



# MARYMOUNT HERMITAGE NEWSLETTER

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## DAY OF PILGRIMAGE on March 7

*By Sister Mary Beverly, HSM*



The first Day of Pilgrimage for 2026 was on March 7. Forty people had registered, but, with cancellations at the last minute, the total came to thirty people. I was struck by the intensity, interest and focus this group brought to the two classes, practice of silence, personal prayer times and

responses during the midday Mass. It was a blessing to have Father Jerry Funke, a well-known and beloved pastor, now a retired priest of the Diocese of Boise, be with us for the day and offer the opportunity for confession for those requesting that sacrament.

I always welcome the occasions when I can



This photo by Linda Graefe



teach and I appreciated people's comments, questions and enthusiasm. For this first Day of Pilgrimage, I taught both classes. The morning session was on Contemplative Prayer in general and the afternoon was on the Jesus Prayer. I introduced the classic book, The Way of the Pilgrim. I had made "Jesus beads", a prayer chaplet, and offered them for sale at the end of the day when the Gift

Shop was open. I am happy to report there was a lot of interest in this simple tool for deeper prayer.



Photos by Helen Glidden, unless noted otherwise

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# DAY OF PILGRIMAGE (Cont. from pg. 1)



Linda Graefe, from Sacred Heart parish in Boise, chose and led the songs for Mass; Barbara Greenwood, from Our Lady of the Lake parish in McCall, served with

me as minister of the cup for communion.

After Mass, we had a catered lunch in the Jubilee Guest House, which gave us time for fellowship and conversation. God bless Kristin Koskella for managing the lunch and kitchen chores. Everyone had a chance to tour the new building.

One new feature for this Day of Pilgrimage was the number of individuals and married couples who also asked for lodging on May 1, Friday night. I am happy to be able to accommodate requests like this from now on.



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Father Jerry Funke took part diligently in my classes! At the Day of Pilgrimage on May 2,



Father Jerry will give the afternoon class.

All are welcome!



# COMMUNITY NEWS

*By Sister Mary Beverly, HSM*

**NEXT DAY OF PILGRIMAGE:** May 2, 2026 is the date for the next event at Marymount Hermitage. The general topic for this year is prayer. In May, the theme will be Praying the Psalms. On this website under Calendar of Events, please read more details for the day. If you are interested, please call or email Sister Beverly ASAP.

**JUBILEE GUEST HOUSE:** I am surprised and pleased with the continued excitement and interest in the new building. I have had more people just stopping by briefly to tour the new facility. I am happy to show it, but it is best to call or email for a day and a time, so I will be here to host you, however briefly. The tour means lots of stories, if you care to hear them.

A second result of the new Jubilee House is that I can receive more retreatants: individuals, married couples and groups. There has been a big increase in reservations. The consequence of this is that you need to allow several weeks to request and receive confirmation for your retreat dates. The longer in advance your request is made, the more likely I can give you your preferred dates.

As in the past, the five hermitages are still available for lodging at Marymount. "Veterans" of many years still have their favorite hermitage with its unique view. Other long-term retreatants have discovered the beauty and blessing of using a room in the Jubilee House.

**EVOLUTION OF WORK:** In past years, I traveled monthly to Idaho parishes to do a sale of the gift items Sister Rebecca Mary and I made. Weekdays meant that we were creating our many kinds of hand-made items. I also studied and prepared teachings for parish-based day or weekend retreats or evening classes. It was a lot of work, but it brought in the money which we needed for our budget then and I really loved it. Now I realize that my work for Marymount and my living expenses can be done mostly at home. At this time of my life, cleaning, laundry, hospitality and correspondence for scheduling retreatants is a blessing. I still have a Gift Shop, but sales are to retreatants or day guests and occasionally for mail-orders. In a sense, I am more of a hermit because I do not need to travel as much. I am home for work and prayer. It is all a grace!

**BENEFACTORS:** I pray daily for all our neighbors, relatives, friends and benefactors, who support Marymount Hermitage so faithfully and generously. Mass is offered monthly for you by one of our young Idaho priests. I know God will generously bless those who pray for me, who send donations, and who volunteer to help with maintenance chores. God bless you all abundantly!

**EASTER GREETINGS:** I made my own private retreat near the Boise Cathedral for Holy Week and Easter. I wish each of you the graces of this holy Easter season!

The MARYMOUNT HERMITAGE NEWSLETTER is published by Marymount Hermitage, Inc., a 501(c)3 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!