



MARYMOUNT HERMITAGE NEWSLETTER

2150 Hermitage Lane Mesa, Idaho 83643-5005

Website: www.marymount-hermitage.org

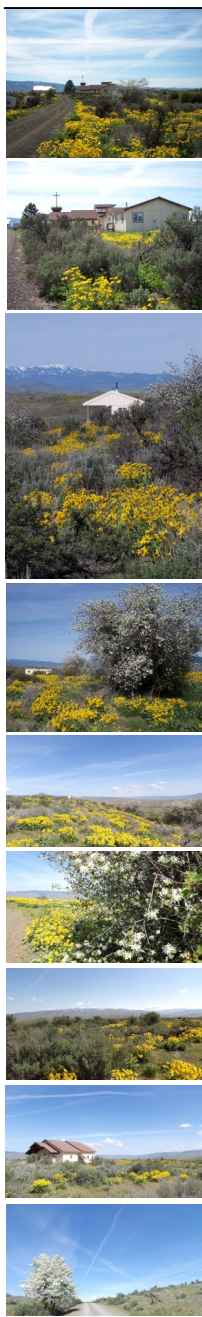
Tel. (208) 256-4354

E-mail: SisterBeverly@marymount-hermitage.org

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UPRIGHT FOR THE RESURRECTION



Spring on the mesa:
wildflowers bloom

By Sister Mary Beverly, HSM

I used Pope Benedict XVI's Jesus of Nazareth, Vol. 2 for my Holy Week & Easter retreat this year (as I have also done in the past). This book has the subtitle Holy Week: From the Entrance into Jerusalem to the Resurrection. In past years, I have been almost totally focused on Holy Thursday, the Last Supper and the Agony in the Garden. But this year as the retreat progressed, I was lead more deeply into the mystery of the Resurrection of Jesus. Pope Benedict has the most profound way of delving into Scriptural words, passages, sentences, and like the great teacher that he was, he does so in very clear, understandable terms and images. His three volume set will be a classic and a treasure for the Church for all ages.

In addition to this book, I also recently read an article in the National Catholic Register which really jarred me. This scientist, named Dr. Gilbert Lavoie, who was researching the Shroud of Turin, actually discovered something new about it and that is why I chose as the title of this article, "Upright for the Resurrection". Here I quote from page 7 of the issue of the NCR dated April 6, 2025: "For years, I thought that the image of the man on the shroud was that of a man laid out in burial. However, as I studied the anatomy of the man's image, I realized that I had been mistaken. In contrast to the blood marks which are consistent with that of a crucified dead man who had been taken down from his vertical position of crucifixion and placed supine in burial, the shroud image is of a man who is upright as if lifted up in midair...He is upright, but not standing. His feet are crossed, and it looks as

if he is suspended in mid-air. What is the implication? When I realized that this image was that of an upright man, for me this was an epiphany—bringing me to understand that this image [on the shroud] is the reflection of the moment of Resurrection."

All I can say is "Wow"! When you read the researcher's analysis of the anatomical difference between a body which is horizontal, laid out flat, and one which is erect, upright, those details are very convincing. I understand this new scientific information to indicate that the moment of resurrection, the moment that the burst of Light which created the image on the shroud, the body of Jesus was upright.

This is all just added details that the Resurrection was an event totally beyond anything else in our world or in the history of humanity. With this one detail, God the Father seems to be saying all the more clearly, "Your resurrected body will be in a totally, eternally new dimension. It IS a physical body, but it is alive with heavenly properties, participating in a newer, richer way in divine life which began for you at baptism and is the grace meant to usher you into the eternity of our Triune Love."

Meditations on the burial cloths themselves, the cloth that was on the face of Jesus in a different place in the tomb, and the photographic negative image which is on the shroud are rich in themselves and too much for this article. As we re-read and meditate on passages such as John 20: 1-10, especially verses 6b-7, may the Holy Spirit help us to enter more deeply into the meaning of the resurrection of Jesus and what our own bodies will receive as the gift of salvation when he raises us up after death also. In our culture, we do not like to think of physical death for a variety of reasons. But death is only a door from this darkness into Light. Death is not the end, but the beginning. As our faith in the Resurrection of Jesus deepens, we can go all the more eagerly and joyfully to the end of our earthly life, so as to enter forever into Life Eternal.



(L to R) Jubilee Guest House with a foreground of arrow leaf balsam root; side view of the painted bldg.; front view of finished stonework outside; fireplace in living room is finished also.

