative time at Marymount. It's hard to explain to those who haven't been here what a special place this is! But I do my best!

Thank you, Sister Beverly and Father Bill, for the blessing you always are to all your guests who are always welcomed as friends!

As I return to my home and family—may they be blessed by the blessings I've received.

April A. from Holy Apostles Parish in Meridian, ID

June 18-22, 2023

"We need to hear again and again that we are the beloved of God and that Jesus guides us in the way of being the beloved."

Henri Nouwen,  
Discernment.

It's been such a treat to see Marymount all green & blooming! Fresh with new life! God's beloved all around me. Thank you, God & Marymount for always welcoming me & revealing so much Love to me here!

Love, Heidi G. from Boise, ID



June 12-24, 2023

This is my tenth retreat at Marymount in 9 years, and though it is the same unchanging desert, the journey is never the same! Again and again, He allures me into the wilderness, taking me deeper into His Sacred Heart. This year, I was allured into rest as I heard Him say, "Come to Me...you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest." The time here is never long enough! Thank you, Sister Beverly and Father Bill, for your presence, prayers and guidance. I leave today with a well-rested body, a quieted mind, and a heart overflowing!

Love & prayers, Tina N. from Kirkland, WA

June 29-  
July 1, 2023

Always enjoy God's beauty and silence when I come to Marymount. Sunrise, sunset, bird song, butterflies and lizards. Always

many of God's creatures to welcome me. Prayers of blessings & thanksgiving for Sister Beverly and Father Bill.

Marge D. from Boise, ID



July 26-August 2, 2023

Wow! What a truly beautiful time this has been with the Lord. He blessed me more than I believe I can currently understand. Thank you, Jesus. And thank you, Sister Beverly, for your kindness and faithfulness to the Lord. He is so worthy of all of our praise.

Until next time, Jazmine M. from Boise, ID

August 6-7, 2023

There are some places where heaven is so manifested on earth that it is almost tangible. Marymount is one of those special places, so that He may meet His children there, hold them, and restore them. May He always carefully watch over and bless this place!

Love, Nicole K. from Eagle, ID

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# RETREATANTS WRITE...

(Continued from page one)

August 11-13, 2023

At the invitation of my parents, we were blessed to take time away at Marymount to celebrate our second wedding anniversary. The peaceful landscape and holy silence were the best gifts from God, and allowed us to grow individually and as a couple. We are going forward with clarity and joy, knowing that God alone is the giver of all graces necessary for married life and for our growth in holiness. Thank you, Sister Beverly, for your motherly hospitality. ~Alison + Brandon O. from Boise, ID

September 1-2, 2023

The silence, the flora, the fauna, the Chapel of His Presence. The library, the content so lovely with Thee. Katy S. from Star, ID



September 1-2, 2023

A blessed time of peace, beauty and listening to Him. My spirit was refreshed by bird song, the sound of the grass, sunset, prayer and teaching.

“By waiting and by calm you shall be saved;  
in quiet and in trust your strength lies.” (Is. 30:15)  
Leah F. from Boise, ID

September 25-29, 2023

The gracious hospitality of Sister Mary Beverly and the spiritual guidance and Mass with Father Bill McCann made for an enriching and grace-filled time. (Four years had passed from my previous visit.) Though the time was brief, I look forward to a return.

Father Philip W.  
from Anderson, CA  
a retired Priest of the Diocese of Sacramento

October 9-12, 2023

Filled with the surrounding beauty, the solitude and peace and the warmth of His Presence. Thank you, Sister Beverly and Father Bill, for what you do and who you are in our world. This has been a much needed and welcomed refuge and taste of heaven. So grateful to be back again. Blessed & loved. Mary Therese A. from Joseph, OR

October 13-15, 2023

“For God alone,  
my soul waits in silence;  
From Him, comes my  
salvation.” (Psalm 62:1)  
Jeff M.  
Nampa, ID



October 18-24, 2023

Clarity...comes through time in the desert oasis of Marymount! Again, thank you, dear Lord, for your Presence in All that makes this place such a lovely retreat setting! Deep gratitude to Sister Beverly for her faithfulness to the vision she and Sister Rebecca [Mary] had and continue to have. Blessings and love in the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary, Sister Janyce B., SNJM from Spokane, WA

*Father Bill McCann, retired  
priest of the Diocese of  
Las Cruces, NM and Sister  
Mary Beverly, HSM*

October 19-22, 2023

Thank you, Sister. Thank you, Jesus.  
Brother John Francis, V.S. from  
Our Lady of Ephesus Monastery, Boise, ID

October 22-26, 2023

Silence, Solitude and the natural beauty does good for the soul. It is good to be here and my time was blessed by the Lord. Thanks to Sister Beverly and Father Bill [McCann].  
Father Vincent G. from St. Mary's Parish, Chewelah, WA

October 27-29, 2023

Thank you, Jesus, for the Peace and Solitude in this most heavenly home here on earth. Thank you, Sister Beverly, for your Love and Care. I have a statue of St. Francis in my prayer garden given by my family for my birthday. A very special place [here in this hermitage] for me with St. Francis. Sister M. Beverly, your loving prayers are always so precious. Thank you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit; in your name, we lift up Father Bill and Sister Beverly. Margo N. from Holy Apostles, Meridian, ID

October 27-29, 2023

Thank you, Sister Beverly and Father Bill. Resting in nature, silence and My Lord gave me new

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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!