Cont. on pg. 2

COMMUNITY NEWS

WILDFLOWERS: 'Tis the season! I have been saying that now everything that can bloom IS blooming, but actually that is inaccurate. The flowers on plants and trees are abundant and overflowing this week (May 1), but there will be other batches of other kinds over each season even until late fall. However, it is not every year that this season of a great abundance of flowers occurs with Easter. I hope you enjoy the photos on page one. The advantage of seeing them on a computer screen is that you can enlarge the page so the photos are more visible. Please do that. This gives me the opportunity to use more photos and not feel limited by space. The bright golden flowers are often called "sunflowers" by locals, but technically the hearty desert plant is the arrow leaf balsamroot. The so-called trees (really tall bushes) that are blooming now are the white serviceberry. The solitary white-blossomed tree in one of the photos is a pear tree. It "escaped" from the Mesa Orchards forever ago, and we have two such pear trees on Marymount property. When the wildflowers start, I welcome each as an old friend. Many (not all) Sister Rebecca Mary and I used to pick and press and dry for flower cards. So even if no retreatants are here, it is good to have my many old friends visiting me.

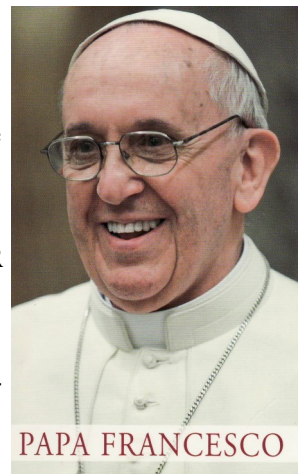
JUBILEE GUEST HOUSE: My general contractor, Jack Roberts tells me that the building will be complete in early June. I am beginning to believe him! Since yesterday, the local cabinet maker, Vern Ludwig, is installing the custom cabinets in the kitchen, bathrooms and utility room. The building now has a propane tank ready to fuel the fireplace and rain gutters for the roof. The exterior and interior painting is complete. One photo on page one shows you the exterior stone work for the front wall and entry way of the building. Beginning next week, the flooring will be completed with either rug or vinyl for the rooms still not done when the hallway slate tile was installed weeks ago. The interior door frames and doors are in place. Next the interior plumbing will be completed and the HVAC installation also. I am hoping to move in the most basic furniture and other finishing items, like curtains and blinds, and household supplies in June. Many people have already asked me if they can make reservations for retreats. I would rather err on the side of caution, so I have asked that they please wait until the building is actually complete and functional. I am very hearted by people's joy and excitement, encouragement and support.

BLESSING BY BISHOP: Bishop Peter Christensen will be at Marymount to offer Mass at 11 AM for us on Oct. 11, 2025. After Mass, we will process over to Jubilee Guest House to have Bishop bless the building. Please mark your calendars; consider this an invitation. I asked Bishop if I can take retreat reservations before this date and he said, "Yes, of course!" So retreatants are welcome!

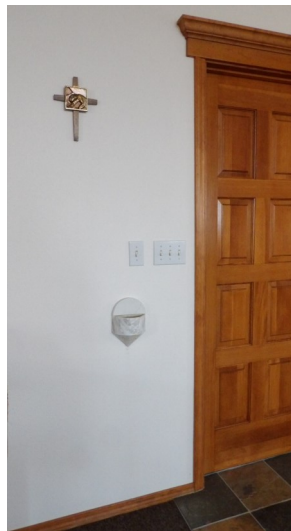


MAY 1, 2025: This day is the feast of St. Joseph the Worker. I have Mass offered one day a month to honor St. Joseph and to implore his intercession for Jubilee House and for the safety and success of all the workers. His prayers and protection are powerful. I figure, if God the Father chose him to care for Mary and Jesus, he must be most loyal and trustworthy. The universal patron of the Church and head of the Holy Family has been very faithful to me all my life. This image is taken from a stained glass window in the basilica of the University of Notre Dame in Indiana, which I saw when I visited there last summer after the National Eucharistic Congress.

POPE FRANCIS R.I.P.: We have been praying for the repose of the soul for Pope Francis and asking for his intercession for the guidance of the Holy Spirit for the Conclave to elect our next Holy Father, which begins on May 7.



PAPA FRANCESCO



HOLY WATER FONT:

While working on choices for granite tops for

counters in the kitchen and dining room of the Jubilee Guest House, I was able to buy a small sample of white granite which I had custom cut to be the backing for the holy water font in chapel. It is not exactly like the marble font, but it works so well that most long-term neighbors and re-

treatants cannot even see that something was added. Nice!

DONATIONS: If there are no catastrophes, I have the money needed for construction of Jubilee House. Donations now are used for basic furniture. All tax deductible.

**MEMORIAL for
SISTER REBECCA MARY, HSM**
by Genevieve M. Bross,
Lewiston, ID

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