## RETREATANTS WRITE...

(Continued from page two)

energy, clarity and peace. Thanks be to God!  
Janica H. from Kuna, ID

October 27-30, 2023

Always seeking the voice of silence here...never disappointed. Thank you for your hospitality, Sister Beverly. You and God are always generous. Praying that God grant me another visit...until then,  
Love & prayers, Lesley M. from Meridian, ID

November 5-7, 2023

I am without words to describe what this experience has been. I am so grateful God created such a sacred place for us, and for Sister Beverly and Father Bill, who are its caretakers. I leave renewed and with a new direction. I hope the Lord's will is for me to return here often, in order that I never drift too far from His embrace. Thank you! May God's blessings ever increase in this place.  
Dana B. from Boise, ID

January 21-23, 2024

Dear Sister Mary Beverly,

Coming to Marymount always brings me back to the heart of my vocation. So grateful for you!  
Fr. Nathan D., Chaplain at St. Paul's at BSU, Boise, ID



January 21-23, 2024

Dear Sister Mary Beverly,

It has been such a pleasure meeting you and hearing your story. Your warmth and smile have given me peace during my stay. It is amazing how healing my stay here has been. I love how God has revealed new things to me and some that I now realize I had been ignoring. He always makes me chuckle at how persistent he is. (It is a good thing!)

Thank you for opening your home to us during winter. I hope to see you soon! God bless.

Mary M. from Boise, ID

January 21-23, 2024

It's so much easier to hear God's voice out here. Mother Mary is ever present. I feel called to the Carmelites. Let's see where Mother Mary takes me. Please pray for me. I just want to serve.  
Alberto J. from BSU in Boise, ID

February 8-10, 2024

"The important thing is not to think much, but to love much...for love consists, not in the extent of our happiness, but in the firmness of our determination to try to please God in everything and to endeavor in all possible ways not to offend Him."

Thank you, Sister Mary Beverly, for your dedication and hard work to keep this special place available. May God continue to bless you with the strength for the task!  
Merry I. from Meridian, ID

February 3-13, 2024

Antiphon 1 for Tuesday  
Week II: "Surrender to God and He will do everything for you!"

"Jerusalem, the mountains surround you!"

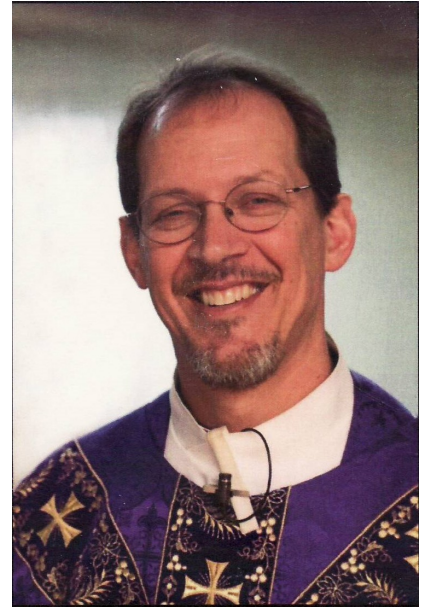
Blessed stay, blessed place, bless those who follow, bless you who stay and keep a light on very early in the morning.

"I rise before dawn & cry for help."

"May peace reign in your walls, in your palaces (hermitages) peace."

Love & prayers,

Fr. Ed White, St. Stephen the Martyr Parish, Renton, WA



May 3-10, 2024

At this blessed hermitage, I can be still and know that He is God. I can hear Him in the silence and see Him in His creation. I can pray by listening, not just asking. And I can feel His presence and his love.

Shari S. from St. Stephen the Martyr Parish, Renton, WA

March 22-25, 2024

"I will lift up my eyes to the hills from where does my help come?" My heart has been so tired. Thank you for this rest. Leah F. from Boise, ID

May 6-9, 2024

Thanks for the wonderful 3 days of quiet and solitude, so I could (almost) completely read the whole Bible. I learn new things every time, and such a blessing!  
Carolyn W. from Weiser, ID

May 13-19, 2024

Thank you, Sister Beverly, for your hospitality in welcoming retreatants to Marymount. This is a blessed place, full of God's wonders and peace. Even the animals "speak" to us of His presence. The silence is the place where we can hear God's "still, small voice", and what a blessing, what riches, what life that is!

Thank you, SMB, for your faithfulness and your heart full of Christ's love—a blessing to us all!  
Nancy V. from St. Anthony (Orthodox) in Bozeman, MT

# RETREATANTS WRITE...

(Continued from page three)



May 22-24, 2024

It's been so good to be back here! Letting go of "to-do's" and just being, with God, Sister Beverly, Father Bill, and Nature! I'm full of peace and gratitude. I had brief visits by a [mule] deer, sage grouse, quail and hawk. Hospitality happens here in so many forms. Love abounds! Thank you, Sr. Beverly, for your loving care and prayers. I keep you in mine too.

Love & blessings, Catherine W. from Meridian, ID

June 3-6, 2024

A very beautiful and blessed retreat for me and, by the grace of Our Father, for my husband, Stan. This was the second of my retreats here and found it even more comforting.

Sister Beverly, thank you so much for being so understanding with us on our arrival. Our plans to fly [to Weiser] didn't go as planned, which made for adjustments, which you welcomed so graciously. God sure knows what He wants and to whom He could call on. Thank you, Sr. Beverly! Looking forward to another retreat with you and perhaps Fr. Bill McCann again. God's love & blessings on both of you! Mary & Stan K. from Kent, WA

## COMMUNITY NEWS

By Sister M. Beverly, HSM

**JUBILEE GUEST HOUSE:** Construction has begun as of June 21, 2024. John Balderson, Jr. and his crew worked for two days clearing the circular driveway and building site of the bushes. My general contractor, Jack Roberts, had carefully flagged all the bushes and bunch grass which was to be left undamaged for landscaping after the building is finished. Domestic plants and trees do not do well in the high desert. What God has planted is best!

June 24 & 25, the same crew worked at leveling the building site and digging trenches for the footings and stem walls. Concrete pour scheduled in a few weeks.

Visit the website with the new "button" for details of the Jubilee Guest House, which will be updated regularly.

**UPCOMING EVENTS:** Two events open to the public are planned. First, a fundraising "Tea Party & Silent Auction" at Marymount Hermitage on Saturday, Sept. 7. Reservations are needed; cost per person is \$40. Upon receipt of your check, I will email a formal invitation, which is your entrance "ticket". Limit 30 people. Call me at 208-256-4354 to register and reserve a space.

The second public event is Mass on Saturday, Oct. 12, offered by Bishop Peter Christensen, Bishop of Boise. Mass is at 2 PM. All are welcome! This is to celebrate and thank God for the 40 years and graces given to Marymount Hermitage. It is our Ruby Jubilee. That is the reason the new facility is named Jubilee Guest House. Put this date on your calendar. If you cannot attend, please at least join us on this day of prayer and thanksgiving.

**SALT & LIGHT PODCASTS:** The new series on the spirituality of Pope Benedict XVI is being broadcast on Fridays: July 5, 12, 19 and 26. The material is taken from the newly published book in English by Ignatius Press and authored by Robert Cardinal Sarah, entitled He Gave Us So Much. Cardinal Sarah is himself a saint and his insights about Ratzinger are truly mystical and moving.

**ARTICLE ABOUT MARYMOUNT:** If you receive the Idaho Catholic Register, you will have noticed an excellent article by the Assistant Editor, Emily Woodham. Emily interviewed me for about an hour and a half and she has lots of information about Marymount, my vocation as a hermit, the spirituality of the desert, and the new Guest House in her writing. If you did not receive this paper, please visit the diocesan website for this current issue.

**MEMORIALS:** As always, if you send a donation to Marymount and ask that it be in memory of a loved one, I publish the name and family in the next newsletter. I am also praying for memorial donations for the Jubilee House in the range of \$100,000-\$500,000. In that case, you can choose a room in the new facility, which will have a memorial plaque over the door of a selected room. The living room, dining room, kitchen and Master bedroom are the four large rooms. There are four smaller bedrooms. I am hoping there are families who, in faith, want to honor God and their loved ones in this way. "Those who are generous are blessed..." Proverbs 22:9. To date, I have received a little over \$200,000 towards the new building. That represents about 20% of the needed funds. Please pray about what you can offer to help. God blesses you because he sees what is in your heart. It is not the amount. Remember how Jesus praised the widow's mite!

**BIG NEWS:** I have really amazing news to share on an entirely different topic. The beginning is today, June 29, 2024. The event is historical and unprecedented. I am going to wait until August to tell you the whole, happy story. Stay posted, please!

**FAWN REPORT:** The mule deer does are late this year. The fawns are just now being born, almost a month later than usual. So far we have seen a set of twins and one. Nature always ministers to us, who are childlike.

## IN MEMORIAM IRENE PAGE

by Laurene and Ernie Houghton